



Project Plan

How Do We Look? From Fast Fashion to Eco-Fashion

Buddies Without Borders Online Forums

April 6 - May 11, 2024

Updated as Needed - Apr 1, 2024

Contact: BuddiesWithoutBordersOnlineForums@GlobalEducationDestinations.org

For Reference: www.GlobalEducationDestinations.org

Application Form:

The application is now closed. Please email

BuddiesWithoutBordersOnlineForums@GlobalEducationDestinations.org to see if there are still seats in your country. Please note that we have a rolling admission process, and only accept 4-6 students per country to achieve a balanced perspective worldwide.

Program Fee

If accepted, the program fee is \$50 usd. Merit-based scholarship seats may be available to under-represented countries. To inquire, please email us your school's website, proof of your nationality and a copy of your current report card.

Overview

Students aged 13-18 around the world are invited to brainstorm ideas to solve challenges that impact us all.

We all want to look good, and fashion helps define our image. What we wear and what we see others wear, in person and on social media, says a lot about our society and what we define as "cool." Fast fashion keeps prices low and brings growth in developing countries, but also comes with tremendous environmental and social costs, from pollution to human rights violations.

This Spring, we are inviting teens around the world to investigate how fashion and values interact and discuss what changes are needed to improve the Fast Fashion industry to meet the Global Goals.

Details

Four - five students from different countries will be grouped as a team to work across the borders, jointly representing an assigned country as equal global citizens. They will meet weekly online for 7 weeks.

Students meet online via Google Meet weekly for 60-90 minutes. Two identical sections are created to accommodate the time zone difference. Teams are assigned to a section based on diversity. Students are allowed to visit the other section and meet more buddies if interested.

Each Global Session will feature workshops, breakouts and team meetings and are held on **Saturdays at 6 AM UTC and at 2 PM UTC** [Be sure to click here and check your local time as there are no make-up sessions.](#)

Attendance is mandatory (guardians must send in notes for any absence). Any participant who misses two consecutive global meetings without advanced notice will be dropped from the Forum competition.

Between meetings, students are monitored by assigned Team Coaches to do their independent research and connect with their teammates via a private **Google Classroom** to work on their projects. Students must participate in a dedicated Buddies Without Borders Online Forum **Google Classroom** group to find resources, discuss ideas, findings, etc. throughout the month. Each team has the right to issue an alert to their team coach if any team member needs to participate more effectively. We will in turn alert the counselors and guardians. After the third warning, the nonresponsive team members will be removed from the team and be disqualified from any Awards. **A Score Sheet** will be used to keep track of each participant's status.

Future forums will feature topics based on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals:

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/> such as Innovation, Climate Change, Ending Poverty, Public Health and beyond.

Key Dates

- Starting March 23 - Google Chatroom Pre-forum Mingle
- April 1 - Google Classroom Open. Self Introduction Post
- **April 6 Global Session - Mandatory Tech & Tools. Coach Workshop: 5-point Structure**
- **April 13 Global Session - Kick-Off Speech (Joshua Young, Head of Circular Fashion at MOONFLARE). Team Time - Plan Landscape Presentation**
- **April 20 Global Session - Landscape Presentation. Team Time: Plan Brainstorming Tasks**
- **April 27 Global Session - Brainstorming Breakouts** (*no presentation this week). **Team Time: Plan Final Deliverables**
- **May 4 Global Session: Final Presentation Rehearsal. Team Time: Rehearsal Feedback**
- **May 11 - no global session. All deliverables due. Score sheet closed.**
- **May 18 - Global Session: Final Presentation screening and celebration**
- May 12-23 – Public voting opens
- May 25 - Award Ceremony

Awards

All participants who complete the program successfully will receive a Program Certificate. There will be four categories of Awards:

- **The Best Team Award:**

The total team point average will determine the top five teams in the Final round. A team of international panelists will then evaluate the final deliverables based on their proposals' 1) creativity 2) equality and 3) sustainability.

- **The Top Five Award:**

Top Five Representatives are chosen based on personal points earned.

- **Best Representative Award:**

The Best Representative is voted by their forum peers among the Top Five. If there is a tie, the final winner is determined by the ranking of his or her team's final presentation. The Best Representative will be the spokesperson for the Buddies Without Borders Online Forum and conduct an interview with a forum speaker or an official to be featured on the GED website.

- **The BWB Pioneer Award:**

Students who have exhibited consistent leadership throughout the Forum by inspiring others to work for the common good will be nominated by their team coaches to receive the BWB Pioneer Award. One nominee will be selected to receive the Award Scholarship to launch a BWB Club.

- **The People's Choice Award:**

All proposals will be posted on our website for the public's votes. The proposal that receives the highest votes wins the People's Choice Award.

Prizes

- **Scholarship Seats for the Following Forum:**

All award winners (Top Five, the Best Team, the People's Choice Team, Pioneer Winner) will be offered a scholarship seat for the following forum. The scholarship seat can be transferred to another student in his or her school (a teacher recommendation letter and a current report card will be required).

- **BWB Club (2024-2025):**

The Best Representative and the Pioneer Award recipients will receive scholarships to launch a BWB Club in their schools to put their ideas into action (\$300 value) during the school year 2023-2024 (pending school approval). BWB Clubs are now operating in more than 20 countries around the world and enabling students to discuss globally and act locally year-round.

BWB Club applications are by invitation only. Pioneer Award Nominees will receive an invitation to apply (without scholarships).

- **Internships (2024-2025):**

Students who have successfully completed their Forum competitions and BWB Club projects will be invited to apply for a seat on our International Internship Team. There are three tracks of the internship opportunities (Business, Law, Public Health) organized by Leadership Initiatives and sponsored by Microsoft and Starbucks. The Internship will start in August 2024 and conclude in May 2025.

Purposes

1. If you are an IBDP student, we meet your Learning Outcome Requirements.
2. If you are an AP Capstone student, you may use data from the forum to base your findings.
3. Understand SDG challenges.
4. Connect, discuss and collaborate with participants around the world online, under the guidance of a college student team coach or an educator.
5. Learn how to create proposals and potentially win recognitions that may benefit the future college application process.
6. Practice English speaking, listening and writing in a formal setting.
7. Successful participants will be considered for future college student team coach jobs based on performance evaluations.
8. Be invited to establish a BWB Club which allows more students to connect and practice English during the school year. BWB Club schools enjoy Forum discounts and many other benefits to students, teachers as well as schools. [Click here for details](#).

Specifications

Each Forum is attended by 40 - 60 students from 20-25 countries. For more on our past participants and collaborators, please visit www.GlobalEducationDestinations.org

- **Technical Requirements:**

Audio and Video capability to participate in the weekly global meetings on **Google Meet**. Account in **Google Chats** for asynchronized forum discussions. In addition, students will be invited to socialize in our Global Community platform.

- **Parental Consent:**

A parent or a guardian needs to sign off on the application form to acknowledge that the student will be communicating with other program participants on social media. A Score Sheet and a Final Progress Report are made available to all guardians and counselors.

- **School Counselor FYI:**

The student's school teacher or counselor will be kept informed of the student's progress.

Deliverable

- An oral presentation with visual aid (no more than 5 minutes)
- A Team Paper of 1000 words (3-4 pages) Executive Summary of your findings.
- Demonstrated critical thinking and writing: What is your hypothesis/observation? (1 point) What is your source of information and research findings? (1 point) What are the counterarguments (1 point) and source of their information (1 point)? What is your follow-up question or new hypothesis (1 point)?

- Demonstrated collaboration with your teammates and fellow forum participants via screenshots (meetup points) and Team Collaboration Doc.
- Demonstrated participation via Global Session Attendance points. Absences are permitted but notes from guardians are required.
- A personal reflection (via Google Forms) will be required for each participant to evaluate their personal progress and their experience with their team and the forum.

Contributors

Please visit our **"About Us"** webpage for a full list of speakers, supporters and reviewers.

- Kick-off speaker (tbd): Hon. Teta V. Banks, Ed.D, National Chair, United Nations Association of the United States of America, USA
- Advisory Board/Panelist: Andrew Hand - Former Admissions and International Schools Outreach Officer, Forward College, France
- Panelist: Angolwisye Paul Mwakisu - Senior Assistant Director of Admissions, NYU, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- Panelist: Elisa Melendez Martin - Director of Global Markets, IE University, Spain
- ELL Lecturer (pre-recorded): Anh Nguyen- ELL Teacher, Hanoi Academy, Vietnam
- Inquiry Lecturer (pre-recorded): Shane Hanna- IB Coordinator, Villiers School, Ireland
- MUN Lecturer (pre-recorded): Nicole Bohannon - ESG Research Associate at ISS, USA
- Sponsor: Marshal Bailly - Executive Director, Leadership Initiatives, USA
- Student Forum Director - Kate Buszka, Forward College (Germany), Poland
- Student Coach - Chiedza-Matipa Banga, Sciences Po Paris (Campus de Reims), Zimbabwe
- Student Coach - Filip Manda, Bachelor in Biology at Rijksuniversiteit Groningen (the Netherlands), Romania
- Student Coach - Yohana Fontenia, Economics & Politics and Business Leadership, Forward College (Germany), Spain
- Student Scorer - Miyu Sakurai, NYU (US), Japan

Forum Reference Material

- <https://moderndiplomacy.eu/2024/01/26/the-economic-implications-of-fast-fashion-for-the-developed-and-developing-world/>
- <https://igbc.scholasticahq.com/article/36873-appalling-or-advantageous-exploring-the-impacts-of-fast-fashion-from-environmental-social-and-economic-perspectives>
- <https://www.genevaenvironmentnetwork.org/resources/updates/sustainable-fashion/>
- <https://www.statista.com/topics/5091/apparel-market-worldwide/>
- <https://www.statista.com/topics/8824/apparel-supply-chain-worldwide/>

- <https://marketsplash.com/apparel-industry-statistics/>.
- <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NV.MNF.TXTL.ZS.UN>.
- <https://www.statista.com/topics/5091/apparel-market-worldwide/>.