

Outline: Senate Testimony

Raven Mckevin

Hello All,

My name is Raven McKelvin, my pronouns are she/her, and I am a current Junior at the Illinois Math and Science Academy in Aurora Illinois. I am a current resident of Broadview Illinois. IMSA is an excellent school as it allows me to live away from home, learn academics on a more advanced level, and open my mind to a brand-new perspective on life. IMSA helps all students by opening up opportunities such as Student Inquiry and Research, internships, club board positions, and even the opportunity to start your club or organization.

Today, I want to highlight an opportunity that IMSA has given me. My overall passion is to educate others on the importance of equality, and how we all should be treated equally. IMSA has allowed me to spread the word of knowledge amongst our community in many different ways, as I am currently working on a project right now called Spoken Justice.

Spoken Justice is an organization that I created with the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion office. Our mission is to educate students about cultural differences and cease the cultural barriers through spoken word. Work starts within your community, and IMSA has allowed me to create this organization. With the help of the DEI office, IMSA funded my weekly meetings and brought in global guest speakers to help students advance their skills and perspectives of the modern-day world. As Spoken Justice is a great way for students to vocalize themselves, it has also impacted our community and will continue to as we get ready to post our videos on globalized social media platforms.

I am grateful for the opportunity to continue my work, as IMSA is supporting my goals of making the world a better place for everyone. IMSA's mission statement is **"To ignite and nurture creative, ethical, scientific minds that advance the human condition."** If I can add one thing to IMSA's mission statement, it would be ...

"To ignite and nurture creative, ethical, scientific minds that advance the human condition and make the world a better place."