

## **WORLD YOUTH LEADERS OF INFLUENCE**

All over the world, from the tropics of Africa to the center of Europe along the new world of the Americas and the beautiful islands to the land of Asia and Australia, youths have been and are still icons of influence, rays of hope for a bright and beautiful future, trailblazing leaders setting the pace in any sphere of life they step into as well as so many other numerous attributes that the world including the glaciers of Antarctica can reckon with.

Who are some of these youths that have decided to stand out in the midst of the multitude or speak up for the things that matter, saying no to oppression and corruption, seeking for and constantly making series of researches to obtain ways, methods and gadgets that can make life better? They are innumerable and still counting but we will briefly look at some below.

### **1. Malala Yousafzai**

A young lady constantly advocating for equality for women not only in her home county, Pakistan but also worldwide and one of the youngest recipients of the Nobel Peace Prize. An assassination attempt on her life in 2012 didn't stop her continuous activism both in the local and International space.

### **2. Greta Thunberg**

Greta Thunberg made waves and caught the attention of so many in global headlines some years back earning the attention of not just social media users, but world leaders as well. Since then, she has emerged as one of the most active voices in support of combating climate change.

Thunberg has crossed oceans (by the more environmentally friendly boat, rather than by plane) to lead climate strikes in numerous countries. Looking to the future, Thunberg will certainly continue to leave an impact, proving there are kids changing the world and creating a model of what leaders everywhere should aspire to be.

### **3. Angeline Makore, Zimbabwe**

Angeline is an exceptional young leader from Zimbabwe, who is passionate about the health and well-being of women and girls in her country. As a young person, she was involved in rescuing child marriage victims and sexually abused girls, and offered psychosocial support to teenage mothers.

### **4. Bogolo J Kenewendo**

He is the recently appointed Botswana's new Investment, Trade and Industry Minister. Kenewendo first joined parliament in 2016 as an Member of Parliament becoming the country's youngest Member of Parliament. Kenewendo is a trained trade and economic diplomacy professional.

### **5. Emma González**

In the United States, mass shootings have become a tragedy that occurs all too often. Emma González, a survivor of the Stoneman Douglas High School shooting, one of the deadliest school shooting in the history of the United States, recognized the horror of that fact and sought to change the future with the help of other survivors.

González has become an outspoken gun-reform young leader in the world since the tragedy at Stoneman Douglas, having directly spoken to U.S. politicians about reform. She even spoke at the March for Our Lives rally in 2018 to mass audiences on the subject of school shootings.

#### **6. Runcie Chidebe, CEO, Project PINK BLUE**

ing lives of cancer patients and putting smiles on their faces through the project he founded, Project PINK BLUE. Since 2013, Chidebe has been at the forefront, campaigning for cancer patients in Nigeria, sourcing for funds and calling for reforms in cancer treatment in Nigeria.

He is changing the narrative of saving cancer patients and engaging the government and other stakeholders in establishing a National Agency on Cancer Control to assist cancer victims in the country.

#### **7. Henry Obinugwu, Founder, VNTS**

Henry is a Tech Entrepreneur with broad interests in Hardware or Software Product Ideation, Design, Development and Manufacturing. Henry founded VNTS as a product development company invested in the ideation, development and production of original hardware products and the accompanying platforms supporting the devices. It is an indigenous organization founded on the premise that Africa is capable of manufacturing intelligent and innovative products tailored to solving Africa's peculiar tech needs.

#### **8. Iyinoluwa Abodeji**

His plans for Nigeria's tech scene crystallised in 2014 when he combined forces with his old friend Jeremy Johnson, to establish Lagos-based talent accelerator Andela, which recruits and trains software developers and connects them with employers. So far, Andela has trained more than 200 engineers since 2016. It also runs another campus in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya.

In 2016, the start-up raised \$24 million in funding from Facebook founder Zuckerberg. That same year, after helping to build the company to over \$100 million market cap in two years, Iyinoluwa left Andela to start Flutterwave, a provider of technology and infrastructure solutions for digital payments across Africa. Today, the company processes over \$760 million through 7.5 million transactions for merchants in partnership with financial institutions.

#### **9. Mark Elliot Zuckerberg**

A social media magnate, internet entrepreneur, and philanthropist. He is known for co-founding the social media website Facebook and its parent company Meta Platforms, of which he is the chairman, chief executive officer, and controlling shareholder

You can be a world youth leader of influence by identifying your goals, working towards them, borrowing a leaf from the attributes of present world youth leaders and doing so many other valuable things related to achieving your goals in life. Make the world a better place with your abilities today!!!

Source for names of world youth leaders

- Wikipedia

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