



NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY

"Turn Your Passions into Actions for Change"

<http://www.ngocsd-ny.org>

YOUTH *IMPACT* CLIMATE ACTION

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global outreach.

Professor Juan Elias Chebly, Lead Adviser on Partnerships and Outreach to the United Nations Environment Programme & Head of the UN Environment Management Group; Founder of Voipebox.com and GiveMe5.org. Prof. Chebly holds a BS in Management, a minor in International Business, a Finance MBA degree from St. John's University in Queens, NY and a Ph.D in Sustainable Development from Simon Bolivar University in Caracas, Venezuela. At age 24, he became St. John's Tobin College of Business youngest professor in 2010. In 2009, he founded Voipebox.com, a telecom startup introducing innovative and pioneering VOIP telephony solutions in South America and the US. Since 2013, he has been tasked to serve in different capacities as a report writer, researcher, programme manager, public speaker, strategic adviser, and community builder at the UN, at the juncture between academic research, policy-making, and inclusive governance through partnerships and



Ms. Greta Thunberg, 15 year old Climate Action Activist from Stockholm, Sweden. Greta was born in 2003 in Stockholm. In August 2018 she sat down in front of the Swedish Parliament in a school strike for climate action. Her message to the politicians is "if you don't care about the climate and my future, why should I care and go to school." She has since gotten massive media attention, spoken to global leaders in Davos, at COP 24 and several other high level forums about the urgency to act now on climate change. Greta developed her special interest in climate change when she was nine years old and in the third grade. "They were always talking about how we should turn off lights, save water, not throw out food." She has inspired strikes all over the world, including on March 15, 2019 when 1.5 million students in over 100 cities supported her agenda for Climate Action. Greta is nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.



Ms. Katarzyna Smetek, a Climate Action Youth Activist from Krakow, Poland and a member of YOUNGO the official Youth and Children Constituency to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Katarzyna is 20 years old and an undergraduate student of international relations at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland. She has been engaged in various youth initiatives that focus on fighting climate change and its consequences. She believes that young people should always be a part of negotiating and decision-making processes. Katarzyna has shown her strong support for involving teenagers and young adults to political discussions. She had the privilege to take part in pre-COP where the most important decisions have been undertaken before COP24. In COP24 itself she was a volunteer and an observer. Recently, she was an observer, as well as in the High-Level Meeting on Climate Action and the Sustainable Development Goals organized by H.E. Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa, President of the 73rd United Nations General Assembly at UN Headquarters in NYC, during which Katarzyna was invited by the President of the UNGA to share her experiences and

thoughts during a special roundtable discussion with youth and world leaders, politicians and ambassadors on climate change and related topics. Moreover, she has been an active participant of conferences of Model United Nations and sessions of the European Youth Parliament that showed her that young people and their innovative ideas should be an example to follow for decision-makers as solutions created by youth are often the most appropriate and could be implemented in many cases. As a participant of various conferences on climate and sustainable development, she has gained necessary knowledge regarding scientific background that helps with her work on environmental issues. Moreover, thanks to the internship in the European Parliament in 2017, she had the opportunity to gain experience concerning European solutions to environmental challenges and threats.



Mr. Juan Carlos Espinosa Bustillos, UN Representative of MY World Mexico, a Youth Ambassador for the 2030 Agenda and Leader of the Partnerships Division and Mentor for the MY World Mexico Kids Program. Juan Carlos is a 30 year old Environmental Engineer born and raised in Puebla, Mexico who is currently living in New York City and enrolled Full-Time at Columbia University's Master of Science in Sustainability Management program. He has worked for companies such as Mondelēz International, Johnson & Johnson, Audi Mexico and Walmart Mexico and Central America in their respective Environmental Protection, Sustainability, Compliance and Continuous Improvement areas. More recently, he has been collaborating with MY World Mexico since 2017 as a Youth Ambassador for the 2030 Agenda, Leader of the Partnerships Division and Mentor for the MY World Mexico Kids Program, currently having the role of Representative to the UN.

Additionally, he is involved with the Climate Reality Leadership Corps activists' network after attending a training in 2018 with the founder and chairman of The Climate Reality Project and former US Vice President, Al Gore. He has served as a Mentor during two of the organization's trainings, as well as formed Columbia University's Campus Corps Chapter of Climate Reality in late 2018.



Ms. Nikki Fraser is a Climate Activist from the Secwépemc Nation in the Interior of British Columbia, Canada and a Youth Delegate from Blackstar organization to the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues 2019 (UNPFII). Nikki is a 28 year old proud mom of two, son Trey, 8 years old and daughter Aiyana, 6 years old. In 2015, she was elected as the BC Native Women's Association Youth Representative and in 2016 she became the Nation Youth Representative for the Native Women's Association of Canada. There were over 18,000 nominations 2016 Nikki Fraser was selected was nominated in the United Nations Youth Envoys worldwide nominations call out to be one of 17 UN Young Leaders for the Sustainable Development Goals. In 2018 she was invited to attend and speak at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in London, on the Equality and Inclusion panel. Throughout Nikki's volunteer work, she has been acknowledged and recognized

by being one of GreenBiz 2017 "30 under 30." In 2017 CBC "Young Indigenous Women on the rise, and most recently in 2018 Government of Canada top 10 Indigenous Influencers. Currently Nikki is now enrolled at Thompson Rivers University pursuing her Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Political Science.



Ms. Amanda J. Nesheiwat, Environmental Director, Town of Secaucus, New Jersey and UN Representative for the Foundation for Post Conflict Development. Amanda currently works as the Environmental Director for the Town of Secaucus, New Jersey. During her time working with the town, they have received many environmental achievements including receiving the Environmental Achievement Award with ANJEC for the town’s ban on Styrofoam. Amanda is a UN Representative for the Foundation for Post Conflict Development, a foundation that is based in East Timor and works primarily on development. She is an organizer and environmental activist and is passionate about sustainable development and combatting climate change. She has served as a youth delegate in conferences such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Doha, Qatar where she was the State Department Liaison for the delegation.

Amanda was trained by Al Gore and his team to effectively present information about climate change as a Climate Reality Leader. She is a sought after public speaker and consultant for municipalities on the economic benefits of sustainability. Amanda is a recipient of the 2014 United Nations ATOP Peace Award for her work in Environmental Sustainability and was chosen as one of the top 50 Most Influential People of Hudson County, New Jersey. She has also received the North Jersey Young Environmental Innovator Award for 2015. She serves as a Board Member for several organizations including the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions. Amanda also had a Tedx talk about her work titled: “How I Became a Change Agent.” Amanda has a Master of Science in Sustainability Management from Stevens Institute of Technology.



Mr. Oliver Gleusteen Gonzalez, an 11 years old, 6th Grader attending Instituto Mexicano Madero and a Boy Scout, from Puebla, México. Oliver was convinced that girls and boys can do many things to benefit our planet, he has been doing many actions of promotion, dissemination and awareness regarding environmental protection, our human right to a healthy environment, the UN Agenda 2030, SDG 13 Climate Action, as well as the rights of children to be heard and to engage in civic duties. Since August 2017, Oliver is a Child Ambassador with the MY World México Kids program and a member of the Environmental Issues Committee in his school. Oliver has been a speaker at local and national events talking about climate change in different forums and meetings, such as the National Agenda 2030 Forum: Voices of the People, Smart Cities Built by Young People and at the Embassy of the United States in México and others. He has been a speaker among his classmates and other children focused events in Puebla. He has participated in radio shows as “Tiempo de nuestros derechos” (Time of our rights) of the Commission of Human Rights of Puebla, “Un licántropo en el Carolo” of Radio BUAP, the Meritorious Autonomous University of Puebla. During 2018, Oliver executed a project that included presentations about climate change and the coordination of a 5,500 trees reforestation, with the participation of around 650 people from many civil society organizations, as well as public servers of different institutions, in which he gave a speech about the importance of reforestation as a way to mitigate the adverse effects of the climate crisis we’re going through. Additionally, he has been a committed activist during the Earth Hour 2018 in Puebla, and recently the Earth Hour 2019 in Mexico City, invited by the Government of México City and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) México, giving a speech on the importance of the renewable energies and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.



Ms. Mary Joy T. Camacho is 11 years old and attending Bon-ot Elementary School in San Andres Catanduanes, Philippines. Mary is an honor student who actively participates in Climate Action Programs and activities for youth at school and in her community. Her whole life she and her family along with their community have been standing up to the impact of the climate change in their region. Mary and her community are staying resilient even though each year they must evacuate their location due to the climate crisis.



Ms. Kimberly Ann T. Lumabi is 19 years old, Civil Engineering student at Catanduanes State University in Virac Catanduanes, Philippines. Kimberly graduated Elementary and High school with honors. She is a member of the Youth Organization at her University and she is actively participates in Youth Leadership Programs on Climate Action including the Mangrove Tree Planting Project. She does Community Service and leads the Climate Change Information sharing Campaign. Unfortunately, her entire community is impacted by climate change every day.



Ms. Mariana Vargas Youth Coordinator and Leader County Climate Coalition & Humanitarian Focus Foundation. Mariana is a freshman at Hunter College where she is double-majoring in Environmental and Urban Studies. In 2017, Mariana and her family lost their home in a fire that left them displaced and uncertain of where to go as rent in other apartments was too high. Being undocumented and homeless helped her reflect on the displacement of front line communities as climate change will force many communities of color and low-income to search for a new place to call home. Since then she has been advocating and demanding climate/environmental justice since her sophomore year of high school where she was a member of the Rooftop Garden club and Green Team, which hoped to promote sustainability by teaching students how to properly dispose of their waste and grow their own produce in small urban spaces. In addition, Mariana is the founder of The Immigration Alliance which promoted inclusivity and support for undocumented students at her high school, who like

herself had very little support with the college application process. She has also worked with various non-profit organizations such as The Alliance for Climate Education (ACE) through their fellowship program, The Nature Conservancy as the Co-chair for a program called LEAF Ambassadors and as an ambassador for a program at NYU called Teen Advocates for sustainable Corps (TASC). Through these opportunities she has obtained leadership skills that have allowed her to speak at a side panel at the UN Headquarters and share her story of endurance and commitment to ensure a sustainable and equitable future.

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