



KIDS RIGHTS

INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S RIGHTS FOUNDATION KIDSRIGHTS LAUNCHES UNIQUE PLATFORM FOR YOUNG CHANGEMAKERS

Amsterdam, 3 June 2018 - International children's rights foundation KidsRights on 2 June officially launched the *Global Changemaking Platform* during the Rotterdam Gala in the Netherlands. Over the past thirteen years, the *changemaking* activities of the winners of the International Children's Peace Prize have been a true testament to the powerful ways in which children can improve children's rights. The unique Global Changemaking Platform now enables them to share and support these and other changemaking activities, inspire and mobilise other children and create a snowball effect. This effect is strengthened by KidsRights' collaboration with Nickelodeon, which reaches children in more than 170 countries and introduces them to the platform.

Inspiring changemakers

KidsRights firmly believes that *all* children who want to make a difference should be acknowledged and supported in their tireless efforts to improve children's rights. However small their initiatives may appear, through proper support and facilities their impact can be limitless. One of the stories on the platform is of José, who grew up in poverty. Out of nowhere he managed to found the world's first ecological bank for children which has enabled 20,000 children to afford their school tuitions. Or take the story of Chaeli, who won the International Children's Peace Prize in 2012. She overcame the adversities presented by her disability and is now an ability activist who focuses on her talents. Chaeli promotes positive change among other children and young people with disabilities by teaching wheelchair dancing lessons. Through her inspiring lead, Chaeli stimulates children to make the most of their abilities and gain self-esteem.

Afrojack launches *Global Changemaking Platform*

The world-renowned DJ Afrojack launched the platform with a push of the 'red button'. "I am deeply proud to have been invited to launch this global changemaking platform. KidsRights encourages children across the globe to start exciting projects," said Afrojack. "I got involved because I believe it is important that children follow their dreams. I did that myself when I was young and I aim to be an example for the next generation."

Global community of changemakers

The *Global Changemaking Platform* allows children to raise awareness for their own projects, to inspire others and seek support. Platform visitors can follow and support these children with the click of a button. But the platform is not just about support; it is also an environment where children can find inspiration to become changemakers themselves. Marc Dullaert, founder of the KidsRights Foundation, emphasises that the platform was conceived for all children who are committed to children's rights. "Winning the International Children's Peace Prize has provided these changemakers with a platform to voice their opinions and the possibility to become a source of inspiration for other children. The launch of the platform is the beginning of a global community of changemakers."

End of press release

About the KidsRights Foundation

KidsRights is an international non-governmental organization that promotes the wellbeing of very vulnerable children across the world and advocates the realization of their rights.

KidsRights strives for a world where all children have access to their rights and are enabled to realize the great potential they carry within them. KidsRights sees children as changemakers with the power to move the world, and facilitates in voicing their opinions and taking action in order to bring about change.

KidsRights supports children by commanding global attention for the realization of children's rights and acting as a catalyst to ignite change, together with children and youths. We support this with research and action. In order to gain insight into the status of children's rights, KidsRights frequently conducts research. The foundation also finances local projects aimed at directly improving the rights of vulnerable children and stimulating child participation and change-making by youths. Please visit our website to find out more about

KidsRights: www.kidsrights.org.

About the International Children's Peace Prize

The International Children's Peace Prize is awarded annually to a child who fights courageously for children's rights. Every year, the message of the new young winner has enormous impact and demonstrates to millions of people globally that change is possible. In 2018 the prize will be awarded for the 14th consecutive year. Previous winners include Nkosi Johnson, who fought for the rights of children with AIDS, and Malala Yousafzai, who won the International Children's Peace Prize in 2013 before winning the Nobel Peace Prize in 2014.

The International Children's Peace Prize was founded by Marc Dullaert, founder and chair of the KidsRights Foundation. It was launched in 2005 during the World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates in Rome, chaired by Mikhail Gorbachev. During the nomination process the expert committee of the prize receives nominations from countries all over the world. Very remarkable, but often unknown, brave children have been discovered through the annual nomination process.

Each year the International Children's Peace Prize is presented by a Nobel Peace Laureate. The winner receives the statuette 'Nkosi', which portrays a child setting the world in motion, as well as a study grant and a worldwide platform to promote his or her ideals and causes for the benefit of children's rights. Furthermore, KidsRights invests the sum of €100,000 in projects that are closely connected to his or her area of work.

Please visit the website for more information about the International Children's Peace Prize:
<http://www.childrenspeaceprize.org>.



Froukje Töns (ICPP)

ftons@issuemakers.nl

T: +31 20 6560223

M: +31 6 28347021



KidsRights Foundationnewsroom

