Khaled Abdulwahed

Khaled Abdulwahed is a passionate community leader, dedicated to empowering refugees. Forced to leave Syria as a teenager, Khaled experienced the harsh realities of displacement first-hand. His struggles as a refugee in Lebanon motivated him to begin working with Molham Volunteering Team as Field Manager, an international organization serving Syrian refugees. He also volunteered with the UNHCR and Save the Children. Now a Canadian citizen, Khaled leads initiatives in his community that empower refugee families and youth. He established a Molham chapter in Canada and volunteers with many local organizations that serve newcomers, including the Syrian Canadian Foundation and Jumpstart Refugee Talent.

Faith Abiodun

Faith Abiodun is Executive Director of the United World Colleges (UWC) International, a global education movement comprising of schools, colleges, national committees and programmes operating in 160 countries.

He is an education and social enterprise leader, international affairs analyst, writer and speaker. Prior to UWC International, he spent nearly a decade at the African Leadership Academy (ALA) in Johannesburg, South Africa, where he served as an executive leading the recruitment of thousands of young leaders from all over the world and helped to build the Academy's global brand by developing strategic partnerships with governments, corporates, foundations, NGOs and schools.
Cordelia Abreu

She began her career with DHL in 2000 as part of the DPDHL Group Corporate Strategy team. Since then, she has served in a variety of roles with increasing responsibility, including DHL’s Pricing, Commercial, Business Development, Environmental Strategies, Operations, Compliance and Human Resources teams. In April 2018, Cordelia assumed her current position in leading Human Resources for DHL Express across the Americas region. In her role, she oversees HR initiatives for the U.S., Canada, the Caribbean, Brazil, and Central and South America. By building relationships with internal and external customers, Cordelia delivers expertise and leadership in Employee Engagement; Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging; Learning and Development; Talent Acquisition and Management; Compensation, Processes, Compliance, and Benefits across the region. Cordelia’s role in transforming Human Resources and influencing change through motivated and empowered employees has allowed for significant growth across the DHL Express organization. Cordelia has a PhD in Business Administration from the University of Münster, Germany, with a focus on Marketing, Statistics and Pricing. She has also been appointed as an adjunct professor for several years at Florida International University.

Amanda Abrom

Amanda Abrom is the Program Manager of Global Schools, an initiative of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network which supports a network of K12 educators and schools in 89 countries, as well as 950+ program alumni. Her interests in education and student engagement stem from various youth leadership and graduate student roles at UNICEF’s Education Cannot Wait Fund, the UN Joint SDG Fund, the Columbia Earth Institute, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Youth Initiative), and the United Nations Association of the USA. She is a Fulbright Scholar recipient and a Global Ambassador for Quality Education on behalf of the UN Foundation.
Dana Al-Anzy

Dana Al-Anzy graduated with a Bachelor’s degree in Foreign Service from Georgetown University in 2017. She also holds an Executive Certificate in Advocacy in International Affairs from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva. She is a Strategic Partnership Senior Specialist with the Education Above All Foundation and has experience working with UNHCR on Refugee-led Organizations at the HQ in Geneva and Zaatari Refugee Camp.

Amber Allen

Amber Allen, CEO & Founder of Double A Labs, is a leading expert on metaverse and hybrid events. Forever a “gamer girl” at heart, Amber is passionate about creating experiences and tools that promote human connection and boost productivity. For the past decade, Double A Labs has been leveraging innovative, data driven, immersive technologies to help brands strengthen teams and connect with customers. They recently launched Double A, a proprietary metaverse platform where people chat, learn, and play to optimize sales, employee training and customer experiences.

A community leader and mentor, Amber is an active board member at YPO Technology board, the University of Texas’s Game Development and Design Program, the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT), the Raiden Science Foundation and the Center for Child Protection.

Dina Almasaeid

Dina Almasaeid has more than 10 years’ experience in program management, locally in Palestine and internationally. She currently is the Country Manager for SPARK Palestine, overseeing the country portfolio of programs, representing the organization with key stakeholders, and supporting the delivery of tailored interventions in education, entrepreneurship, and enterprise development. Dina is a certified national trainer in Skills Development for Youth and worked directly for youth refugees in the region. She serves on the board of a local Small Enterprise Center organization and is based in Ramallah, Palestine.
Lulwa AlSada

I am Lulwa AlSada, Medical doctor, Bahrain Youth Ambassador to the Youth Assembly, a Bahraini youth activist. I am interested in SDGs, ensuring human rights for everyone, sustainable diplomacy development and supporting the advancement of women role in GCC and MENA region. Owner of non-profit, humanitarian charitable projects that supports the goals of sustainable development, targeting low-income families and refugee families, serving 5 different countries “Rain of Goodies”. I strongly believe in the role of youth in global development. As an ambassador, i want to show the world the great effort of Bahrain in achieving SDGS and to empower and inspire the youth to serve humanity and earth.

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Loizza Aquino

Named as one of the youngest Top 25 Canadian Immigrants, 22 year-old activist Loizza Aquino has an unwavering passion for mental health, youth empowerment, and civic engagement. She is the Grants Administration Manager for TakingITGlobal’s #RisingYouth Grant Program, which has distributed over 7.7 million dollars amongst 7,000 youth across Canada for community service projects that tackle the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals. As the recipient of the YMCA Peace Medal, Loizza has spoken at events and institutions across the world to share her story and remind others that you are never too young to make a change.

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Christine Bloomquist

Christie Bloomquist leads the US Corporate and Government Affairs teams and the Washington, D.C. office. Her team is responsible for internal and external corporate communications, brand communications, government relations, public affairs, and community relations in the US. She is a member of the US BioPharmaceuticals Business Unit Leadership Team, the Global Corporate Affairs Leadership Team, and the North American Governance Committee. Christie also serves as President of the AstraZeneca Healthcare Foundation and Chair of the AZPAC.

Most recently, Christie served as Head of US Federal Government Affairs and Policy where she led the team responsible for AstraZeneca’s external engagement with Congress and executive branch agencies and was responsible for federal and state policy issues.
Christie also has led AstraZeneca’s Policy and Executive Branch Advocacy function and, prior to that, was a partner in the life sciences practice of a large law firm, building on her many years of experience as an attorney in private practice. She also served as Senior Director, Federal Government Affairs, with AstraZeneca in Washington, D.C.

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Dina Buchbinder

Dina is a Mexican social entrepreneur who believes that the power of play could make a difference in the world, beginning with educational systems. In 2007, she founded Education for Sharing (E4S) to engage entire communities in building global citizenship. Through E4S, Dina provides beneficiaries with 21st Century competencies like critical thinking and problem solving, so they can contribute to a sustainable world. The E4S methodology combines play, social-emotional skills, civic values and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and adapts these to versatile contexts. So far, E4S has benefited 6 million people from 8 countries.

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Ana Carolina Cassiano

Ana Carolina Cassiano is Head of Education Development at AFS Intercultural Programs where she coordinates the learning design, development, and facilitation of intercultural education programs for youth and educators at a global level. Ana Carolina did her Master’s studies in Political Sociology and holds a Bachelor’s degree in Social Sciences. Recently, the challenges to deliver engaging and inclusive learning experiences online motivated her to pursue a Masters’s program in Digital Education. She’s passionate about contributing to lifelong learning processes that help develop global citizenship, fostering collaboration and connection between people.
Anaïs Chauvet

Anaïs is passionate about interculturality, learning about other cultures and is an advocate for LGBTQ+ and neuroatypical folks. She graduated from Université La Rochelle with a Master degree in Culture, Language and International Affairs in the Asia-Pacific region and is currently the Educational Support Specialist at the AFS international office. After being an exchange student to Japan, she has now been an AFS volunteer in France for over 10 years, supporting students going on AFS programs or hosted in France during national and local orientations. Anaïs is also a national trainer for volunteers in France and a Qualified Facilitator for Global Up programs for the AFS network.

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Larissa Cevallos

Degree in International Relations from Universidad San Ignacio de Loyola. Master candidate of International Development and Human Emergencies at the London School of Economics. Specialist in International Cooperation for Development from the Peruvian Academy of Diplomats Foundation, in International Security and Strategic Studies from the University of Chile and in Fundraising from Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey. She has published articles and completed her thesis on international security and Middle East affairs. She is the current Peruvian Youth Ambassador at The Youth Assembly and has participated as a speaker and delegate in different conferences such as Youth SDG Summit, Rotary Club Ica, the ECOSOC Youth Forum among others. She is the co-founder and executive director of United Peruvian Youth, an association that focuses on grant access to quality education to Peruvian young people. Her experience in the design and supervision of social outreach projects allows her to teach the Social Design Course at UPY as well as lead the Project Hub. She currently serves as a Grants National Coordinator at Plan International.

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Kayla Colyard

Kayla Colyard is an Education Manager for the SDG Academy, based at the Secretariat office of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) in New York City. Kayla also serves as the Events & Partnerships Lead for SDSN Youth, which includes the management and coordination of the annual Vatican Youth Symposium hosted in partnership with the Pontifical Academy of Sciences.

Mickey Correa

Mickey Correa is the Chief Program Officer of Blanton-Peale Institute and Counseling Center. Born and raised in Brooklyn, NY, Mickey is of Afro-Puerto Rican descent and comes from a matriarchal family. He earned a BA in History and Religion from Hunter College, an MSW in Clinical Social Work from Fordham Graduate School of Social Service and an M.Div. from New York Theological Seminary. As a licensed psychotherapist, Mickey works with individuals of all ages, as well as couples and families and also serves as an adjunct lecturer at the City College of New York. As an ordained clergy person, Mickey serves as pastor to a bilingual congregation in Washington Heights.

Shadan Deleveaux

Shadan Deleveaux is a Staffing Lead at Google, his team seeks talent for Google's Global Business Organization. He is passionate about professional development and has presented to audiences at some of the top universities in the world.

Shadan has spent nearly two decades in corporate America working across multiple functions including Marketing, Business Development and Talent Acquisition at some of the top companies in the world including Colgate Palmolive, L'Oreal and currently Google.
Shadan created the 'Ultimate Guide to Not Screwing Up Your Career' blog on Tumblr. He co-founded Technology for Families in Need (TechFIN), a not-for-profit created to help close the digital divide for low-income families. He is also an amateur photographer. His advice and photographs have appeared in publications including, Fortune.com, Ebony magazine, and the Examiner.com.

Shadan received his Bachelors degree in Philosophy from the University of Rochester, a Master’s in Business Administration from Columbia Business School and is currently a doctoral candidate at New York University.

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Alpha Diallo

Representative, Environmental Development Action in the Third World (ENDA), Founder of SLA Transit Inc

Alpha graduated from SUNY Old Westbury with a B.A. in Politics, Economics, and Law. He is currently working, and being active in the UN arena, before returning to study for his master’s degree next year. He speaks four languages including French, Krio, Fulani, and English. Alpha was born in Conakry, Guinea and has traveled to Sierra Leone, and recently to Gyeongju Korea for the 66th DPINGO Conference, as a member of the Youth Sub-Committee planning team. He is interested in learning and working in all aspects of peace and hopes to one day be a Diplomat. In his leisure, Alpha enjoys playing soccer and spending time with his family.

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Hawa Diallo

Ms. Hawa Taylor-Kamara Diallo (aka Aunty Hawa) is the Chief of the Civil Society Unit at the Civil Society and Advocacy Section at the UN Department of Global Communications. She has extensive United Nations field and headquarters experience in public information outreach and fostering civil society partnerships, with a particular emphasis on youth and women’s organizations. Ms. Diallo began her United Nations career in 1987 in the Department of Public Information (know now as the Department of Global Communications) and has served in two United Nations Peacekeeping Operations in Cambodia and Somalia, respectively from 1992 - 1994. She has also worked for the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) at the United Nations Headquarters in Nairobi, as an Associate Human Settlements Officer and a Partners and Youth Officer, where she managed strategic partnerships and designed and implemented empowerment programmes for communities in informal urban settings. Ms. Diallo is a national of Sierra Leone and the United States of America.

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AFS Intercultural Programs, Inc.
5 Hanover Square, Suite 200, 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10004, USA
Tel: +1.212.209.0900

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Delton Domah

Delton Domah is a youth leader and advocate from Liberia. Currently, he is enrolled at Towson University Graduate School where he is studying Information Assurance. Delton also serves as a board member for Healing Liberia Foundation, a charitable organization that provides medical needs for people between ages 0-25.

He is one of the organizing members of the End Rape in Liberia campaign. A three day protest that was held in 2020 which called on the attention of national government to address increase in rape cases in the country at the time. The protest led to the president, H.E. George Weah declaring rape a national emergency.

Delton has a huge passion for the sustainable development goals of the United Nations, and of such, he has initiated projects that focus on goals 1, 4, and 9. He has collaborated with many Liberian youths from different professional backgrounds to help carry out these projects. Since encountering the Youth Assembly in 2019, Delton has established meaningful network with past delegates, and collaborated with them to promote humanity.

Ioana Dospinescu

Ioana Dospinescu is 25 years old young adviser within the Government of Romania where she is focusing on matters that concern the foreign affairs sector and the involvement of youth in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. She is actively engaged in developing Romania’s position in the region in regards to issues that are related to sustainable development. Ioana is also focused on creating a network of young people willing to reform things in their communities and effectively implement the 17 sustainable development goals and also working towards making the voice of youth heard by decision making parties. She is also a Community of Democracies Youth Lead. She holds a BA in Law and in “Security and Defense”, and is currently pursuing a Master’s Degree in “Security and Diplomacy”. She has been involved with the UN Youth Association of Romania throughout her studies, where she has been the President of the Association for 3 consecutive years.

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Tel: +1.212.209.0900

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afs.org
Rebecca Duane

Becky Duane leads M&A efforts and the AI for Social Good initiative for IBM Data and AI. She previously led business development for IBM Blockchain. Becky is an Adjunct Professor at the NYU Wagner Graduate School of Public Service. Throughout her career, she has driven initiatives that leverage the power of data and technology to catalyze social impact outcomes. She spent a decade working in financial services from private wealth management to advancing economic opportunity and financial inclusion. She serves on the board of The i.HUG Foundation, a nonprofit organization that increases access to education and workforce skills to vulnerable children in Uganda.

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Arif Ekram

Arif is a passionate development professional who promotes accountability and transparency in the philanthropic sector. His work helps philanthropy engage with other development actors and elevates collaboration between different actors to achieve greater impact and address cross-cutting issues. He has worked with leading social sector organizations and volunteered in youth-led organizations, including mentoring young adults to help them become future leaders. At present, Arif is managing Candid’s global engagements, which involve working collaboratively with both US and non-US social sector organizations.

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Leslie Engle Young

Leslie Engle Young has spent her career in education, both domestic and international. An expert in early childhood education, she began her career as a pre-school teacher and evolved into a leader in global education programming.

In 2009, Leslie moved to Laos and supported the founding of Pencils of Promise. Alongside her Lao colleagues, she was responsible for establishing all programmatic and operational systems in Laos that served as the foundation for expansion into Guatemala and Ghana.
Since then, Leslie has served in numerous capacities at the organization and is currently Senior Managing Director, a role that allows her to lead the strategic direction of program services and innovation in collaboration with 100+ global education advocates who work with PoP throughout Ghana, Guatemala and Laos.

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Paisley Elliott

I’m a tiny but mighty humanitarian and believer in equal access to education. From building a school for refugee children from Afghanistan and speaking at the United Nations at age 6, to starting a non profit and piloting a pop up classroom in a refugee camp in Uganda at 8- I am determined to change the world. And I believe in the power of young people.

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Maria Espinosa

María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés is an Ecuadorian academic, diplomat, politician, poet and linguist with graduate studies in Amazonian Studies and Environmental Geography. Her professional experience spans over 30 years in academia, non-governmental organizations, international organizations, and high-level government positions.

In Ecuador, she served twice as Minister of Foreign Affairs (2007-2008 & 2017-2018), Minister of Defense (2012-2014) and Minister of Cultural and Natural Heritage (2009-2012). Furthermore, Espinosa was the first female ambassador and permanent representative of Ecuador to the United Nations offices in New York and Geneva. With a vote of two-thirds of its membership, her most recent appointment was to serve as President of the 73rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly (2018-2019), becoming the fourth woman in history and the first from Latin America and the Caribbean to preside over this body since its foundation in 1945.

Currently, Espinosa performs several advisory and advocacy roles in gender equality, sustainable development, health diplomacy, indigenous affairs, global and local governance, and multilateralism. Her multiple duties include: Fellow at the Robert Bosch Academy, Liaison to the UN and Member of Global Women Leaders for Change and Inclusion; Member of the SDSN Science Panel for the Amazon; Member of the Taskforce on Nature Markets; Member of the Board of Patrons at the World Sustainability Forum; Commissioner and co-chair of the Lancet COVID-19 Commission; Member of the Political Advisory Panel of
the Universal Health Coverage 2030 Movement; UBUNTU Advisor for United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG); Councilor of the World Future Council; Member of the High-Level Advisory Council for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, and. Additionally, she acts as a Goodwill Ambassador for the Latin American and Caribbean Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples FILAC and the Common Home of Humanity.

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Brenda Garcia Millan

Brenda Garcia Millan is a Global Studies graduate with a Master’s degree from the University of Oregon. In addition to her work at Climate Action Campaign, Brenda serves as a Project Officer at the Sustainable Development Solutions Network- Youth, a global initiative that advances the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) worldwide. Before joining Climate Action Campaign, Brenda interned at the United States Senate and worked with Senator Jeff Merkley’s climate policy team. In 2018, Brenda was awarded a Fulbright U.S. Scholar Award to Spain, where she coordinated a high school Model United Nations and introduced students to the SDGs.

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Elizabeth Georgakopoulos

The intersection of international affairs and communications has always been a passion of mine. Following my graduation from GW’s Elliott School of International Affairs, I pursued a career in strategic communications and made it my mission to showcase every individual and organization’s ability to make an impact. At Global Gateway Advisors, I assist in developing thought leadership strategy and strategic communications initiatives for global health and educational clients.

Previously, I developed digital strategy and campaigns for foreign governments’ public diplomacy initiatives at The Harbour Group.

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Gabriel Gilling

Gabriel is a Data Scientist and specializes in statistical analysis. He holds an MA in Quantitative Social Science from Columbia University. Before going to graduate school, he worked as a research associate for a macroeconomic focused shop in Montreal.
Ali Golden

Ali Golden leads the Strategic Relationships team at TerraCycle Inc, an innovative waste management company operating in 21 countries. TerraCycle’s mission is to eliminate the idea of waste with solutions ranging from recycling to reuse. In her role, Ali leads collaboration and engagement with TerraCycle’s global brand and retail partners, as well as NGO and government entities such as the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, United Nations, World Economic Forum, World Wildlife Fund, and more. Ali holds a Master of Environmental Management degree from the Yale School of the Environment and a Bachelor’s degree in Environmental Studies from Yale University.

Lily Gray

Lily Gray is a Liaison Officer and Education Program Specialist at UNESCO New York Office where she is responsible for promoting UNESCO’s programmes in the fields of education, culture and social sciences. Her work focusses on forging global education related partnerships, improving relevance of the cognitive, behavioral and social skills of young people including through the education for sustainable development and global citizenship. She has supported the establishment of a broad range of partnerships at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. Ms Gray facilitates the dialogue with the member states’ representatives, and New York based UN entities on the advancement of culture of peace, gender equality and women’s empowerment as well as youth meaningful involvement.

Prior to this posting, she served at the Office of the Director-General of UNESCO as a focal point for the United Nations system, its reform and its respective interagency mechanisms. Before joining UNESCO, she has worked at international settings with a focus on international protection of human rights and humanitarian issues at the United Nations, New York.

Lily Gray holds a MSc in International relations, with a focus on international standards of human rights protection, and has pursued advanced studies and trainings in global education.
Kendra-Lee Heneu

Kendra-Lee Heney is a Child Development Curriculum and Research Specialist at Hope and Healing International and a Global Schools Advocacy Project Officer from Toronto, Canada. Her main interest is empowering children and youth with disabilities through quality education to ensure that they actively participate in their local communities. Kendra has a Master’s degree in Children, Youth, and International Development from Brunel University in the United Kingdom as well as a Bachelor’s degree in Political Science and Disability Studies from Western University in Canada. She has worked with schools and education-based NGOs in Canada, the United Kingdom, Rwanda, and Uganda to promote inclusive curriculum, capacity building, and teacher training.

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Aakanksha Joshi

Aakanksha is a Senior Data Scientist in the Data Science and AI Elite (DSE) Team at IBM. Based out of New York City, Aakanksha works with enterprises across industries to address some of their biggest business challenges using data and machine learning-driven solutions. She holds a Master’s in Data Science from Columbia University and a Bachelor’s in Computer Science from University of Delhi. She has presented at prestigious conferences such as EURO-K and THINK, and is an open-source contributor. She is also a strong advocate for Ethics in AI and has participated in and led initiatives around the same, both within and outside of IBM.

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Sasha Kalra

I believe that change starts with one person and I’m passionate about driving impact through digital storytelling. I’m endlessly fascinated by the ability to reach anyone in the world at any moment with a key message or piece of content and bring that curiosity to my work as digital lead at Global Gateway Advisors. I previously led global social media at Tilray and Canadian audience development for VICE Media.

Advocacy has always been at the core of my work. I’ve worked on DEI teams throughout my career, focusing on creating a culture of inclusion, transparency and accountability.
Ishu Kataria

Dr. Ishu Kataria is a Senior Public Health Researcher with the Center for Noncommunicable Diseases at RTI International. She works on NCD prevention and control both in India as well as globally. Dr. Kataria has experience in conceptualizing and developing training interventions, and designing and implementing programs focusing on adolescent NCDs, cancer prevention, maternal and child health, and behavior change communication. She serves as the NCD focal point for the UN Major Group for Children and Youth, is the steering group member for the recently launched NCD Labs initiative for the WHO on NCDs and the next generation and a commissioner for the Lancet commission on women and cancer.

Samira Khan

Samira Khan is the Director, Campaigns & Field Insights, Global Public Affairs at Microsoft. Prior, Samira worked at the intersection of social innovation/impact + tech at both Microsoft, where she was on the AI & Sustainability Market Development team, and Salesforce. She holds deeper expertise in the ESG space; diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI); and digital inclusion.

Sabrina Kinslow

Sabrina Kinslow currently serves as the Vice President, Programming and Impact at DoSomething. As the first to lead this newly created department, Sabrina is tasked with developing a team committed to curating long-term programs that will educate and equip young people with the tools and skills they need to be actively engaged citizens.

Sabrina’s Move to DoSomething comes on the heels of her tenure with Youth Guidance, as the founding Executive Director of the Youth Guidance Dallas. YG Dallas focused on school-based group counseling and mentoring programs that improve the social-emotional and behavioral competencies of students in grades 7-12. With experience as a community advocate, relationship builder and servant-leader, Sabrina has dedicated her career to impactful work with underrepresented populations.
In 2013, Sabrina transitioned into the non-profit sector, with Junior Achievement, to launch a new satellite operation. She went on to create culturally relevant programming and champion the sustainability needs of their gender-specific initiatives. For nearly two decades, Sabrina has worked across multiple sectors with the common thread being a dedication to uplifting and advocating for the voices of underserved and underrepresented kids and young adults.

Sabrina is a two-time graduate of the Florida State University (’07, ’18) and a Licensed Master Social Worker (TX).

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Kasia Krol

Kasia Krol is a Senior Associate for the Power & Climate Initiative at the Rockefeller Foundation, and the newly established Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet. Working across communications, advocacy and partnerships, Kasia helps accelerate action on the green energy transitions and renewable energy solutions across Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean. She previously worked at UNICEF, where she focused on the World Children’s Day campaign and supporting over 180 country offices with activations.

Kasia holds an BSc. in International Agriculture from McGill University and a MSc. In Global Health and Development from University College London.

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Supriya Kumar

Supriya Kumar is a global partnerships manager at Candid. She supports the organization’s quantitative and qualitative research and data-driven initiatives with the goal of advancing knowledge and practice in philanthropy. Prior to joining Candid, she was an analyst at China Beige Book, where she analyzed and interpreted economic, financial, and labor market data for The China Beige Book™, one of the most comprehensive private surveys conducted on the Chinese marketplace. She also served as the communications manager for the Worldwatch Institute, an environmental research organization. She holds a master’s degree from the Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs and a bachelor’s degree from American University where she majored in international relations.
Patricia Kumbakisaka

Named most accomplished Black Canadian, Sustainability Leader and Woman of Influence of Canada. Patricia’s expertise is in foreign policy & diplomacy. She is working for the Government in Canada in Ottawa, Canada. Born in Romania grew up Greece coming from a diplomatic family this Canadian- Global citizen has lived around the world. Her family is originally from the Democratic Republic of Congo; however she has never been there and hopes to visit one day. Patricia continues to follow her own passion for diplomacy, has represented Canada proudly in various international levels, such as the 2018 UN Youth Assembly and UN Romania and other countries where she elevated her voice in international dialogues, empowered youth to advocate for future generations. She is also fluent in French, English, Greek, Lingala, Swahili and Romanian.

Patricia developed a project called Canada's diversity advantage, which was designed to engage youth in an interactive sharing of multi-generational and a deeper understanding of the historic journey and importance of migration, diversity and inclusion in Canada. She studied Political Science and specialized in international relations and Foreign Policy at the University of Manitoba, did foreign policy research at the Institute of Cultural diplomacy in Berlin, Germany – and Peace studies and conflict resolutions at the University of Ottawa.

Patricia hopes to become a diplomat herself and continue to represent proudly her country of Canada.

Katherine Kurnick

Katie Kurnick (she/her/hers) is a 2022 summer intern with the Unitarian Universalist Association at the United Nations. She is a current Global Activities Scholar, pursuing her Masters in Social Work at the University of Michigan. She graduated from Ohio State University in 2018 with her Bachelor of Arts in International Studies, with minors in French and Nonprofit Management. She has served with various nonprofits, including completing a year of AmeriCorps service. She is passionate about furthering equitable education and advancing human rights, specifically working with children, women, and refugee populations, and strives to further justice-centered change at the local level.

Joanna Lai

Dr. Joanna Lai is a health specialist with UNICEF Headquarters where she serves as the health section technical focal point for school, adolescent, and mental health. Her work is focused on supporting national and sub national planning, delivery, and evaluation of health and counseling programs and services for children and adolescents through schools, digital platforms, and primary health care settings across LMICs.
Li Lou

Li Lou is an External Affairs Officer at the World Bank. Before she took on her role as Head of the World Bank’s Speakers Bureau, she had worked in several departments of the World Bank, including Fragility, Conflict and Violence Group, Public-Private Partnerships Group, Water Global Practice. She supported strategic communications of these units, including leading advocacy and campaigns, digital engagement, and creative content development. Previously, she worked as a Communications Officer in the East Asia and Pacific Region, the World Bank. Prior to joining the World Bank in 2010, Li worked as a marketing specialist for a startup in Silicon Valley. Her previous experience also spans several media organizations, including The Sacramento Bee in California, CNN Beijing Bureau, Australia Channel 7 and Gruner + Jahr. Li holds a Master’s Degree in Communications from Stanford University.

Elizabeth Lerman

Elizabeth Lerman is a Global Schools Project Officer from Canada. She has an international degree in Economics and is currently pursuing her Master’s of Environment and Business. As part of the Content Team, she has the opportunity to develop educational materials which bring sustainable development teachings into international curricula. Working closely with educators across the globe has helped her witness the local and global challenges communities face. She is passionate in advocating for the importance of attaining a just, equitable and sustainable future by supporting motivated students in taking local action which contribute to the SDGs.

Andrew Macdonald

Dr. Macdonald is an international educator and businessperson driven by his mission to create a better world through education. He has held senior executive positions with leading education organizations including the International Baccalaureate, Wilson Language Training, Kaplan Virtual Education and Renaissance Learning. He was also a previous Executive Director of the Friendship Ambassadors Foundation. He is currently on the International Council of the United World Colleges and the Advisory Council for United Planet. He holds a BA from Drew University, in New Jersey, an
MBA from Heriot Watt University in Scotland and an EdD. From Northeastern University in Boston, MA.

Frederico Menino

Frederico Menino is a member of the Schwarzman Scholars Global Admissions Team since 2017, where he oversees the recruitment of promising young leaders from Africa, Europe and Latin America. Frederico obtained his PhD in Sociology and Higher Education Studies from The New School for Social Research, and his Master’s Degree in Political Science from the University of São Paulo. Before joining Schwarzman Scholars, Frederico worked as a researcher in think tanks and research institutes in Brazil, Europe and the United States. Between 2012 and 2017 Frederico also served as special education advisor to the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in New York. An enthusiast of international education and youth engagement, Frederico is a strong believer in the power of academic, scientific and educational diplomacy.

Alejandra Molina

Alejandra Molina is the co-founder of Beepboop, an educational platform helping people effectively learn new languages. Beepboop works with the SDGs 4 Quality Education and 8 Decent work and economic growth.

Originally from Peru. Alejandra is a polyglot fluent in 4 languages that has studied and worked in 14 countries across 4 continents. She is also the co-founder of a social impact project called WarmiShine, which empowers girls in school age to feel safe with their bodies and communities.

Alejandra is a Long Island University Global alumni with a B.A. in Global Studies, She has also studied at Zhejiang & Fudan University. She is based in NYC and is passionate about gender equity & fostering DEI in tech.

Rashad Nimr

Rashad is the Inclusive Peacebuilding Advisor and Youth, Peace & Security Lead working in the U.S. Agency for International Development’s Center for Conflict and Violence Prevention. Prior to his work as a USAID contractor, Rashad worked in various development and humanitarian organizations at the intersection of peacebuilding, gender equality, and social inclusion. He has consulted for the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and worked for a local US refugee resettlement organization. He has a Masters from the London School of Economics a Bachelors from the University of Pennsylvania.
Miguel Ángel Ortega Mateos

A delegate to the 25th and 26th Youth Assembly, Miguel Ángel Ortega Mateos is the Spanish Ambassador for the 27th Youth Assembly and has created a large community of young leaders in Spain, has given lectures at his university, the graduation speech of his graduating class and appearances on television and print media. During his time at university he has done several Model United Nations, both as a delegate and chair, attended university debates, been a delegate for his course and played as wing on the university rugby team.

Andrew Peñaloza Lanza

Andrés comes from the high mountains of the Andes, in Bolivia, and half of his heart is Brazilian. His journey at AFS allowed him to live in Switzerland, Brazil, Sweden, South Africa and the US while studying what he’s most passionate about: peace, development and global citizenship education. Andrés was a delegate himself at the Youth Assembly in 2020 and he now coordinates the Global Up programs for higher education institutions at AFS International.

Lisa Petro

Lisa Petro is the Education and Quality Lead at Generation Global, an education initiative with the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change, supporting youth in becoming open-minded global citizens through intercultural dialogue. Previously, Lisa co-founded Know My World, a Global Education organisation that builds competency for social, emotional, and cultural learning through Virtual Exchange. As a national consultant for Tecnológico de Monterrey in Mexico, Lisa co-designed the PrepaTec Multicultural Competency Model. Lisa has co-developed Global Education programming around the world with organisations including Nepali Education Support Trust, The Grail Link to the United Nations, and One Globe Kids.
Dana Podmolikova

Dana Podmolikova is the Project Management Specialist for Youth at the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) in New York where she manages the Youth Solidarity Fund, providing seed-funding, mentorship, and capacity building support to youth-led organizations worldwide. She also serves as the focal point for inter-agency collaboration on youth and the Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) agenda. Dana has over 15 years of international experience managing and implementing youth programmes for NGOs and the UN. Previously, she managed the Sports and Volunteers Engagement portfolio at UNICEF in Belarus and coordinated youth programming for UN-Habitat Headquarters and the Somalia country programme. A native of the Czech Republic, Dana holds a master’s degree in Sustainable Peace through Sport (International University of Monaco, 2013) and a bachelor’s degree in Politics and Development Studies (School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, UK, 2008).

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Paula Porras

Paula Porras Reyes is a program officer with the Curriculum and Training Design Team in USIP’s Center for Applied Conflict Transformation. She leads the Institute’s Youth Program, which aims to elevate the experience and voices of youth in conflict-affected communities so they are seen as crucial contributors to the field of peacebuilding globally and in their communities. Paula worked for eight years in the peacebuilding field and spent three years as director of the nonprofit and peacebuilding organization Somos CaPAZes. Paula is co-founder of Disruptia, a social enterprise that works to link youth to available job vacancies.

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Raquely Portela

Lawyer. Co-founder and Vice-president of the Commission on Refugees and Immigrants’ Rights of the Brazilian Bar Association of Amazonas. Won the Outstanding Youth Delegate Award of the 24th session of the Youth Assembly (2019) and The Diana Award (2021). Field Assistant at the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR).

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Joseph Pupe

Joseph is a contributor on The Initiative on Communication and Sustainability at Columbia University’s Climate School (USA), and an associate of the United Nations Information Center in Zambia. His work has been recognized by some of the greatest thought leaders of our time including Queen Elizabeth II who awarded him with the prestigious Queens Young Leaders award. Joseph believes that to accelerate progress on climate action requires a robust integrated multilateral approach and performing arts is a powerful conduit. Joseph Pupe is catalysing the future ecosystem of the culture and arts as a key driver for sustainable change, empowering young people to contribute to the resilience of their communities, and drive social progress in Zambia and beyond. In the spirit of leaving no one behind, He founded Music Inspires Foundation, a platform for culture and the performing arts, and sustainability. He has worked with the United Nations Zambia, UNLEASH Innovation Lab, Queens Commonwealth Trust, Children’s Radio Foundation, Centre for Complex Systems in Transition at Stellenbosch University, South Africa, and Norwegian Environment Agency.

Muhammad Rashid

I am currently working at the Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the United Nations and dealing with Third Committee matters at the General Assembly, including human rights, humanitarian issues, migration, youth issues and health matters, among others. Previously, I have served at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Islamabad, on issues related to food and security, debt management and climate change.

Angelica Remache Lopez

Angelica Remache is a young writer, poet, entrepreneur, and human rights advocate. She is the author of a Spanish mystery novel and a poetry book about social and economic justice. Angelica founded a non-profit organization to help children in extreme poverty in Latin America, and to date the RL Foundation has helped more than 10,000 children from the region. She served for four consecutive years as an Ambassador for the Youth Assembly. Angelica holds a B.S in Economics and Political Science from the University of Wisconsin and is currently pursuing her master’s in International Relations at Harvard University.
Adam Roberts

Adam Roberts is Director, Industry Solutions at Salesforce where he manages the Education Cloud portfolio that helps drive learner and institution success from anywhere. Prior to Salesforce, he was CIO at KIPP DC Public Schools for eight years, leading initiatives in digital transformation, personalized learning, and technology operations. Adam started his career as a middle and high school classroom teacher in Washington, DC with Teach For America.

Jason Russ

Jason Russ is a Senior Economist in the Office of the Chief Economist of the Sustainable Development Practice at the World Bank. His professional interests center on using econometrics and data analytics to diagnose development challenges, and quantify the economic and social impacts of environmental externalities. His tenure at the World Bank includes five years in the Water Global Practice where he helped to develop and coordinate the analytical work program of the Economics Global Solutions Group, including authoring many of its global flagship reports. He has authored numerous publications in academic journals largely related to environmental and development economics. Prior to joining the World Bank he was an analyst at PricewaterhouseCoopers. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from George Washington University.

Angélica Santana Fierro

Angélica Santana Fierro is an Education Specialist for Generation Global, an education initiative for the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change. She has fifteen years of experience in the Education and Training fields. Since 2008, she has been a professor at Tecnológico de Monterrey, México. She is the founder of Studio IQ, a consultancy and professional development firm dedicated to creating customized training solutions on professional skills. She has also worked as an Education and Technology Consultant for the Collaborative Online International Learning Center at The State University of New York and the German Academic Exchange Service.
Mitali Shanbhag

I’m a recent graduate of the University of Southern California, currently working as a technology consultant at PwC in the Financial Services sector. With prior experience leading numerous DEI initiatives, directing a women’s summit with 1200+ attendees, and mentoring middle school girls in the Los Angeles area, I am particularly passionate about increasing gender equity in technology, especially within corporations and education opportunities. In my free time, I love exploring new music, books, restaurants, trails, and cities!

Wantoe Teah Wantoe

Since early age, Wantoe has championed the rights of women and children and has been one of Liberia and Africa’s prime faces for global sustainability and youth development. He is a passionate and dedicated young man driven by social causes. His listening and communication skills allow him to influence and mobilize young people, his community and decision makers. Wantoe currently serves as a Steering Member to the United Nations Department of Global Communication Youth Steering Committee and a congressional Intern at Congressional Representative Jamaal Bowman office.

His commitment has earned him multiple international recognitions from Princess Diana and the 2017 Summer Youth Assembly from the Friendship Ambassador Foundation. He is a certified 2019 Obama Foundation Leadership Asset and Dialogue Alumni. In addition, a 2019 Princess Diana Award Recipient, A 2018 Global Young Voices SDGs Champion Winner SDGs Champion Winner Wantoe was also awarded as a 2020 Friend of Humanity Distinguished Alumni Award Distinguished Alumni Award by the Friendship Ambassador Foundations. In June 2020, he was awarded by the College of Mount Saint Vincent for his contribution to global enlightenment, student’s consciousness and systemic change. In 2021, Wantoe was also awarded the Frédéric Ozanam Award.

Wantoe was recognized as one of 8 Young Pacesetters for Africa Development by the African Renaissance and Diaspora Network. in the UN Trustee Chambers.
Courtney Temple

Courtney Temple is IIE’s Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer. She has oversight of multiple departments including Human Resources, Administrative Services, Communications and Higher Education Initiatives. Courtney provides strategic direction and oversight for IIE’s diversity, equity and access programming. Courtney also manages a blog, Goals, Gaps, and Growth where she shares career advice and has a published book (Interview Strong) that prepares candidates for the interview process. Courtney attended Florida A&M University where she earned a B.S. and M.B.A. She is currently a doctoral candidate (EdD, Education Policy, Organization and Leadership) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

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Satya Tripathi

Satya S. Tripathi is Secretary-General of the Global Alliance for a Sustainable Planet. A development economist, lawyer and changemaker with over 40 years of varied experience, Mr. Tripathi is the Chancellor of Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences - the world’s largest academic institution dedicated exclusively to indigenous people and cultures. He is also a Senior Distinguished Fellow on Innovative Finance at the World Agroforestry Centre.

He has served with the UN for more than two decades in key positions across the planet and was most recently the UN Assistant Secretary-General, Head of New York Office at UN Environment and Secretary of the UN Environment Management Group. Mr. Tripathi was instrumental in establishing the Tropical Landscapes Finance Facility in Indonesia in 2016 and the Sustainable India Finance Facility in 2017 to leverage ‘private finance for public good’ at mega-scale to achieve transformative social and environmental impact for millions of people in developing countries. He previously served on the World Economic Forum’s Global Agenda Council on Forests.

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Risa Turetsky

Risa Turetsky is a family nurse practitioner, fellowship prepared in adolescent health and with a masters in public health. She has dedicated her career to adolescent health and the health of vulnerable populations around the world, living and working in several low-income countries across the African continent and in the Pacific. She worked with Médecins sans Frontières (MSF), FHI360, Baylor College of Medicine International Pediatric AIDS Initiative, University of North Carolina, and others. Risa has served as Chapter President for the US-based Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine’s (SAHM) New York Chapter as well as on the Education Committee. She helped form the IAAH
Rosleny Ubinas

Rosleny Ubinas is the Youth Representative of the Baha’is of the United States to the United Nations. In her work, she strives to build unity and higher levels of consensus in the various discourse areas of gender equity, race unity and meaningful youth engagement. She just completed her second term as the co-chair of the UN Department of Global Communications Youth Representative Steering Committee. Now as an advisor, Rosleny assists UNDGC in creating programming that is of interest to youth and ensures to uplift the voices of underrepresented youth, especially those assisting the United Nations in the implementation Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goals. Born and raised in the Bronx, NY, Rosleny spends her free time animating the Junior Youth Spiritual Empowerment Program with youth from the area learning together to grow their moral and spiritual qualities through conducting service projects that uplift their communities.

Cristian Vera

Currently SVP Commercial and Marketing, based in Plantation, Florida, where our regional office is located. I am also responsible for our third largest country in the Americas Region: Brazil. I have over 20 years of experience in retail, e-commerce and logistics, and have worked in multiple global markets such as Chile, Mexico, Brazil, Africa and United States. My experience began at Procter & Gamble, where I was responsible for logistics in Chile; followed by experience in various sales avenues, ending as a member of the regional team responsible for P&G’s relationship with Walmart USA. At DHL, I began as VP Sales and Customer Service in Mexico; VP Sales in Africa; and currently SVP Commercial & Marketing for the Americas and responsible for DHL Express Brazil.

Pedro Vianna

I was born in Brazil and I’m a new immigrant in Canada. My life is driven by positive impact and culture. Telling important stories that can reach as many people as possible. I’m working as a documentarist, focusing in sustainability matters and social justice. I’m also helping to organize a major event that contributes to culturally shape Toronto. I had to leave my country over the political change that happened in 2018, the scenario for people working in the film industry was very hostile, specially the ones focusing on sustainability and social justice.
Le Wang

Wang Le is an expert on child rights and international development, she comes with 20 years' experience in humanitarian and development work in Asia and Africa. She is the UN Representative and Director for Save the Children where she leads policy and advocacy work towards the UN and member states, prior this role in New York she also served as Country Director for Save the Children in Kenya and Madagascar.

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Christopher W. Williams

Mr. Chris Williams is the Director of the New York Office of UN-Habitat, the United Nations agency responsible for affordable housing and sustainable urban development. He is a development practitioner with over twenty-five years of experience working in international organizations in Africa, Asia and the Americas. Prior to UN-Habitat, Mr. Williams served as Executive Director of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) in Geneva empowering over 20 million people to end the practice of open defecation and invest in sanitation. Earlier at UN-Habitat, he held senior positions in fund management, political affairs, program management, policy advocacy, and applied research.

Before joining the United Nations, Mr. Williams worked in Africa and the United States promoting community economic development. His work with homeless shelters, community organizations, financial intermediaries, and commercial lending institutions provided him a wide range of institutional perspectives. He has earned degrees in economics, public policy and sociology, and holds a Ph.D., from the Graduate Faculty of the New School for Social Research.

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JUDGES OF THE AFS AWARD FOR YOUNG GLOBAL CITIZENS

Marcy Huang

As Lead Strategist with DoSomething Strategic, the social impact consultancy arm of DoSomething.org, Marcy advises brands and nonprofits on how to connect their organizations internally and externally with purpose in a way that centers young people. She has extensive experience advising clients and conducting research on a wide array of cause areas such as civic engagement, mental health, and diversity and inclusion. Always searching for human truths, Marcy leans on her Psychology degree from Brown University to unpack the perfect insight. Prior to DoSomething Strategic, she was at creative-focused ad agencies leading digital and social strategy.

Brighton Kaoma

Global Director at the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network - Youth
Joellen Nicholson

Joellen is the VP of University Impact, a Donor-Advised Fund that helps donors achieve their philanthropy through grants and impact investing, plus trains university students in impact investing. Prior to UI, Joellen led capacity-building programs at Nest, supporting over 100 global SMEs. She has led marketing programs, partnerships, plus sustainability, and social impact initiatives with leading brands like the Gap, Disney and Macy’s. Joellen co-founded basik 855, a social venture with Cambodian artisans. Joellen holds an MSt in Social Innovation from the University of Cambridge and a BA in Supply Chain Management and Marketing from Michigan State University.

Daniel Obst

Daniel is President & CEO of AFS Intercultural Programs. Under Daniel’s leadership, the 100+-year-old organization has developed a transformative new global strategy focused on three mission-driven impact goals: developing active global citizens, globalizing schools and other institutions and expanding access to intercultural education to young people in underserved communities.

Before joining AFS in 2016, Daniel served as Deputy Vice President for International Partnerships at the Institute of International Education (IIE) where he provided strategic leadership for many groundbreaking IIE initiatives. Daniel led the launch of Generation Study Abroad, which mobilized 700 international partner organizations to help double the number of U.S. students who study abroad. Under his leadership, partners pledged more than $185 million to support study abroad. He was also responsible for all the activities of IIE’s network of 1,500 member institutions, IIE’s Center for International Partnerships in Higher Education, and the strategic communications team.

Helmut Schuster

Member of the AFS Board of Trustees and work with the Youth Assembly as well as being the Chair of the Strategy committee. I am the chairman of Ivoclar and also a board member and investor of start-ups.
Speakers for Model Diplomacy on August 11

Purnaka Lohendra de Silva

Purnaka L. ("PL") de Silva, Ph.D., is Adjunct Professor, School of Diplomacy and International Relations at Seton Hall University, New Jersey; and Director, Institute for Strategic Studies and Democracy (ISSD) Malta, a small think-tank covering Libya, human trafficking, forced migration and terrorist threats posed by Islamic State (Daesh) – using satellite positioning to track human trafficking routes and collaborating with Imp. Project (founded by an ex-U.S. Special Forces NCO) that uses Palantir to collate and analyze data.

Previously he was Senior Advisor, United Nations Global Compact in the Executive Office of Secretary-General (EOSG) of Secretary-General Kofi Annan. Post 9/11, Dr. de Silva was Member of the UN Terrorism Committee in the Special Sub-Group on Weapons of Mass Destruction and Terrorism headed by Jayantha Dhanapala (Under-Secretary-General Disarmament Affairs), and the Policy Working Group on the UN and Terrorism chaired by Sir Kieran Prendergast (Under-Secretary-General Political Affairs). He is also associated with the United States Military Academy (USMA), West Point, and its Combating Terrorism Center. In 2009 he gave a keynote address at the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) "Future Operational Environment Seminar".

Dr. de Silva has over 30 years of experience in back-room diplomacy, mediation and negotiation dealing with complex emergencies, deeply divided societies, and civil wars. His work on conflict and peace studies includes a special focus on political violence, paramilitaries, counterterrorism, transnational security, and the role of diplomacy within the United Nations system. Dr. de Silva has taught Political Science, International Relations, Diplomacy and United Nations Studies at several universities in the United States, and served as Lecturer, School of Politics, and the Centre for the Study of Ethnic Conflict at the Queen's University Belfast in Northern Ireland. His current research focuses on human trafficking, forced migration and terrorism in Libya, sub-Saharan Africa, and Europe.


Lodoe Gyatso

Lodoe Gyatso is a young professional with background in international human rights, sanctions compliance, due diligence and global peace and security. Over the past three years, Lodoe has worked with key international financial institutions like MUFG (Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group) and Deutsche Bank on their Global Financial Crime Compliance. He has worked on the institution's compliance with global sanctions regime, anti-money laundering, anti-corruption, and counter terrorist financing requirements under the U.S. and international laws. While serving as a Youth Representative to the United Nations, Lodoe has prioritized working with global youth leaders to uplift the voice of young people at the UN Secretariat through organizing events, discussions, and meetings with UN officials and NGOs. He has also contributed to the NGO Thematic paper for peace which was aimed to strengthen the implementation of the Security Council resolution 2250 in advancing the role of youth in peace and security. While working as an NGO Liaison Fellow to the United Nations for Global Peacemaking Initiative under Intersections International, he has represented the organization at various high-level meetings and contributed statements and reports during the thematic discussion of the New York Declaration on Refugees and Migrants. Lodoe has also worked on Diplomacy Lab Project with the Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations of the United States Department of State. The initiative has focused on addressing the role of local civil society actors in the peace process of Nicaragua. As a student leader at The City University of New York, he has Co-Founded and served as the President of the first international human rights focused student organization.
Performer at the Opening Ceremony

Drew Olivia Tillman is a junior at Los Angeles County High School for the Arts. As a dedicated student and artist, Drew is committed to sharing her voice and talent to empower our youth and the community at large. Drew is a talented professional actress and brilliant vocalist. As an actor, Drew's credits include roles on ABC's Mixedish, NBC's This Is Us, CBS' FBI and Roxanne Roxanne, on Netflix. As a vocalist, Drew has been singing professionally since the age of nine years old. It has been Drew's honor to be a featured vocalist at esteemed events at The United Nations General Assembly and The Kennedy Center. Drew is extremely proud of her ongoing relationship with The National Center for Children and Families in Bethesda, MD where she has served as emcee and vocalist for their annual fundraising efforts. Drew hails from Washington DC, a city she loves, and is now a proud resident of Los Angeles, CA. As one of six children, Drew enjoys spending time with her family, friends, traveling, collecting records, and reading. She is passionate about using her platform to inspire and encourage others to pursue their dreams.