Global Kids®
YEAR IN REVIEW
JANUARY - DECEMBER 2022
OUR MISSION

Global Kids (GK) educates, inspires, and activates youth to succeed in school, achieve postsecondary success, and take action on critical issues facing their communities and the world.

Founded in 1989, GK has been at the forefront of developing and implementing culturally relevant, anti-racist youth development and academic enrichment programs that uphold human and children’s rights by dismantling barriers to education and preparing young people to be stewards of human rights as they learn about the world around them.

To support young people to thrive, we focus on four key pillars: social/emotional learning, academic achievement, college/career readiness, and global education. Our youth become global citizens and community leaders who work to make our world more sustainable, equitable, and inclusive. Global Kids sets students on the path to achieving long-term goals by ensuring they have the attention and resources needed to be ready for high school and postsecondary success.
Our Programs

Global Kids (GK) works to develop youth leaders through dynamic global education and leadership programs:

Power of Citizenry (POC) Leadership Program

Global Kids’ flagship program works with over 3,000 Global Kids Leaders each week. Students in POC explore such issues as global health, poverty, children’s rights, sustainability, discrimination, and human rights. Field trips, guest speakers, mentoring, and hands-on service projects supplement the workshops. The program equips youth with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in school and participate in an increasingly complex world.

College and Career Readiness

Global Kids’ College and Career Readiness Program offers students support and resources to navigate the college admissions and financial aid process, be exposed to a wide range of career paths, including globally-focused ones, and visit college campuses and professional offices.

The Human Rights Activism Project (HRAP)

Using a human rights framework, HRAP gives youth the tools they need to influence public policy. Students identify and research environmental and human rights issues and develop campaigns for social change, which includes public outreach, direct action, media strategies, meetings with elected officials, and networking with other organizations.

Partnership with the Council on Foreign Relations

Through an exclusive collaboration with the world’s leading international affairs think tank, Global Kids conducts an ongoing series of monthly roundtables and an intensive three-week summer institute for 30 high school students, who are responsible for developing peer education projects focusing on U.S. foreign policy issues addressed in the summer program.

Community School Partnerships

Our community school strategy integrates academics, health, wellness, and mental health, social services, expanded learning opportunities, positive youth development, and family engagement. Through collaborative planning and community-based partnerships, we create welcoming, supportive environments that help students navigate barriers and build on strengths so that every student can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.
2022 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Our Board of Directors, our staff and our community of volunteers and supporters went above and beyond in 2022 to ensure that our youth stayed engaged and empowered as they pursued their goals for themselves and their communities. We saw the results of their efforts each and every day; from improved attendance to the annual conference, global travels, college acceptances and scholarships, our young people are on the path to becoming global citizens and achieving post-secondary success in the 21st century.

Social Justice Institute & College Tour at Western Connecticut State University

GK’s trip to the Social Justice Institute at Western Connecticut State University in October 2022 offered Global Kids youth the opportunity to share their experiences and ideas with other high school students and rising college freshmen from the Connecticut, New York, and New Jersey area and beyond.

During the trip, GK’s youth leaders met with WCSU professors who are experts in the field of social justice and engaged in discussions around gender equity, immigration rights, systemic racism, economic justice, environmental protection, and more. Our emerging activists and future changemakers learned about new ways to get involved in causes they care about and participated in a tour of the WCSU campus.

2022 Graduations & Senior Celebration

All year long, GK’s College & Career Readiness programming supports students as they prepare to transition from high school to college or professional training. Since 2004, an average of 95% of enrollees have graduated from high school, 10% higher than the general NYC student population, with 91% matriculating to college.

At the conclusion of the 2021-2022 School Year, we celebrated our graduating seniors with our Senior Extravaganza and wished them luck on their postsecondary journeys!
In Fall 2022, GK’s Racial Justice Institute gave a select group of student leaders the opportunity to explore racial justice policy through a weeklong institute. Inspired by the 1619 project, GK’s first ever Racial Justice Institute included workshops, team-building exercises, leadership development, an expert speaker panel, and an action project using digital media. Workshops covered topics such as Economic Justice, Voting Rights, Environmental Justice & Healthcare, Criminal Justice, and the School to Prison Pipeline. Through these discussions, student participants explored modern movements for racial justice as well as the special role youth can play in advancing racial equity.

The Institute concluded with a trip to Philadelphia, PA, where students participated in a college campus visit at Cheney University, the oldest historically black college or university (HBCU) in the United States.

Human Rights Activism Project (HRAP)
And Leadership Workshops on Organizing & Youth Activism

HRAP gives youth the tools they need to become leaders and make an impact in their local and global communities. Students identify and research local and global environmental and human rights issues and develop campaigns for social change.

Workshops in 2022 included instruction on the principles of community organizing, case studies in youth activism from both past and present, discourse on public health issues, a virtual racial justice speaker panel, and an in-depth analysis of the intersections of climate change, racism, and classism.
Global Kids 2022 Youth Conference on Hate Crimes

Each year, a team of GK youth design and lead a conference around a topic of local and global importance. GK leaders work together to identify and secure plenary and guest speakers, organize performances, and design and facilitate peer-education workshops for hundreds of attendees.

In June, nearly two hundred middle and high schoolers from New York City public schools, in addition to visiting students from our DC programs and GK students’ school chaperones, convened at Hunter College in Manhattan for NYC’s annual student-led youth conference. GK youth leaders selected Hate Crimes as the focus of this year’s conference. Weeks of planning and preparations undertaken by the student conference planners culminated in a full day of youth-led workshops, meaningful discussions around the topic of hate crimes, special presentations, and a variety of musical, dance, and spoken word performances that showcased student voices, identity, and creativity. Student participants and their chaperones were joined by special guest speaker Hassan Naveed from the NYC Mayor’s Office for the Prevention of Hate Crimes.
Summer Institute in Partnership with the Council on Foreign Relations

Including trips to Washington D.C. and the Canadian Consulate

Our partnership with Council on Foreign Relations for our “U.S. in the World” Summer Institute took GK students to our nation’s capital and the Canadian Consulate this summer. During this immersive three-week summer institute, GK youth leaders gain access to the resources of the world’s leading international affairs thinktank and explore a variety of pressing global issues such as gun reform, climate justice, peace building, reproductive rights, and the war in Ukraine through interactive workshops, activities, and discussions.

During our Summer 2022 Institute, NYC youth visited Washington, DC, where they joined with students from GK’s DC programs to meet with U.S. Department of State’s Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer, Gina Abercrombie-Winstanley. Students also paid a visit to the White House and toured the campus of Howard University.

The Summer Institute concluded with a special trip to the Canadian Consulate, during which students were able to meet with international affairs experts and learn about their careers.
Students traveled to Egypt for the UN's annual conference on climate change

This year, two of our GK leaders traveled to the coastal city of Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt for COP27, this year’s iteration of the UN’s annual conference on climate change.

GK’s youth ambassadors, Mohamed and Yohany, spent the week attending and participating in press conferences, panels, workshops, and more, with plenty of opportunities to see the sights, appreciate the local culture and cuisine, network with leaders from across the globe, and speak out against our current climate crisis. Yohany spoke on the “Partnership for the Sustainable Development Goals” panel, and the students met and learned from other youth activists from around the world.
WE'RE MOVING IN 2023!

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