Teen Creative Challenges

THINK GLOBALLY

Making a difference in your own community is important, but it’s also valuable to think about shared challenges that affect teens across the globe including issues like climate change, migration, health, access to education, voting rights, and more. How do these global concerns impact your own community? What are teens doing right now in different parts of the world to Make Waves?

Get Creative!

- Art is a powerful tool for showcasing your perspective on a global issue. View examples of artwork from teens about access to education, climate change, immigration, and the changing world. What messages are the teen artists trying to send with their art? What art techniques are they using to convey that message? Think about an issue that you care about and create your own piece of art.
- Read one of the recommended books below such as Snake Falls to Earth (a novel highlighting climate change through Indigenous futurism), Voces Sin Fronteras/Our Stories Our Truth (a comic book collection of stories from immigrant youth), or Determined to Stay (a work of nonfiction telling the story of teens in a Palestinian village). What are the hopes and dreams of these people or characters? How do they hope to build a better world? Write your own fictional or nonfiction piece about your own hopes and dreams for the world of the future.

Submit What You Create to Our Teen Magazine Contest!

Our new teen magazine will include writing and art by and for teens. 25 pieces selected for publication will be awarded a $100 gift card. Submit between Thursday, June 9th and Friday, August 19. You must be between the ages of 13 and 19 and live, work, or go to school in New York City to enter. Read our full submission guidelines, and submit at this link.
Read About It!
Check out the titles below in the Library’s collection to learn more about global issues and the experience of teens around the world.

Explore More!
Visit your local branch to:

- Attend programs and events
- Talk with a library staff member about what you’re reading and creating
- Get book recommendations based on your interests!