

Local Denver Leaders Explore Historic Civil Rights Sites in Alabama

Former Denver Mayor Michael B. Hancock leads delegation of nonprofit, philanthropic, and business leaders on heritage tour of iconic civil rights sites

DENVER, CO, UNITED STATES, October 15, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- A recent preview tour of historic civil rights sites in Birmingham, Selma, and Montgomery, Alabama was organized by The <u>Hancock Foundation</u> that brought together ten local business, nonprofit, and philanthropic leaders. The purpose of the trip was to inspire potential partnerships to support a longer tour and fellowship for area high school students set to launch in Spring 2025.

"This tour is not just about remembering history; it's about empowering our youth to understand their rights and responsibilities in a democratic society," remarked former Denver Mayor Michael B. Hancock, who is the founder of The Hancock Foundation and the organizer of the tour. "We must ensure that the lessons of the past inspire future generations to advocate for justice and equality."



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Participants explored significant landmarks such as the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, the

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Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, and the Legacy Museum & Civil Rights Memorial Museum in Montgomery. Including more than fifteen stops, the immersive experience highlighted the sacrifices and triumphs of the civil rights movement, sparking deep reflection among delegates.

"Standing in front of the Birmingham Jail where Martin Luther King Jr. penned his famous letter was profoundly moving," said delegate Noah Atencio (Philanthropy Colorado). "It's a stark reminder of the kind of courage it took to define a movement, so I believe we all have the responsibility of passing these lessons on to our young people."

Another delegate, Dedrick Sims (Sims-Fayola Foundation), shared that, "Taking this tour of these historic sites not only reinforced my commitment to



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supporting more community initiatives, but I am more resolved than ever to engaging our youth to ensure they understand the significance of civil rights and the sacrifices that were made so they can become more informed advocates for change."

The Hancock Foundation is now seeking partnerships to facilitate a comprehensive educational experience for students, ensuring they learn from the rich history of the civil rights movement. This Hancock Fellowship Initiative promises to inspire a new generation of leaders dedicated to promoting equity and justice.

For more information about The Hancock Foundation and upcoming initiatives, visit <u>www.hancock-foundation.org</u>.

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