



TED^x Bradenton



x = independently organized TED event

2023 DISCUSSION GUIDE

Theme: Writing the Future

TEDxBradenton returns to the stage on Friday, September 29 from 9:00am to 3:30pm at State College of Florida's Bradenton campus. If you are joining remotely, make sure to tag us on social media with a selfie or group pic and hashtag #TEDxBradenton for a chance to win a TEDx prize.

Great ideas not only provide answers, they also ask new questions. Discuss the questions below with your group or journal as you listen. (Facilitators note: for groups larger than four people, break into smaller groups of 2-3 so everyone has a chance to listen and talk).



 **CHANGE**  When creating this year's event, the organizers were reflecting on the quote below:

"All that you touch you change. All that you change changes you. The only lasting truth is change."



~ Octavia Butler, "Parable of the Sower"

What kind of community do you want to live in? Given that vision of your ideal community, what are the 2-3 aspects of that future that matter most to you? What do you hope for? What do you worry about? What do you wish people knew about that topic? What groups or individuals would you trust to take action on these things? If we are sitting here again in 6 months discussing this, what would tell you progress is being made? *

* These questions were inspired by The Harwood Institute, learn more about their work at: TheHarwoodInstitute.org

 **CRYSTAL BALL TIME**  If you're not Bradenton-based, reframe these questions for your community.

- What changes do you see on your horizon in the coming year?
- Imagine yourself in three years. What do you hope will be different about you then compared to now?
- Do you see yourself living in Bradenton in 5 years? Why or why not?
- If you moved away, what do you hope would change about Bradenton when you came back to visit?
- What trends do you see shaping this community in the next 5 years?
- Fill in the blank: In my opinion, ____ would be a game changer for the future of our community.

 **PERSEVERANCE**  Change takes patience. What keeps you motivated and inspired when things get off track? In what ways are you investing in your vision of the future? What is your reaction to the quote below?

"Utopia is on the horizon. I move two steps closer; it moves two steps further away. I walk another ten steps and the horizon runs ten steps further away. As much as I may walk, I'll never reach it. So what's the point of utopia? The point is this: to keep walking."

~ Eduardo Galeano

Thank you for following along today! Stay tuned for future events at TEDxBradenton.com and social media!

Questions about this guide or TEDxBradenton please contact: catherine@tedxbradenton.com

