



**United Nations**  
Department of Global  
Communications



UNITED NATIONS  
INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE  
2021 YOUTH OBSERVANCE

**RECOVERING  
BETTER FOR A  
SUSTAINABLE  
AND EQUITABLE  
WORLD**

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**PROGRAMME**

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**FRIDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER 2021  
10:00 A.M. TO 11:30 A.M. EDT**

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## YOUTH OBSERVANCE

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### 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**

United Nations Messengers of Peace

*In dialogue with*

**Dyuthi Vasupal**, United Arab Emirates

**Adrian Alvarez**, United States

**Épiphanie Nambozouina**, Central African Republic

**Carolyn Colman**, United States

**Margo Arsane**, 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 Bolije Lino, South Sudan**

**Momoka Narasaki, Japan**  
**Grace Chilongo, Malawi**  
**Cathrine Volk, United States**  
**Abraham Lugo, Venezuela**  
**Rinor Jani, Albania**  
**Thérésa Kpana, Central African Republic**  
**Lena Silberman, United States**  
**Mogamat Imaad Abrahams, South Africa**  
**Yone Shou Saw, Myanmar**  
**Jackline Kyaruzi, Tanzania**  
**Rebecca Turay, United States**  
YOUTH SPEAKERS

**Presentation by youth participants of  
Peace Pals International Arts Exhibition and Awards**

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## PARTICIPANTS

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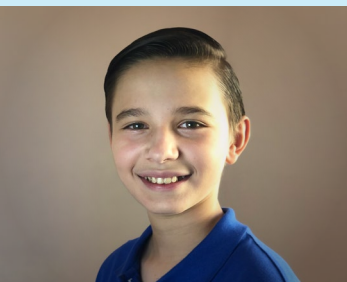
**Nadine Abdullatief** is a 6th grade Palestinian student from Gaza. She is studying at a school operated by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). Musically talented, Ms. Abdullatief is also a vlogger and youth activist for children's rights, with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



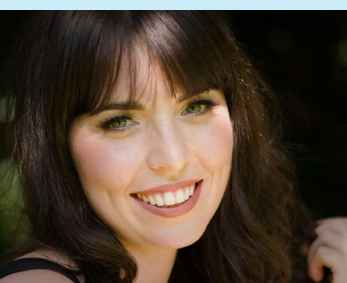
**Ula Abu Safieh** is a Deputy School Principal at the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). Having obtained a Master of Business Administration, she is interested in global peace, human rights and the well-being of children. Ms. Abu Safieh has also worked 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. She is a member of the Youth Peace Ambassador Club based in Eastern Equatoria state of South Sudan.



**Margo Arsane** 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. Arsane 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.

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**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.

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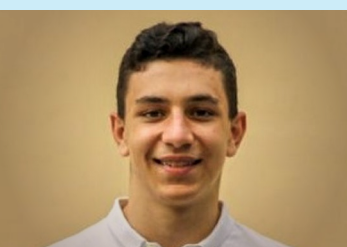
**Carolyn Colman** recently graduated from Jones College Prep High School in Chicago, United States, and has been accepted at the University of Chicago. She has been a member of The Peace School for over a decade, and volunteers at Chicago’s annual Peace Day event. Ms. Colman is passionate about immigrant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

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**Reuven Dersovitz** recently graduated from RaeKushner Yeshiva High School in Livingston, New Jersey, United States. He is a Youth Planning Committee Member of LEARN LEAD SERVE’s “Gandhi-King Season For Nonviolence.” Mr. Dersovitz believes that understanding the perspectives of all sides is key to conflict resolution.

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**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.

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**Jane Goodall** is a scientist, conservationist, and activist from the United Kingdom. She has been a United Nations Messenger of Peace since 2002. Dr. 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 Dr. 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.

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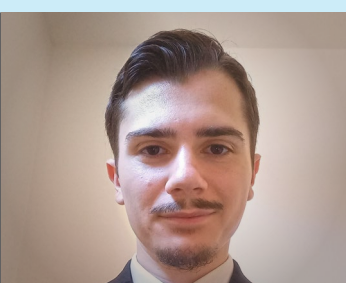
**Anshita Hedge** heads the Green Hope Foundation chapter in India. She has worked on projects on mangrove conservation, recycling campaigns, beach cleanups, turtle conservation and massive tree plantations in the United Arab Emirates and India. Ms. Hedge has conducted many sustainability workshops and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

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**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.

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**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.

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**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.

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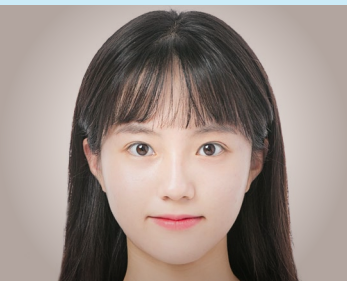
**Abdoulaye Koina** was born and raised in Timbuktu, Mali. He is pursuing his Master’s in International Cooperation on Human Rights and Intercultural Heritage at the University of Bologna, Italy. Mr. Koina is also a volunteer at the Refugee Welcome Italia-Ravenna Association and a member of non-profit 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.



**Thérésa Kpana** is from Bangui, Central African Republic. She attended l'école des sourds-muets 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).



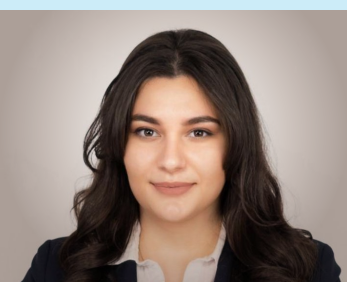
**Jackline Kyaruzi** is a young conservationist and feminist from Tanzania. She is currently studying for her Bachelor's degree in Wildlife Management at the College of African Wildlife Management, Mweka in Tanzania. Ms. Kyaruzi is a Youth Ambassador of the Roots & Shoots Programme in Tanzania under 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.



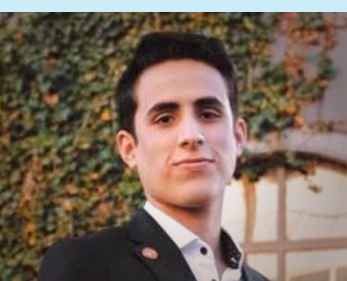
**Arim Lee** is a student of Musan Sueok High School in Paju, Gyeonggi-do, Republic of Korea. She is a youth activist focusing on global peace and environmental issues. Ms. Lee has led campaigns on peace and the Sustainable Development Goals, winning prizes awarded by the Ministry of Environment of the 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, drawing attention to the racial disparities and discrimination that arose during the pandemic.



**Ann Cathrin Nachtwey** was born and raised in Bonn, Germany. Having decided to continue her educational journey in an international environment, she started her studies 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.

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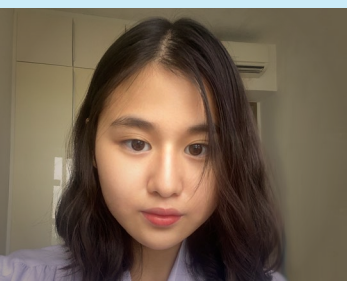
**Épiphanie Nambozouina** was born in Mann, Central African Republic, and currently lives in the Republic's capital, Bangui. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Economics and Management and is currently pursuing her Master's degree in Banking, Finance and Insurance at the University of Bangui. With enthusiasm 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. Ms. Nambozouina is committed to the emergence of female leadership for peace, social cohesion and sustainable development in the Central African Republic.

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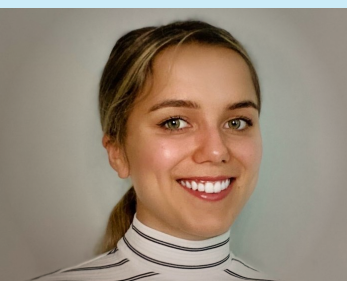
**Momoka Narasaki** was born and raised in Hiroshima, Japan. She is currently a student at the Hiroshima College of Foreign Languages. Dedicated to sharing Hiroshima's history and lessons with people from around the world, Ms. Narasaki joined Hiroshima International Youth Volunteers and received her 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.

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**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.

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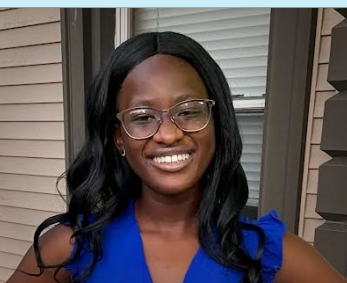


**Lena Silberman** is a student at Cañada College in California, United States. She earned her Bachelor's degree at California Polytechnic State University, graduating with honours and a double major in Comparative Ethnic Studies and Sociology. Ms. Silberman is interested in issues related to social 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.





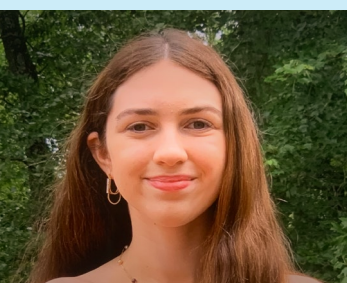
**Naomi Sugita Reis** is a political science student from Curitiba, Brazil. She is currently studying in Italy for her Master's in Protection of Human Rights and International Cooperation at the University of Bologna. Ms. Sugita Reis has been volunteering her time to promote social justice, international 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 the 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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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission  
in the Central African Republic

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United Nations Mission in South Sudan

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United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

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United Nations Information Service Vienna

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Chamber Music Institute

•

**George Anthony**, Pathways to Peace  
**Kehkashan Basu**, Green Hope Foundation  
**Fumi Jones**, May Peace Prevail on Earth  
**Lisa Martin**, MUN Impact  
**Lisa Parker**, Peace Day Philly  
**Shawn Sweeney**, Jane Goodall Institute  
**Monica Willard**, United Religions Initiative