

**YOUTH PEACE COMMITTEE TAKES ON THE NEW YEAR**  
**MAIYA MURPHY**  
**NEWLY APPOINTED YOUTH PEACE COMMITTEE COORDINATOR**

I am so excited to join the Youth Peace Committee (YPC) in taking its activities into this new century. My interest in YPC was sparked earlier this year when I joined it in New York City. I was stunned by how the YPC takes Buddhism into the community and translates its philosophy into concrete programs such as Victory Over Violence.

The YPC members inspired and challenged me, forging a strong resolution that the YPC is the vehicle to carry the SGI-USA into the future. Throughout this year, I look forward to helping every major city develop their own YPC to address the needs of their community, and on a global scale, to create an international coalition of friendship and cooperation.

I am determined to help the YPC maintain its dedication to carrying out SGI President Ikeda's vision and spreading his spirit beyond all barriers of culture, race and religion. The YPC will function as a group of President Ikeda's disciples who take YPC programs into everyday society and expand SGI-USA's global community of friends.