

**UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE
2021 YOUTH OBSERVANCE**

Theme: Recovering Better for an Equitable and Sustainable World

PROGRAMME

Friday, 17 September 2021
10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. EDT

Messages on Peace
Reuven Dersovitz, United States
Ahmed Fahmy, Egypt
Anshita Hedge, India
Abdoulaye Koina, Mali
Arim Lee, Republic of Korea
Enxhi Lipa, Albania
Ann Cathrin Nachtwey, Germany

Melissa Fleming
United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications
HOST

António Guterres
United Nations Secretary-General

Midori
and students from the Chamber Music Institute
Performing *Spring (Concerto No. 1 in E Major)* from the *Four Seasons* by Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)
Paulo Coelho
Jane Goodall
Lang Lang
Yo-Yo Ma
United Nations Messengers of Peace

In dialogue with
Mogamat Imaad Abrahams, South Africa
Adrian Alvarez, United States
Carolyn Colman, United States
Épiphanie Nambozouina, Central African Republic
Dyuthi Vasupal, United Arab Emirates

Margo Asane, Mezzo-Soprano and **Toby Hession**, Pianist
Representing The Peace and Prosperity Trust
Performing *L'Heure Exquise* by Reynaldo Hahn (1874-1947) on poem by Paul Verlaine (1844-1896)

Ula Abu Safieh
Deputy Principal
United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)

In conversation with
Nadine Abdullatief
UNRWA school in Gaza

Naomi Sugita Reis
YOUTH MODERATOR

Lucky Ayella John, Viola Inyiye Angelo and Hellen Bolijej, South Sudan

Grace Chilongo, Malawi
Rinor Jani, Albania
Thérèse Kpana, Central African Republic
Jackline Kyaruzi, Tanzania
Abraham Lugo, Venezuela
Momoka Narasaki, Japan
Yone Shou Saw, Myanmar
Lena Silberman, United States
Rebecca Turay, United States
YOUTH SPEAKERS

Presentation by youth participants of Peace Pals International Art Awards

Participants

Nadine Abdullatief is a 6th grade Palestinian student from Gaza. She is studying at a school operated by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). Musically talented, Ms. Abdullatief is also a vlogger and youth activist for children's rights, with the goal of sharing with the world the experience of Palestinian children.

Mogamat Imaad Abrahams recently graduated from Spine Road High School in Cape Town, South Africa. He is now studying Politics, Philosophy and Economics at the University of Cape Town. Mr. Abrahams is enthusiastic about politics, youth advocacy and women's reproductive health. He currently serves as the President of Peace Club South Africa.

Ula Abu Safieh is a Deputy School Principal at the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). Having obtained a Master of Business Administration, she is interested in global peace, human rights and the well-being of children. Ms. Abu Safieh has also worked for UNRWA TV as a content creator and a presenter in the Education in Emergencies programme.

Adrian Alvarez is a 13-year-old student from Florida, United States. He co-hosts the EarthFlash! Games Show with We The World and has spoken at several international education conferences organized by the Earth Charter. Mr. Alvarez conducts interviews in English and Spanish with guest speakers who make positive changes and inspire others to start taking action.

Viola Inyiye Angelo is an 18-year-old student from Dr. John Garang Memorial Secondary School in Torit, South Sudan. He is a member of the Youth Peace Ambassador Club based in Eastern Equatoria state of South Sudan.

Margo Asane is a French mezzo-soprano. She is an Emerging Artist at Scottish Opera and a Young Artist at Opéra National de Lyon for the 2020-21 season. Ms. Asane represents The Peace and Prosperity Trust. Through the universal language of music and performing arts and by promoting young artists from the Middle East and the Western World, The Trust raises awareness and funds for charitable projects in the Middle East and for its young artists. Its current motto is "Promoting Peace and Cultural Diplomacy through the Power of Young Musicians".

Grace Chilongo is a climate activist from Malawi. Through her engagement with the Wildlife and Natural Resources Conservation and Rehabilitation Trust of the United Religions Initiative, Ms. Chilongo works on projects that empower girls in her community to proceed with their education. Her work also focuses on mitigating the challenges of inequalities and climate change. She works to help communities utilize green technologies and implement activities that enable their members to generate income in an environmentally-friendly way.

Paulo Coelho is an award-winning author from Brazil whose works have been translated into more than 65 languages. He is an advocate for multiculturalism, Sustainable Development Goals and ending violence against women. Mr. Coelho serves as a United Nations Messenger of Peace, a UNESCO Special Counselor for Intercultural Dialogues and Spiritual Convergences, and a member of "Network of Men Leaders" as part of the "UNiTE to End Violence against Women" campaign.

Carolyn Colman recently graduated from Jones College Prep High School in Chicago, United States, and has been accepted at the University of Chicago. She has been a member of The Peace School for over a decade, and volunteers at Chicago's annual Peace Day event. Ms. Colman is passionate about immigrant rights and ending the isolation of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Reuven Dersovitz recently graduated from RaeKushner Yeshiva High School in Livingston, New Jersey, United States. He is a Youth Planning Committee Member of the "Gandhi-King Season for Nonviolence" of Learn Lead Serve, an annual learning and networking event hosted by the Association of American Medical Colleges. Raised in the Jewish faith, Mr. Dersovitz believes that understanding the perspectives of all sides is key to conflict resolution.

Ahmed Fahmy attends Cairo American College in Cairo, Egypt. He is the Secretary-General of El Gouna International Model United Nations, a student-run Model UN conference. Mr. Fahmy is a member of the national handball team of Egypt, training for the roster of the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

Jane Goodall is a scientist, conservationist, and activist from the United Kingdom. She has been a United Nations Messenger of Peace since 2002. Ms. Goodall is known for her groundbreaking scientific work studying chimpanzees, which began in Africa in 1960. Today, the Jane Goodall Institute is widely recognized for creating innovative conservation and development programmes. Her global Roots & Shoots programme supports thousands of young people in nearly 100 countries with projects that help communities, animals and the environment. This year Ms. Goodall received the prestigious Templeton Prize for her exemplary contribution.

Midori Goto is a master musician, activist, and educator from Japan. She is a United Nations Messenger of Peace and the founder of several non-profit organizations including Midori & Friends, Music Sharing and Partners in Performance, which bring music into the lives of thousands of underprivileged children. Through music education, Midori continues to inspire young people to build a sense of community and learn from each other.

Anshita Hedge heads the Green Hope Foundation chapter in India. She has worked on projects on mangrove conservation, recycling campaigns, beach cleanups, turtle conservation and massive tree plantations in the United Arab Emirates and India. Ms. Hedge has conducted many sustainability workshops and is currently engaged in the "Grow Your Own Food" campaign launched by the Foundation on organic farming. With the passion about protecting the planet, she regularly speaks at conferences and works for a peaceful and sustainable world.

Toby Hession is a British collaborative pianist, conductor and composer. He currently holds the position of Emerging Artist Répétiteur at Scottish Opera. He studied at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London, United Kingdom and is a prize-winning graduate of Clare College, Cambridge, where he held a Choral Scholarship. He is an alumnus of the Georg Solti Accademia in Italy and attended Chetham's School of Music in Manchester.

Rinor Jani currently serves as a Representative of Pathways to Peace to the United Nations. He also serves on the United Nations Department of Global Communications Youth Steering Committee. Originally from Albania, Mr. Jani actively works on nuclear disarmament advocacy in the Balkan region. He is pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Human Rights at Columbia University in New York City, United States.

Lucky Ayella John is a 17-year-old student from Dr. John Garang Memorial Secondary School in Torit, South Sudan. He is a member of the Youth Peace Ambassador Club based in Eastern Equatoria state of South Sudan.

Abdoulaye Koina was born and raised in Timbuktu, Mali. He is pursuing his Master's in International Cooperation on Human Rights and Intercultural Heritage at the University of Bologna, Italy. Mr. Koina is also a volunteer at the Refugee Welcome Italia-Ravenna Association and a member of non-profit organization Noi per Voi. His duties include managing integration and hosting of migrants by local residents and assisting the migrants with paperwork such as the resident permits in Italy.

Thérèse Kpana is from Bangui, Central African Republic. She attended l'école des sourds-muets (the school for the deaf and mute) in Bangui. Since 2015, Ms. Kpana has been participating in activities for the integration of people with disabilities. In 2020, she was appointed President of l'organisation des Jeunes filles sourdes pour la Solidarité et l'Inclusion en Centrafrique (OJFSSIC, the Organization of Young Deaf Girls for Solidarity and Inclusion in the Central African Republic).

Jackline Kyaruzi is a young conservationist and feminist from Tanzania. She is currently studying for her Bachelor's degree in Wildlife Management at the College of African Wildlife Management (Mweka) in Tanzania. Ms. Kyaruzi is a Youth Ambassador of the Roots & Shoots Programme in Tanzania under the Jane Goodall Institute. Her goal is to promote wildlife conservation through hands-on activities such as planting trees and sharing knowledge and skills by educating youth and her community on the sustainable use of natural resources.

Lang Lang is an accomplished classical musician from China. He is recognized for his commitment to promoting social development for youth through music and mobilizing support for improving the lives of children around the world. He launched the Lang Lang International Music Foundation, which operates with the conviction that music, as a universal language, can help to bridge cultural gaps and unite communities. He has been a United Nations Messenger of Peace since 2013.

Arim Lee is a student of Musan Sueok High School in Paju, Gyeonggi-do, Republic of Korea. She is a youth activist focusing on global peace and environmental issues. Ms. Lee has led campaigns on peace and the Sustainable Development Goals, winning prizes awarded by the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea, World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) Seoul Office and the Gyeonggi-do Office of Education. She actively promotes global citizenship education to her friends and community to make the world a better place.

Hellen Bolijei Lino was born in the Democratic Republic of Congo. After the comprehensive peace agreement in 2005 her family moved back to South Sudan to witness the independence of the country while hoping for a better life. She is currently doing a Bachelor of Business Administration at the Catholic University of South Sudan in Yambio Western Equatoria State.

Enxhi Lipa is a graduate of Political Science and International Relations at Epoka University in Tirana, Albania. Interested in youth and policymaking, she completed internships and worked at civil society organizations as a young activist. Ms. Lipa has been volunteering at Udhetim i Lire-Liberi di Viaggiare since 2019 and has been recently selected as a youth co-chair member of the

Western Balkan Youth Policy Lab initiative. Her work and research focus on youth and women empowerment, climate change, intercultural dialogue, and public policies.

Abraham Lugo is an LGBTQ+ immigrant from Caracas, Venezuela, and an advocate for peacebuilding, social justice and immigrant rights. He is currently an undergraduate student and the Student Body Vice President at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, United States. Mr. Lugo has been working with the Anytown Las Vegas programme, through which he created a virtual campaign “United After”. It targets youth and shows how different communities and individuals have been affected by COVID-19, with highlights on the racial disparities and discrimination that arose during the pandemic.

Yo-Yo Ma is a world-renowned cellist and humanitarian. Born in Paris, France to Chinese parents and educated in the United States, Mr. Ma believes in the power of music to bring people together. He is the creator of the Silk Road Project that promotes the study of cultural, artistic, and intellectual traditions across borders. Mr. Ma was appointed the United Nations Messenger for Peace in 2006. Throughout the years, he has been expanding his efforts to expose young audiences to music and promote the work of the United Nations among young people.

Ann Cathrin Nachtwey was born and raised in Bonn, Germany. Having decided to continue her educational journey in an international environment, she started her study in Global Project and Change Management in the Netherlands and joined several organizations, including the Earth Charter. As a Young Leader Advocate, Ms. Nachtwey wishes to spread the word about the Sustainable Development Goals and help establish a network of change makers from around the world.

Épiphanie Nambozouina was born in Mann, Central African Republic, and currently lives in the Republic’s capital, Bangui. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Economics and Management and is currently pursuing her Master's degree in Banking, Finance and Insurance at the University of Bangui. With enthusiasm for communication, she is a radio host, producer, and reporter. Ms. Nambozouina is also a cultural manager at l’Association des Jeunes filles émergentes de la Centrafrique (the Association of Emerging Young Girls from the Central African Republic). Ms. Nambozouina is committed to the emergence of female leadership for peace, social cohesion and sustainable development in the Central African Republic.

Momoka Narasaki was born and raised in Hiroshima, Japan. She is currently a student at the Hiroshima College of Foreign Languages. Dedicated to sharing Hiroshima’s history and lessons with people from around the world, Ms. Narasaki joined Hiroshima International Youth Volunteers and received her certification as an official Hiroshima Prefectural Interpreter and Guide. In 2020, she began working at Peace Culture Village, guiding in-person and virtual tours for visitors of the Hiroshima Peace Park.

Yone Shou Saw, or Khin Lin Htet, is from Myanmar and currently studying in Singapore. She is the Deputy Secretary-General of the youth-led organization MUN Impact. With a lifelong goal to bring change and help people, Ms. Saw actively engages in Model UN activities and serves as a lead mentor of MUN@Home and leader of the Model UN Club at her school. One of the focuses of her work is promoting the Sustainable Development Goals.

Lena Silberman is a student at Cañada College in California, United States. She earned her Bachelor’s degree at California Polytechnic State University, graduating with honours and a

double major in Comparative Ethnic Studies and Sociology. Ms. Silberman is interested in issues related to social justice, equity, and environmental protection. Advocating for all those whose voices are less often heard, she dedicates her time to humanitarian projects in California, which range from homeless shelters to protecting local wildlands and controlling wildfires.

Naomi Sugita Reis is a political science student from Curitiba, Brazil. She is currently studying in Italy for her Master's in Protection of Human Rights and International Cooperation at the University of Bologna. Ms. Sugita Reis has been volunteering her time to promote social justice, international migration and multiculturalism in Latin America and Europe. She represented the Brazilian youth in events organized by the United Nations and is a founding member of the Youth Action Hubs network, an initiative created by United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to promote youth engagement in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Ms. Sugita Reis is currently interning at the United Nations Department of Global Communications.

Rebecca Turay recently graduated from Curtis High School in Staten Island, New York, United States and is currently attending Brooklyn College. She is of Sierra Leonean descent. Ms. Turay represents the City University of New York C.S.I. Liberty Partnerships Programme and Children's Aid. She is also a member of Global Kids and a tutor with READ Alliance. Her goal is to help her local and global neighbours as much as she can.

Dyuthi Vasupal is an environmentalist from United Arab Emirates. She is a co-lead of the Children's Board of Green Hope Foundation and has moderated a number of high-level webinars hosted by the organization. Ms. Vasupal has actively participated in events that promote sustainability in Dubai, including tree planting, beach cleanups and recycling campaigns. As a member of Green Hope Foundation's Dance Team, she engages young people to raise awareness of peace and sustainability issues through art and dance.

Cathrine Volk is a sophomore at Mater Dei Prep in Middletown, New Jersey, United States. She is the Student Director of the Mater Dei Prep Global Leaders Institution. Ms. Volk volunteers with the Energizing Young Voters' Initiative. She is also a Girl Scout, a class representative, and a camp counsellor.

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