What is a UN Youth Rep?

Lehigh created the world’s first UN Youth Representative Program, matching UN-accredited NGOs with high-achieving undergraduate and graduate students who serve as that NGO’s voice at the United Nations.

Youth Representatives meet with global decision makers, participate in international conferences, and moderate briefings broadcast worldwide on UN TV. Youth Representatives have spoken on the floor of the General Assembly.

Youth Representatives visit the UN once per month, where they attend briefings, conferences and private meetings with UN officials on behalf of their NGO on topics such as the role of art in creating cultures of peace or economic development across Africa.

What is a UN NGO?

An NGO is a non-governmental, non-profit, voluntary citizen’s group organized on a local, national or international level and officially recognized by the UN. An NGO bears the responsibility of disseminating information to its constituency regarding UN beliefs, practices and activities. In turn, NGOs provide a wealth of expertise that shapes and informs UN decision-making.

American Association of University Women (AAUW) is the nation's leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls. Since being founded in 1881, AAUW members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day—educational, social, economic, and political.