



++ Celebrating 20 years ++

Global Classrooms DC

2023-2024 Annual Report



What is Global Classrooms DC?



Established in 2003, Global Classrooms® DC (GCDC) is the flagship educational program of the United Nations Association of the National Capital Area (UNA-NCA). GCDC is a Model UN program that engages students from grades 5-12 in learning about the United Nations and global issues. By providing a unique global education curriculum, Model UN mini-simulations, and opportunities to participate in annual Model UN conferences, GCDC aims to foster globally aware citizens. The program focuses on enhancing essential skills such as public speaking, negotiation, research, analysis, and writing. GCDC is accessible to all public, private, and international schools, as well as homeschool co-ops, leadership organizations, and clubs in the U.S. and internationally. The 2023-2024 academic year witnessed key program milestones. The year marked the pilot launch of North America's first-ever Model International Labour Organization (Model ILO), hosted at the U.S. Department of State in partnership with the ILO office for the United States and Canada (USCA) and Department of Labor (DOL). Also, the program hosted its milestone 20th annual Spring Model United Nations Conference.

After serving for two years, Sarmat Chowdhury stepped down at the end of 2023. UNA-NCA and the GCDC team are grateful for Sarmat's contributions to the program. Himaja Balusa started as Global Classrooms DC Program Coordinator in December 2023 and then transitioned to Manager of Global Education in March 2024. She has experience in International Affairs, particularly on topics pertaining to gender and sustainable development. She has worked with non-profits like the Feminist Majority Foundation, Represent Women, and AWARE in Singapore.



Himaja Balusa

Numbers at a Glance

Program Participants

1335[‡]

Students

61

Schools

60

Volunteers

70

Educators & Parents

Where GCDC Works



26.4 % of groups, DC



32 % of groups, Maryland



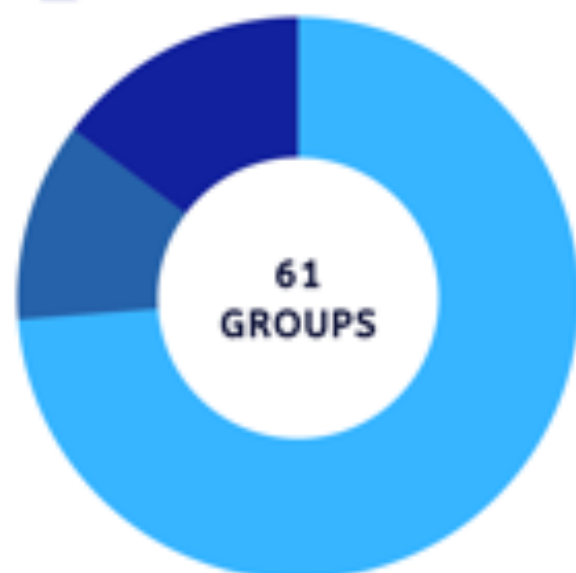
24 % of groups, Northern Virginia



17.6% of groups, Outside DMV

Types of Schools

- Public Schools
- Private Schools
- Other (Non-Profits, CSOs, College)



17.6% Title 1 Schools*

Grade Enrollment

- Higher Education
- Grades 9-12
- Grades 5-8
- Grades 5-12



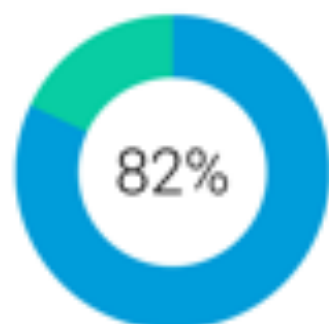
‡ 774 students participated in the Year-Round program alone. 511 students attended the Spring MUN Conference. 50 students participated in Model ILO.

† International Leadership of Texas Charter Schools consists of 23 campuses and 600 students but is counted as one group on this graphic.

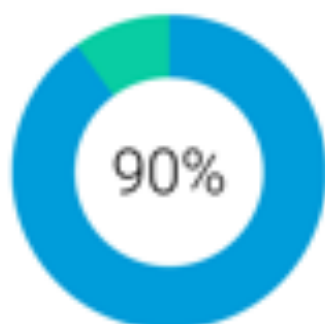
* Title 1: A designation that guarantees federal financial assistance to schools with high numbers or high percentages of children from low-income families; helps ensure that all children meet state academic standards, regardless of their families' socio-economic status.

Our Impact

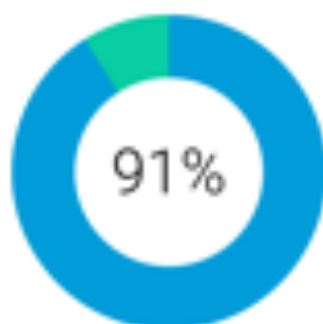
How Do Students Say They Benefit?



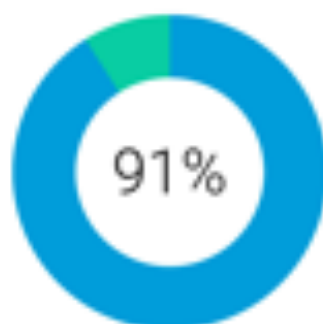
"I feel more comfortable speaking in public."



"I feel more comfortable sharing their opinion."

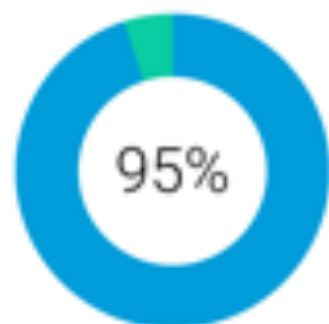


"I feel more comfortable negotiating and working peacefully with others."



"I feel more comfortable applying problem-solving skills in a group setting."

How Do Teachers Say They Benefit?



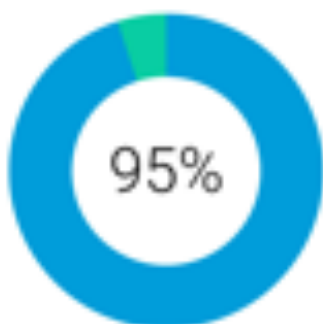
"The conference enhanced students' knowledge of the UN & Foreign Affairs."



"The conference enhanced students' key skills, including public speaking, negotiation, & teamwork."



"Teaching students about global issues is important to becoming a globally-minded citizen."



"I plan to continue incorporating global education content into my instruction."

What Does our Community Say?

"A full day, I was fortunate enough to meet and gather valuable insights from organizational leaders, experts and delegates alike. Together, with a group of passionate students from all backgrounds, I had the chance to learn and experience the full voting and amendment process for Convention 190 on Workplace Violence and Harassment. From drafting and negotiation to actually arguing our points in front of the delegation and committee at the beautiful U.S. Department of State, this experience was one that I know will serve me well in my human rights career." - Alex Rimmel, Model - ILO Student Delegate, George Washington University

"I have learned that there are multifaceted issues that intercept with each other no matter the distance, its complexity, and efforts." - Spring MUN Student Delegate, Camelot Academy



ILO Committee at 2024 Spring MUN Conference



UN Security Council Committee at 2024 Spring MUN Conference

Students and teachers identified these top skills that Model UN helped strengthen:



TEAMWORK



RESEARCH



WRITING



LEADERSHIP



COMMUNICATION

Model - International Labour Organization

February 23, 2024



Global Classrooms-DC (GCDC) launched its first Model-International Labour Organization (Model-ILO) conference on February 23rd, focusing on violence and harassment in the workplace and ILO's Convention 190 (C.190). The event was organized with the U.S. Department of State, the International Labour Organization Office for the United States and Canada (ILO - USCA), and the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL).

Policy Advisors at Model - ILO Opening Plenary

Model-ILO, a simulation of the ILO's operations, emphasizes consensus-building among governments, workers, and businesses. The conference facilitated discussions on eliminating workplace violence and harassment, centralizing on the landmark C.190 adopted by the ILO in 2019. The opening plenary featured key speakers like Stephen Moody from the State Department, Molly McCoy from DOL, and Amber Barth from the ILO, all stressing negotiation, multilateralism, and global economic impacts. Delegates engaged in breakout sessions to discuss a fictional ILO conclusions document on workplace harassment, with policy advisors from the U.S. Department of State, U.S. Department of Labor, U.S. Council for International Business (USCIB), The American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), and United Nations Association of the National Capital Area (UNA-NCA) guiding these discussions. Key topics included gendered language and the term "modern" in the workplace context. The General Discussion Committee, chaired by Sarah Bassil and Christina Hansen, facilitated further debates and amendments. Closing remarks by Angelika Muller of the ILO praised the delegates' efforts. The conference concluded with awards, highlighting exceptional participation and reinforcing the importance of diplomacy and collaboration in addressing workplace violence and harassment.

Annual Spring GCDC Conference

April 29, 2024



Undersecretary Elizabeth M. Allen, Student Secretary General, Imaani Haque, & Director of IO Bureau, Alicia van der Veen

Global Classrooms DC held its 20th annual Spring Model United Nations on April 29, 2024, at the U.S. Department of State. Over 500 middle and high school students from the DMV area, North Carolina, and New York participated in simulations of eight UN agencies, including the ILO, IOM, and FAO. UNA-NCA President Paula Boland opened the ceremony, emphasizing the importance of youth engagement and the UN Charter principles. Director of the Office of Public Affairs and Outreach for the Bureau of International Organization Affairs (IO), Alicia van der Veen from the Bureau of International Organization Affairs highlighted multilateral diplomacy and encouraged students to consider careers in international affairs, noting the value of skills like critical thinking and empathy developed in Model UN. Student Secretary-General Imaani Haque from Cooper Middle School spoke about global humanitarian crises and the personal growth she experienced through Model UN.

She urged delegates to support each other and set realistic goals. Keynote speaker Undersecretary Elizabeth M. Allen discussed public diplomacy, the U.S. investment in the UN, and the importance of incremental change and thoughtful debate. She encouraged students to pursue diplomatic careers and emphasized effective communication. The event included a Q&A session, student testimonials, and an educators' session. The closing plenary featured Ose Ehianeta Arheghan, UNA-USA Youth Observer to the UN highlighted the impact of Model UN on their career in international affairs and encouraged students to utilize their Model UN skills in various career paths.

PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATIONS

BUREAU OF DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND LABOR (STATE DEPT)

GCDC collaborated with the U.S Department of State's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor for the first time to launch North America's first ever Model - ILO, a simulation of the International Labour Organization (ILO).

BUREAU OF INTERNATIONAL LABOR AFFAIRS (DEPT OF LABOR)

GCDC collaborated with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB) for the first time to launch Model - ILO.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION (ILO)

GCDC collaborated with the ILO office for US and Canada (ILO-USCA) for the fifth year on a topic for the Spring 2024 Model UN Conference. Students researched the topic, "Violence and Harassment Protections at Work." In addition, GCDC and ILO - USCA created a year-round unit and hosted Model ILO.

BUREAU OF INT'L ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS (STATE DEPT)

GCDC partnered with the U.S Department of State's Bureau of International Organization Affairs (IO) for the 20th year in a row to host the annual Spring Model United Nations Conference.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (IOM)

GCDC partnered with USA for IOM for the fifth time on a committee for the Spring 2024 Model UN Conference. Delegates debated how countries can address issues related to "Climate and Migration" in the IOM committee at the conference.

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON US-ARAB RELATIONS (NCUSAR)

For the second time, GCDC partnered with NCUSAR to take members of their summer cohort to serve as program assistants. GCDC also partners on their D.C.-based Model Arab League conferences to open opportunities for GCDC students to participate in more diplomatic simulations.

GCDC Supporters & Sponsors

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO MADE GCDC A SUCCESS THIS YEAR!

Sponsors & Partners

Global Education Champion

Ambassador Donald T. Bliss (ret.)
Charles and Cordelia Puttkammer

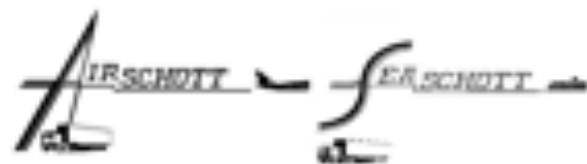
Global Education Diplomat

Billie Anne Day



Global Education Leader

Roger Griffis
Stephen F. Moseley



Global Education Advocate

Edison W. Dick, Esq.

Global Education Supporter

Sultana F. Ali
Jill Christianson
Anne Simmons-Benton



Global Education Ally

Anne Howard-Tristani
Gayatri Patel
Richard Seifman
Adam Wolf

Global Classrooms DC Team 2023-2024

Himaja Balusa, Manager of Global Education
Asher Spivak, GCDC Program Assistant
Ignatia Manek, GCDC Program Assistant
Carly Liao, GCDC Program Assistant

Sarmat Chowdhury, (former) Manager of Global Education
Mohammed Khader, Senior Research Assistant
Dana Marion, GCDC Curriculum Assistant
Elijah Hill, GCDC Simulations Assistant
Andrew Rovinsky, GCDC Research Assistant
Rebecca Porter, GCDC Operations Assistant
Rayan Mama, GCDC Operations Assistant
Shahd Saraf, GCDC Program Assistant
Peter Toto, GCDC Program Assistant

Thank you to In-Kind Sponsors & Spring MUN Caterer:

muncheez
middle-eastern food

Burgers for all!



GEORGETOWN CUPCAKE

