

2019 International Day of Peace: Climate Action for Peace UN Headquarters

September 20, 2019 Peace Bell Ceremony



Secretary-General António Guterres and Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, President of the 74th General Assembly rang the Peace Bell. Dignitaries included Koro Bessho, Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations, Deputy SG Amina Mohammed, Messengers of Peace Midori Goto and Yo-Yo Ma and the SG's Envoy on Youth, Jayathma Wickramanayake. Melissa Fleming, USG for Global Communications was the moderator. Students carried the flags of the 193 Member States of the United Nations to send messages of peace to each country.



Student Observance at United Nations Conference Room 4



Secretary-General António Guterres welcomed over 700 students to the UN for the 22nd annual Student Observance for the International Day of Peace. Joining him are UN Deputy SG Amina Mohammed, Jayathma Wickramanayake, the SG's Envoy on Youth and Melissa Fleming, Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications. The first panel ended with an amazing duet performance by Yo-Yo Ma and Midori and an Indian dance to peace poetry was performance by Premini and Neelakshi Thanan following the second panel.



Panel 2 featured Earth Guardians Youth Director Xiuhtezcatl Martinez, Yo-Yo Ma, USG Melissa Fleming, Midori Goto and Jayathma Wickramanayake. Their stories and commitment to peace and protection of the Earth offered inspiration and ideas for actions to address Climate Change.



Kehkashan Basu, the founder of the Green Hope Foundation, a Cooperation Circle of the URI, was the youth moderator for the morning. She introduced Tolu Olubunmi of ACT NOW, a UN initiative to promote reporting on climate change actions. Ms. Olubunmi shared a video done by The Angry Bird's to illustrate the program. At 12 noon, those in the room joined with Kosovo in the traditional Minute of Silence for Peace as students rang the May Peace Prevail on Earth International's Peace Bell.



Tolu Olubunmi



Ringing the Peace Bell



Xiuhtezcatl Martinez



Youth working with the United Nations Mission in Kosovo shared their actions for peace and climate change.

New York Student Presentations

Students in New York, shared their Peace Projects to illustrate how they took action to address climate change and thereby foster peace.



1. You Are What You Wear – **Olive Howland Milne**
(University of Sussex/Labour Behind The Label)



2. Getting to the Roots of Climate Change –
Natalie Sweet (Zero Hour)



3. #Kicks for Climate Action –
Janani Shivakumar (Valar Tamil Iyakkam)



4. Building Political Will for National Climate Legislation
Makena Mugambi
(New York University/Citizens' Climate Lobby)



5. Bipartisan Climate Policy by Students,
for New Jersey and Beyond –
Mayu Takeuchi (Princeton University/
New Jersey Student Climate Advocates)



6.. Trees of Life – **Diego Parra Chayer**
(Le Garage à Musique)



7. The Global Sunrise Project –
Kasha Sequoia Slavner (Global Sunrise Project)



8. Engineering Curriculum – **Gabbie Ratzko**
(Appalachian State University)



Ciconia Brings Peace by Providing Water –
Salma Sahnoun (University of Central Missouri/Ciconia)

Plant Dining Partnerships –
Lana Weidgenant (Johns Hopkins University)



International Day of Peace NGO Committee with student presenters
George Anthony, Brandon Perdomo, Rick Ulfik, Matt Smith-back row
Monica Willard, Kehkashan Basu, Alina Xu, Kasha Sequoia Slaayner, Sabina Sahnoun and Georgina Galanis



Gathering as we were going outside to stand with youth from around the world to show commitment to Climate Change.



Rob Allsbrooks and students from Philadelphia