

THE APEX CHRONICLE

WHERE GLOBAL IMPACT IS DOCUMENTED

Submission Guidelines v1.0

Apex Development Foundation Inc.

apexnyc.org

01 — CONTRIBUTOR INFORMATION

FULL NAME *

EMAIL ADDRESS *

LOCATION

AFFILIATION

02 — ARTICLE TYPE (CHECK ONE)

ISSUE REPORT

PERSONAL STORY

FIELD REPORT

PROFILE / SPOTLIGHT

OPINION / COMMENTARY

YOUTH VOICE

03 — ARTICLE DETAILS

HEADLINE / WORKING TITLE *

BRIEF SUMMARY * (2-3 SENTENCES — WHAT IS THIS STORY AND WHY DOES IT MATTER?)

ARTICLE BODY * | 4-8 PARAGRAPHS · 400-700 WORDS | HOOK → CONTEXT → CHALLENGE → SOLUTION → LESSON → VISION

04 — PRE-SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

TOPIC CONNECTS TO APEX'S SDG MISSION

OPENS WITH A HOOK OR STRIKING CONTRAST

NAMES AT LEAST ONE REAL INITIATIVE OR PROGRAM

CONTAINS A BROADER LESSON OR UNIVERSAL INSIGHT

ENDS WITH A FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENT

2-3 PHOTOS WITH CAPTIONS ATTACHED

ALL WORK IS 100% ORIGINAL

COMMUNITIES PORTRAYED WITH DIGNITY

SOURCES NOTED IF DATA IS CITED

SUBMITTED 2 WEEKS BEFORE PUBLISH DATE

05 — PHOTOS & NOTES

PHOTO CAPTIONS (PHOTO 1 / 2 / 3)

PHOTO CREDIT / SOURCE

NOTES TO EDITOR

SUBMIT · editor@apexnyc.org · apexnyc.org

THE APEX CHRONICLE

THE STANDARD · 4–8 PARAGRAPHS · 400–700 WORDS

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THE STANDARD — AS SET BY NOLEEN MARIPAN

"On the shores of Tsushima, marine plastic pollution is impossible to ignore, but so is the growing determination to respond."

— Noleen Maripan, April 2026

PARAGRAPH STRUCTURE — WRITE DIRECTLY IN EACH WHITE BOX

<p>1. OPENING HOOK</p> <p>Contrast: the problem AND the response in the same place. Never open with statistics.</p> <p><i>"On the shores of Tsushima, pollution is impossible to ignore, but so is the determination to respond."</i></p> <p>PROMPT: <i>[Place] faces [challenge], but also [remarkable response]...</i></p>	<p>2. BACKGROUND & CONTEXT</p> <p>Orient the reader. Where is this? Who is involved? Why does this story exist here?</p> <p><i>"Tsushima, a windswept archipelago in the Korea Strait, has become one of the clearest reminders..."</i></p> <p>PROMPT: <i>Where + Who + Why here?</i></p>
<p>3. THE PROBLEM OR CHALLENGE</p> <p>State what is at stake. Be honest — readers must feel the weight before appreciating the response.</p> <p><i>"Each year, large volumes of marine plastic debris wash onto its shores, from far beyond the island."</i></p>	<p>4. THE CONTRAST</p> <p>What makes this response different from all others? This is what makes the story worth telling.</p> <p><i>"That contrast is what makes Tsushima's story so compelling — showing what meaningful response looks like."</i></p>
<p>5. SOLUTION IN ACTION</p> <p>Name specific programs with real names. Not vague ideas — real things. This builds credibility.</p> <p><i>"Programmes such as UMIKUL enable companies to back the restoration of specific stretches of coastline."</i></p>	<p>6. THE BIGGER LESSON</p> <p>The universal truth your story reveals. This philosophical turn makes the piece memorable.</p> <p><i>"What Tsushima reveals is that communities bearing the heaviest burden are not creating the problem."</i></p>
<p>7. HUMAN MOMENT (OPTIONAL)</p> <p>(Optional) One small gesture that crystallizes everything. Small but powerful.</p> <p><i>"One especially meaningful initiative is the Digital Wave Ema, inspired by Japanese tradition..."</i></p> <p>PROMPT: <i>What one gesture captures the whole spirit of this story?</i></p>	<p>8. CLOSING VISION</p> <p>Urgency AND hope together. Not doom. Not blind optimism. Leave the reader moved and motivated.</p> <p><i>"Tsushima stands as both warning and blueprint... The ocean is speaking, and the world must answer."</i></p>

STYLE REMINDERS: Lead with contrast Name things specifically Find the universal in the local Dignity always End with truth & hope