

### United Nations Association - National Capital Area Global Classrooms® D.C. Live, Learn, Lead.

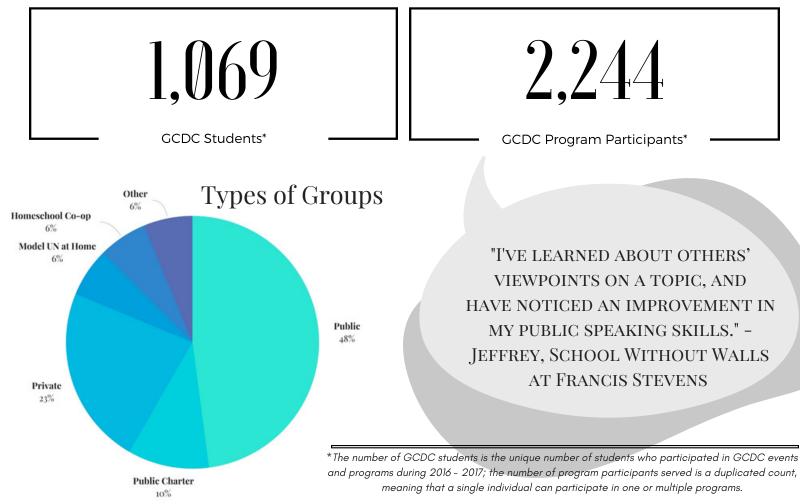
PANAMA

GLOBAL CLASSROOMS DC (GCDC) IS THE FLAGSHIP EDUCATION PROGRAM OF THE UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA (UNA-NCA)

## **OVERVIEW OF GCDC**



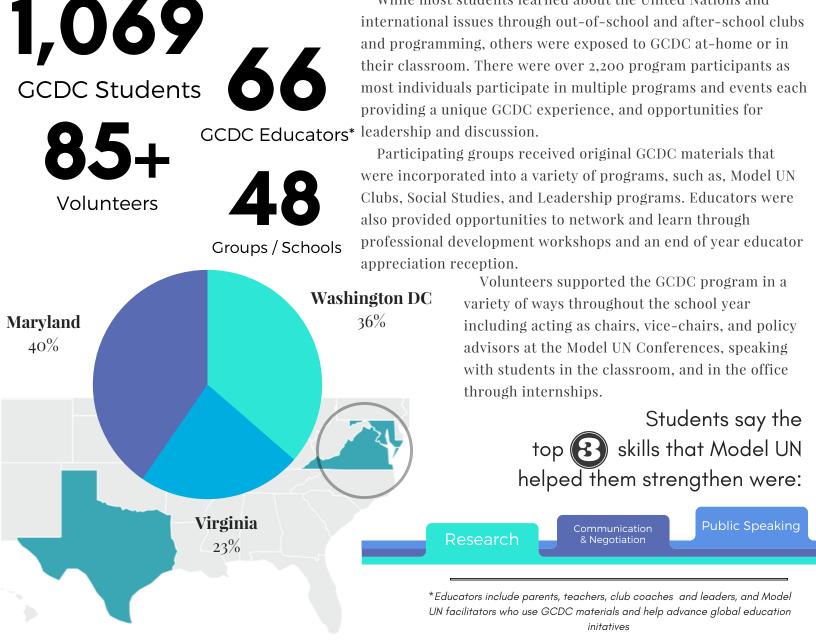
In 2016 – 2017, students discussed and learned about some of the most pressing issues facing global and local communities. These topics included the situation in Somalia, access to primary education in the African Union, and human rights of refugees. Students discussed these issues through year-round GCDC programming, two Model UN Conferences, and mentorship and speaking opportunities through Luis F. Mendez, U.S. Foreign Service Officer. Students also practiced and improved important 21st Century skills, including writing, reading, researching, critical thinking, and negotiation to help develop college-ready global citizens.



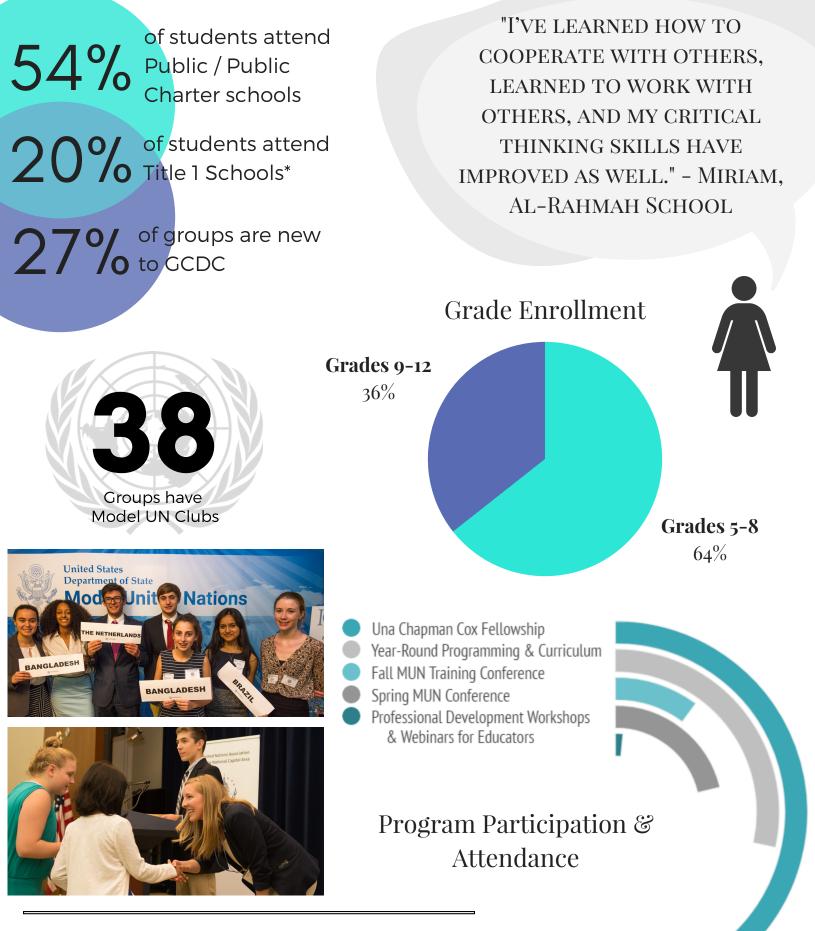
## WHO WE SERVE



While most students learned about the United Nations and



## WHO WE SERVE



\* Title 1 : The U.S. Department of Education provides supplemental funding to local school districts to meet the needs of at-risk and low-income students (Bright Hub Education, 2015)

## LUIS F. MENDEZ

U.S. FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER UNA CHAPMAN COX FELLOW



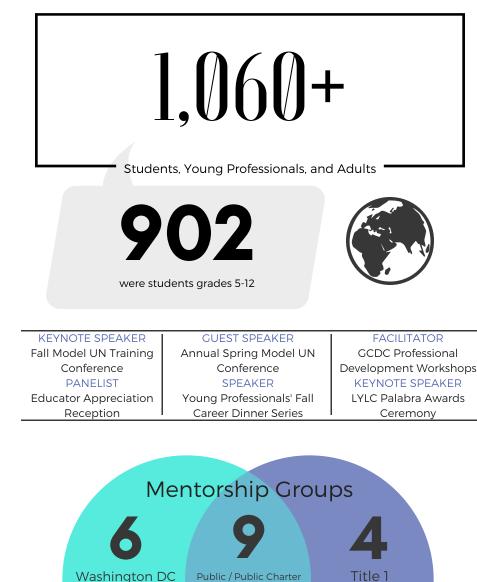
UNA-NCA had the privilege of welcoming Luis to the GCDC team for 2016 - 2017 as part of the Una Chapman Cox Foundation Sabbatical Leave Fellowship Program. Throughout the school year, his goal was to introduce underserved students to the U.S. Department of State's work, and strengthen negotiation, leadership, writing, and researching skills through Model UN and GCDC programming.

After sharing his journey from an underprivileged student to a U.S. diplomat with over 20 schools and more than 900 middle and high school students, Luis honed in on nine schools that he identified as having the greatest potential for change.

Drawing from GCDC resources and his 11 years as a Foreign Service Officer, he led sessions engaging and mentoring more than 100 students over nine months focused on writing, negotiations, and public speaking as well as Model UN simulations designed to tackle complex international issues.

He also recruited State Department experts on child soldiers, climate change, displacement, and counterterrorism to speak to his students about the role of U.S. diplomacy and the United Nations. Luis spoke to Young Professionals, students, and adults on over 80 occasions throughout the school year.

Thank you to Luis and the Una Chapman Cox Foundation for the support you provided to GCDC students and UNA-NCA this year!



# CONFERENCES & Events

## Fall Model UN Training Conference



### November 18, 2016

GCDC's **Fall Model UN Training Conference & Professional Development Workshop** took place at the **Pan American Health Ogranization (PAHO)**. Keynote speaker, Luis F. Mendez, U.S. Foreign Service Officer and Una Chapman Cox Fellow, addressed 195 students prior to their discussions on

Access to Primary Education. In the afternoon, Director of Global Education, Megan Penn, Luis, and GCDC Program Assistant Bradley Wiggins ran a professional development workshop for GCDC educators. Along with learning Model UN Rules of Procedure, sharing tips and tricks for teaching Model UN, educators participated in their very own minisimulation to learn what it is like to be a delegate.

The Fall Model UN Training Conference is designed for groups who are new to GCDC programming and Model UN, and those who are interested in an hands-on approach and deep-dive to learning Model UN.

## Educator Appreciation Reception



### May 24, 2017

Over 30 educators and guests gathered at the **United Nations Foundation** to celebrate the work of educators, including teachers, parents, and Model UN advisors. Attendees enjoyed a panel discussing **Global Educators in the 21st Century**, especially how educators can promote international

perspectives for their students. Megan Penn, UNA-NCA Director of Global Education, moderated the panel with Amy Trenkle, an eighth grade teacher at Alice Deal Middle School in Washington DC, and Luis Mendez, a U.S. Foreign Service Officer and Una Chapman Cox fellow as panelists. The discussion and event also sparked curiosity in new teachers interested in learning more about Global Classrooms DC, and all guests were offered free UNA-NCA membership and a ticket for raffle prizes donated by UNA-NCA's new partner Culturfied Foundation.



# ANNUAL SPRING MODEL UN CONFERENCE

### May 2, 2017

Pan American Health Organization World Health Organization KENK CHECKEN

UNA-NCA had the pleasure of welcoming nearly 700 students, educators, parents, volunteers, and guests to the GCDC Annual Spring Model United Nations Conference, hosted at the U.S. Department of State and PAHO.

Students from 5th to 12th grade came from nearly 40 schools and groups mainly in the Washington DC metro area, but also Texas.

#### What did we talk about?

Rising Sea Levels The Situation in Somalia Human Rights of Refugees Access to Primary Education Technology for Sustainable City Development

U.S. Secretary of State Rex W. Tillerson addressed the audience highlighting the importance of U.S. participation in the international community, and noted that the most important leadership quality is personal integrity. In the event program, Secretary Tillerson wrote, "your sessions today will "IT'S SHOCKING THAT SOME OF THESE ISSUES ARE NOT COVERED BY THE MEDIA SO THE MODEL UN DEFINITELY BROADENED MY WORLDVIEW." – STUDENT FROM BISHOP IRETON HIGH SCHOOL





undoubtedly challenge you in ways that American diplomats are challenged every day. We have some tough issues facing the world, and it takes fine-tuned skills in negotiation and public speaking to make progress..." Conference keynote speaker Nicol Perez, the US Youth Observer to the UN, encouraged students to get involved in international affairs and not be afraid to speak up and ensure their voices are heard. Additional opening ceremony speakers included Ambassador Donald T. Bliss (retired), Megan Penn, Luis F. Mendez, and Student Secretary-General Steve Mirabello. The closing ceremonies featured Acquania G. Escarne, Recruitment and Outreach Officer at the U.S. Department of State, who drew attention to State Department programs available to students. Conference sponsors included UNFCU, Culturfied Foundation, O'Melveny & Myers LLP, AirSchott, and the National Education Association.

## GLOBAL CLASSROOMS DC

THANK YOU

#### **Global Classrooms DC**

Megan Penn, Director of Global Education Luis F. Mendez, Una Chapman Cox Fellow Nicole Bohannon, Program Manager Bianca Cunha, Program Assistant Eleanor Hume, Program Assistant Adarsh Mahesh, Program Assistant Bradley Wiggins, Program Assistant Juliana Blayney, Youth Intern Madee Sadozai, Youth Intern

#### **Program Volunteers**

Georgetown University George Mason University The George Washington University Howard University Old Dominion University Trinity Washington University UNA-Georgetown UNA-NCA Advisory Council UNA-NCA Advisory Council UNA-NCA Board of Directors UNA-NCA Graduate Fellows UNA-NCA Young Professionals U.S. Department of State





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