



The Princeton Club of Rochester

Kidest Yigezu
Senior, Arcadia High School

Whether attending diversity classes, conferences and ROC2Change, mobilizing her peers as president of Arcadia's MOSAICS club, or teaching area youth, Kidest is employing sweeping, multi-generational activism to improve race relations at home and across the country. Her impressive and extensive list of activities read like that of a full time advocate for change.

Kidest's work has taken her to major cities across the Northeast. She was chosen by the Greece Public Library to travel to Washington DC to participate in the Inclusive Internship Initiative (III). Following this experience, Kidest founded the Delegates of Change group, or DC, a program that brought together teens at the public library and through social media platforms to learn from each other. She then presented the results of her work in Chicago. This year, she travels to New York City to host a panel discussion for the Technical Assistance Center on Disproportionality Summer Institute. Not one to leave her classmates out, Kidest is laying the groundwork for a future field trip for the MOSAICS club to New York City or Washington DC.

At Arcadia, through MOSAICS, Kidest has sat on panels addressing teachers about racial discrimination, and she is now leading the club at the middle school, where she is teaching students about the challenges of racial diversity and promoting dialogue. She has attended three of Nazareth College's Global Citizenship Conferences and served as a "student on special assignment" in a Nazareth graduate level "Adolescents and Social Justice" Senior Seminar to bring perspective and voice to students in the course. She has volunteered at race relations events at St. John Fisher College and Brockport High School. She is an advocate for the Black Lives Matter Movement, and uses Black History Month to further educate her peers at both a school and district level. The activities that Kidest has immersed herself in to end racial bias goes on and on.

Sally Brothers, MOSAICS class instructor and mentor says Kidest's passion knows no boundaries:

"What impresses me most about Kidest is that she spends time working for social justice and racial equality both in school and in the community. She is constantly pushing herself to learn more and to do more in order to bring positive change great and small to her life and communities."

Kidest, you have set the bar incredibly high for those who follow you, and you are an

amazing example of “the power of one!”