

EARTH CHARTER YOUTH SUMMIT - AGENDA

11-13, JULY 2026

ALISO VIEJO, CALIFORNIA

SATURDAY, 11 JULY

PLANTING SEEDS OF HOPE AND ACTION ROOTED IN WISDOM AND CARE FOR MOTHER EARTH

09:00 am
10:30 am

Welcome & Opening - Pauling 216 Auditorium

Welcome and Open remarks

Ed Feasel, President, Soka University of America (USA)

Mirian Vilela, Executive Director, Earth Charter International (Brazil)

Acknowledgement of the Land

Louie Paul John Epifano Valenzuela Robles and Tukwot Hamalu Momt

Naka Gollette, Acjachemen Nation

Leading with the Ethics of Care and Responsibility, *Sam Crowell (USA) & Maria Sosa, Earth Charter International (Costa Rica)*

Moderators: *Chloé Bernardino, Earth Charter International (France) & Tetsushi Ogata, Soka University of America (Japan)*

10:30 am
11:00 am

COFFEE-BREAK

11:00 am
12:30 pm

PANEL 1 – MY JOURNEY WITH THE EARTH CHARTER, UN SUSTAINABILITY AGENDAS AND YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

- **Esther Agbarakwe**, UNSG/Climate Action Team (CAT)(Nigeria)
- **Laura Restrepo**, Climate Action Network América Latina/ECI (Colombia)
- **Oshan M. Gunathilake**, Marga Institute - Colombo (Sri Lanka)
- **Lian Zhengxuan**, ECI China/Beijing Normal University (China)

Moderators: *Mareva Dijoux, SUA (France) & Mahlet Girma Kebede, Inspired Development (Ethiopia)*

12:30 pm
2:00 pm

LUNCH

DAY 1

MORNING

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Session 1 – Climate Change Advocacy & Science

Maathai
207

- **Climate Change and Advocacy**, Luis Fernandez Carril (México)
- **The Red Cockaded Woodpecker as a Climate Change Indicator in the SouthEastern US**, Bella Naples (USA)
- **Ocean Acoustics and Climate Stewardship**, Claire Mortensen (USA)
- **Direction that we should desirably follow in climate change**, Jiseung Kim (South Korea)

Moderators: Felipe Gallo (Colombia) & Valeria Medrano (Costa Rica)

Session 2 – UN Post 2030 Agenda & Transformative Futures

Pauling
216

- **Imagining Transformative Futures Through Resilience Thinking: Exploring resilience pathways and Justice**, Ylinda Serrano (The Philippines)
- **Connecting Earth Charter Values with China's Green Development**, Xie Yanruixue (China)
- **Planetary Well-Being**, Atsufumi Yokoi (Japan)
- **Strengthening Youth Engagement in the UN 2030 Post Agenda**, Esther Agbarakwe (Nigeria)

Moderators: Laura Restrepo (Colombia) & Masahiro Yokoyama (Japan)

Session 3 – Experiences using the Earth Charter

Curie
200

- **Working with EC: Practical insights into youth efforts and experiences with the EC in China**, Ruiyi Li and Zhengxuan Lian (China)
- **Where Our Movements Meet: Sharing experiences from networks like ECYL and UNESCO SDG4 Youth to achieve common goals**, Amanda Bennett (USA)
- **Immersive humanistic education in the Amazon, integrating the Earth Charter and SDGs**, Lygia Diniz and Brenda Hada (Brazil)
- **Ecopeace Teen Café: Using the Earth Charter as a Guide for Café Conversations**, Greshma Pious Raju (India)

Moderators: Oshan M. Gunathilake (Sri Lanka) & Ashlynn Tham (Malaysia)

Session 4 – Workshops

The Black
Box Theater

- **Fostering Global Solidarity within the Climate Crisis: Using clay sculpting and climate mapping to visualize systems thinking**, La'eeqa Martin (South Africa)
- **Turning imagination into action: A canvas to re-design business projects for regenerative futures**, Chloé Bernardino (France) and Ann Cathrin Nachtwey (Germany)

Moderators: Viki Lohk (Estonia) and Amar Tafro (USA)





04:00 pm
5:30 pm

PANEL 2 – SEEING MORE, BECOMING MORE: THE POWER OF A WIDER PERSPECTIVE

- **Belonging to the Living Earth Community: From Cosmological Vision to Integral Action**, Sam King, Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology (USA)
- **Youth Leading the Way: Building the Path to an Ecological Civilization**, Amanda da Cruz, Eco Civilization Coalition (Brazil)
- **The Earth Charter as an ethical framework for Planetary Well-Being and youth agency**, Atsufumi Yokoi, Okayama University (Japan)

Moderators: Erica Lotus Kawabata, Lotus Earth Creative (USA) & Paul Lubbers, Earth Charter International (Netherlands)

5:30 pm
7:00 pm

DINNER



Residence Halls

- 19) Lokahi Residence Hall [335] + check-in
- 20) Ubuntu Residence Hall [365] + check-in
- 21) Acjachemen Residence Hall [375] + check-in

Other

- 3) Peace Lake
- 4) Founder's Hall
- 5) Soka Performing Arts Center
- 6) Maathai Hall
- 7) Pauling Hall
- 8) Curie Hall
- 10) Library
- 11) Soka Bistro

SUNDAY, 12 JULY

NEW APPROACHES TO EDUCATION AND FOSTERING SYMBIOTIC COLLABORATION ACROSS BORDERS

09:00 am
10:30 am

PANEL 3 – SEEING EDUCATION WITH NEW EYES: EXPLORING THE KNOWLEDGE, VALUES, SKILLS AND ATTITUDE NEEDED FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

- **Nicole Jiron**, *University of Costa Rica (Costa Rica)*
- **Luis Fernández Carril**, *Tecnológico de Monterrey (Mexico)*
- **Ian Read**, *Soka University of America (USA)*
- **Lygia Diniz**, *Instituto Soka Amazonia (Brazil)*

Moderators: *Phil Eke-Okocha, Earth Charter International (Nigeria) & Amanda Bennett, EC Educator (Costa Rica/USA)*

10:30 am
11:00 am

COFFEE-BREAK

11:00 am
12:30 pm

PANEL 4 – STUDENT AGENCY IN TRANSFORMING UNIVERSITIES: EXAMPLES OF SUSTAINABLE CAMPUS EFFORTS

- **Ann Cathrin Nachtwey & Lonneke Oostmeijer**, *Windesheim University of Applied Sciences (The Netherlands)*
- **Isabella MacDonald & Bella Naples**, *Rollins College (USA)*
- **Qu Yunxuan**, *Liaoning University (China)*
- **Maik Land**, *Student Participation Ambassador (Germany)*

Moderators: *Awa Drammeh, Zuyd University of Applied Science (The Netherlands/Gambia) & Jenna Pick, Florida Gulf Coast University (USA)*

12:30 pm
2:00 pm

LUNCH

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Session 1 – Climate Change & Systemic Health

Maathai
207

- **The future of Sustainable Healthcare**, *Qjiel Giuliano Mikhl Zamora Mariano (The Philippines)*
- **Building a Greener Future: Chinese Wisdom on Climate Change**, *Jiaxing LIU (China)*
- **Amazonia & Health**, *Joshua Ledesma (Ecuador)*
- **Agroecology and Regenerative Food Systems**, *Kerrin Heba (USA)*

Moderators: Leonardo Amorim (Brazil) & María Sosa Segnini (Costa Rica)

Session 2 – Sustainability & the EC in Education Settings

Pauling
216

- **From Systems Thinking to Collective Action: Leading Sustainable Change in School**, *Han Xiuming (China)*
- **Juventudes en Quintana Roo: liderazgo y cooperación**, *Melchor Muñoz (México)*
- **Sustainable Integration in the Claremont Colleges**, *Olivia Yoo (USA)*
- **University sustainability efforts and students agency**, *Jordan Spradlin & Caydence Hesch (USA)*

Moderators: Libby Moss & Cameron Groome (USA)

Session 3 – Sustainability, Business & Ethical Leadership

Curie
200

- **Nexus between Nature and Business**, *Laura Rodríguez (Colombia)*
- **Business, Communication, Ethical Leadership**, *Awa Drammeh (The Netherlands)*
- **Cultivating Ethical Leadership through Education: Why and How**, *Kong Zhaoming (China)*
- **Lead at the Intersection: Why Sustainability Requires a Cross-Sector, Intergenerational Approach**, *Krystal Lacayo (USA)*

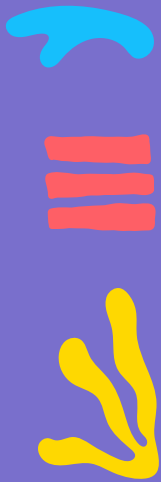
Moderators: Andrea Sécola (Costa Rica) & Ylinda Serrano (The Philippines)

Session 4 – Workshops

The Black
Box Theater

- **Humor, Play and Game-based Learning to Empower Global Citizenship**, *Oshan M. Gunathilake (Sri Lanka)*
- **The Inner Child & the Earth: An Art and Sustainability Workshop**, *Erica Lotus (Japan-USA)*

Moderators: Masahiro Mimoto (Japan) & Marling Inés Águila Barreton (Peru)





04:00 pm
5:30 pm

PANEL 5 – COLLABORATION ACROSS AREAS, CULTURES AND GENERATIONS

- **Building a sense of we-ness: an essential part of systemic transformation**, Matias Lara, Club of Rome, Fifth Element (Argentina)
- **Making Collaboration work: Creating Synergies across movements**, Mariana Campos, World Youth for Climate Justice (Mexico)
- **Intergenerational and Across Borders Collaboration**, Phil Eke-Okocha, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Youth (Nigeria) & Masahiro Yokoyama, Soka Gakkai International (Japan)

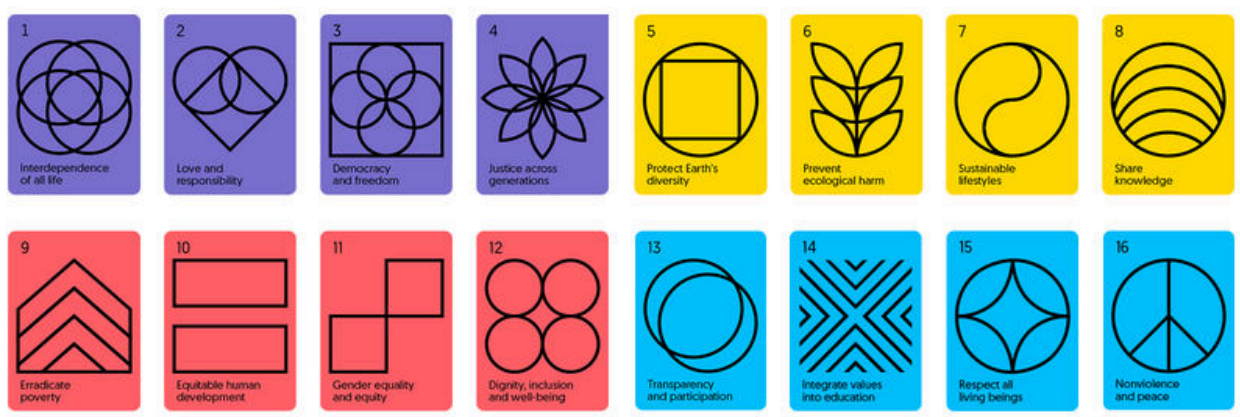
Moderators: Laura Restrepo (Colombia) & Rick Clugston, Earth Charter International (USA)

5:30 pm
7:00 pm

DINNER

7:00 pm
8:30 pm

CULTURAL EXCHANGE – THE BLACK BOX THEATRE



MONDAY, 13 JULY

**SYSTEMS CHANGE, INNER WELLBEING AND
TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP**09:00 am
10:30 am**PANEL 6 – THE PRACTICE OF ETHICAL LEADERSHIP WITH
COURAGE, RESILIENCE AND HOPE: STRENGTHENING THE
EARTH CHARTER YOUNG LEADER’S MOVEMENT**

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- **Mahlet Girma Kebede**, *Inspired Development (Ethiopia)*
 - **Ethan Sacks**, *Flagler College (USA)*
 - **Greshma Pious Raju**, *Ecopeace Teen Cafe/United Religions Initiative (India)*
 - **Mohammed Ba-Aoum**, *AI & Analytics, (Saudi Arabia)*

Moderators: *La'eeqa Martin, African Climate Alliance (South Africa) & Qjhel Giuliani Mikhl, York University (The Philippines)*

10:30 am
11:00 am**COFFEE-BREAK**11:00 am
12:30 pm**PANEL 7 – THE INNER DIMENSIONS OF SOCIAL
TRANSFORMATION: UNLOCKING OUR HUMAN POTENTIAL
NURTURING OUR WELL-BEING AND RESILIENCE**

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- **Erica Lotus Kawabata**, *Lotus Earth Creative (USA)*
 - **Brigitta Gunawan**, *30x30 Indonesia and Diverseas (Indonesia)*
 - **Ylinda Serrano**, *Forum for the Future (The Philippines)*
 - **Maisa Arias**, *Pachamama Alliance (Peru)*

Echoes of Healing: A Sound Journey for Ourselves and the Earth,
Mareva Dijoux, SUA (France)

Moderators: *Alisha Dikshit (India) & Marina Inoue, SUA (Russia)*

12:30 pm
2:00 pm**LUNCH**

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Session 1 – Essential Skills and Knowledge for Systems Change

Maathai
207

- **From Ideas to Investment: Unlocking Capital for Youth-Led Projects**, *Andrea Sécola (Costa Rica)*
- **Resilience and Eco-Anxiety**, *Kamylle Bonenfant (Canada)*
- **Systems Thinking**, *Matias Lara (Argentina)*
- **Ecological Civilization: Contributing to a Growing Planetary Movement**, *Sam King (USA)*

Moderators: *Felipe Gallo (Colombia) & Valeria Medrano (Costa Rica)*

Session 2 – Communications and Advocacy

Pauling
216

- **Including the Missing: From Alienation to Alliances in Organizational Future Making**, *Maike Land (Germany)*
- **Decoding Climate Policy: Mobilizing Youth for Advocacy**, *Brigitta Maria Andrea Gunawan (Indonesia)*
- **Value Creating Education – Buddhist Peace Philosophy in Youth Advocacy**, *Masahiro Mimoto (Japan)*
- **Ethical communication within sustainable fashion**, *Willow Southwell & Susuana Quartey (USA)*

Moderators: *Laura Restrepo (Colombia) & Masahiro Yokoyama (Japan)*

Session 3 – Leadership & Cultural Identity

Curie
200

- **We Were Never Meant to Meet: Connecting Black Youth Leaders Across Territories**, *Leonardo Amorim (Brazil)*
- **Indigenous-led Rights of Nature**, *Quetza Ramirez (USA)*
- **Kaddù Yaraax: Transforming a Death-Body-Territory through Forum Theatre in Senegal**, *Vitoria Souza (Brazil)*
- **Climate Solutions and Hidden Costs: Hydropower, Power, and Indigenous Justice in Nepal**, *Aayusha Prasain (Nepal)*

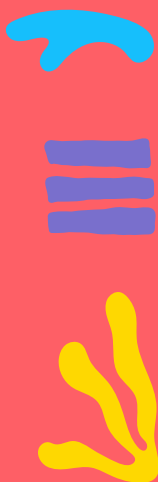
Moderators: *Aliya Cherikova (Kyrgyzstan) & Ylinda Serrano, Forum for the Future / University of the Philippines (The Philippines)*

Session 4 – Workshops

The Black
Box Theater

- **Inner-Wellbeing and Presensing**: *Maisa Arias Pachamama Alliance (Peru)*
- **Where Our Colors Meet: Art, Dialogue, and a Culture of Peace**, *Marina Inoue (Russia)*

Moderators: *Umma Valeska (Mexico) and Amar Tafro (USA)*



04:00 pm
5:30 pm

PANEL 8 – PROPELLING YOUTH AGENCY AND COLLABORATION: THE WAY FORWARD

World Café dialogue: small-group conversations to build collective insights and action.

- **Closing Remarks:** *Chloe Bernardino (France) and Michael Bracken, Earth Charter International (USA)*

Moderators: *Laura Rodríguez (Colombia) & Maria Sosa (Costa Rica)*

5:30 pm
6:30 pm

FREE TIME

6:30 pm
8:30 pm

DINNER – ATHENAEUM

CONVENORS:



SPONSORS:



PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS:

