



**ONE**  
SMALL  
**STEP**  
powered by  
**StoryCorps**

Columbus, Georgia + OSS - August 29, 2023

<https://storycorps.org/discover/onesmallstep/columbus/>



**OUR MISSION IS TO PRESERVE AND  
SHARE HUMANITY'S STORIES  
IN ORDER TO BUILD CONNECTIONS  
BETWEEN PEOPLE AND CREATE A MORE  
JUST AND COMPASSIONATE WORLD.**

*Story  
Corps*<sup>®</sup>

# One Small Step is an initiative of StoryCorps

StoryCorps is an independent nonprofit oral history organization started in 2003 in New York City

StoryCorps interviews are 40-minute recorded conversations between people who know each other


People record StoryCorps conversations to honor the life stories of their loved ones

More than **650,000** people have shared their stories

The StoryCorps Archive at the Library of Congress is the **largest single collection** of human voices ever gathered

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*Listen. Honor. Share.*



Every journey starts with

**ONE SMALL STEP**

Story  
Corps<sup>®</sup>

In 2021, StoryCorps launched **One Small Step**, a new approach for fostering meaningful conversations across political divides.

# ONE SMALL STEP

- We match 2 strangers with different political views for a respectful 50-minute conversation (in-person or virtual)
- These are not debates over issues but a chance to talk about your life experiences and values and to listen to someone else do the same
- StoryCorps' trained facilitators guide participants through the conversation process
- The goal is for people who might not normally interact to get to know each other





We chose Columbus for its size, demographic makeup, and breakdown by political affiliation, which are similar to other markets where we are beginning to get traction. We also implemented a poll, surveying people in the Columbus area and found that Columbusites are exhausted by the current culture of toxic polarization and open to being part of the solution.

Amdeen\_GalaAC.mp4



[Video - A Moment of Connection](#)

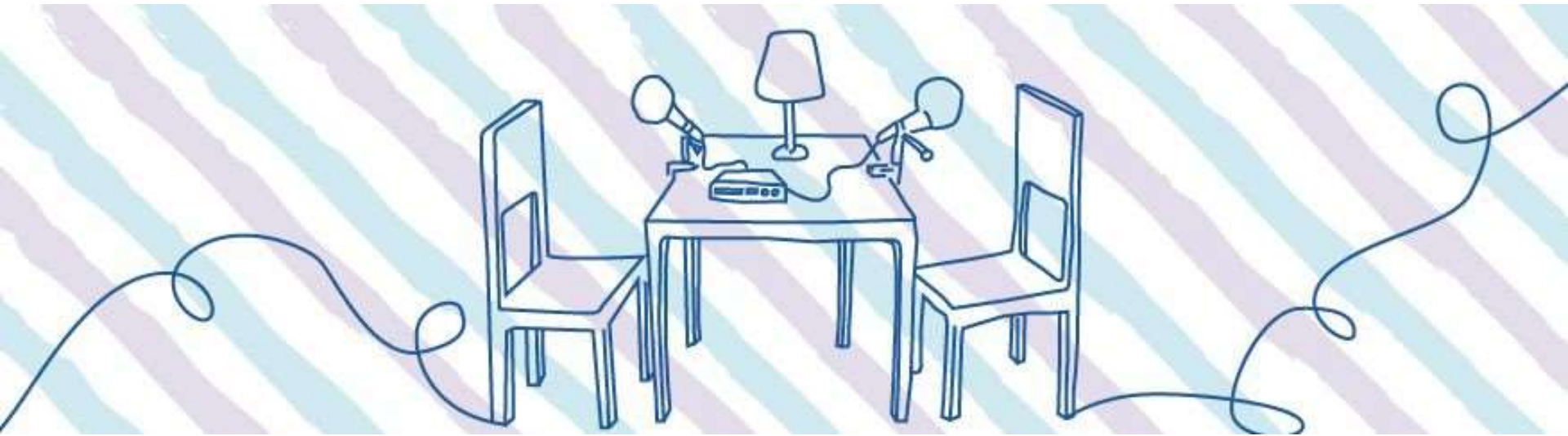
[PLAY](#)

## One Small Step is:

- ✓ A conversation
- ✓ A time to share stories and values
- ✓ A moment to listen
- ✓ A chance to practice the skill of peaceful disagreement

## One Small Step is not

- ✗ A debate
- ✗ A compromise
- ✗ An opportunity to change someone's mind on an issue





## Take One Small Step toward

- Increased connection with people of opposing views
- Reduced anxiety about cross-partisan interactions
- Increased ability to recognize the humanity of others





## **More than 2,000 people across 40 states have recorded One Small Step interviews.**

We have a powerful method for bridging our differences. We see strangers across the political divides come together, look one another in the eye, and be reminded that it's hard to hate up close.

# Columbus Public Launch

**ONE SMALL STEP**  
Columbus

**You're invited!**

Public Launch and  
Press Conference

**Wednesday, Sept. 13th**  
**9:30 AM**  
**National Infantry Museum**



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powered by StoryCorps

# How our community can participate in a One Small Step Conversation

1. Fill out a Matching Questionnaire using Columbus' custom URL

<https://storycorps.org/discover/onesmallstep/columbus/>

2. Receive an invitation via email or phone
3. Accept your invitation/ Schedule your appointment
4. Have a quick confirmation call with an OSS team member to go over the details of your upcoming appointment
5. Read the email from your facilitator including your conversation partner's bio.
6. Enjoy your conversation!

# QUESTIONS?

STORYCORPS  
ONE SMALL STEP

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THE HEARTHLAND FOUNDATION

