



GLOBAL  
CENTRE FOR  
PLURALISM

CENTRE  
MONDIAL DU  
PLURALISME

GLOBAL  
PLURALISM AWARD

PRIX MONDIAL  
DU PLURALISME

## Rapporteur Final Assignment

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As a Youth Rapporteur, I am thrilled to be involved in a remarkable series of inaugural events. The Global Pluralism Award recognises individuals, organisations or governments who actively engage in pluralism through their work. Today, Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, His Highness the Aga Khan and the Right Honourable Beverley McLachlin will bestow the award to three winners and seven honourable mentions in an inaugural ceremony in Ottawa.

Now, you might be asking how I got involved since I am starting out my career. Combined with Award week is the [Global Pluralism Award Rapporteur Program](#) which enables youth to engage with finalists. Designed to give local young professionals and youth a behind-the-scenes perspective, the rapporteur program allows percipients to shadow award finalist for the week and understand how each finalist embodies pluralism in their work. I am fortunate to be selected as one of ten rapporteurs for the initial award cohort. We, as youth rapporteurs, will generate creative communication pieces throughout the week from our interactions and behind-the-scenes access. If you also want insider access, check-in during the week for our sneak-peeks into the events.

On day one, finalists flew in from all over the world, and there was a sense of excitement in the air. In the afternoon, the Global Center for Pluralism staff, the ten finalists and ten rapporteurs all met for the first time at the picturesque Delegation of the Ismaili Imam.

At the start, the other youth rapporteurs and I felt overwhelmed and even intimidated by the star power in the room. Monday's goal was to run through today's award ceremony and iron out any kinks. As a surprise to the youth rapporteurs, finalists were already eager to get to know the staff and us. One finalist confided in fellow rapporteur Lisa Hartman that Ottawa was too cold to handle and that they were surprised everyone loves it here in Canada. Another explained to me that he was excited to learn about the start-up and social impact ecosystem here in Canada. All you could hear was chatter throughout the magnificent atrium. The uneasy feelings we had at the start quickly evaporated. It was amazing to see how open the finalists were when talking about their experiences. Every person in the room was down to earth, warm and approachable.

Typically an afternoon of dry runs would be tiresome and downright boring. Today's dry run was surprisingly engaging and enjoyable. In fact, you could hear laughter throughout the process. I loved how the group chuckled every time Daniel Webb's teaser video played as a subtitle for all the videos throughout the program to be launched at the ceremony.

We are all looking forward to the inaugural Global Pluralism Award ceremony November 15<sup>th</sup> at 6PM EST. Watch the livestream [here](#) on Facebook!