UNFCCC
COP 21: Youth Engagement on Climate Change

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Collaborators
The Youth Climate Summit Program

Convening youth to create a dialogue around solutions to climate change.
Summits in Other Places

Vermont Youth Climate Summit

Boston YouthCAN Summit

Seattle 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 Detroiter 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.
“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.
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 philanthropic organizations.
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
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
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*