



Press Release

Announcing the Finalists of the Learning Planet Youth Design Challenge 2024-25!

Paris/New York, 24 January 2025 – Learning Planet Institute is thrilled to announce the 12 finalists of the Learning Planet Youth Design Challenge 2024-25! These remarkable young changemakers have inspired us with their visionary ideas, pitching learning programmes for reimagining Education, across the themes of Engagement, Flourishing, and Sustainability.

Since the September launch during the UN General Assembly in New York, the challenge has brought together a global community of youth passionate about the future of learning. An astounding 1,062 participants from 105 countries signed up (373% increase vs 2023 - See all participants map page 3), resulting in nearly 300 final programmes submitted.

A global jury of leaders across business, higher education, youth engagement, design, and philanthropy played a pivotal role in this process.



Johnson Fong

Director & Advisor
Peter Bennett Foundation & KidsforSDGs



Victoria Fontan

Provost & Vice President of Academic
Affairs
The American University of Afghanistan



Ana Gvritishvili

Steering Committee Member representing
the European Students' Union (ESU)
Global Student Forum



Bianca Herzog

Programme Management Officer
United Nations



Randy Hunt

Head of Design
Notion

Radhika Iyengar
Associate Research Scholar
SDSN, Earth Institute
Columbia University



Fredrik Lindencrona
Head of Research Co-Creation
Inner Development Goals



Pearl Perumal
Winner of the Learning Planet Youth
Design Challenge 2023-24



Peter Schlosser
Vice President and Vice Provost of Global
Futures Laboratory
Arizona State University



***For more information, please contact Isabelle MERNY, Communications Director
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Here are the 2024-25 finalists!

Engagement

- Arpita Bhansali, India, [Colour Me In: Conversations on Skin Colour Awareness](#)
- Md. Sadik Jamal Kowshik, Bangladesh, [Shobdo Shiksha – Sound-Based Learning for the Blind](#)
- Lenny Ruo, Kenya, [THE BRIDGE PROJECT](#)
- Sheraya Amarasekara, UAE, [EmpowerABLE](#)
- Dridhata Silwal, Nepal, [Bunk with Kindness](#)

Flourishing

- Ayaan Seshadri, USA, [My Eyes, My Life](#)
- Marta Stankeviciute, Lithuania, [Navigating the Digital Unconscious: affect, AI, and resilience](#)
- Vy Phan, Vietnam, [INKSPIRE: Inspire Young Minds, Ink a Brighter Future](#)

Sustainability

- Sahar Amini, Afghanistan, [Girls Code: Building Futures through Ethical Tech Education](#)
- Monserrat Galeana Cruz, Mexico, [Lagom: Community Gardens and Environmental Education](#)
- Oluchi Ejikemeuwa, Nigeria, [GREENEDIT](#)
- Shambhavi Arora, Canada, [Wisdom of the Past, Tools for the Future: Neohumanist Learning for a Sustainable World](#)

Special Recognition: Award Winners. The jury awarded the first prize (1,000 USD) to Ayaan Seshadri from the USA for his programme, *My Eyes, My Life*, and the second prize (500 USD) to Arpita Bhansali from India for her programme, *Colour Me In: Conversations on Skin Colour Awareness*. These outstanding projects particularly exemplified the importance of making world more accessible to people of all capabilities and backgrounds.

What's Next? Over the coming months, the finalists will receive training from Learning Planet Institute and be custom-paired with mentors to support the development of their programmes. Stay tuned as we follow their journey and celebrate their progress during the [#LearningPlanet Festival](#) and beyond.

For more information, please contact Isabelle MERNY, Communications Director
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About the Learning Planet Institute

Since 2006, the Learning Planet Institute has been dedicated to reinventing learning for all ages through collective intelligence in order to build sustainable and inclusive learning societies able to rise to the complex challenges we face.

The Institute's mission is to explore, experiment and share new ways of learning and cooperating in order to respond to the needs of the youth and the planet. By encouraging and disseminating a culture, methods and tools for empowerment, it transforms organisations. Ultimately, it leads communities and supports "Learning Planetizens" to take care of themselves, others and the planet.

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