

2023 International Essay Contest for Young People

【Children's Category – Honorable Mention】

YOUTH: YOU are The Heart of Peace!

(Original)

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Love!

When I hear the word “peace”, the first thing that comes into my mind is love. When our heart is full of love, kindness follows. So does humility and unity. With all this factors, I strongly believe that peace will surely reign.

We can't deny the fact that conflict happens everywhere. It can be a personal conflict with our family and friends, a simple conflict with our classmates or schoolmates, or something huge such as international conflicts like war among nations. It seems like a never-ending disease. An incurable one. If there is conflicts and misunderstandings, peace is quite impossible. But why does it happen anyway? And why does it have to happen?

There are conflicts because each one of us have our own belief and opinion. We want to be heard. We want our emotions to be validated. Sometimes, we want to be on the top of others and yet, we don't want to listen to others. We only care for our feelings. We don't consider the sake of others.

So as a youth, I may not have superpowers to change the world, but I can start it with myself to influence others by spreading love and kindness to the people around me and build a peaceful future. When there is love, there will be unity. With unity, there comes peace. Who knows, the people who will experience it from me will also share it to the people around them. Just like a domino effect!

To create a peaceful future as a youth, first, I will show love by helping the people who are affected by the calamities. The Philippines is always strike by several typhoons every year.

The aftermath is always catastrophic. So I will help by sharing my used clothing and volunteer in distributing relief goods.

Next, I will help in our community by promoting a clean and green program, making this world not only a peaceful place to live but also safe from sickness and diseases. It will be a home not only for humans but for all living things such as plants and animals. I will encourage my fellow youth to plant more trees, and demonstrate to them the proper segregation of garbage. I will use the power of internet to search for outputs made of recycled materials. These output can be use in our school or classroom beautification or even at home. I saw some of them in Facebook. Maybe, it's about time to put them in practice.

Then, as a Supreme Pupil Government (SPG) President in Masulog Elementary School, I will take lead together with my constituents in empowering the pupils who are in the risk of dropping out and increase their love for education. Some of my schoolmates would often absent from classes because they were exposed in fieldwork at a very young age due to poverty. When I will proceed in my Junior High School, I will bring with me this advocacy to continuously empower my fellow students, encouraging them not to give up because education will surely bring us places.

Finally, I will be a role model to my younger siblings in showing love to our family. Sometimes, love and peace simply starts within a family. If my siblings see the love and respect that I bestow towards my parents and to them, they will imitate it and will be carried from generations to generations just how I emulated it from my parents. So someday, a peaceful future will look like a united nation where the world is united in love and harmony. A world where everyone helps and supports one another. A peaceful future is having a world that is clean and safe. A place where we wanted to stay and live because it gives us a comfort just like we get from our families at home.

A peaceful future is being at peace knowing that there is someone we can turn to in times of need, there is someone who will lift us up when we feel like we can't continue to live anymore. A peaceful future that is full love. After all, love conquers all.