



**The Stone Soup Leadership Institute
16th Youth Leadership Summit for Sustainable Development
New Bedford, MA • Virtual • June 20- 26, 2020**

The Stone Soup Leadership Institute held its **16th Youth Leadership Summit in June 2020**. The weeklong intensive program featured students from the **Global Learning Charter Public School** in **New Bedford, Massachusetts**. The Summit planning process began in February 2020 when 70 GLPCS students completed the Institute's **SustainWDN Youth Survey**. We then worked with the GLPCS Leadership & Career Counseling Department to fine-tune the Summit Curriculum. At the request of our school partner to accommodate for the national quarantine, we adapted the Institute's Summit curriculum to a dynamic, virtual interactive learning experience.

The Institute's Facilitators are college graduates who first served as youth delegates from Martha's Vineyard and other communities, are now Emerging Leaders who will inspire our 2020 Summit youth delegates. For four months, they worked together to find exciting way to engage youth virtually with sustainability and leadership workshops.

To inspire these young people to pursue sustainable career pathways, we invited speakers from the Blue Economy in southeastern Massachusetts including **Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Vineyard Wind, PowerDocks LLC, and Bristol Community College**. The virtual nature of the Summit allowed for us to feature speakers from the forthcoming book, *Stone Soup for the Sustainable World: Life-Changing Stories of Young Everyday Heroes*.



For our **Official Welcoming Ceremony**, the Institute's Board member **Nane Alejandrez, Barrios Unidos founder** joined us. He shared his story championing social justice and sustainability and how the two go hand in hand. He challenged the delegates: **“Don’t give up. Make your dreams a reality.”**

The Institute’s Facilitators Trevor Tanaka and Taynara Goncalves, who have had the opportunity to work with Nane in the past, shared their experience of him. **“He’s someone who can empathize because he’s been through a lot, and have those conversations about life and culture,”** Trevor shared.

Taynara added, **“He’s the kind of person you begin to admire quickly even without knowing him. Listening to him speak inspires you to help.”**

Summit 2020 Overview

Morning sessions featured a **Global Youth Speaker** from the forthcoming book who shared their sustainability journey and inspired our youth to begin their own. In the afternoons, our facilitators led **Virtual Sustainability Tours**, that expanded their horizons to learn about sustainability best practices all over the world. The Institute's Facilitators led professional development workshops to create their first bios. During the video workshop they created the personalized Youth Voices video - sharing their dreams for their lives, their community and for the world. During the afternoon workshops they explored the Institute's **Sustainability is Fun** site and developed Career Pathways using the Institute's BETA site: **SustainWDN**.

Saturday, June 20, 2020



Alex Perkins was our first youth leader speaker for the Summit. Alex first served as a youth delegate to the Institute's 2011 Summit on Martha's Vineyard. His sustainability journey had led him from his home on Nantucket to the Bahamas and now Vermont as a sustainable engineer. Alex gave practical advice on how to begin their own sustainability journey. He also emphasized the importance of envisioning a 5-year plan to create goals and plan for their future. He spoke about the importance of being flexible to allow for one's plans to change and adapt when necessary. He left the youth delegates with the message: **"Don't be afraid of change. Be curious!"**

Every morning, started with a Stone Soup tradition: The Leadership Circle, where youth delegates picked leadership cards for the day. Given the virtual setting, facilitators first picked a card for themselves, and then for one for a youth delegate. This gave them a way to center themselves and open their mind to new opportunities for the day. Youth delegates then introduced themselves by sharing their dreams: for

their lives, their communities and the world. Their professional dreams ranged from becoming nurses, medical practitioners and veterinarians, to designing video games. They all shared a common thread: the need for justice, freedom and rights for everyone in the world. They all felt strongly about the Black Lives Matter moment and wanted to do whatever they could to build a more just world.

Sustainability Tour: Palau Coral Reef



Sustainability Nature Scavenger Hunt: youth took photos; shared what sustainability means to them:

Emily G: *"Trying to live as simply as I can, like riding my bike and walking to places. I'm vegan and try to use less plastic."*

Alex: *"Making something stable or making the environment stable for the long run for our future."*

Paige: *"I have a big family and a busy life, but I try to not use things that are bad for the planet. When I get older, and I have more freedom, I'm going to do my best to make better choices for the environment."*

Emily C: *"My family tries to be as sustainable as possible. My mother tries to reduce her plastic bag consumption by using reusable ones. We also recycle."*

Maddox: *"Work towards using less plastic."*

Trevor: *"I grew up in Hawaii on 100 acres of farming land. We were taught the importance of growing food"*

Izzy: *"Live life naturally to the fullest and make sustainable choices."*

Weslee: *"My family recycles. We separate garbage and recyclables and use less water bottles. We have a filter as well and try to use less plastic in general."*

The Sustainable Nature Scavenger Hunt Challenge included rules and a list of items that youth delegates could photograph in order to receive points and prizes



At the end of each day, youth shared their highlights.

One highlight is getting to meet everybody and be able to talk with everyone here. And it was interesting listening to the different speakers and learning about what they've done for sustainability.

Maddox

What I liked was when we went into small groups. We got more comfortable speaking with each other talking about coral reefs. I liked how we got to learn about other things from the speakers and what they do in life and how they were a part of the Summit when they were younger, and how they've grown, which is really interesting, like knowing that they still continue to be with the Summit.

Weslee

One highlight was going to the Sustainability is Fun website. I liked using the whale sounds to make beats. I want to make a whole song using just whale sounds. It sounds really cool.

Alex

I really liked watching the video on coral reefs and learning about the coral reefs and the ocean. I like the Sustainability Scavenger Hunt; it was fun to go outside and take pictures and have a break from sitting down at the computer!

Emily C

I felt a lot more comfortable being in the breakout sessions. And I really liked learning about the coral reefs.

Paige

It was really cool hearing from all of the youth and what sustainability meant to them like washing out bags and recycling. Way to go, keep it up!

Emily G



Monday, June 22, 2020

Global Youth Speaker for the day: **Demi Weitz** shared how she and her father, Richard Weitz, turned a birthday videoconference call into “**Quarantunes**”, raising over \$6 million for different charities. She spoke of how nervous she was about public speaking and how she had to overcome this fear. Summit youth were inspired to learn that **Demi** had originally set a goal of raising \$10,000 and how that began a journey should couldn't begin to imagine. Summit youth delegate **Rebecca** shared how she was inspired by Demi who “took the opportunity to help the people who were in need -- she serves as a role model for young people all over.”

Youth delegates shared their thoughts on the issues facing youth in their communities. **Eriana** shared her experiences with people around her that have gone through bullying, and cyber bullying. **Rebecca** talked about peer pressure, poverty, and not having accessible resources. **Maddox** mentioned race inequality, food insecurity and food distribution. **Emily** talked about poverty and substance abuse. **Alex** talked gangs and drugs in his community. **Paige** brought up racism, discrimination and mental health: “Talking about racism and discrimination, it happens to us - and I want to expand it out of just our community - the Black Lives Matter movement. Mental health is a big problem, especially inside our community. I have really bad anxiety. I know other people in our school and my friends have it too. It's a big problem that's going on now.”

Weslee talked about the increase in substance abuse in her community. Youth also came up with ideas for support. **Alex** stressed the importance of providing “places for misguided people, people going down the wrong path and places so you can just dish out your frustration and anger in a controlled environment.” **Rebecca** added “Programs or recreation centers are a good place for teens because they're not on the streets and getting in bad situations. If you guys saw the movie Freedom Writers, a bunch of those students had a tough background and the teacher was helping them find a place where they can feel at home.”



The first **Blue Economy** speaker, **Daniela Fernandez** from **Sustainable Ocean Alliance**. Youth were excited to listen to her story and ask her questions.

Rebecca asked "You said that you're from Ecuador. Were you able to help the environment in your country too?" **Emily** asked "I was wondering why we know more about outer space than the ocean. Do you know why?"

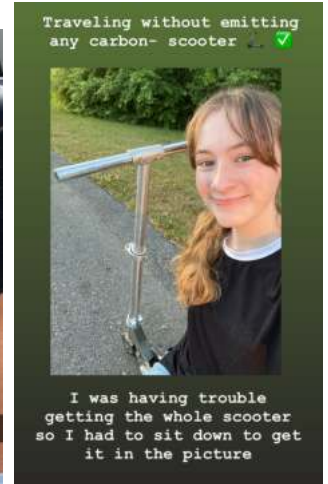
**Sustainability Tours
China's Great Forests &
Journey of Water: Colombia's Páramo**



Youth were then asked to answer, "What did your family teach you about sustainability?" A majority of youth answered recycling and learning how to reuse things.



**Sustainability Scavenger Hunt Challenge
Photos**



Tuesday, June 23, 2020

The **Global Youth Speaker** for the day was **Vanessa Nakate** from the **Rise Up Movement and Fridays for Future Uganda**.

Youth were inspired. Maddox shared, "I enjoyed listening to Vanessa's story about how climate change is affecting her home. I feel bad because I know the effect of climate change. It is inspiring to hear about and see people who are taking a stand and using their voices to try and put an end to climate change."

**Tuesday's Sustainability Tours
Hawaiian Adventure and Shipwreck Alley.**



Blue Economy Speaker Paul Matthias from **Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.**

Rebecca was especially interested to find about *his experiences with working with the titanic and how he talked to them about internship opportunities.*

My 5 Year Plan

Youth watched an inspiring video of Vieques youth leader Josue Cruz, who was once a 14-year-old Summit delegate and is now a successful lawyer working with Border Wall families in Texas. They learned about the importance of creating a 5 Year Plan, and the importance of planning for their dreams. They then had a workshop to begin envisioning their 5-year plan.

- **Weslee:** *“In 5 to 10 years, I would like to graduate from a four-year college, having maybe an internship in my career or a full-time job as a nurse with newborns, having a stable home, a family of my own, maybe married or if not later on. I want to still be connected with my family.”*
- **Maddox:** *“Within the next 5 to 10 years. I want to be in a good college studying to be a veterinarian, because I know that takes a longer time. I hope to be financially stable and be able to support myself as well as pay for college. I also want to be happy and healthy, hope to do some travelling, and hope one day to adopt a husky or golden retriever.”*
- **Alex:** *“Living in a dorm at a good college and having a job, maybe retail or fast food. I would like my college community to help me and I want them to be together and help each other get through college and for the planet, I hope for a cleaner environment.”*

Stone Soup Leadership Institute • www.SustainWDN.com • www.soup4worldinstitute.com



Wednesday, June 24, 2020

The theme for the day was all about Get Out The Vote! and featured three Global Youth Speakers from the book: **Jerome Foster II** from **OneMillionOfUs**, **Jamie Margolin** from **Zero Hour** and **Scott Warren** from **Generation Citizen**. They shared their personal journeys and the importance of voting.

Youth delegates were inspired by their stories and were very curious. **Maddox** asked, *How did you come up with the name “Zero Hour”?* **Rebecca** was interested in poll dynamics: *Do you think lowering the voting age would dramatically change the poll?* While **Eriana** was interested in what youth participation: *As the youth of today, why should we want to vote?* Emily wanted to know what she could do to help: *For those who can't vote yet, Jamie had said we can work in campaigns, how can we go about that?*



Youth then participated in a discussion where they were asked various questions:

Why do so few young people vote?

- **Weslee:** Education
“Few young Americans vote because they’re not educated on the topic of politics, and they’re not really informed like in school, they don’t really teach politics.”
- **Rebecca:** Accessibility
“I think people or young people don’t vote as much is also because of disabilities too, because some people aren’t able to go to the polls.”

- **Jack:** Work/other responsibilities
"A lot of young people in the U.S. don't vote because they have to work to help support their families. And in the U.S., voting days are not a federal holiday, so your employer is never required to give you any time off to vote, which makes it incredibly difficult for working Americans, especially young ones, who might not think it's super important to vote."
- **Alex:** "They don't think their vote matters."



Which issue would you support with your vote?

- **Rebecca**
"For me, it has to be immigration and how that's working out and how can I help improve it."
- **Paige**
"I'm like very passionate about climate change, but I also like learning about the ocean and the issues of plastics in the ocean and all the bad things that are happening to our oceans. In voting, I'd probably go more towards that issue."
- **Alex**
"I'd support green issues and the environment with my vote."
- **Emily**
"I'd support climate change and issues about the environment with my vote."

Sustainability Tours

Weslee was very excited to learn new things: *"I learned about phytoplankton in schools, so I was really excited to see them in the tour."*

Eriana liked seeing the sea lions: *"I didn't know that the male and female sea lions had different names and that they grow to be so large, that was pretty cool."* Rebecca enjoyed learning about the water cycle: *"I learned that the mountains provide water from the melted snow to the people living nearby."*

Blue Economy Speakers

Tiffany Ferreira, Vineyard Wind and **Robert Rak, Bristol Community College** talked about their careers and opportunities for blue economy careers in their fields. Youth asked questions:



"What's it like being an intern working with Offshore Wind?"
Rebecca

Did you always know you wanted to do this kind of job?"
Paige

Wednesday's Highlights

Eriana: *"I liked how we got to hear from 3 youth speakers this morning instead of just one. I really enjoyed going out and taking pictures and making videos, as well as the breakout groups."*

Rebecca: *"I really enjoyed Jerome's presentation because it was very informative and also because he was our age and that made him more relatable. I also like where we got into our career groups and how the facilitators gave me some really great advice so we're all grateful for that."*

Weslee: *"I like how today we had a lot of speakers who were from different organizations, but they talked about the same issues and how they were very passionate about it. I also enjoyed breakout rooms where we talk about our careers and we got to ask questions and learn more about college."*

Emily: *"I really liked listening to the 3 speakers this morning, they were very informative and inspired to want to go out there and vote. I realize now how important it is to vote and I will register to vote when I'm old enough to."*

Paige: *"I really like going to the group to learn more about our careers and colleges and furthering my knowledge about it since I haven't gone too far going over these with anybody in the past."*

Maddox: “For today, when we went to the breakout rooms, we got to look more into the career paths we want to follow as well as the potential schools we might apply for. I learned a lot during this session.”

Alex: “It was fun to learn more about my career path and talk about technology.”

My first highlight is being so grateful for all the people that are on this screen because I definitely recognize the amount of work that it takes to put something like this together. I am so excited about all the people that are here to be with this group of students. What a great day, this was just so great. Just the smiles and the laughs and the great conversations that we've had. I really enjoyed the breakout group and I'm excited about the next days. And for the students. I'm really excited that you guys have on the very first day opened up so much. I think that was a highlight for me. Knowing how quiet some of you can sometimes be. This group worked so hard to create such a comfortable environment. And I so appreciate that.

Ashley McPherson
GLPCS Career Counseling Director



Thursday, June 25, 2020

The Global Youth Speaker for the day was **Lilly Platt** from **Lilly's Plastic Pick Up** from the Netherlands. Lilly is a 12-year-old activist tackling plastic contamination. Youth delegates were blown away by her passion and charisma, and asked many questions:

Have you faced any other challenges sharing your story and the problems with pollution and plastic, based off your age, because you are only 12?

Maddox

Have you continued to work during quarantine? If so, how? –

Weslee

What steps did you take to become an activist and start to bring awareness and create change?

Emily



Another speaker was **Michelle Dilhara, Earth Day Network Ambassador to Sri Lanka**. Michelle talked to the delegates about her journey as an actor, philanthropist and activist. The youth were interested in the concept of social invisibility.

Paige asking, *How can someone who is socially invisible find their voice?*

Sustainability Tours
Farm Food & Aquaponics



Blue Economy Speakers: Perry Raso from **Matunuck Oyster Farm**, and **Anthony Baro** from **PowerDocks**. Youth related to Perry's journey in aquaculture. They enjoyed learning about PowerDocks internships in the Blue Economy.



Thursday Highlights

Maddox: *"It was definitely nice to hear all the speakers today, especially Lilly who shared her story at such a young age, but I also liked the breakout rooms and we talked about our career paths that we wanted to follow. I've learned a lot about the career path that I want to take, which I didn't know about the information that I do now."*

Alex: *"My highlight of the day is hearing Lilly's story. It's kind of cool seeing somebody really young and from another continent, supporting and working on sustainability and plastic control."*

Rebecca: *"I really Lilly, she was very nice and was glad to be here with us. I also liked Anthony Barro's presentation because he was passionate about his work. And I also liked the nursing simulations that we did, because it helped me understand that more about the career that I want to go into because now I eliminated one, so it's good."*

Eriana: *"I definitely liked all the speakers we had today because they inspired me to want to more for my community and the world. They were all so passionate and it doesn't matter what are you, you can work towards the goal that you want. I like the advice from Anthony Baro, he said that we have to tap into our innermost passion or something that motivates us. I like that. I also like the simulation we did in our career pathways that we wanted. That really helped me learn more about what I want to do."*

Weslee: *"All the speakers were very passionate about what their work, and especially Lilly, she was so energetic and so happy. It really brightened up the mood in the morning with her speaking about what she does. I liked the simulation that we did in our breakout rooms that was really fun to see the career path that we're trying to go into and like see a visual of what people in these careers actually do, which was fun to do."*

Emily: *"I really enjoyed Lilly's talk, especially being so young. I also liked Michelle. I like how she was growing her career as an actress but also helping the environment at the same time. I thought that was very inspirational how she's able to balance those two things."*

Paige: *"I really liked all the speakers we had today, especially Lilly. Seeing how everyone in different ages can be activists, and how they are trying to change different things in different ways and how they see the world."*

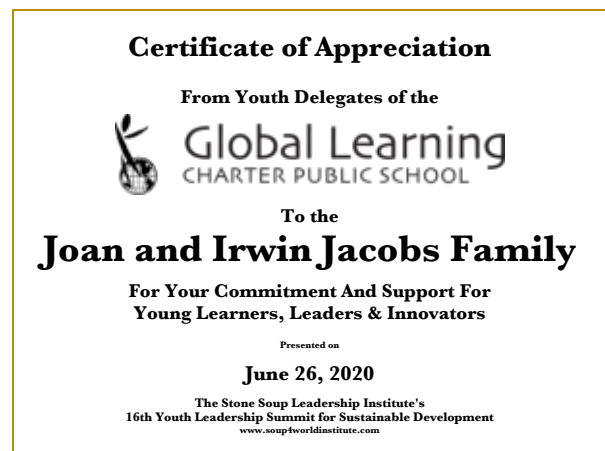


Friday, June 26, 2020

For the last day of the Summit, our Sustainability Coordinator, **Trevor Tanaka** shared his sustainable journey. Youth were inspired to learn about how he took charge of ensuring that his community was educated on sustainability and resources for sustainability issues. Weslee asked, *"What were the challenges, and did you feel accomplished doing this at a young age, something that most young people don't get to do?"*



Sam Jacobs spoke about Resource Generation. Sam is a philanthropic activist who has been involved with various progressive organizations and movements across the country. Since Sam's family is a major supporter of GLCPS, our youth delegates thanked him.



SustainBETA site & Dream Maps

Each day youth delegates created accounts on the SustainWDN site and created their Dream Maps for their lives, their communities and their world.



Maddox

- My Life: Veterinarian
- Community: Live in a community where we all work together.
- World: Live in a place where there's peace and we're all treated equally.



Rebecca

- My Life: to go forth from the foundation my parents have set for me and give back to them.
- Community: Youth who don't come from the best background can become successful and fulfill their dreams.
- World: Universal understanding of every human being on planet.



Emily

- My Life: Get my PhD
- Community: A better environment, lower poverty and crime and less trash in the streets.
- World: I want a sustainable world that's filled with peace.



Paige

- My life: To be successful and follow my ideal career path that will help me to go through life and be healthy.
- Community: to work together to strengthen it and make it better for the people and the youth.



Alex

- My life: Become a game designer under a well-respected company
- Community: Peace & unity
- World: A healthier and stronger environment.



Weslee

- My life: Successful in my career and have a stable family of my own.
- Community: For all New Bedford students to have more opportunities in high school - some high schools in my city don't have opportunities.
- World: An end to injustice and everyone to be treated equally.



Eriana

- My life: To find a career I love, makes me & others happy and keeps me financially stable.
- Community: To work as one to make sure everyone is comfortable, happy and has resources to live their lives well.
- World: For everyone to put their feelings aside and realize no matter who you are, or where you come from, in the end, we are all human beings who instead of putting each other down, should be lifting each other up because alone, we are nothing and in unity, we can make this earth our real, safe & happy home.



Maria

- My Life: Veterinarian
- Community: Live in a community where we all work together.
- World: Live in a place where there's peace and we're all treated equally.



Evelin

- My Life: to get a degree in business and my own pastry shop
- Community: wellbeing and good education
- World: No poverty and no hunger



Izzy

- My Life: Veterinarian
- Community: Help others succeed
- World: Stop pollution and have clean air



Leaslie

- My Life: Graphic Designer
- Community: for everyone to work together to make the world a better place
- World: stop violence and to save the environment



Lya

- My Life: Pediatrician or Nurse
- Community: is for youth to be more involved with outside activities
- World: is for people to believe that no matter who you are, you can accomplish anything.

2020 Summit Citations

Massachusetts

- New Bedford Mayor Jon F. Mitchell
- U.S. Senator Ed Markey
- U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren
- MA Governor Charlie Baker
- U.S. Representative Bill Keating
- U.S. Representative Joe Kennedy

Rhode Island

- Newport Mayor Jamie Bova
- Providence Mayor Jorge O. Elorza
- U.S. Senator Jack Reed
- U.S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse

Summit Highlights

Maddox: *“The Summit was such an amazing opportunity. I enjoyed listening to all the speakers and talk about how they have used their voices to help spread awareness about climate change and pollution. One of my favorite things was the breakout sessions where we talked about career paths we want to follow. I learned a lot and I know more about the career path I want to take.”*

Alex: *“I think the speakers were good, getting to know people around us and what they're doing. I liked Lilly's because she's so young and still doing stuff that even when I was that young didn't do. So that was kind of an enlightening experience.”*

Eriana: *“I loved this Summit so much. I enjoyed everything: the speakers, the breakout rooms, the scavenger hunt, and I liked how the speakers got straight to the point. They made us learn more about the issues. I liked making the poster and making the videos. And I liked learning overall everything, the career paths in breakout rooms. I feel like I learned a lot during this Summit.”*

Rebecca: *“I have to say that this Summit was probably my highlight during quarantine. I really liked that we're able to meet everyone - you all had something nice to say and had great advice. I really liked hearing the speakers from different countries. The workshops helped us learn more information about what careers we want to pursue in the future. And I feel like personally, it helped me a lot knowing what I want to do for college.”*

Weslee: *“I really enjoyed this opportunity so thank you to Ms. McPherson for letting us know. I really liked the workshops and the breakout groups and learning more about our careers. Also, with the scavenger, I really got creative with the pictures going outside too because I know that we're on the computer all day, and we got a break to go outside which I really liked.”*

Emily: *“I'd have to say the speakers. I really enjoyed Lilly's speech, especially being so young. And I also liked Michelle. I like how she was growing her career as an actress but also helping the environment at the same time. I thought that was very inspirational how she's able to balance those two things.”*

Paige: *“I really enjoyed this Summit. I've gotten more confident with my voice and just talking in general and I really enjoyed listening to all the speakers, especially seeing how all of them have different ways or similar ways of dealing with all the problems that we have and seeing how they're trying to make the world a better place.”*



East Coast Summit Facilitators

Lauren Matthias, Patricia Dias, Berta Pelaez, Andi Grozdani & Summit Visioneer Jack McCoy.

West Coast Summit Facilitators: Trevor Tanaka, Emily Garland, Marianne Larned. Summit Coordinator: Namgyal Gyaltsen.

The Institute's Performance Metrics

The Institute's Performance Metrics is given to youth delegates pre and post Summit. We use this data to assess what they had learned and analyze their growth. The Institute's Performance Metrics consist of 9 categories that are vital to workforce development, personal growth and success: Adaptability, Communication, Conflict Resolution, Critical Thinking, Cultural Respect and Appreciation, Community Service, Education, Empathy, Motivation and Self-Care, Problem Solving, Project Management Skills, Teamwork, Tech Skills. Overall, in total, scores show an increase by 39 points (5.42%) This was an increase in average score by 6.5 points. The most dramatic increase showed up in **Tech Skills** (6 pts)

Analysis by Youth

- **Overall:** A majority of the youth reported better results in all categories and showed an improvement in the second reporting
- **Eriana** reported the greatest growth with an increase by 15 points. She reported major improvement in tech skills (4pts) and conflict resolution (2pts)
- **Paige** was the next youth to show great improvement. She reported a 13-point increase and reported a steady increase in most categories.
- **Maddox** was the only one who reported the same scores before and after.

Thank You!

Hi Stone Soup!

*I couldn't pick just one person because you all have given me so much knowledge that I didn't know before and I am appreciative of that. I'm amazed at all of the things that you all have accomplished whether its graduating from college, making a change in your community/world, giving advice to the youth delegates, organizing this week-long Summit, making the Stone Soup website and I bet so many other things. You all have given us youth a better perspective on the world and letting us know that it doesn't matter our age that we can make a change in our community/world. I thank you again and also for allowing my school to be part of the 2020 stone soup for the world Summit! Thank you and I hope you all have an amazing rest of your summer and take advantage of the nice weather because the nice weather will go by quickly. :) **Weslee Ayala-Mejia***

To: Lauren, Trevor, Patrica, and Tay

Thank you so much for the being like honestly the best group of older people I've worked with. You guys were soooooo nice and I don't think I'll ever forget this experience. You guys have impacted us in so many ways. Always have the best advice and supported throughout this Summit. I'm so glad to have met all of you. And I wish the best for you guys in the future. Thank you!

Rebecca Dishmey

Dear Trevor,

You have really inspired me to make a difference in sustainability and helping the world out, especially as you told us about your journey with helping your home community. I appreciate you working with everyone on our careers, as I am more confident about my future than I ever was. I enjoyed the virtual tours you set up for our breakout room, as I learned more about the world how people are helping to fix the world. I am very happy I got to spend this week at this Summit. Thank you for all you have done and helped me with!

Paige Souza

Dear Emily,

I really enjoyed working with you on the Sustainability is Fun worktops in the afternoon. Doing this workshop with you and how you incorporate sustainability into your own life I have learned new ways to be more sustainable in my life. I enjoyed discussing with you and other facilitators about the career paths that we want to take as well as learning about the paths that you followed. It was a great opportunity to get to meet you and have you taught us about how we can be more sustainable in our lives whether that is using less plastic or riding our bikes places instead of driving.

Maddox Merrey

Hi Patricia!

*I want to thank you first and foremost by personally driving around to deliver the swag bags to our homes. I want to thank you for giving me advice on my nursing career and sending much-needed information on my future career. Thank you for the work you have been doing in Stone Soup and it doesn't go unnoticed and I think I speak for everyone on this, we appreciate it very much. **Weslee Ayala-Mejia***

Dear Taynara,

*I want to thank you for all that you have done for me. During the Summit, you have come in every morning with a bright smile which shows your excitement to see us and it brings me joy to see you! You have been patient and have been so kind to me and my fellow classmates. It is to this I thank you for being the beautiful person you are. **Emily Coj Garcia***

Dear Lauren,

*I want to send you a little message of gratitude. During the summit, you have created activities such as the scavenger hunt which I had enjoyed doing. I may not know you on a personal level, but I can tell how great you are and at times you have felt like a friend. You are someone that I will remember even after the summit is over because you have created such an impact on me. I have seen how funny and joyful you are as well as charismatic! You have been a role model and I strive to as good as a person you are. Thank you! For all the time you have spent with me and my fellow classmates. **Emily Coj Garcia***

To Jack

THANK YOU SO MUCH for handling the technical operations behind these zooms. Your support was very much appreciated. I don't think we would have been able to have guest speakers without your help and "saving the day". You also had a great positive attitude towards each and every one of us since the beginning. I forget that your only one year older. And look at what you've accomplished working with stone soup!! So thank you very much for your support, presence and attitude.

Rebecca Dishmey

