

Arielle Rose Kouyoumdjian

Executive Director of the [Changing Planet Justice Foundation](#), award-winning podcaster, YR Media National Board Member

Education

- May 2025, The Potomac School, HS Diploma
- July, 2023 Tufts University, Climate Resilience Institute: Investigated interdisciplinary case-studies of the social, ecological, and political facets of contemporary environmental issues. Supervised by Dr. Nicholas Dorian.
- July 2022 Columbia University Climate School, selective summer workshop intensive
- June 30-July 7, 2024 Student Climate & Conservation Congress (Sc3) U.S. Green Schools Fellow Program: National Conservation Training Center of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Awarded full scholarship by the Potomac School Administration
- 2022 National Student Leadership Conference: journalism summer program, American University

Climate Justice Work Experience and Recognition

2023-present: Founder and Executive Director of the Changing Planet Justice Foundation (CPJ): empowering global youth to share their climate narratives, attain leadership certification, and inspire action within their communities

- Develop toolkits and activity options for ages 5 through 18
- Offer workshops on leadership certification
- Solicit and review submissions for the CPJ blog
- deliver presentations about environmental impacts on vulnerable populations to schools and community centers
- Work with Board Members to identify areas of need and outreach
- Produce monthly award-winning podcast interviewing environmental leaders and shedding light on environmental issues that affect marginalized communities globally
- Partner with Fairfax County 4-H on outreach, awarded HEART recognition

2024-present Collaboration with Department of Energy/Clean Energy Ministerial Equality Initiative and Empowering People Initiative

- Featured in Clean Energy Ministerial Publication (date)
- Consult on expansion of youth outreach efforts with Martha Kamara (U.S. Department of Energy in the International Affairs Office of Multilateral Clean Energy and Climate Engagement)

2023 Profiled in Capgemini Conversations For Tomorrow, a publication featuring internationally recognized sustainability leaders and Nobel Laureates: [PDF Link](#); CapGemini Research Institute podcast interview

<https://www.capgemini.com/be-en/insights/research-library/discussion-with-arielle-kouyoumdjian/>

2023-24 Co-curate Visions of Resilience: Art for Climate Justice exhibit at Del Ray Artisans

- Raise funds for CPJ through in person and virtual presentations
- Develop and present webinar for community members on climate justice
- Collect and record artists' statements about climate change, pair them with artwork, and produce audio/video montage for Del Ray Artisans youtube channel

2023 “Chairman’s Champion” Fairfax County Board of Supervisors 3rd quarter: recognized as “a champion in equity and climate change within our community”

2024 WTOP News broadcast feature and online article about the Changing Planet Justice Foundation

[How a Northern Virginia teen is spreading the word around climate change with art - WTOP News](#)

2023-present President, Students for Environmental Action, Potomac school

- Develop and lead club activities: 2-4 hours/week, year round
- Successfully lobbied administration to add an AP-level Environmental Science course to school curriculum
- Present climate justice information to school-wide assemblies throughout the year to engage students and faculty in environmental awareness
- Interview students on their climate perspectives and deliver presentation using scientific data to dispel misinformation
- Lead school and community-wide fundraiser to support the High Atlas Foundation in Morocco following the 2023 earthquake
- Led successful campaign to remove disposable items in cafeteria

Member of the League of Conservation Voters, Virginia

CLIMATE JUSTICE RESEARCH

2024-present: investigate and write research paper on the overlap between redlining, food insecurity, and climate vulnerability in urban areas; examination of urban food forests as a potential solution, submitting for publication, Supervised by Professor Jason Rhodes, Kennesaw State University

JOURNALISM

2019-present Producer: Changing Planet Justice Podcast, 2019-present
(<https://changingplanetjustice.podbean.com>)

2023-present Youth Radio Media National Youth Advisory Board Member: Meet monthly to discuss approaches to expanding media outreach to youth; provide feedback on environmental justice curriculum; Write articles on climate justice

2023-present Executive Editor of *The Green Gazette*, monthly publication at Potomac School Identify relevant topics for each issue: Write introductory article and interview key stakeholders; Solicit writing and artwork from students; Create layout; Disseminate to students and alumni

2022-23 Managing Editor, 2021-2022 Multimedia editor The Current Student Newspaper

Journalism Awards and Publications

2024 Virginia Professional Communicators Statewide Contest (for all professional journalists in the state, not just students):

- 2nd Place for Web and Social Media: Nonprofit, government or educational: Changing Planet Justice Foundation
- Honorable Mention: Web and Social Media: The Changing Planet Justice Podcast

2024 Scholastic Writing Awards:

- “The Rights of Earth and Citizen” Poetry Silver Key
- “Wings” Personal Essay & Memoir, Silver Key
- Tales from A Changing Planet, Journalism Honorable Mention
- Resistance and Oppression in Yaa Gyasi's Novel; "Homegoing", Critical Essay, “Silver Key”
- “Nowhere Left to Roam,” Journalism Silver Key

2023 Bow Seat Ocean Awareness International Contest: Senior Winner for Interactive and Multimedia (“Unsung Climate Hero: Wisdom from a Berber High Atlas Mountain Guide”)

2023 Youth Journalism International Contest: First Place for Multimedia Features: [“Finding A Home In Music”](#); and [“Bears Ears National Monument, Climate Change, and Tribal Sovereignty”](#); 2022 (Additional Honorable mentions for profile, and personal-narrative)

2023 Scholastic Writing Awards

- Gold Key (Journalism) “Competitive High School Confronts Controversy Surrounding New Admissions Process” (publication?)
- Scholastic Writing Awards Gold Key (Journalism) “Milad's Tale In His Own Words: From Afghanistan To Potomac”

2023 Youth Journalism International

- First Place for Multimedia Feature Story [Bears Ears National Monument, Tribal Sovereignty, And Climate Change](#)
- YJI Featured Profile; [Interview with Patty Glick, Senior Scientist for Climate Adaptation with the National Wildlife Federation](#)

2023 Journal Publications

- Curieux Journal [Capitalism, The Industrial Revolution, and The Patriarchy](#)
- “Teen Ink” [Sappho: Rhapsody, but Not Rebellion](#)
- "Turning the Page" Anthology, "Origins" poem, juried journal by Writopia

2022 [Best of School Newspapers Online \(SNO\) Award](#): “Milad’s tale in his own words: From Afghanistan to Potomac”

2021 Boston Globe/Boston University Grand Prize winner and full scholarship for summer Journalism seminar

2021 First Place, Global Youth and News Media Teen Reporting- Climate Champions World Teenage Reporting Contest: Podcast Episode: [An Interview With The Communications Coordinator for The National Park Service Climate Change Response Initiative](#)

2021 **NYTimes Student Podcast Contest, First Place**: [“Is This Green Space Too White?”](#)

2020-21 Youth Journalism International Committee, selected as one of 30 out of a pool of over 1000; weekly meetings and written contributions (until group hiatus initiated by organizer)

Community Service

2022-present Potomac School Community Service Liaison

- Develop annual earth day Infographic on food insecurity and climate justice, including a list of local resource organizations
- Lead climate-friendly activities with kindergarten and first grade.
- Consult with elementary teachers and administrators on environmental activities for young children
- Lead sandwich day efforts to support community members who are unhoused

2022-present Fairfax Community Based Organization for Homelessness, Hunger and Poverty) (FACETS)

Children's Programs and food Distribution Volunteer

2014-present 4-H member: community education, serve as club Treasurer, show livestock and apiary products at fair, received Governor's Award for service, as well HEART awards and Grand Champion Fair awards