

# Partners In Civil Discourse

The Arthur Vining Davis Foundations are supporting several innovative and effective programs that aim to **CULTIVATE AND PROMOTE CIVIL DISCOURSE IN HIGHER EDUCATION**. Here are some of the organizations that we are proud to be partnering with as grantees.

**THE BIPARTISAN POLICY CENTER** is a policy think tank that combines the best ideas from both parties to promote health, security, and opportunity for all Americans. BPC's *Campus Free Expression Project* convenes campus leaders with expertise in fostering a safe and welcoming environment for robust intellectual exchange. With this aim in mind, BPC's Academic Leaders Task Force developed and released a report, *Campus Free Expression: A New Roadmap*. The report is a strategic guide for presidents and their leadership teams, trustees, faculty, and student affairs leaders to create lasting reform by helping institutions set strategies, policies, programs, and curricula that encourage a culture of civil discourse.

→ [bipartisanpolicy.org/policy-area/campus-free-expression](https://bipartisanpolicy.org/policy-area/campus-free-expression)

**THE GREATER GOOD SCIENCE CENTER** at the University of California at Berkeley specializes in translating and disseminating scientific insights in ways that help people and their communities to thrive. Their Bridging Differences initiative is mixing science and storytelling to address social and political polarization through several research-based resources, including articles, videos, podcast episodes, online courses, and a "playbook" that summarizes key methods for fostering dialogue across differences.

→ [bridgedifferences.org](https://bridgedifferences.org)

**BRIDGEUSA** is working to increase viewpoint diversity, constructive engagement, and solution-oriented politics among American undergraduates. Although they are a relatively new organization, they have already established chapters on more than 43 colleges and universities across 19 states. These chapters provide opportunities for students to participate in dialogue and discussion, practice empathy by engaging new perspectives, and take action to solve local problems. BridgeUSA's early successes have garnered media attention and accolades, including the recent inclusion of their CEO in *Forbes*' "30 under 30."

→ [bridgeusa.org](https://bridgeusa.org)

**CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE INSTITUTE** offers an online program that trains students to develop and apply the mindsets and skill sets that are needed to dialogue constructively across disagreement. The training is practical and scalable, and it integrates the latest behavioral science research on topics like cognitive biases, active listening, emotional regulation, worldview development, and intellectual humility. Constructive Dialogue Institute's program includes a series of online lessons, optional peer conversation guides, and a dashboard that lets instructors track progress and assign grades.

→ [constructivedialogue.org](https://constructivedialogue.org)

**BRIDGING THE GAP** offers an immersive cross-campus training course that helps students to develop the skills to cross lines of difference and engage successfully in courageous conversations. The initiative first launched in 2020, when it successfully convened students from Oberlin College and Spring Arbor University, an experience that has generated institutional changes on both campuses. Since then, Bridging the Gap has run similar programs with seven additional schools, and it will soon expand to more than twenty campuses.

→ [interfaithamerica.org/programs/bridging-the-gap](https://interfaithamerica.org/programs/bridging-the-gap)

**BRAVER ANGELS** is taking steps to encourage healthy civil discourse among undergraduates by organizing and facilitating debates on college campuses. The structure and tone of these debates are designed to yield rigorous but respectful disagreement, in order to model and enable healthy discourse for the participating students. In addition, Braver Angels is developing an online curricular toolkit that will help college educators to conduct similar debates in their courses, as well as a national program that will host multi-college political debates.

→ [braverangels.org](https://braverangels.org)

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