

Andrea Wilson of Huntington wins international book writing competition

Andrea A. Wilson, a homeschooled sixth grader, recently won the international [Voices of Future Generations \(VoFG\)](http://www.vofg.com) book writing competition. Her book *Sarah's Journey for Tomorrow* (originally titled *An Epic Adventure*) won gold-place among all entries of child authors from the US and Europe. Andrea received her award trophy in the House of Lords at Westminster in London, where she was invited to speak about sustainable development and intergenerational equity. For photos of the occasion, visit <http://www.vofg.com/news> (scroll down).

In Andrea's book, a young girl Sarah cares deeply about the earth and wants to clean the world of garbage and pollution. To save our earth and her animal friends, Sarah invents a machine to turn garbage into energy. She then uses this machine all over the world to clean up the environment and save habitats and help animals.

Sarah's Journey for Tomorrow will be published in multiple languages and distributed worldwide. The book will be available for sale next year. Andrea will be available in person at a book signing at the UN (date not yet released). Andrea now writes a blog for VoFG, which will be released in November, 2018.

Voices of Future Generations (VoFG) is an organization that seeks to empower children to have a voice about the future they desire. The organization promotes the rights enshrined in the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child through a Children's Book Series, written by child authors. VoFG also holds an Intergenerational Dialogue Program which enables children communicate directly with experts and global leaders about children's rights, their concerns and sustainable development. Through VoFG, children can speak out globally about their hopes, their dreams and their vision for a sustainable world.



Andrea, at left, receiving her gold-place trophy from [Hon. Justice Prof. Dr. Marcel Szabó](#), a Member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration seated in The Hague and a Judge of the Hungarian Constitutional Court.



Andrea, at left, outside the House of Lords in London. Also present are the previous gold-place winner, Jona David (right) and his brother Nico Roman (lower center).

The Voices of Future Generations **Biennial Intergenerational Learning Circle**, where Andrea spoke on sustainable development and intergenerational equity, took place on Thursday 13 September 2018 at the **House of Lords at Westminster**, London, United Kingdom. This exciting roundtable event brought together the UNESCO Voices of Future Generations Initiative's Child Authors, Child Ambassadors, and delegations of teachers and pupils from leading UK schools, and international mentors, leaders, and experts on children's rights and sustainable development from around the world. Through round-table discussions, youth presentations, and interactive workshops, these children, educators and shared views and awareness of new ways in which children can help to achieve the world's Sustainable Development Goals and promote the rights enshrined in the **UN Convention on the Rights of the Child** at global, national and local levels.

Medals and certificates were awarded to school delegations for inspiration, commitment, scientific knowledge, creativity, cultural understanding and other skills demonstrated in the debates. This event culminated in a special celebration of *Voices of the Future: Stories from Around the World (Bloomsbury 2018)*, an anthology of eight inspiring stories from the Voices of Future Generations Child Authors, prefaced by **Ms. Irina Bokova, former Director-General of UNESCO**.

At the **Intergenerational Learning Circle**, Andrea received the **Child Author Gold Award 2018 - North America** award. The event was a great success and brought together children, leaders and experts to discuss ideas on how to implement the world's sustainable development goals, and to celebrate Voices of the Future.