

## Future Problem Solving Program International announces topic for International Conference 2020: Terraforming

*Student champs move on to international competition for critical and creative thinking*

March 1, 2020

Future Problem Solving Program International's (FPSPi) International Conference at University of Massachusetts Amherst will host over 2,200 problem solvers from around the globe from **June 3-7, 2020** during the annual event.

These 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students have displayed expertise in futuristic thinking and the creative problem solving process; qualifying competitions in their local area earned them a coveted invitation to the conference. Through its programs, FPSPi prepares these students to be tomorrow's leaders—ready to solve global problems.

**Global Issues** Problem Solving and **Scenario** competitors arrive equipped to tackle potential **terraforming** problems set in the near future. These teams and individuals must research all aspects of the topic to be prepared for competitive events where a futuristic scenario will be analyzed and addressed.

Details on the topic can be found at <https://www.fpspi.org/ic-topic/>

**Community** Problem Solving projects are a featured event showcasing projects spanning the past year. Student-driven projects, the participants identified a unique need in their community and designed a project to serve the identified concern. The Community Problem Solving Showcase is open to the public so that they can interact with these dynamic youth and learn about the change they enacted.

April Michele, Executive Director states her excitement about the program.

"On June 4<sup>th</sup>, when thousands of students enter the Opening Ceremony and I look out into the audience, I **know** that the future is in good hands. Despite current events detailing negativity around the world, these young leaders inspire us with their enthusiasm and creativity, ready to tackle the world's toughest problems," April said. "The collaboration and excitement they exhibit with others from around the globe models the hope for solving future problems in communities across the globe. Their energy is contagious. We are immensely proud of all the work these students, and their coaches and parents, perform throughout the year. The problems solvers of today will be the change makers for a better tomorrow!"

#problemsolved

### About Future Problem Solving Program International (FPSPi)

FPSPi, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established in 1974, has grown into an international academic program, challenging students to think creatively and futuristically. Since its inception, the program has grown to include students from 18 countries and 32 states in the US. Nearly 23,000 students officially participated in 2018-19, and hundreds of thousands participate each year as the program also reaches students involved non-competitively in classrooms or after school programs that use materials to enhance curriculum through critical and creative thinking.

### Contact

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