



CHANGE STARTS HERE PeaceJam.org

The Nobel Peace Laureates and Young People's Projects

PeaceJam is an international education program built around leading Nobel Peace Laureates who work personally with youth to pass on the spirit, skills, and wisdom they embody. The goal of PeaceJam is to inspire a new generation of peacemakers who will transform their local communities, themselves, and the world.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu inspires and mentors Scrooge, a 24-year-old spoken word poet and musician from the township of Khayelitsha, as he works to help his community overcome the stigma of HIV/AIDS by creating a township-wide "get tested for HIV/AIDS now" campaign.

President Oscar Arias, current President of Costa Rica, meets with 16-year-old Maria, who is frightened by the rush of gangs and small arms into her home town of San Jose, Costa Rica, and who wants to start a campaign to reduce the violence by getting people to sign a pledge disavowing the use of weapons, both on a local and international level.

Rigoberta Menchú Tum works to educate 17-year-old Fernando about 500 years of discrimination against the Mayan people in Guatemala, information that he will then use as he stands up to the widespread racism expressed on a daily basis by his friends and neighbors in his own home town as Tum launches an historic race for the presidency of Guatemala.

The Dalai Lama guides Loden, an 18-year-old refugee from Tibet, as he wrestles with the growing water crisis in India and tries to provide equal access to safe drinking water by building a water pipeline for 144 destitute families who live at the edge of town.

Aung San Suu Kyi—the words of Aung San Suu Kyi inspire 26-year-old Charm Tong to journey from a Thai refugee camp—where she and her sister have fled to escape the Burmese Army—to England's Parliament, where she testifies on behalf of her people although she knows that this testimony will mean she can never return to her homeland again.

Máiread Corrigan Maguire counsels a 14-year-old Libby from England, who is trying to overcome her own fears as she reaches out to the Muslim people in her community, attempting to understand the injustices they have faced since 9/11, and working for greater protection of civil liberties for everyone.

Betty Williams encourages 12-year-old Sonny Ray, a Mexican American student in Colorado, as he mobilizes his school and lobbies the politicians of his state, encouraging them to deal with Global Warming on a local level by legislating compliance with the Kyoto Protocols throughout the state of Colorado.

Jody Williams coaches 22-year-old Jessica as she struggles to get her state of Missouri to divest from Sudan, and to redirect that money into the bankrupt Missouri education system,

where a series of struggling schools face takeover by the federal government under the “No Child Left Behind” act.

Adolfo Pérez Esquivel coaches 18-year-old Fito, a former Argentine street kid, who intends to use the training and the skills he’s learned as a student at Adolfo’s Peace Village to break the cycle of violence and improve the lives of the families in his shanty town on the outskirts of Buenos Aires.

José Ramos-Horta works side by side with 21-year-old Vidal, who is attempting to lift the income of his people to more than \$1 per day by cultivating the forests that were clear-cut during the 30-year Indonesian military occupation of East Timor, and by starting a Youth Conservation Corp to begin planting trees both for firewood and for export.

Shirin Ebadi mentors 19-year-old Mymoena, a young Muslim who wants to teach girls throughout the country to stand up for their own rights; Mymoena also wants to mobilize international support through a petition drive for the rights of women of Iran.
