

# The 16 Most Influential Teens of 2013

From Time Magazine

## Lorde, 17

Nov. 12, 2013 | 0

The just-turned 17-year-old New Zealander rocketed to international fame this year with the release of her first album, *Pure Heroine*. Proof: New York City Mayor-elect Bill de Blasio, who won the election on a message railing against economic inequality, walked onto stage to Lorde's defiant "Royals." The child prodigy—she signed with a label at 13—is already competing with pop's biggest stars, surpassing Miley Cyrus in September for the top spot on iTunes with "Royals." The singer-songwriter, whose real name is Ella Yelich-O'Connor, is forging her own path, turning down an opportunity to join Katy Perry on tour because, as she said at the time, it "didn't feel right."



Mark Metcalfe / Getty Images



**NEXT** Lydia Ko, 16

## Lydia Ko, 16

Nov. 12, 2013 | 0

A New Zealand golfer born in South Korea, 16-year-old Lydia Ko has multiple LPGA wins. She turned pro this year—the LPGA waived the age requirement for her to join—and she's already fifth in women's world rankings after just 23 tournaments. She's the youngest person ever to win a professional golf tour event and the youngest person ever to win an LPGA tour event (and the only amateur to ever win two LPGA Tour events).



Richard Heathcote / Getty Images



**NEXT** Nick D'Aloisio, 18

## Nick D'Aloisio, 18

Nov. 12, 2013 | 0

When Marissa Mayer decides to buy your app for \$30 million, you know you're doing pretty well. When you're only 17 at the time, "doing pretty well" is an understatement. Programming whiz kid Nick D'Aloisio sold Summly, a news-reading and summarizing app, to Yahoo in March. Other investors include Wendi Murdoch, Yoko Ono, and Ashton Kutcher.



Matthew Lloyd / Getty Images



## Missy Franklin, 18

Nov. 12, 2013 | 0

The 18-year-old won six gold medals at the 2012 Olympics and in doing so not only claimed the title of winningest female swimmer ever at a world meet, but also became the fifth swimmer to capture six or more golds at Worlds or the Olympics. She won the Women's Sports Foundation's Sportswoman of the Year award this year. And, she joined the Cal swim team, turning down millions of dollars of endorsements to get a college degree.



Mike Coppola / Getty Images



## Kendall and Kylie Jenner, 18 & 16

Nov. 12, 2013 | 0

The younger sisters of the Kardashian clan are no strangers to the spotlight. They're featured in *Keeping Up With The Kardashians* with their half-sisters Kim, Khloe and Kourtney, but they're making their own waves as well. Kendall, a swimsuit model, and her 16-year-old sister Kylie have raised eyebrows for their precocious behavior. Perhaps more importantly, they've shown an early talent for deal-making: the pair launched a clothing line with PacSun this year.



Frederick M. Brown / Getty Images

## Dante de Blasio, 16

Nov. 12, 2013 | 0

Bill de Blasio might be the Mayor-elect of New York, but his 16-year-old son Dante is the city's latest fashion icon. Dante's now-iconic afro has starred in a campaign ad, inspired a *New York Times* Style section piece, and even gained President Obama's attention. "Dante has the same hairdo as I had in 1978," he said. "Although I have to confess my Afro was never that good. It was a little imbalanced." A junior at Brooklyn Tech, Dante and his sister Chiara (known for her floral headbands) were front and center in their father's campaign.



Shannon Stapleton / Reuters



## Malala Yousafzai, 16

Nov. 12, 2013 | 0

In 2012, Malala Yousafzai was shot in the head and neck in an assassination attempt by the Taliban on the bus home from school in Pakistan. Malala was a target because of her vocal activism to better the education of girls under Taliban rule. After surviving the attack, the now-16-year-old didn't hide in fear but strengthened her voice. "I speak for education of every child, in every corner of the world," she said, and the world has been listening. This year she received the Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought and a Clinton Global Citizen Award. She was also nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.



Christopher Furlong / Getty Images



## Kiernan Shipka, 14

Nov. 12, 2013 | 0

*Mad Men*'s Sally Draper is the sassiest character on TV, all thanks to Kiernan Shipka. The 14-year old actress has been playing Don Draper's rebellious daughter since she was six and a half, but she's still not allowed to watch the hit AMC show. Shipka also nails her red carpet appearances, with a quirky but age-appropriate style that gets her raves from the fashionable set. Watch out for her performance as incestuous Catherine in the Lifetime adaptation of V.C. Andrews' *Flowers In The Attic*.



Jason Merritt / Getty Images



## Ionut Budisteanu, 19

Nov. 12, 2013 | 0

The 19-year-old scientist's design for a low cost, self-driving car won first place and \$75,000 at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair for high school students in May. The prototype signals the potential of manufacturing autonomous driving vehicles to the masses, costing only \$4,000 to build as opposed to Google's \$75,000 self-driving car. Budisteanu, a student in Romania, used artificial intelligence technology and a mounted camera on the car to identify traffic lanes, curbs, cars and even people.



Chris Ayers / Intel



## Malia Obama, 15

Nov. 12, 2013 | 0

At high-profile events, like her father's second Inaugural Address, Malia and her sister, Sasha, act with the poise of adults. Thanks in part to Michelle Obama, they seem to lead as normal lives as they can while still meeting the demands of being in the limelight. (Such as 15-year-old Malia's satirical send up in the *Onion*.) President Obama often mentions his daughters in speeches, and says that they influenced his stance on gay marriage.



Pablo Martinez Monsivais / AP



## Maya Van Wagenen, 15

Nov. 12, 2013 | 0

The 15-year-old author rose to fame for keeping a diary in her quest to become popular, following antiquated tips from the 1950s self-help book, *Betty Cornell's Glamour Guide for Teens*. Her musings about applying lessons such as always wearing white gloves and pearls as she navigated the social scene of a small Texas town landed her a six-figure Penguin book deal for, *Popular: Vintage Wisdom for a Modern Geek*. As if that wasn't impressive enough, last month DreamWorks optioned the rights for the novel, making the budding author the "youngest non-actor to ever make a deal" at the film studio.



Michael Van Wagenen



## Justin Bieber, 19

Nov. 12, 2013 | 0

The Canadian-born pop star has become an industry to himself, valued by Forbes at \$58 million. He released his first single at age 15, and in 2010, he became the youngest solo male artist to hit #1 on Billboards Hot 100, with *My World 2.0*, since Stevie Wonder. His high profile breakup earlier this year with fellow star and girlfriend of two years Selena Gomez landed him in gossip sections the world over, as did an altercation in March with a photographer.



ChinaFotoPress / Getty Images



**NEXT** Beth Reekles, 17

## Beth Reekles, 17

Nov. 12, 2013 | 0

The Welsh high school student was looking for something to read other than stories about vampires and werewolves when she decided to write her own teen fiction book. The then-15-year-old used story-sharing site Wattpad to release her novel, *The Kissing Booth*, which earned more than 19 million views and caught the attention of Random House Children's Publishers U.K. The author, now 17, scored a three-book deal with the U.S. arm of Random House and has since appeared on the *Today* show. But writing remains a hobby for the teenaged literary sensation, who plans to major in physics in college.



Caters News Agency



## Chloe Grace Moretz, 16

Nov. 12, 2013 | 0

Chloe Grace Moretz is a leading lady for the first time in *Carrie*, but the blood-drenched horror film is hardly this 16-year old's first rodeo. The Atlanta native has had supporting roles in *(500) Days of Summer* and *Hugo*, and she's an up-and-comer in the fashion world, too. Next, she's starring opposite Kiera Knightly in *Laggie*, out in 2014.



Tullio M. Puglia / Getty Images



## Hailee Steinfeld, 16

Nov. 12, 2013 | 0

Steinfeld had nearly no previous acting experience when she was nominated for an Academy Award at age 13 in 2010 for her role in *True Grit*. Now she's playing a student at a military space academy in the sci-fi film *Ender's Game*. "I still consider myself very much a beginner," she told the Guardian.



Jason Merritt / Getty Images



What do you think about this list?

Are there any patterns you see?

Is there anything missing?

How would the list be different if the adjective were "promising" or "inspiring" instead of "influential"? How would the list be the same?