Stanford



Rania Zuri

Undergraduate, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education

Bio

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Rania Zuri is the founder and CEO of The LiTEArary Society, the world's largest youth-led nonprofit organization working to end book deserts for disadvantaged preschool children. To date, The LiTEArary Society has donated more than $1 million worth of brand new books to over 91,000 disadvantaged preschool children in all 50 states. The LiTEArary Society has partnerships and has received funding from Scholastic, Inc., Barnes & Noble, L'Oréal, Hershey's, Pilot Pens, and Starbucks.

For her work in early childhood literacy, she has been featured on Good Morning America, Forbes, NBC Nightly News with Lester Holt, The Today Show, The Kelly Clarkson Show (x2), CBS Evening News, NPR, Fox News, Teen Vogue, The Washington Post, NowThis, The Hill, People Magazine, and more.

She was named by Forbes as one of "Six Teens Making the World a Better Place" in 2022 and made the Forbes 30 under 30 list in 2024 as the youngest CEO on the entire list. In 2023, Rania received The Diana Award, one of the most prestigious international accolades a young person (ages 8 to 25) can receive for social or humanitarian work and was one of only 3 recipients out of the 189 global recipients to be introduced by Prince Harry. In 2023, Rania was honored at the White House by the First Lady of the United States as a "Girl Leading Change" in celebration of International Day of the Girl. Most recently, Rania was honored by L'Oréal Paris as a L'Oréal Woman of Worth, L'Oréal's signature philanthropic initiative which honors 10 female leaders each year.

Rania has given a TEDx Talk on book deserts with over 43,000 views on TED.com and Youtube and was the keynote speaker at the annual WV Head Start Conference. She has written op-eds for Teen Vogue and NBC News Online on education as well. She serves as an ambassador for many organizations and corporations, including the United Nations Association (as a UNA-USA Global Goals Ambassador for Sustainable Development Goal #4).

She is the youngest author of a US Senate Resolution in U.S. history and has written a children's picture book series (sold in-store at select Barnes & Noble stores) where 100% of the profits go to the purchase of brand-new Scholastic books for preschool children in Head Start programs.

Rania is a Coca-Cola Scholar, a U.S. Presidential Scholar, a Cameron Impact Scholar, a Taco Bell Live Mas Scholar, winner of the Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes, and has received 3 US Congressional Commendations as well as the George H.W. Bush Point of Light Award.