

Peace Education and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals in South America

FEBRUARY 19 - 28, 2019



INTRODUCTION

WHAT IS PEACE BOAT?

Peace Boat's educational programs provide an opportunity to learn about ongoing global issues such as climate change, environmental degradation, poverty, and sustainable development. The non-profit organization works to build a culture of peace by connecting people across borders and creating opportunities for learning, activism, and cooperation.

Individuals from around the world participate in Global Voyages onboard the Peace Boat ship, traveling to more than 100 ports of call per year. Since 2016, Peace Boat has sailed as a flagship for the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with the logo painted on the hull of the ship. These 17 ambitious goals provide a clear vision of what is needed to achieve the 2030 Agenda. As a Non-governmental organization with Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations, Peace Boat is committed to help with achieving this vision.



THE UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

In 2015, 193 UN member states came together to define 17 Sustainable Development Goals to shape the global agenda for sustainable development in the next 15 years and beyond. Peace Boat has made promoting and advancing the UN SDGs a key part of its mission. Achieving the SDGs requires mobilization of young people through entrepreneurship, volunteering, research, education, and other endeavors. Peace Boat US is working towards this goal by providing various scholarships under the "Youth for the SDGs" theme to encourage the participation of youth in the SDGs and to give them the resources they need to work on a global scale.

Peace Boat's 100th Global Voyage accepted 7 "Youth for the SDGs" scholars to participate in the program. These are individuals from all backgrounds and nationalities and they are involved in SDG-related activities.

Sailing onboard Peace Boat, "Youth for the SDGs" scholars attended presentations, seminars, and workshops addressing the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Participating youth also enjoy being immersed in the onboard community, including the opportunities to take part in various cultural, educational, and social activities and events. In ports, the young scholars visited local NGOs that are working directly on SDG issues related to climate change, youth engagement, and policy making.

**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

INTRODUCTION TO THE PROGRAM

From February 18-28, 2019, seven young scholars from around the world, participated in an experiential study program. The Peace Education and the UN Sustainable Developmental Goals Program took place from South America, sailed from Ushuaia, Argentina to Valparaiso, Chile, during Peace Boat's 100th Global Voyage.

This South American program empowered the scholars to specifically delve into SDG 13 for Climate Action and SDG 14 for Life Below Water. The goal of this program was to enable the youth to take what they learn on the Peace Boat and bring it into their own communities, to empower other young people to raise their voices for a more sustainable world.

Over these ten days, the participants immersed themselves in the application of the UN SDGs through leading workshops, participating in cross-cultural dialogues, improving their leadership skills, and aiding in the advancement of responsible tourism and peace worldwide.

The seven youth from the 2019 program are Hansier Rodriguez (United States), Carol McDonnell Schmidt (Chile), Sara Van Eerde (United States), Mareeka Dookie (Trinidad and Tobago), Michael Valdivieso (Ecuador), Silvia Cantu Bautista (Mexico), and Donovan Tremor (Saint Martin).



INTRODUCTION TO THE YOUTH FOR THE SDGS SCHOLARS



Hansier Rodriguez is a Dominican-American researcher pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Public & Nonprofit Administration with a second concentration in International Affairs at Rutgers University in Newark, New Jersey. Peace Boat US has a partnership with Rutgers University to give students the opportunity to learn through international dialogue and experience during our Global Voyages. Hansier interned with Peace Boat US during the Spring semester to support our work at the United Nations. He considers himself a change agent and a social justice activist as well as a global citizenship advocate. He feels most connected to SDG 4, because he wants to see all children receive a quality education. His leadership model is inspired by the following quote, "the most powerful thing a leader can do is to empower others."

Michael Valdivieso is serving as a youth representative at a political think tank organized by Participación Ciudadana, one of the largest NGOs in Ecuador, as of December 2015. Michael previously also served as a Public Information intern at UNHCR-Ecuador, and participated in the National Model United Nations in New York from 2013 until 2018, both as a delegate and as a staff member. Currently, he is one of the founders of Momentum Novum, a social business based in Germany that promotes sustainable development through advisory, education, and information services.



Carol McDonnell Schmidt is a geographer working for CODEFF (National Committee to Protect the Fauna and Flora), which is the oldest environmental nonprofit organization in Chile. Peace Boat and CODEFF work in partnership to raise awareness about environmental issues through activities held in Chile and onboard the ship. Both organizations continue to work on the Campaign to declare Patagonia a World Heritage Site recognized by UNESCO, as the region's diverse wildlife and other biological and geographical features are already endangered by development and resource exploitation. Carol works specifically with biodiversity, in the IBA (Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas) program, assessing the status of birds for a more specific approach at protection initiatives within the context of climate change. Carol expresses her dedication to the UN SDG 15 to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and land degradation.

INTRODUCTION TO THE YOUTH FOR THE SDGS SCHOLARS



Sara Van Eerde is currently living in New York City and works for the nonprofit organization Global Kids, where she teaches environmental justice through a program called the “Human Rights Activist Project,” leads a “LGBTQ+ and Allies” support group, and is piloting a new mental health program at a high school in Queens. A partner organization of Peace Boat, Global Kids focuses on global learning and youth development that works to ensure that youth from underserved areas have the knowledge, skills, experiences and values they need to succeed in school, participate effectively in the democratic process, and achieve leadership in their communities and in the world. Sara is most passionate about the UN SDG 5 for Gender Equality and SDG 13 for Climate Action. She highlights the importance of opening up spaces for all genders and marginalized communities. She loves finding links between the SDGs and showing people that bridge in an accessible way.



Donovane Tremor is a talented professional photographer specializing in landscape and architecture photography. Most of his professional work focuses on the tourist economy between St. Martin, St. Barts and Anguilla. Donovan's passion for the UN SDG 9 for Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, is expressed in his dedication to regional economic sustainability. He is enthusiastic about travel, specifically when he has the chance to discover new cultures from around the world. He is always ready for a new adventure!



Mareeka Dookie is a creative young professional who loves to travel, learn about different cultures, learn new languages, and gain worldly experiences. She prides herself on being a life-long learner. Mareeka has worked as an elementary school teacher living in Sint Maarten, focusing on recovery efforts in the lives of children after the devastation of hurricane Irma in September of 2017. She has also worked as a Programme Administrative Officer with UNICEF-Nederlands in Sint Maarten. Mareeka's work centers on the UN SDG 9 and SDG 11, which express her call for disaster risk reduction, education, and resilience among communities. She was born in Trinidad and Tobago and raised on the island of Sint Maarten/Saint Martin.



Silvia Cantu Bautista is a junior at Middlebury College, majoring in Political Science with a minor in History. While in college, she took a course on Marine Science and conducted research on ocean acidification. She is passionate about environmental policy and conservation, particularly concerning marine ecosystems. She is a PADI certified Advanced Scuba Diver and an avid photographer interested in climate change photojournalism. Silvia is an advocate for climate justice and sustainability through action towards the UN SDG 13 and SDG 17; she hopes to become involved in the drafting and implementation of local and international environmental policy and adaptation plans.

SCHOLARS' TESTIMONIALS

"I am beyond grateful for this life-changing experience. I embarked the Peace Boat ship with immense excitement to learn and make every minute count, and by the time I disembarked, not only had I brought back with me the amazing bonds and memories, but also an awakening affirmation that this is the kind of work I want to dedicate myself to in the future."

- **Hansier Rodriguez**
(United States & Dominican Republic, Rutgers University)



"These past two weeks, I was part of the 'Youth for the UN SDGs' ambassador program on Peace Boat's 100th Global Voyage from Ushuaia, Argentina to Valparaíso, Chile. All of the youth scholars were the most joyful and inspiring dream team to work with onboard. While on the ship, I was able to share a little bit about my work and my passions, and how they related to the 2030 goals for Climate Action and Life Below Water. Talking to hundreds of people about the value of scuba diving, conservation photography, and environmental policy was like a dream come true for me. Speaking at the Youth Forum at the United Nations CEPAL headquarters in Santiago was also a life changing experience that has given me even more impulse to keep working in the field of environmental conservation and peace education."

- **Silvia Cantú Bautista (Mexico)**



"I am extremely thankful that I was one of the seven 'Youth for SDGs' scholars. For two weeks we sailed from Ushuaia, Argentina, to Valparaíso, Chile, sharing our stories about sustainable development. I was constantly being inspired by my fellow scholars and all the incredible people that I met. This is just the start of greater things and now, I am more convinced than ever that we need to take action."

- **Michael Valdivieso Muñoz (Ecuador, Momentum Novum)**



"Peace Boat has given me learning experiences the size of the ocean that we called home for 10 days. Every single person shared their knowledge about climate change and how we can collaborate together to think of solutions. Action is so important, and there are a mosaic of ways every single person can fight for our planet and the equality of every living being on it."

- **Sara Van Eerde (United States, Global Kids)**



Learning About Climate Change From the Glaciers to the Oceans

The Youth for the SDGs scholars began their journey on land, meeting with local environmental leaders in Ushuaia, Argentina. Named “El Fin Del Mundo,” or “The End of The World,” Ushuaia is the southernmost region of Argentina, where many travelers catch a ferry to Antarctica. The group hiked up to the Martial Glacier with their Eco-tour guide, Pablo Camba. The Martial Glacier is located just a few miles away from the city, and the group witnessed first hand the effects of climate change as the glacier has continually grown smaller over the years. Pablo explained how much the glacier had already receded in his years as a guide and how important glaciers are in many ecosystems around the world. Since glaciers are one of the largest sources of freshwater, their disappearance seriously affects species in the surrounding areas, such as in Ushuaia.



As Peace Boat collaborates with many local civil society organizations, the scholars joined a presentation co-led by Ushuaia local NGO "Asociación Mane'kenk," and partner organization, "Liter of Light," a global grassroots organization committed to providing affordable, sustainable solar light to people with limited or no access to electricity. At this event, each youth scholar shared a description of their work and how they are promoting the Sustainable Development Goals to an audience composed of civil society organizations, local stakeholders, academia, and other NGOs.






First Day Among the Patagonia Fjords




As they sailed through the Patagonia Fjords, the scholars learned about one of the most present indigenous groups in Latin America today, the Mapuche. This photograph shows an educational workshop led by Inti Castro, a Mapuche youth invited on the Peace Boat. Through this presentation, the youth had the opportunity to learn first hand more about the Mapuche indigenous culture, rituals, and traditions, as well as their connections to the land, la Pachamoma.



The Youth for the SDGs scholars received a warm welcome from Peace Boat, with their photos and names showcased on the main floor of the ship - encouraging intercultural dialogue between the passengers and the youth.

The youth witnessed the stunning beauty of multiple glaciers: the Germany glacier, Italy glacier, Holland glacier and Romanche glacier along the Patagonian coast, as the Peace Boat sailed through the Fjords.





Peace Boat scholars worked together with members from Liter of Light on the Voyage of Light program onboard the ship. This workshop focused on creating solar lamps and distributing the finished products to the ports that were to be visited on this voyage.



The scholars celebrated the Lunar Chinese New Year with the Liter of Light team at the "Lantern Festival." The event was led by guest educators who shared the traditions of the Chinese New Year with passengers using solar lights and emphasizing renewable energy.

Climate Action Workshops and Introducing the Youth for the SDGs Scholarship Program

Sara Van Eerde from the nonprofit organization, Global Kids, began by leading a workshop with the seven scholars, including an activity on climate change science, clean water access, massive extinction events, and microplastic pollution. The scholars then participated in a co-creation workshop led by Michael Valdivieso. Considering the diverse backgrounds and strengths of each scholar, the workshop provided a great opportunity to reflect on each other's skills and how they all complemented each other under a truly multidisciplinary approach to problem-solving. The scholars looked at the root causes of climate change, which focused mostly on unsustainable practices. They discussed how climate action can be introduced into national policies. The solutions that the scholars proposed addressed climate change education, private sector accountability, and how incentives could be used to reward sustainable practices.



The scholars were featured in an introduction to the “Youth for the SDGs Program,” highlighting projects that they have been involved with in their home communities. The overall goal of the presentation was to introduce the scholars to the community onboard by having them share which SDG they are most passionate about and why. They talked about their hometowns, their education, their work for the SDGs, and their hopes for the future. After the introductions, Carol Schmidt and Emilie McGlone gave a presentation on the Patagonia region and the importance of declaring it a UNESCO World Heritage site in Chile. The presentation ended with a Q&A session that allowed the audience to ask questions directly. It was an inspiring event that provided an opportunity for the youth scholars to share their personal experiences and motivate participants onboard to get involved with the UN SDGs.

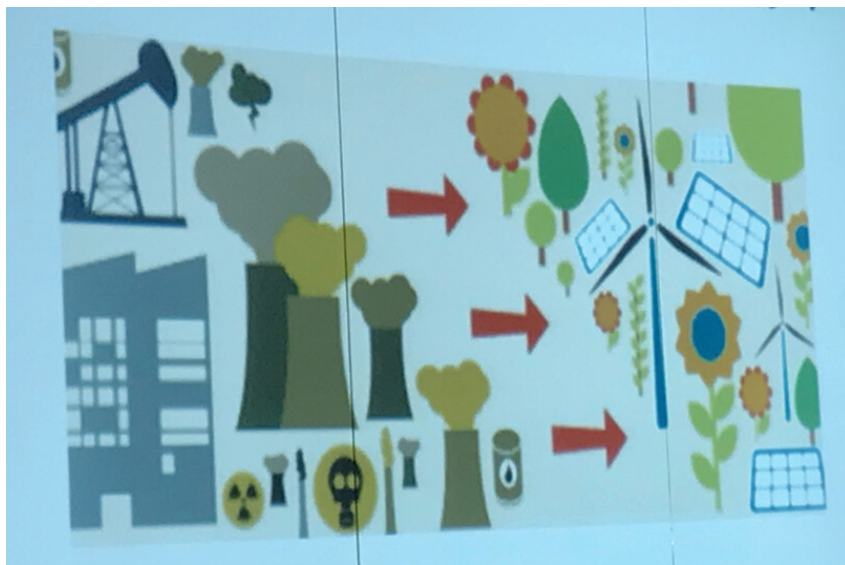


On February 21, Peace Boat participants had a chance to meet Sara Van Eerde and hear her personal story. Sara is a licensed social worker from New York City and works for the nonprofit organization Global Kids, which focuses on global learning and youth development since its founding in 1989. Global Kids is a partner with Peace Boat and has brought high school students onboard to work on social justice projects related to the SDGs. At Global Kids, Sara is currently leading the Human Rights Activist Project, an LGBTQ+ and Allies support group, a wellness group for mental health, and counseling sessions for high school students. Her work seeks to promote global awareness and help youth develop leadership skills so they can generate their own action projects and campaigns. Her work with Global Kids stands as an example of her passion for the environment and youth. She also emphasizes how important it is to advocate for mental health and quality education around the world.



<https://globalkids.org>

Divestment and the SDGs Rally for Sustainability



A discussion about divestment by Ikuko Mori, one of the communication coordinators, took place onboard. Divestment is about knowing where your money is going and what it is being used for. It focuses on not investing in ideas that are detrimental to the ecosystem, such as Coal Power Plants. Especially after the 2011 earthquake in Japan, there has been a deregulation of the electricity business and more coal power plants are being built. The divestment movement is building on a global scale as more than 900 organizations announced that they are divesting from coal.

Mareeka Dookie and Donovan Tremor presented about their experience living and working in Saint Martin in the Caribbean, an island divided by two nations; one side governed under France and the other autonomous under the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Their presentation highlighted the different lifestyles and history of both sides of the island, the effects of natural disasters on the economy and the resiliency of the people. They talked about organizations that are working towards the SDGs, such as: Nature Foundation, SXM Doet, Les Fruits Des Mers, UNESCO, Waste Factory, Waste2Work, and Environmental Protection In the Caribbean (EPIC). These youth were sponsored by Peace Boat US partners at the SXM Festival in Saint Martin.



DISASTER RELIEF AND RESILIENT CITIES IN SAINT MARTIN

February 22, 2019

Mareeka and Donovan explained how in 2017 Hurricane Irma affected the whole island of Saint Martin in just a few hours, changing the landscape both socially and economically. For Mareeka, this influenced her decision to teach multiple grade levels and keep schools running, as many teachers left in the wake of the hurricane. Donovan used his photography to capture the devastation on the island and fight for sustainable communities and cities. Mareeka works with UNICEF Nederland and is fighting for quality education. Mareeka and Donovan explained how Saint Martin is an island with an abundance of tourism and beautiful beaches and the resilience of the community was key to getting the economy back up and running. Thank you to our partners at SXM for supporting this project.



Participants onboard held an SDGs Rally, where the Youth scholars gathered with participants who wanted to discuss topics related to the SDGs. Important themes arose such as water scarcity, poverty, and responsible consumption. Some people talked about children not being able to go to school because families did not have uniforms for their children, as well as about the vicious cycle of poverty, which is extremely hard for people escape. The discussion concluded around the global issue of overconsumption and how responsible consumer choices can help to mitigate this problem by investing funds or using our purchasing power to make a positive difference.



"Against the Tide" Film Screening and the SDGs Talk Show

The youth scholars had the opportunity to watch an inspiring documentary, "Against the Tide: A Journey for Climate Hope," which focused on how the Ocean and Climate Youth Ambassadors, who are on the front lines of climate change, shared their testimonies at the United Nations and around the world. With three scholars coming from Small Island Developing States (SIDS), the documentary exposed their realities and brought out a lot of emotions as they reflected on their personal experiences with the struggles their respective islands face in building sustainable societies. Scholars also saw the power of using creative mediums like spoken word and photography exhibitions to promote awareness and to move policy makers for climate action. "Against the Tide: A Journey for Climate Hope" is a great representation of the importance of each and every voice that strives to better the world because we are all, "more than just a blue passport."

The film is available online here:

<https://ecoship-pb.com/watch-against-the-tide-a-journey-for-climate-hope>



As the voyage for sustainable development sailed closer to the end of the journey, the Youth scholars held an SDGs talk show, where they shared their experience on Peace Boat, life in their respective countries, and more about their personal journeys for change. The event was very moving to the crowd as one audience member commented to the scholars, "if Nelson Mandela was alive, he would be very, very proud of the youth standing in front of him." The talk show was translated into Japanese and Chinese with the help of the Communication Coordinators on the Peace Boat.

LEARNING ABOUT THE MAPUCHE INDIGENOUS CULTURE OF CHILE

February 22, 2019

During their journey, the scholars joined a cultural exchange program to learn Mapuzugun, the indigenous language of the Mapuche or Southern Indigenous people of Chile. This session was led by guest educator, Inti Castro, who shared his language by teaching participants on how to say greetings. For example, “Mari Mari,” means “hello!” The attendees engaged in basic conversational skills and greeted one another in the native language. The event was an interactive cultural exchange as audience members spoke multiple languages and had to find ways to interact with Mapuzungun while navigating English, Japanese, and Spanish.

Afterwards, Hansier Rodriguez gave a powerful presentation on what brought him to Peace Boat. Hansier was born in the Dominican Republic and currently lives in New Jersey, where he attends Rutgers University in Newark. Peace Boat an established partnership with Rutgers University to invite more students to join the Youth for the SDGs programs. Hansier is also a scholar of the Honors Living Learning Community, a program that revolutionizes honors by cultivating talent, experiential learning, social justice education, and creating social change agents. He found out about Peace Boat from a fellow scholar who had participated in the “Youth for the SDGs” program onboard Peace Boat's 98th Global Voyage, and with whom he also collaborated on an awareness campaign at Rutgers to abolish the use of nuclear weapons through the power of civil engagement. His workshop focused on his personal journey of change starting from his early days living in the Dominican Republic and being inspired to continue to work for sustainable cities and communities and reduce inequalities both in New Jersey and the Dominican Republic.



Youth for the SDGs Workshop on Ocean Issues

Global Kids leader, Sara Van Eerde held a workshop about the increase in global water scarcity around the world. The youth scholars discussed how civil society can be more conscious of our water footprint and how technological innovations can help the water crisis. Sylvia Cantu then led a presentation about ocean acidity and the way that people's actions contribute to rising acidity levels. Sylvia gave a personal presentation, where she spoke about her experience as a scuba diver and how she participates in ocean floor clean ups to pick up litter and debris from coral reefs. She also spoke about the powerful impact of storytelling through photography and how there are many ways climate change affects life around the world; it is our responsibility to create the platform for those stories to be told. She shared photos that she took around the world which showed in a visual way the influence of global warming. She encouraged everyone to be a "citizen scientist," such as observing the wildlife and taking values to action.



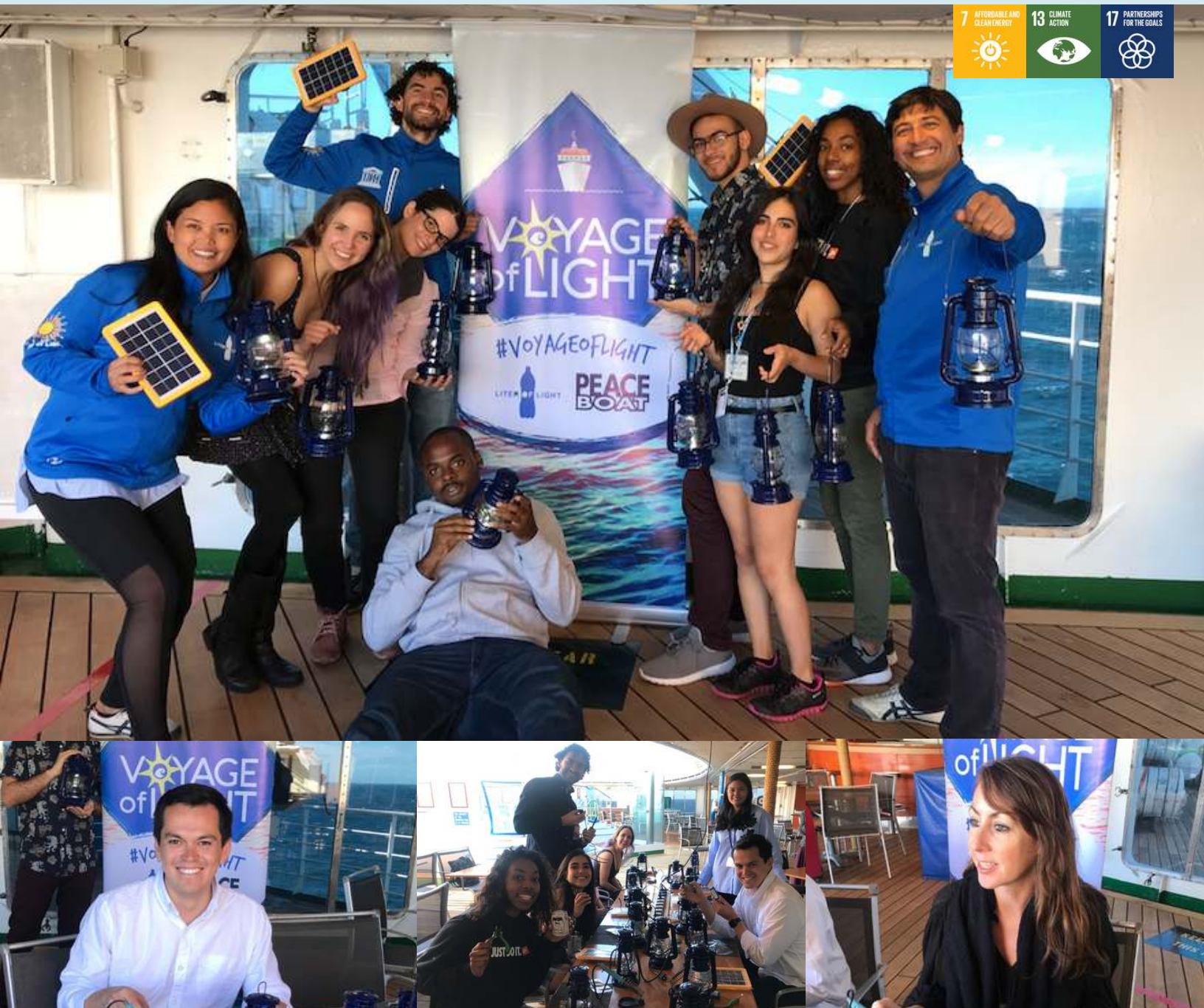
RENEWABLE ENERGY WORKSHOP WITH LITER OF LIGHT

February 24, 2019

The Importance of SDG 7 for Renewable Energy

The youth had the honor of meeting Captain Hasama and various crew members at the bridge. He showed the control center and allowed everyone to look through the binoculars. It was a meaningful experience to learn about the navigation of a ship and just how much work goes into a successful voyage across the sea.

Scholars then partnered up with the nonprofit, Liter of Light, where they showed the youth how to make lights that work with solar power. Surprisingly, it was simple to assemble. It was very inspiring to see how possible it is to reuse resources to make sustainable and clean energy. The team was very positive and joyful, which felt like a representation of what everyone there stands for: to find the light in any situation with the resources available.



Social Innovation and the SDGs

A youth scholar from Ecuador, Michael Valdivieso, is one of the founders of Momentum Novum, which is a social business based in Heidelberg, Germany, that promotes sustainable development by offering education, advisory, and information services. His startup was founded in March 2018 and since then, has grown exponentially to having over 20 volunteers working from all over the world. During their first year, they organized the Sustainable Development in Action Conference (SDiA), in which over 120 people participated from 35 different countries. The objective was to give the participants the necessary tools to create their own sustainable solutions in their communities, their business or their organization. In addition to SDiA, Momentum Novum published a podcast called "Green is the New Black," which discusses different aspects of sustainable development with special guests from different fields.



The scholars also met with the Peace Boat Global University students and had cross cultural dialogue about the Sustainable Development Goals and the ways in which everyone can continue to work passionately for these goals back home.



Learning from the Atomic Bomb Survivors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki

On their last full day at sea, the youth had the honor of meeting and speaking to June Watanabe, a survivor of the atomic bombing that occurred in 1945 in Nagasaki and Hiroshima, Japan. The youth also met Silvy Jung Enjung, a third-generation survivor as well as Mai Hashimoto, the person in charge of the Hibakusha project on Peace Boat. Everyone watched the documentary, "Flashes of Hope," which illustrates the impact of nuclear weapons in Nagasaki and Hiroshima, as well as the journeys of the survivors. The film was made in 2008 by a Costa Rican film producer on the Peace Boat and it shares the perspectives of the survivors as they share their testimonies and call for a nuclear-free world. This documentary also highlights the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), which prohibits the production and use of nuclear weapons and the long-lasting catastrophic impacts of the radiation to generations of humans and the environment.



After watching the film, Silvy Jung Enjung provided a testimonial about her life after the bombing. Mrs. Watanabe shared that she was two years old when she and her family experienced the devastation of the bombing in Nagasaki. She explained how her condition was weakening day by day through diarrhea, fever, and loss of hair, but fortunately she survived. She said she still hopes to continue to work towards the abolishment of nuclear weapons and to stop the use of nuclear energy.

Peace Boat Partners with CODEFF: Campaign to Declare Patagonia a UNESCO World Heritage Site

Youth representative from Chile, Carol McDonnell, presented on her work at the National Committee for the Defense of the Fauna and Flora (CODEFF). She explained how passionate she is to be working on conservation of ecosystems with the Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas program from BirdLife. She is also involved in the Patagonia as a World Heritage Site campaign under UNESCO, to protect the Chilean Patagonia safe from multinational corporations that can damage the environment and pristine natural resources.



The youth concluded their time onboard by giving their final presentation on the Peace Boat. They each presented the ways that they would bring what they have learned on Peace Boat back to their respective countries. An overarching theme of each scholars' response emerged: how important it is as individuals to advocate for what they believe in. The event ended with people signing a petition that the team created for their campaign to make Patagonia a World Heritage Site.



SAILING ACCROSS THE OCEANS

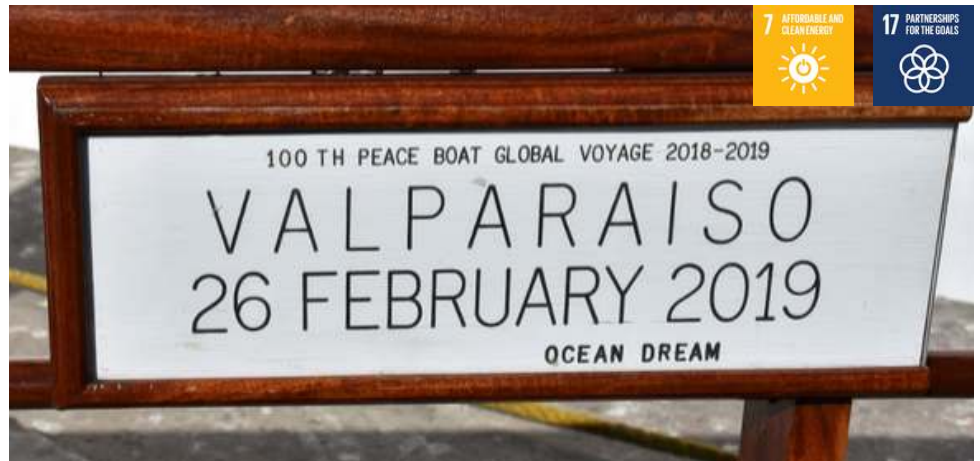
February 25, 2019

The youth celebrated their final night onboard by watching the sunset over the Pacific. Sailing across the oceans creates a special understanding and respect for nature and all life below water.



Arriving in Valparaíso, Historical Port City in Chile

As they arrived back to their final port, the youth scholars helped Liter of Light lead a workshop for Chilean citizens. At the port in Valparaíso, the scholars were able to share the knowledge about solar energy and skills that they had acquired in previous days with the Liter of Light team. The scholars facilitated the learning process of crafting the different types of lights that were made that day. These lights included portable lights, house lights that include a USB charger, and three street lights. The attendees of this workshop were from a wide range of ages and backgrounds, and all participants were able to make their own lights. The event was full of great energy and received wonderful curiosity and feedback from passersby. The Chilean press interviewed a few of the scholars to spread the information more widely. Overall, the event was a huge success and it was enjoyable for those who took part in it.



Peace Boat hosted a special event and joined a press conference onboard, in Valparaíso. During the event, Liter of Light presented their project and Peace Boat US Director, Emilie McGlone, gave a presentation about the youth for the SDGs program. Additionally, the scholars introduced themselves and presented their work. The event culminated with a networking session in which journalists and representatives from the Ministry of Energy in Chile were able to interact with the Liter of Light team and the scholars.



Building Sustainable Communities

The youth were able to enjoy the beautiful streets of Valparaíso, by taking in the incredible artwork and graffiti that decorates the walls of the city. With messages of solidarity, learning first-hand about the socioeconomic challenges of the community is important to help connect with local representatives.



Providing Solar Energy for Future Generations

In Northern Valparaíso, the scholars joined nonprofits Liter of Light and TECHO Chile to organize a workshop on sustainable energy in the community of Campamento del Viento, up in the hills in of Valparaíso. The local community, made up of 30 families, learned how to make solar panel lights that they could use at their own homes. Since many of them do not have adequate access to energy, knowing how to build and fix sustainable lamps can make a big difference for their future as a community. The scholars also had the opportunity to talk about their work on the ship and the importance of the Sustainable Development Goals. Local members shared about their role in the community, which sparked conversations about what sustainability and peace looks like when put into action.



Youth Forum at the United Nations Headquarters Economic Commission for Latin America in Santiago

After the workshop, the scholars traveled to Santiago for an opportunity to speak at the CEPAL headquarters about their experience on the Peace Boat and the SDGs most important to them. The CEPAL, the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, works with nations and multiple stakeholders to further regional integration and dialogue on issues like education, peace, and sustainability as they lead the way towards the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals for 2030. During the Youth Forum, the scholars shared their work and why they are so passionate about climate action and marine conservation. The scholars also learned more about the CEPAL programs focused on the youth as well as where some of their major projects take place. The visit ended with a tour of the building, where the students learned about its history and meaning for peacekeeping and equality. Members of the "Youth for the SDGs" program all hope to strengthen their partnership with partners at CEPAL for the upcoming COP 25 in Chile.



Youth for the SDGs Scholars Participate in United Nations Conferences

Youth from the 100th Global Voyage of Peace Boat were invited to speak at the United Nations CTAUN - Committee on Teaching About the United Nations in April and also the ECOSOC Youth Forum which took place the following week at the UN Headquarters.

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Youth Forum, is a two-day conference that aims to provide a platform for young leaders from around the world to engage in a dialogue among themselves and with United Nations Member States to share ideas for advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and the Paris Climate Agreement.

The Forum serves as a unique space for young people to share their vision and elaborate their substantive contributions to United Nations upcoming meetings, including the 2019 ECOSOC Substantive Session, the 2019 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) and the high-level events taking place on the margins of the opening of the General Assembly, including the Climate Summit, the High-level Meeting on Financing for Development and the SDG Summit.

For more details visit the website here :
www.un.org/ecosoc/en/2019youthforum



CTAUN

Committee on Teaching
About the United Nations

"After participating in the ECOSOC Forum on Youth as a social entrepreneur, I realized that many people from around the world are working towards the same goals. We are all aiming for the improvement of our production and consumption patterns, to generate positive impact in our communities, and to generate awareness about sustainable development. During the forum, I was able to take part in a very interactive breakout session that was focused on Latin America and its challenges as a region where a great majority of the population is under the age of 35. Furthermore, thematic sessions and SDG-specific sessions were also a good setting to share experiences, challenges and the opportunities that we face in our communities."

- Michael Valdivieso, Youth for the SDGs scholar from Ecuador



"On April 5th, I presented at the United Nations for the Committee on Teaching about the United Nations (CTAUN) Conference with Peace Boat US. As a "Youth for the SDGs" scholar who participated in Peace Boat's 100th Global Voyage from Ushuaia, Argentina to Valparaiso, Chile, I spoke to an audience of approximately 600 people about my experience on the Peace Boat and our work toward the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals with participants onboard. I was honored to be one of the representatives that day, and it was a dream come true to express to others why Peace Boat was so transformative for me, and share the impressive projects that the team is working on, such as Peace Boat's "Ecoship." It felt incredibly powerful to share my story and how I am working to advance the SDGs, particularly SDG 13: Climate Action, SDG 3: Good Health and Wellbeing, and SDG 5: Gender Equality, through the work that I do with Global Kids. The entire day was filled with such passionate people, cutting edge knowledge, and sharing ideas on how to best unify and fight climate change. I have never felt more inspired by a room of people before. The energy that everyone came into the United Nations with, created a force of hope that is necessary to save our planet. This is a day I will never forget and I will bring this experience into everything that I do, going forward."

-Sara Van Eerde from Global Kids

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



We would like to personally thank the youth scholars and Peace Boat US interns that have participated in writing and organizing this Peace Boat 100th Global Voyage Report:

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More about the UN Sustainable Development Goals:
www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment
www.urbansdg.org

PEACE BOATUS

More about the Ecoship Project:
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