### ONE WORLD, MANY STORIES



Caroline Nelissen – Student, Netherlands:

"When I joined Youth Journalism International, I wasn't sure what to expect, but it's been better than I could've ever imagined. I don't know any organization like this: truly committed to young people, journalism and, maybe most important, cultural exchange.

YJI is not simply teaching young people about journalism and providing them with a place to publish, it's about learning about yourself and the world, too.

It's a way to break barriers and to make people care about those who are thousands of miles away. And isn't that one of the things we need most in this age, when divisions grow ever deeper and fear creeps into everyone's life?

Where will we be if we stop caring about the voices of people like us, whether they live right around the corner or in a place we'll never visit?

You don't have to agree with people to respect and understand them. By giving young people a voice, YJI helps build a more caring world.

If I hadn't found YJI, I may not know yet what I know now: I want to be a journalist."

### Jessica Elsayed – Student, Egypt



"Knowing there is place where everyone is heard and respected gives me hope and allows me to spread it in my community."

# Contact

www.youthjournalism.org The organization's home base.

www.yiiblog.org The organization's daily blog, which features a stream of stories from students everywhere.

On Twitter @yjinternational and @JackieMajerus

Look for YJI on Facebook and LinkedIn.

Call us at (860) 523-9632 Write to Executive Director Jackie Majerus at jmajerus@youthjournalism.org

Youth Journalism International is making a difference. Look at our reviews at www.GreatNonProfits.org.





### WHO?

Founded by two veteran reporters, Youth Journalism International works with more than 200 students across the globe, ages 12 to 24. Active alumni include lawyers, medical students, social workers and, of course, journalists. A growing corps of Ambassadors for YJI promotes the organization around the globe. YJI's loyal readers number over 1 million people of all ages and from every nation.

#### Mike Nguyen – Alum, Connecticut



"Year in and year out, YJI finds and fully commits to developing a community of teen journalists, by giving them a voice to report on events around the world

and working with each individual to refine their writing styles, teach them reporting techniques, and immersing them in a real pen-to-print life cycle, all well before most of these kids even write a college application."

### WHAT?

Rich in diversity, YJI focuses on journalism, but also builds bridges across cultures and helps students grow into thoughtful world citizens. Working with editors one-on-one and in groups, students learn about writing, press responsibility and ethics. Reporting from their hometowns, students have interviewed everyone from Desmond Tutu and the Dalai Lama to the teen next door. Topics range from suicide, school violence and terrorism to music, movies and sports.

WHERE? Though YJI is based in Connecticut and many of its young journalists are American, its students live in more than 40 other countries on six continents.

#### Mariah Pulver - Student, Arizona



"I don't think I could have had an experience like this anywhere else. In YJI, you get to interact with kids from all over the world, do something you love, and feel like part of something amazing."

## WHEN?

YJI began in 1994 as a local group and grew into a global organization. Incorporated in 2007, it gained approval from the IRS as a recognized nonprofit in 2010.

# WHY?

The key to a better world lies with global understanding and truthful, effective communication. YJI's students, who tell important stories from their own neighborhoods and nations, represent every major religion and many cultures. By bringing these dedicated and idealistic young people together and giving them a powerful voice, YJI paves the way toward a brighter future for all.

#### Pushkal Shivam - Student, India



"YJI gave me more than just guidance, it came as a godsend. Although we are miles away from each other, I feel that my editors are with me. YII has

given a forum to teens from across the globe and in the process tapped a huge resource."



#### is recognized as a Top Educational Charity by GreatNonProfits.org

- Groupon and AOL picked YJI as a featured charity.
- Student work is published online and has appeared in newspapers and on radio, on PBS NewsHour, in the Huffington Post and in textbooks, including one by National Geographic.
- Financial backing comes from parents, alumni, readers, private foundations and also from corporate partners.
- > YJI has never charged students to participate and uses nearly every dollar it raises on its educational programs.
- ▶ To keep up with the soaring interest from students around the world, YJI needs your donation. All gifts are tax deductible and gratefully received.

#### Eugenia Durante – Student, Italy



"YJI supported me in learning English and in teaching me to be brave and always have the courage to express my opinion."

## TO HELP:

- Send a check to: Youth Journalism International, 33 Griswold Drive, West Hartford, CT 06119
- Make an electronic donation at www.youthjournalism.org by clicking on the link to Causecast.
- Become a YII Ambassador. Spread the word about YJI to others who may be able to offer support.