

DA BOOK COLLECTIVE

By: Jovita Bell & Victoria Adusei

Mission Statement & Goals

Our mission is to cultivate a space for BIPOC students to gain exposure to different literary art forms by Black & Non-Black authors and artists of color and to embrace our collective differences through discussion and community service.

Our goals:

- Provide free and new books and supplemental material to all participants
- Engage in facilitated discussion and plan activities related to the themes of the book
- Create an environment that'll allow participants to feel open to sharing ideas, feelings, and talents in the space

Theme & Activities

- Meeting 1: Introductions, Who We Are: what our project is + Identity Iceberg Activity
- Meeting 2: Cinema + 4 corners + poetry slam activity
- Meeting 3: Game Day Activity: The Boondocks Edition
- Meeting 4: Our Earth, Your Environment? + Parting Gifts



Our Experience

Jovita: It was refreshing to relax and engage in fun activities and discussions surrounding the themes of the book that are prevalent in our community, while also diving deep in conversations about identity, freedom of expression, and our experiences as minorities.

Victoria: This was one of the best experiences I've ever had. Being able to work with young people taught me a lot about myself and I enjoyed being able to collaborate between our volunteers & participants. I also appreciated how welcoming Grove Hall was as a partner and how accommodating they were with space.

Takeaways & Sustainability

Creating a space allowed our participants to go outside of their comfort zone and share their stories and grow their love of learning. Being in the community brought us closer to each other and establish new friendship.

Sustainability: We are currently in the process of becoming a Brandeis ICC-affiliated club and receiving funding through marathon to continue our project on a larger scale

Thank you to our community partners, Celia Contelmo & Boston Public Library Grove Hall Branch, and Taisha White & Rich Collins Fellowship