



STUDENT VOICES PROJECT

8th Annual

PROMPT
What have you learned about yourself and your community in the past year?

Calling all middle school and high school students

We welcome submissions from all students (Quaker and non-Quaker) at Friends schools and also Quaker students in other educational venues, such as public schools and homeschooling.

2020–2021 THEME: LEARNING FROM 2020

It's been quite a year since the coronavirus pandemic turned the world upside down. In March 2020, everything about daily living seemed to change or shut down, including schools and meetinghouses. From remote learning and virtual worship services to Black Lives Matter protests and racial justice work to the worsening climate crisis and divisive U.S. politics, there's a lot to process on a daily basis. Meanwhile, we're staying home more, being more intentional about connecting with others (thank you, technology), recommitting to our faith communities in new ways, and generally missing the relative ease of life before this whole mess started. Let's write about it.

Advices and queries to consider:

- **What has it been like for you and your family experiencing this pandemic?** Write about something that happened that stands out to you; it could be funny, or sad, or totally weird, or just describe how your daily life has changed.
- **How are you staying connected to your faith community while many meetinghouses and churches remain closed?** Have you participated in virtual worship services? Write about what's different and what has stayed the same.
- **How have recent events and protests influenced your views on and actions for racial justice?** Share your observations or involvement in how your school, meeting, or faith community has responded.

Submission Guidelines

- One submission per student.
- Must have an original title, and it must be typed.
- Word count: between 300 and 1,500 words.
- Submit individual entries via Submittable (link at Friendsjournal.org/studentvoices).
- Deadline: February 15, 2021.

New this year! Join a virtual writing workshop co-hosted by Friends General Conference in December with *FJ*'s associate editor, Gail Whiffen. More details on the website.

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IN
FRIENDS JOURNAL

A selection of the submissions will be featured in the May 2021 issue, reaching thousands of readers living on every continent. Honorees will also receive a free one-year digital subscription and will be recognized by Friends Council on Education for their work.

Friendsjournal.org/studentvoices