



UNFCCC COP 21: Youth Engagement on Climate Change

Jen Kretser,
Shannon Bartholomew, &
Gina Fiorile • January 2016

Collaborators



universcience



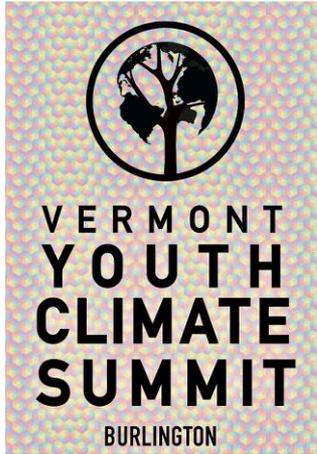
The Youth Climate Summit Program



Convening youth to create a dialogue around solutions to climate change.



Vermont Youth Climate Summit



Seattle YouthCAN Summit

Summits in Other Places

Boston YouthCAN Summit



Finland Youth Climate Summit



Detroit Youth Climate Summit



Journey to COP 21

The Youth Climate Summit Program along with our collaborators travelled to represent the youth voice at the Paris climate negotiations and to highlight the work that is being done around the world with Youth Climate Summits!





Event at U. S. Center

Panel of 2 Youth
Representatives
from the Wild Center
and Detroiters
Working for
Environmental
Justice, Former Vice
Chair of IPCC Jean-
Pascal van Ypersele,
and moderator Frank
Niepold of NOAA

What was the discussion?

In what ways are youth taking action around the world?

What is the role of Youth Climate Summits?

How can we better engage youth to take action?



Our goals for the discussion

- Inspire youth around the world to take action
- Implement Youth Climate Summits in other places
- Make youth action more personal; tailor ideas to fit student's interests

Showcasing youth voice from around the world



Universcience Event

An interactive live stream dialogue between science centers in Finland (Heureka), Argentina (Mundo Nuevo), South Africa (Durban Science Center) and India (the NCSM) as well as The Wild Center and the Michigan Science Center.



We connected live into the COP 21 negotiations to hear what was happening moment by moment. From addressing flooding in Argentina to reducing household carbon footprints in India, it was an incredible opportunity to hear from youth around the world who are working with their respective science museums on climate change.



Panelists included scientists and educators including Frank Niepold from NOAA, Owen Gaffney from Future Earth, Jean-Pascal Van Ypersele former Vice Chair of the IPCC, and Karuna Singh Director of Earth Day India.

Climate Generation has selected a delegation of 10 Education Ambassadors through our Window into Paris program, in conjunction with the [UNFCCC 21st Conference of the Parties](#) in Paris, France. These ten teachers represent diverse subject areas, grade levels, and educational settings.



This is the group that I am here with, 6 teachers from Minnesota, 1 from Colorado, 1 from North Carolina, 1 from Georgia, and NYS.



Engaging Youth in Climate Solutions

BY SHANNON BARTHOLOMEW, EDUCATION AMBASSADOR | DECEMBER 5, 2019 | CATEGORIES: CLIMATE LITERACY, POLICY | TAGS: ADONOUTHSLIMMIE, COP21, COP24, EDUCATORS, WINDOWINTOPARIS, YOUTH4CLIMATE

Well, our first afternoon in Paris. As we entered the city from the airport, you could see the divide between the old structures and the new. The classic-sounding police sirens and the smell of fresh baked bread juxtaposed with modern high rises in the back drop. We raced to the Arc de Triomphe so we could see the whole city laid out in front of us. The view was amazing. To see the whole history and geography of Paris spread out in all directions was inspiring. The Eiffel Tower, the Sacre Coeur, the Louvre.



We decided to stroll down the Champs Elysee and, to our delight, there was evidence of COP21 all the way down. Giant solar arrays, a wind turbine, and the charging stations for the electric cars. By far the best sight was the "charging" stations for the lights on the Champs Elysee: a group of bikes, some swings, and a giant

Youth Action

Climate Lessons

Climate Minnesota Stories

Climate News

Climate Justice

Categories

- ACTION
- ANTARCTIC
- ARCTIC
- CLIMATE GENERATION
- JUSTICE
- LITERACY
- MEDIA
- MENTORSHIP
- POLICY
- SOLUTIONS

“When I arrived in Paris, I didn’t know exactly what I’d find. I didn’t expect to find such raw emotions and so many powerful stories that illustrated what this agreement is going to mean for people and their livelihoods.” – Shannon Bartholomew,

<https://www.facebook.com/kathy.bosiak/videos/10154349738924409/>

Connecting with students from Paris through blogs and videos.

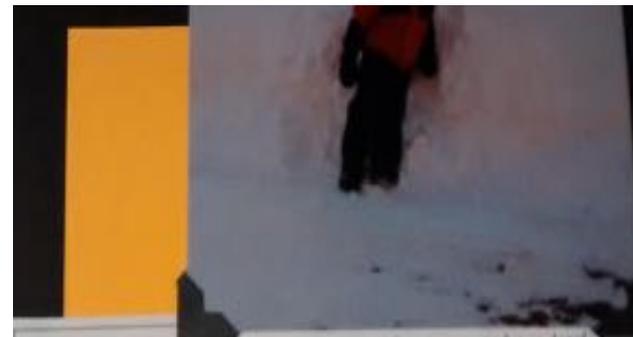


Connecting with students from Paris through video conferencing.





I presented student position statements on Climate Action to Dr. John Holdren at the US Embassy.



I go to school in Upstate NY, and it very key to us and our local economy that we ensure that snow stays. Much of our money comes from tourism from people who want to ski the mountains that we are known for. With the climate changing more rapidly than we thought it would, we've seen an exponential drop in the amount of snowfall that we receive annually. This year, more than ever, is a great example of what is happening. We usually receive our first snowfall around Halloween. However this year (2015) we still have no snow as of



NRDC event at UNESCO.
Panel presentation by Robert Redford, Kathy Jetnil-Kijiner, Poet, Activist, Marshall Islands
· Mundiya Kepenga, Papuan traditional Leader, Papua New-Guinea
· Mina Setra, Deputy Secretary General of AMAN (Indigenous Peoples' Alliance of the Archipelago), Indonesia





Meeting up with people from different organizations

Pole to Paris, Climate reality, MN Senator and state representatives. Also, Best Buy, SustainUS, and

Inside COP 21 Spaces





Climate Ribbons

“What do you love and hope to never lose to climate change?”

We collected ribbons from students at Vermont, Seattle, Finland, and Adirondack Youth Climate Summits.



Climate Generations Space:

Public forums, demonstrations, and gathering spaces



Hearing first hand accounts from youth around the world





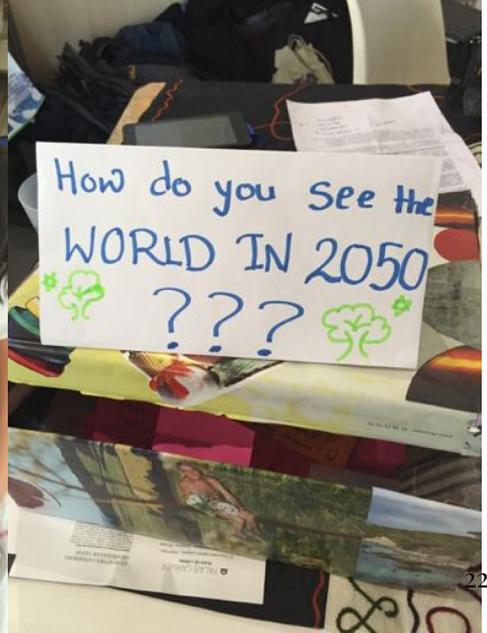
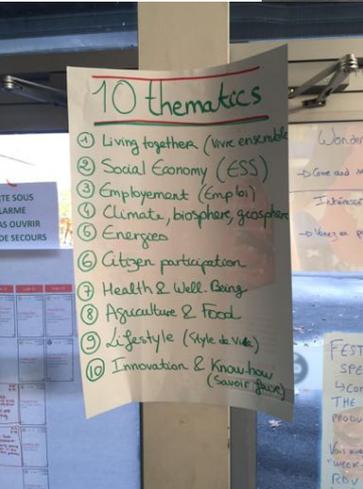
UN COP 21



Around Paris



COY: 11th annual Conference of Youth









#Youth4Climate Social Media Campaign

Impact:

31 million impressions

3.3 thousand mentions

2.2 thousand retweets

November 12th-
December 12th
we had over 20
events to engage
youth in climate
change



Youth Climate Engagement hub created by NOAA

The screenshot shows the NOAA Climate.gov website. The header includes the NOAA logo and the text "Climate.gov science & information for a climate-smart nation". A navigation bar contains links for "Home & Features", "Maps & Data", "Teaching Climate" (highlighted), "Supporting Decision", "About", "Contact", "FAQs", "Site Map", and "What's New". Below the navigation bar is a menu with categories: "Reviewed resources for teaching about climate and energy", "Climate Systems", "Causes of Climate Change", "Measuring & Modeling Climate", "Climate Impacts", "Human Responses to Climate", and "Nature of Climate Science". The breadcrumb trail reads "Home > Teaching Climate > Climate Youth Engagement Case Studies". The main heading is "Climate Youth Engagement Case Studies". There are four case study cards:

- SES Costa Rica Leadership Exchange**: The School of Environmental Studies in Apple Valley conducted a foreign exchange to Costa Rica in late July. In Costa Rica the students worked together along with students at Liceo de Posas to...
- International Climate Change Forum**: The Climate Change Forum is one of IMDE's (Interactive Museum of Economics) star experiences. The 2.0 version of the Climate Change Forum, which has been played by more than 46,000 visitors...
- Vermont Youth Climate Summit**: The Vermont Youth Climate Summit is a gathering of nearly one hundred-fifty Vermont high school students and dozens of teachers from twenty six high schools around the state of Vermont.
- How Low Can You Go Challenge? Energy Efficiency**: This initiative challenges schools to find innovative ways to reduce energy consumption at each campus.

Reviewed resources for teaching about climate and energy

[Climate Systems](#)

[Causes of Climate Change](#)

[Measuring & Modeling Climate](#)

[Climate Impacts](#)

[Human Responses to Climate](#)

[Nature of Climate Science](#)

Home » Teaching Climate » Climate Youth Engagement



Climate Youth Engagement

Teaching Climate Literacy

The Essential Principles of Climate Literacy

What is Climate Science Literacy?

OP: Humans can take action

1. Sun is primary energy
2. Climate is complex
3. Life affects climate; climate affects life
4. Climate is variable
5. Our understanding of climate
6. Humans affect climate
7. Climate change has consequences

Maps of Climate Concepts

Partnership with CLEAN collection

Climate Youth Engagement

Share This



Impacts and Outcomes:

- Social media collaboration that resulted in raising our collective voice
- Youth Climate Engagement hub on NOAA website highlighting action around the United States
- Created opportunities for leaders to listen to and dialogue with youth
- Shared best practices and opportunities
- Over 20 Youth Climate engagement events held between Nov. 12-Dec. 12 and many others throughout 2015 leading up to COP 21

Climate justice and human rights

The power of story

Collective Hope

Never doubt that a small group of people can change the world, indeed it is the only thing that ever has

- *Margaret Mead*



Next Steps: Paris as a Catalyst

- Identify opportunities for intergenerational dialogue
- Grow youth leadership and leverage collective voice of youth across sectors and scale
- Teaching empathy in the classroom as a part of climate literacy and education
- Build new partnerships and think outside the box
- Create and build summits in other places
 - NYC, the Catskills, New Zealand, Alaska, Colorado and hopefully others

Ideas & Discussion

