

A SCHOOL FOR LIFE

Young people from around the world come to study at **UWC Robert Bosch College**. And they do much more than just cram for math and grammar tests; they also learn how intercultural understanding works. The focus is on sustainability and social outreach.

Elina from Germany reflects on her first year at UWC Robert Bosch College “It’s so special and such an extreme experience to live on campus, sharing day-to-day life with so many different people.” Elina Muminovic is one of 600 students from 117 countries who lived and learned together here at this international school in Freiburg, southern Germany. “During my first year, I got to know myself better by interacting with other people, and my friends and I had the chance to get involved with causes that are important to me,” Elina says.

Five years ago, the Robert Bosch Stiftung and the Bosch company partnered with the German UWC Foundation to found the first United World College (UWC) in Germany. There are 18 United World Colleges around the globe. They teach values such as tolerance, personal

responsibility, empathy, and the importance of diversity. In addition to traditional subjects such as math and languages, the curriculum at UWC Robert Bosch College includes sustainability and social outreach. And the school is open to young people from around the world and from all walks of life. Scholarships also give children from socially disadvantaged backgrounds the chance to attend school.

Elina is looking forward to her second year at UWC. “It’s incredible how many opportunities and doors are open to us – both at the college and beyond.” Selina Neirok Leem feels the same way. She is one of the school’s 400 graduates. Selina is from the Marshall Islands, an archipelago in the Pacific Ocean. With around 50,000 inhabitants, it is one of the smallest countries in the world. Rising sea levels threaten the very existence of the Marshall

Islands. In 2015, during her time at UWC, Selina accompanied her country’s foreign minister to the UN Climate Conference in Paris. She and the minister both made the closing statement for their country.

“I had a lot of dreams when I was a kid. I wanted to become the first female scientist from the Marshall islands, for instance. So when the microphone was passed to me at the UN conference, I introduced myself as a small island girl with big dreams.”

PHOTOS: YOLANDA JOAB MORI, ALEXEJ BRAITMAYER, BOSCH



New students arrive in Freiburg.

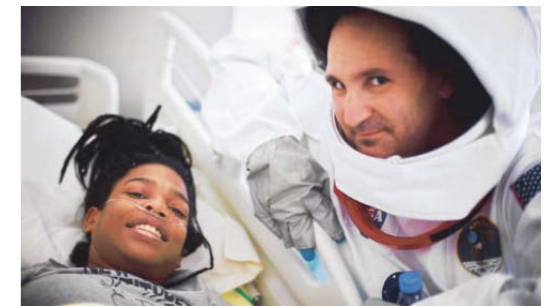
UWC ROBERT BOSCH COLLEGE IN FREIBURG

This international school is a joint project by the Robert Bosch Stiftung and the Bosch company. The groundbreaking ceremony was held in 2011, on Robert Bosch’s 150th birthday. The school opened in 2014, marking the foundation’s 50th anniversary. There are 18 United World Colleges around the world. Their mission is to unite people, nations, and cultures around the common goal of creating a sustainable future. Former students from Syria, Pakistan, and Thailand tell us about their time at UWC:



Elina (left) loved living alongside students from around the world during her first year at UWC. **Selina’s** path led her to the United Nations in New York after graduation.

SCIENCE WITH HEART



Planetary researcher Bouley visiting a patient.

How do we tackle the biggest challenges of our time? Current issues like climate change and migration affect people around the world. Many voices speak up when it comes to finding answers to the question of how we can all live together peacefully and sustainably in the future.

“In an increasingly networked and complex world, scientific discoveries can provide guidance and give people greater opportunities to participate and effect change,” says Katrin Rehak, head of the Science area of support at the Robert Bosch Stiftung.

That’s why dedicated researchers are now exploring new ways to get people excited about science. The foundation invites the best initiatives to the annual Falling Walls Engage conference in Berlin. This year, finalists included Sylvain Bouley, planetary researcher at the University of Paris-Saclay, with his “Stars in Hospitals” project. Bouley visits children and teens in hospital to help them experience the magical world of the stars and planets. Other finalists come from Pakistan, Ghana, Germany, and the U.S. Take a look at all the projects at: www.falling-walls.com/engage