



70th Anniversary Celebration of the **Montgomery Bus Boycott**

DECEMBER 1-6, 2025 // MONTGOMERY, ALA.

A commemoration led by the **SOUTHERN YOUTH
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE**

Doris D. Crenshaw, Founder & CEO



CHAIRD BY

Bryan Stevenson,
Founder & Executive Director, Equal
Justice Initiative

Chris Womack,
Chairman, President & CEO,
Southern Company

HONORARY CO-CHAIRS

Ambassador Andrew Young,
Rev. Dr. Bernice A. King,
& Kwame Abernathy

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SAVE THE DATE

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

presented by the Southern Youth Leadership Development Institute

Tolling of the Bells

Monday, December 1, 2025 @ 6:06 p.m. CST

To mark the 70th anniversary of Mrs. Rosa Parks' arrest for refusing to give up her seat on a Montgomery city bus, churches and other houses of worship around the world are encouraged to toll their bells for 70 seconds at 6:06 p.m. CST—seventy years to the minute of her arrest. For those unable to ring bells, other symbolic actions are encouraged, such as lighting candles or projecting colors or images onto their buildings. This shared moment of remembrance will recognize the act of civil disobedience that helped ignite the Montgomery Bus Boycott and the broader Civil Rights Movement.

Montgomery Homecoming Reception

Friday, December 5, 2025 @ 7:00 p.m. CST

On Monday, December 5, 1955, thousands gathered at Holt Street Baptist Church for the first mass meeting of the Montgomery Bus Boycott. Seventy years later, a private Homecoming Reception will be held to welcome back to Montgomery the families who helped lead and sustain the movement from 1955 through 1958.

The gathering will provide a space for reflection, reconnection, and recognition of those who shaped the movement but do not receive the same level of national acknowledgement. Special recognition will be given to the remaining members and descendants of the Montgomery Improvement Association.

Rosa Parks & Ella Baker Youth Call to Action Summit

Saturday, December 6, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m. CST

The Ella Baker / Rosa Parks Youth Call to Action Summit brings together young people, ages 12 to 20, from across the country for a day of strategic planning and movement-building.

The summit is designed to ignite conversations about what needs to happen next in the fight for equal rights—and to develop an action plan for a new generation to lead that work. Participants will explore the legacy of youth activism in the civil rights movement and begin forming new coalitions rooted in the same cross-racial, interfaith partnerships that helped propel the movement seventy years ago.

Annual Rosa L. Parks Gala & Awards

Saturday, December 6, 2025 @ 7:00 p.m. CST

The annual Rosa L. Parks Gala and Awards Program honors the legacy of Mrs. Parks and recognizes individuals who are carrying her work forward.

The gala celebrates those who embody the dignity, strength, and quiet power that defined Mrs. Parks' lifelong commitment to justice. Honorees include leaders whose success is inspiring and who are making bold contributions to civil and human rights in their communities and beyond.