Meet the Changemaker: Connecting Literature and Global Leadership



On 15th October 2025, Ms. Elias' **AP Literature and Composition students** at **Knightdale High School** participated in "*Meet the Changemaker*," a global virtual exchange hosted by iEARN and sponsored by the U.S. Department of State. Students from the United States, Moldova, and Pakistan joined together to explore what it means to be a changemaker in today's world.

The featured speaker, Ainsley Burkes, a *National Security Language Initiative for Youth* (*NSLI-Y*) alumna, shared her inspiring journey of founding a nonprofit that helps immigrants, refugees, and seniors develop digital skills by bridging the technology gap and building stronger communities. Her message of compassion, innovation, and global responsibility resonated deeply with students.

Following the talk, Ms. Elias' class reflected on how changemakers in real life mirror literary figures like Victor Frankenstein, examining ambition, creation, and moral responsibility through a modern lens.

You can support this initiative by asking students:

- Who can be a changemaker?
- What qualities connect Ainsley's leadership to Victor Frankenstein's story?
- How do compassion and innovation shape true progress?

Learn more about **NSLI-Y** and its international opportunities for high school students: www.nsliforyouth.org

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