**SELMA: THE BRIDGE TO THE BALLOT**

**Selma: The Bridge to the Ballot** is the story of a courageous group of Alabama students and teachers who, along with other activists, fought a nonviolent battle to win voting rights for African-Americans in the South. Standing in their way: a century of Jim Crow, a resistant and segregationist state, and a federal government slow to fully embrace equality. By organizing and marching bravely in the face of intimidation, violence, arrest, and even murder, these change-makers achieved one of the most significant victories of the civil rights era.

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**SAFETY IN NUMBERS**

- **September**: Members of the Ku Klux Klan bomb the First Baptist Church inSelma.
- **October**: Police brutally attack hundreds of nonviolent black mourners who try to pray at Brown Chapel.
- **November**: Civil Rights leaders register to vote in Selma. They are met with a federal injunction.
- **December**: The Department of Justice sues Alabama to end voter registration requirements.

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**1964**

- **January**: Martin Luther King Jr. is released after spending 31 days in jail. The vakas are held to protest the police attack on the marchers in Selma.
- **February**: A group of Alabama students and teachers organize in Selma to support voting rights.
- **March**: Selma students stage a nonviolent protest march from Selma to Montgomery. They are met with violence from sheriffs’ horses, state troopers, and police dogs.
- **April**: After a five-day march from Montgomery to Selma, the Voting Rights Act of 1965 is signed into law.

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**1965**

- **January**: Jimmie Lee Jackson is shot by state troopers in Selma.
- **February**: Students in Selma and Montgomery organize to support voting rights.
- **March**: The Selma to Montgomery march is held. Thousands of marchers join the Selma to Montgomery March, including Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and other civil rights leaders.
- **April**: The Voting Rights Act of 1965 is signed into law.

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**1963**

- **January**: Selma community leaders organize nonviolent protest marches.
- **February**: The Selma to Montgomery March begins. Over 2,000 marchers are arrested.
- **March**: The Selma to Montgomery March is held. Thousands of marchers join the Selma to Montgomery March, including Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and other civil rights leaders.
- **April**: The Voting Rights Act of 1965 is signed into law.