

The Portraits of Resilience photography project is part of the Many Strong Voices Programme. It illustrates the human dimension of climate change through the words and photographs of children in seven Arctic communities: Shishmaref, Alaska, USA; Uummannaq, Greenland; Unjárga, Norway; Pangnirtung, Nunavut, Canada; and Enmelen, Sireniki, Novo Chaplino, Russia.

The goal of the project is to give these young people a voice in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP) negotiations – and to put a youthful, human face on climate change in the Arctic. The main message in this work is that Arctic peoples are not helpless victims of climate change. If anything, this exhibition shows that youth have a profound sense of place and a strong desire to see their cultures and communities survive and thrive.



Portraits of Resilience is led by Christine Germano, an acclaimed professional photographer with extensive experience documenting human and environment interactions and mentoring Indigenous youth in many community art projects. Through this project, the students have written essays, learned to take photographs, and worked hard to show their communities to the outside world. Some of their writing focuses on the present, some on the future. Many Strong Voices is coordinated by GRID-Arendal in Norway and the University College London. It bridges the farthest reaches of the Earth to bring together the peoples of the Arctic and Small Island Developing States to work on climate change adaptation and mitigation.

*Many Strong Voices would like to thank the following for their support and encouragement and for providing a place for the photos and voices of Arctic youth to be seen and heard:*

- National Museum of Denmark, December 2009 (COP15)
- Várjjat Sámi Musea, Unjárga, Norway, December 2009
- Norwegian Museum of Cultural History, Oslo, February 2010
- Canada's Northern House, Vancouver 2010 Olympics
- Chicago Field Museum, Chicago, USA September 2010 - March 2011
- Fiji Museum, Suva, Fiji, August - September 2011
- Durban Natural Science Museum, South Africa, November 2011 - June 2012 (COP17)
- Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, Washington, DC, October 2012
- Ethnographic Museum, Warsaw, Poland, November - December 2013 (COP19)
- Vancouver Aquarium, Vancouver January - February 2016.

*We are also grateful to the following organizations for their assistance and support:*

