



## MELC Youth Poem 2018

Like birds learn to fly  
I learn my mother tongue  
and with these treasured first words  
I will soar to many different worlds  
learn to sing songs so foreign  
they become familiar

I'll take you through this maze  
with infinite destinations  
each ending as unique as you and I

At times  
cold and Confusing  
At times  
terrifying

For we will want to speak  
but our tongues may not move quickly enough  
our minds may be even slower

The words we say  
may sound different to those we hear

But we will take our time  
as we wander through these roads  
cross these rivers  
meet the many  
cultures at every corner  
the countries of sun and water  
white clouds and blue skies

With these words  
we preserve periods of time  
that would otherwise perish  
we will recover the buried jewels  
of our past

These songs  
remind us that we end where we begin  
that we belong to those who love us  
and to each new home we enter  
just as we are  
and as whoever we become

We will hold the stories of our people  
the memoires of our mothers before us  
in our hearts and on our lips  
So we may share them with those we meet on our way

We are citizens of the world,  
the cosmos, mondes, mundo  
And the world

is ours.

*Jood, Savva, Nicholas, Scarlett, Faraz, Chariqua Rawan, Madeleine Lina, Rebekah, Evdokia, Manal*  
*Participants in the 2018 MELC Youth Forum*

