

Sister Cities International aims to promote peace through mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation – one individual, one community at a time. This year's theme, "**We're Going Places**," showcases the importance of travel and exchange in achieving peace.

Why are face-to-face interactions and travel still important despite access to instantaneous virtual connection via social media? How are sister cities and citizen diplomacy essential to creating a peaceful future? Authors are encouraged to draw inspiration from their experiences with sister cities, travel, exchange, international friendships, and their own goals to present their vision of where the future will lead.

CATEGORIES & SPECIFICATIONS

- Categories: Essay or Poetry.
- Essays are not to exceed 500 words, poetry is not to exceed 200 words.
- Entries must be submitted in English
- Judges will evaluate entries based on theme interpretation, composition, and grammar.
- All work must be original and inspired by the theme.
- **All submissions must be emailed to youth@sistercities.org by the May 1, 2017 deadline.**

ELIGIBILITY

- Students must be between 13 and 18 years of age at the time of the 2017 deadline.
- The student must be affiliated with a dues-paying member of Sister Cities International or an international community that is sister cities with a member.
- One (1) entry is allowed per student. Multiple entries are allowed from each sister city member and their international partners. Please limit five (5) entries per classroom.
- All entries must conform to Sister Cities International's policy on plagiarism found at sistercities.org/YAAS.

AWARDS

- Judging will take place in May, and winners and finalists will be announced in June.
- One (1) Grand Prize Winner will be selected from both the poetry and essay categories.
- **Each Grand Prize Winner will receive \$1,000 cash!**
- Two (2) finalists will be selected from both the poetry and essay categories.
- The six (6) winning entries will be published on the Sister Cities International website, Medium blog, and will be displayed at the 2017 Annual Conference in Virginia Beach, VA.
- After the Conference, the winning entries will go on a tour to select cities across the U.S.

SUBMIT ENTRIES AND ENTRY FORMS

BY MAY 1, 2017 TO:
youth@sistercities.org

MORE INFORMATION:
www.sistercities.org/YAAS
youth@sistercities.org

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY IN ENGLISH AND ENCLOSE THIS FORM WITH THE ESSAY/POETRY

DEADLINE: SUBMISSION MUST BE SENT ELECTRONICALLY TO YOUTH@SISTERCITIES.ORG BY MAY 1, 2017

Author Information:	

Full Name (First, Last)	
____/____/____	_____
Birth Date (MM/DD/YY)	Gender
_____	_____
Phone Number	E-mail Address
_____	_____

Mailing Address (Street, City, State, Zip Code, Country)	

Title of Submission	

Sister Cities Member Sponsor Information:	

Sister City Program Sponsoring the Entry	

Sister City Contact Person	
_____	_____
Phone Number	E-mail Address
_____	_____

Sister City Program Address (Street, City, State, Zip Code, Country)	

How did you hear about YAAS?	

Please tell us what inspired you to create this work. Continue on another sheet of paper if you need more space.

AUTHOR'S WAIVER

By submitting this entry, I agree to give Sister Cities International, its members and affiliates, permission to publish and display the submitted entry at public exhibits, online, in publications and/or in promotional materials, at the discretion of Sister Cities International. I agree to abide by all the rules and terms of the showcase and agree to waive all claims of any kind against the showcase organizers.

Date

Signature of Author

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

SEND ENTRY FORM AND ENTRY BY MAY 1, 2017 TO:

youth@sistercities.org

MORE INFORMATION:

www.sistercities.org/YAAS | youth@sistercities.org