



[www.digcitkids.com](http://www.digcitkids.com)

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## **Kids Mentoring Kids to ‘Be The Digital Change’ Online Takes Off Nationally**

Local student Curran Dee to speak at Twitter Headquarters to a global audience on October 28, 2016 on student advocacy, safety and connecting globally

*(September 19, 2016, Glastonbury CT)* According to fourth grader Curran Dee of Glastonbury, CT, being a good ‘digital citizen’ is similar to practicing good sportsmanship, both in person and online, but not enough kids understand digital citizenship the way they do sportsmanship. Curran has been advocating for kids to help kids connect safely and meaningfully on line since last Spring, and it didn’t take long for his message to resonate nationally. On October 28, 2016, he will be a featured speaker at the Digital Citizenship Summit at Twitter HQ on Friday, October 28, 2016, in San Francisco.

Curran is the Chief Kid Officer of [DigCitKids](http://DigCitKids.com) ([digcitkids.com](http://digcitkids.com)) advocates for parents and children to learn alongside each other to develop skills digital natives and digital immigrants alike need to use on a daily basis. His past advocacy work includes Twitter chats, a [TEDxYouth](#) speech in Burlington, Mass. Most recently, Curran was interviewed on [TeacherCast](#) discussing the idea of kids as global citizens. “When kids are passionate about creating change, they need to learn with the world. That happens digitally,” he said. “I think even kids in elementary school should be able to have a voice and be able to make connections beyond the classroom walls.”

In the future, he has plans to do workshops offline that will help kids of all ages connect, collaborate, learn, understand and solve problems safely through offline activities and online discussions. Highlights of the Digital Citizenship Summit at Twitter HQ speech will include: the launch of a DigCitKids K-12 Ambassador Program and news of the first #DigCitAward, presented recently to fourth grader, Lila Mankad, of Houston, Texas. She created a [Change.org petition](#) to ban plastic bags in her community, an example of positive, respectful advocacy online. Curran works alongside his mom, Marialice B.F.X. Curran, Ph.D., founder of the [Digital Citizenship Institute](#) and co-founder of the Digital Citizenship Summit, both based in Connecticut. “As a teacher, principal and associate professor, my most rewarding work has been advocating with my son as he paves the way for a new generation.” Teachers, parents, students, colleges and ed/tech industry experts are learning from their example. “Our mission at DigCitKids is to keep asking a wider audience, ‘How are you using technology every day to make a difference for your community, for other kids and for the world?’ and then showing them how to get started,” says Curran. DigCitKids, unlike other local groups, bridges the gap between school district, parents and kids.

Kids share their passions and then learn how to take action using best practices that are nationally embraced. “DigCitKids helps everyday people get movements started for change, one family at a time,” says Denise Brodey, brand strategist for the Digital Citizenship Summit. “It’s a new approach. One that is as important as offering safety and monitoring advice to parents.”



Marialice B.F.X. Curran and her son Curran of DigCitKids in Glastonbury, CT.

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To read posts by DigCitKids on Medium.com visit: [bit.ly/2dbotBD](https://bit.ly/2dbotBD)

**To learn more about registering to livestream the Digital Citizenship Summit at Twitter HQ on October 28, 2016:** visit [Digcitsummit.com](https://Digcitsummit.com). Curran Dee will open the Student Voice portion of the Summit 9-11 AM PST