



Young Reporters

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Promoting young voices positively since 2012

A DECADE OF DELIVERING FRESH PERSPECTIVES

Lasting Memories from previous Young Reporters

Olivia - Primary School Teacher (YR in 2015)

Well, where do I begin? If I really think about it, Young Reporters is where so many things really started for me. Young reporters allowed me to really cultivate the creative energy I had from being a child and young teen, and allowed me to produce something I was truly proud of. It gave me the freedom of expression to talk about things that really mattered to me, including articles about the importance of mental health that became particularly cathartic for me. Young Reporters gave me the opportunity to talk to like-minded people, sharing ideas and criticism, which developed my eye for good literature both in others and myself.

Billy - Assistant at the National Waterways Museum (YR in 2013)

I was recently delighted to hear that Young Reporters is celebrating its first decade; but also a little perplexed, as it doesn't seem five minutes since I was going into a newsagents and seeing my name in print for the very first time. These days I can be found as part of the team at the National Waterways Museum in Ellesmere Port, a job that I absolutely adore going into every morning. Despite changing direction to a career orientated around museums rather than journalism, I still use the skills and experience I gained from Young Reporters on a daily basis.

Ruby - History and Sociology Student (YR in 2020)

Young reporters provided a great environment for looking at our pieces of work and engaging with other young people about the ideas we had. Even when the pandemic hit and sessions weren't available in person we still got to engage online. Young Reporters had impacted my life now, giving me more confidence in my written work and in sharing my ideas and now I feel more able to join writing societies here at university such as the university newspaper.

Beth - Health and Social Care Student (YR in 2018)

Through Young Reporters, I've made friends for life. Allowing us to have casual conversations, as well as topical ones about our articles meant we would talk about our hobbies and form friendships. I've also learned skills and figured out my dream career which is also working with children. Watching originally Pippa and Jenny, whom were so interested and supportive about getting young people's opinions and voices heard, inspired me. Pippa and Jenny, whom were so interested and supportive about getting young people's opinions and voices heard, inspired me.

Morgan - Secondary School English Teacher (YR in 2014)

I joined the Young Reporters in December 2013 as my first step into writing publicly. It instantly struck me as an exciting opportunity to develop my passion for writing whilst being able to express my own thoughts about topics which I felt strongly about. I was quiet and nervous about stepping into the unknown, but all of the team at Young Reporters, staff and fellow writers alike, were so friendly, welcoming and supportive, which is an enduring memory for me. I now work as an English teacher in a secondary school, and I work to pass on the skills I learnt with Young Reporters to my students.

Holly - Media and Communications Officer (YR in 2014)

Because the group was so close and trusting it was a really good experience to be able to get honest feedback on your work and develop more as a writer. I went on to journalism at university and work in media and communications. When I first joined I wanted to be a novelist but Young Reporters helped me discover a different type of writing that I was able to make a career out of.

Louise (YR in 2012)

Young reporters gave me an opportunity to write, my disability means I have no speech, so I see writing a way to express myself and having anxiety and emotional issues, I find writing is my strength and I find expressing my feelings easier through writing because I can take time to think. Before young reporters I loved writing so this opportunity gave me a chance to do what I enjoy and getting my thoughts published was fantastic! I'm now a 28 year old girl who loves life, spending time with my family and my best friend!

Grace (YR in 2020)

There are genuinely no words, which is ironic considering I have written a total of nearly 25,700 word articles for the paper, so having no words is unusual for a budding writer like me. But, over the past 2 years now I have been lucky enough to be apart of the young reporters programme. I began during the first lockdown, when I can admit, I was in a very difficult time in my life personally. Throughout the 3 or more lockdowns I wrote about topics which were never talked about, topics which needed more awareness and topics which were close to my heart. I got the opportunity to use my brain for something which soon became the biggest passion in my life, and my biggest therapy. I have had so much feedback on my articles from teachers, friends, family, strangers, friends of family and even the radio! I have been able to use this programme for my own therapy but also for helping others so that they are able to feel a sense of relief that somebody their age, or just somebody in the area relates to what they are going through.



For more information on how you can get involved in Young Reporters, please visit vanel.org.uk/young-reporters-application-form/