Student Finalists



Clara Watson is an eight-year-old student with epilepsy. She has been very transparent with her classmates at River Grove Elementary about her disease and has fielded question and answer sessions on the subject. She is part of the Epilepsy Foundation "Kids Crew," a group of children from all over the country who work together to foster change in attitudes toward people with epilepsy. Through educating others, she has decreased any negative connotation of "Clara the person," showing others that

different is just different, not wrong. Clara has given her classmates a sense of equity and inclusion through her transparency about her epilepsy. The Epilepsy Foundation has named her a 2020 World Changer and she's also been named as a Student SASEE finalist.



Tope Williams is heavily involved in the Lakeridge chapter of Students Demand Action, a non-partisan group working to end gun violence. She organizes meetings and slide shows. The group focuses on changes throughout the Lake Oswego School District, as well as participating in state and national activities. Recently, SDA hosted an advocacy day wherein students from across the state met virtually with legislators. Hope helped prepare all of the details ahead of time, and spoke to

all of the attendees before they broke out to their meetings with specific legislators. She continues to dedicate countless hours to the chapter and this cause.