Teen Creative Challenges

USE YOUR VOICE

Taking action about what you care about has never been more important. Your voice matters in shaping the world of today and the world of the future. How will you stay engaged? How will you work with others to make a difference? What are your hopes and dreams and how will you accomplish them? Use writing and art to tell us more about how you are going to use your voice to Make Waves!

Get Creative!

- How are you going to Make Waves and make the world a better place for teens of the future? Show us your plan through photography, visual art, collage, poetry, lyrics, or narrative. How you create is up to you! As you create, we recommend looking through the items in the “Fortitude” section of the Polonsky Exhibition of The New York Public Library’s Treasures. This theme includes items with “evidence of the fortitude required to campaign for recognition and to overcome oppression and discrimination.” We hope seeing how others have used their voice for change will inspire you to use your own!

- Write a review or a reflection on a book or a book character that has inspired you to use your voice and make a difference. What did you learn? How did they inspire you? How has this book or character become a part of your own story?

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 about people who challenge the status quo, use their voice for good, and make a difference in their communities!

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!