



# STEPHEN BALKARAN

**Board Member, The House of Darla**

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**Educator | Civic Engagement Advocate | Social Justice Researcher**

Stephen Balkaran serves on the Board of Directors for The House of Darla, bringing a background in education, civic engagement, and social justice advocacy. With years of experience in teaching and curriculum development focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion, Stephen supports The HOD's mission of empowering youth to grow into conscious, compassionate, and community-driven leaders.

He has taught and lectured on issues related to civil rights, race relations, public policy, and leadership across higher education and public service platforms. Stephen is passionate about civic responsibility and believes in equipping young people—particularly those from underserved communities—with the tools to participate fully in democracy, advocate for themselves, and contribute to lasting change.

As a board member, Stephen lends insight on youth voice, inclusive education, and bridging academic frameworks with grassroots initiatives. He supports HOD's goal of nurturing well-rounded leaders who are socially aware, emotionally strong, and prepared to make a difference in their communities.

**Fun Fact:** Stephen is known for his deep historical knowledge and thought-provoking conversations—and is always ready with a quote from a civil rights icon or a story that connects past to present.

