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TEST: Are you using PBL in your summer program?

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"Nobody's telling you that you can't start a business because you're 12. This is just the beginning for everybody in this Young Sharks project. You now have the opportunity to take the next step, and the next, and the next. Keep your idea alive by taking small steps."

Sonia Toledo, Founder of Dignity of Children

Hey Sonia,

Lately our country, and therefore our youth, are facing challenges we've never seen before.

Contemporary issues such as international relations, food supply, and climate change are constant sources of surprise, and also of **opportunity**. They offer youth the chance **to be creative and find effective solutions for challenging world issues**.

The success skills needed to respond to our ever-changing world are evolving. Critical thinking, problem-solving, and self-directed learning—once considered extracurricular—are now foundational to student success as well as college and career readiness.

Project-based learning (PBL) is a pedagogy that allows youth to identify a problem, design a solution, and test the result. During PBL projects, children are able to act and learn out of their own curiosity and direct their own learning experience. Through this process, learning becomes personal. Skill development and information retention are heightened. And, children develop a love of learning because they are making a difference in what matters to them.

Our **Young Sharks program** teaches youth how to take a social cause in which they are personally invested and turn it into a business (in only 10 weeks!). Sonia Toledo writes about the Young Sharks experience in this week's blog.

[Read more](#)

Upcoming Events!



Don't miss out! There are only a few spaces left in our **NYS School Age Credential for Aspiring Leaders** program beginning **September 4**. Register now to reserve your spot.

Register Now!



Associates Dignity

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