

Ms. Ananya Murali (USA)

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I live in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in the United States. My birthplace is India; however, I have lived in the US for most of my life. This fall, I will be in 11th grade at Shorewood High School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. I studied in Montana until the 2nd grade, and then studied in Wisconsin for the remainder of my primary and secondary education. I am an executive member of the Teen Advisory Board at the Shorewood Public Library and a co-founder of an afterschool chess program for elementary school children. I also run my own homework help program. I am the website editor and manager of my school newspaper, one of the Student Council Representatives for my class, a Varsity member of my chess club, a member of the Model UN team, and the vice-president for the Science Club. Additionally, I play violin, piano, chess, and varsity tennis. I am currently an ambassador for the Girl Scouts of Wisconsin Southeast and have been a part of the Youth Leadership Council.

Furthermore, at the age of 14, I received the National Young Women of Distinction Award for creating stoplight countdown signals for the crosswalk near our elementary school to make traveling to school safer for children. When I was 15, I participated in the International Sustainable World (Energy, Engineering, Environment) Project Olympiad (ISWEEEP) in Houston, Texas and received a bronze medal for my project. I also received the Freshman Award for my outstanding academic performance and well-roundedness. I was also selected to perform in the Middle Levels Honors Orchestra in 2012, and will be performing in the High School Honors Orchestra this fall. I recently was awarded the Exemplary Soloist Award for my outstanding piano performance at the state level, and additionally performed at Carnegie Hall with my school Chamber Orchestra. I am an ambassador for the Susan Polgar Foundation and have attended her prestigious chess camp for the past 3 summers. I am also a Youth Peace Ambassador, and plan on conducting peace camps for middle school girls for my Action Plan.