

## PRESS INVITATION

# K-pop group SEVENTEEN to become UNESCO's first-ever Goodwill Ambassador for Youth

SEVENTEEN, the K-pop group with the biggest-selling album of 2023 globally will be appointed UNESCO's Goodwill Ambassador for Youth by Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO, on 26 June during a ceremony at the Organization's Headquarters in Paris.

- What? Official appointment ceremony of SEVENTEEN group members as UNESCO's Goodwill Ambassador for Youth
- When? 26 June 2024, 10 AM (CET)
- Where? UNESCO Headquarters
- Who? The 13 members of the K-pop group SEVENTEEN and the Director-General of UNESCO
- Media Accreditation: <u>here</u>

"SEVENTEEN and UNESCO share the same commitment to empowering young people to drive change and address the challenges of our century. They also inspire and support young people around the world with their music and positive energy. Following several successful joint actions, I wanted our partnership to take on even greater strategic importance. On June 26, I will be delighted to welcome the 13 members of the group into the family of UNESCO Goodwill Ambassadors," said Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO.

# Watch the teaser video

This appointment follows SEVENTEEN's key participation in the 13<sup>th</sup> UNESCO Youth Forum in Paris in November 2023, where the group highlighted the importance of youth solidarity and action with <u>a powerful speech and dynamic live performance before</u> representatives from UNESCO's 194 Member States, youth delegates from around the world and hundreds of fans.

In 2022, SEVENTEEN also launched the initiative '#GoingTogether' in collaboration with the Korean National Commission for UNESCO, which helped establish new educational centers in Timor-Leste and provide educational aid in Malawi.

By becoming a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for Youth, SEVENTEEN will commit to putting their talent and voice at the service of the Organization's values and mandate. At the ceremony on 26 June, Audrey Azoulay will give them a roadmap to shine a spotlight on the challenges faced by young people and create opportunities for concrete change through UNESCO programmes. The group members will unveil the initial steps of the new SEVENTEEN x UNESCO partnership, dedicated to supporting youth projects around the globe.

#### About UNESCO

With 194 Member States, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization contributes to peace and security by leading multilateral cooperation on education, science, culture, communication and information. Headquartered in Paris, UNESCO has offices in 54 countries and employs over 2300 people. UNESCO oversees more than 2000 World Heritage sites, Biosphere Reserves and Global Geoparks; networks of Creative, Learning, Inclusive and Sustainable Cities; and over 13 000 associated schools, university chairs, training and research institutions. Its Director-General is Audrey Azoulay.

"Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defenses of peace must be constructed" – UNESCO Constitution, 1945.

More information: www.unesco.org

## **About SEVENTEEN**

SEVENTEEN—comprised of S.COUPS, JEONGHAN, JOSHUA, JUN, HOSHI, WONWOO, WOOZI, THE 8, MINGYU, DK, SEUNGKWAN, VERNON and DINO—have rocketed to the forefront of the music scene fueled by a fiercely independent spirit and a nonpareil in-house creative ecosystem. The 13-piece act's innovative structure hinges on the interplay of three units: hip-hop, vocal, and performance. The creative powerhouse closed out 2022 as the first K-pop act to win PUSH Performance of the Year at MTV Video Music Awards as well as Best New and Best Push at MTV European Music Awards before reaching new heights. In 2023, 10th Mini Album FML and 11th Mini Album SEVENTEENTH HEAVEN both debuted at No. 2 on the Billboard 200 and No.1 on World Albums chart, proceeding to become the top 2 best-selling albums in Kpop history. Having placed the group on top of the Billboard Artist 100, FML was further recognized as the biggest-selling global album of 2023 by IFPI with over 6.4 million copies sold worldwide. The K-pop icon will continue to expand their global reach in 2024, returning to Europe with upcoming performances at Glastonbury Festival and Lollapalooza Berlin following their dedicated speech and performance session at the 2023 UNESCO Youth Forum in Paris.

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