

RADIANT STARS

Getting to know kids who shine

Connect with kids around the world! How are they like you? How are they different? Each of us has a unique story to tell. What's yours?

Bayan B.

Age: 10

I live in: **California, U.S.**

I want to be: **Doctor (radiologist)**

This career interests me because: **I can use technology to help sick people.**

Favorite Bahá'í activities: **Junior youth service projects**

Three qualities of a happy community: **Members are considerate of each other. Everyone feels included. It's ... clean and beautiful ...**



A hero or role model: **'Abdu'l-Bahá**

Place I'd love to visit: **Antarctica**

To make a new kid feel welcome, I'd: **"Look 'em in the eye and say 'Hi!'" (just like Red Grammer says)* and then ask them to come play**

To stop prejudice and build unity, kids can: **Listen to what's happening in the world and try to put yourself in someone else's shoes.**

If I could invent an ice cream flavor to encourage unity, it would be: **U.I.T.C. (Unity in the Community). It comes in a two-pack to share. If you both agree on the flavor, it would be that flavor. If not, it would be a terrible flavor.**

Sasha M.

Age: 13

I live in: **San José, Costa Rica**

I want to be: **Artist or pilot**

This career interests me because: **I love art, I love drawing, and I also love airplanes.**

Virtue I admire most: **Honesty**

Favorite Bahá'í activities: **Participating in my junior youth groups**

Three qualities of a happy community: **Mutual trust, acceptance, unity**

To make a new kid feel welcome, I'd: **Sit next to him or her, ask questions ... [and] introduce my friends**



A hero or role model: **Malala Yousafzai**

To build family unity: **When I tell people my opinions, I try not to offend them ...**

To stop prejudice and build unity, kids can: **I think ignorance is the source of prejudice. Maybe if people were more educated about other people's views and made an effort to get to know people of all cultures ... there would be more understanding.**



Roya S.

Age: 12

I live in: **New York, U.S.**

I want to be: **Interior designer or professional swimmer**

This career interests me because: **I love designing creative things and I love swimming.**

Virtue I admire most: **Patience**

Favorite animal or pet: **Bunnies**

Place I'd love to visit: **Paris, France**

Favorite books: **Harry Potter series**

Favorite Bahá'í activities: **Junior youth [group] and summer school**

A favorite food: **Adas Polo [Persian rice with lentils]**

Three qualities of a happy community: **Unity, generosity, and friendliness**

An activity that created unity and joy: **School plays ... my friends did it with me, and we had a lot of fun.**

To build family unity: **I'm kind.**

To make a new kid feel welcome, I'd: **Invite them to come hang out with me**

To stop prejudice and build unity, kids can: **Teach others**

Ryan P.

Age: 10

I live in: **Pennsylvania, U.S.**

I want to be: **Author, actor**

This career interests me because:

I like acting . . . and I like writing and drawing and reading books.

Virtue I admire most: **Loyalty**

Favorite Bahá'í activities: **Pilgrimage**

Place I'd love to visit: **Iran**

A hero or role model: **My dad**

To make a new kid feel welcome, I'd: **Show them around, [be] kind to them, invite them to play . . .**

An activity that created unity and joy: **Every year, my whole school has a cancer donation, and the people who have cancer will be happy [to] . . . see that people care.**

If I could invent an ice cream flavor to encourage unity, it would be: **I would make a flavor called "Kindness" . . . strawberry mixed with vanilla and Pop Rocks . . . [It] would give a loving and warm feeling.**



Zaynab A.

Age: 10

I live in: **Maryland, U.S.**

I want to be: **A teacher or a librarian**

This career interests me because:

I love learning and I love reading books.

Virtue I admire most: **Honesty**

Favorite Bahá'í activities: **Catocin Ecology Camp [in Maryland] and Ayyám-i-Há* . . .**

Place I'd love to visit: **Japan**

A hero or role model: **My third grade teacher, Mrs. Lee**

Three qualities of a happy community: **Kindness, responsibility, and respect**

An activity that created unity and joy: **We chose items to donate to refugees as part of a service project after a devotional gathering.**

To stop prejudice and build unity, kids can: **Work together and respect each other**

If I could invent an ice cream flavor to encourage unity, it would be: **Rainbow of Unity. It would taste like your top three favorite flavors.**



"God has crowned you with honor and in your hearts has He set a radiant star; verily the light thereof shall brighten the whole world!" — 'Abdu'l-Bahá

Amina G.

Age: 11

I live in: **Illinois, U.S.**

I want to be: **Singer/actress**

This career interests me because:

I really love to sing and want to keep singing in the future.

Virtue I admire most: **Trust**

Favorite Bahá'í activities: **Singing our prayers**

Favorite animal or pet: **Animal is zebra, pet is cat**

Place I'd love to visit: **Mexico**

Three qualities of a happy community: **Unity, trust, and cooperation**

To build family unity, I: **Do talking sessions [with my family] so we can all tell each other how we feel**



A hero or role model: **My dad. He has a million things to do but still has time to be with me and pick me up [or] drop me off at places.**

To stop prejudice and build unity, kids can: **We all come from different backgrounds, and with that we can tell our community to come and meet the others halfway.**

If I could invent an ice cream flavor to encourage unity, it would be: **DIVERSE is what I'd call it. It would taste like all of the ice cream flavors/textures mixed together.**

How to be a Radiant Star:

1. If you're age 7-14, go to www.brilliantstarmagazine.org. From the top menu, choose "Discover." Then click "Become a Radiant Star or Trailblazer," and fill out the form. Or e-mail us at brilliant@usbnc.org. Include your name, age, birth date, mailing address, and phone number.
2. When it's your turn to shine, we'll send you questions and a form for you and your parents to sign.
3. Answer the questions and send them to us with the signed form, along with at least two good-quality, close-up photographs of your smiling face. Photos should be in sharp focus and show your eyes clearly. Please don't send color copies, low-resolution digital images, or copyright-protected images (like school portraits).

* Ayyám-i-Há is a festival of hospitality, charity, gift giving, and preparing for the Bahá'í Fast.