

# Soroptimist International of Los Angeles

Membership Information & Application  
2025-2026



SOROPTIMIST®

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**Investing in Dreams**

# Mission

Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve personal and economic empowerment, especially those facing significant obstacles.

Soroptimist International of Los Angeles members create, conduct, develop, and/or support programs that promote the health, safety, and personal and professional growth of women and girls.



## **Federation Representation**

by SI Los Angeles Members

President 2024-2025

Dr. Gloria "Ginger" Cole, member of  
Soroptimist International of Los Angeles and  
President of Soroptimist International of the  
Americas

## **Soroptimist International of Los Angeles Leadership**

President: Sheila Tatum

Vice President: Becky Stein

Secretary: Jessica Washington

Treasurer: Janet Elliott

# DREAM IT ★ BE IT

## CAREER SUPPORT

### {for girls}

Soroptimist International of Los Angeles is proud to participate in Dream It, Be It Career Support for Girls. Since 2015, Dream It, Be It has given more than 84,000 girls worldwide the tools they need to achieve their education and career goals.

Soroptimist International of Los Angeles again collaborated with Sacred Heart High School in March 2025, bringing our Dream It Be It program to over 300 girls!

We presented the Dream It Be It program curriculum and introduced a "Human Library" of diverse female professionals who shared their experiences and career stories to girls aged 14 to 18.





# PREPARING GIRLS FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

## OUR GLOBAL IMPACT IN FY24/25

**23,928** girls participated  
across **14** countries and territories



"My future had been uncertain until now, but receiving advice from people with a wide range of experiences and careers has given me a clearer picture of the path I should take."

Japan Kita Region participant

"The *Dream It, Be It*® program did not just teach me to dream but also equipped us with the confidence and skills to turn those dreams into reality."

Philippines Region participant

## GIRLS ARE EMPOWERED TO LIVE THEIR DREAMS

90%

feel more confident about their future success

90%

created achievable goals for their future

88%

feel more prepared to pursue their career goals

90%

understand how their values can connect to possible careers

Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment, specifically those facing significant obstacles.

View the full *Dream It, Be It* Impact Report at: [soropt.link/DIBImpact](https://soropt.link/DIBImpact)



# LIVE YOUR DREAM AWARDS

The Live Your Dream Awards program is a unique education award for women who provide the primary financial support for their families. The award supports their efforts to improve their education, skills, and employment prospects.

Since 1972, Soroptimists have distributed over \$41 million in education awards to 41,000 women making a better life for themselves and their families. Soroptimist International of Los Angeles awarded five \$1000 Live Your Dream awards in 2024-2025, and will be awarding five \$1500 awards in the 2025-2026 club year.

## MEET SI LOS ANGELES' 2024-2025 AWARDEES



Ashley Hutcherson



Kara Conner



Michelle Leal



Paige Long



Saprina Herron

# IGNITING CHANGE FOR WOMEN

## OUR GLOBAL IMPACT IN FY24/25



**3.4 MILLION +**  
in education awards  
disbursed



**2,353**  
inspiring women received an  
award



**31,000 +**  
volunteer hours dedicated to  
the *Live Your Dream Awards*®



**646**  
members joined Soroptimist because  
of the *Live Your Dream Awards*®

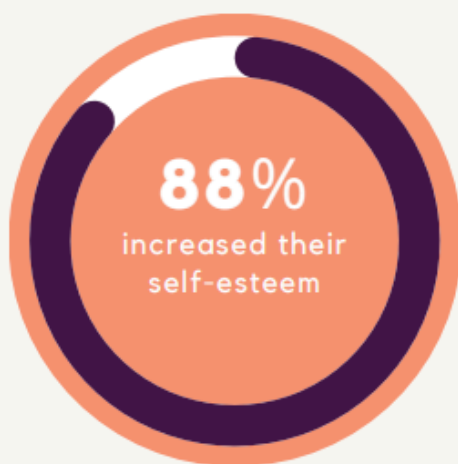
"When I was in school receiving the award, not only was the award a financial benefit, it was a symbol that others saw my hard work, and that they believed in me."

**U.S. recipient**

"Receiving the *Live Your Dream Award* opened the door for me to be someone I thought was lost. It helped me to be more self-reliant and to not give up on my dreams."

**Paraguyan recipient**

## WOMEN ARE ECONOMICALLY EMPOWERED



\*of the 57% who are survivors of gendered violence

# SI LOS ANGELES GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP AWARD



Sorooptimist International of Los Angeles is proud to have offered our Fellowship Award to deserving graduate students since 1948.

Our 2024-2025 awardee, Freshta Amin, received the Joan Johnson Graduate Fellowship Award in the amount of \$3500. For the 2025-2026 club year we are adding the Ann Read Graduate Fellowship Award and increasing each award to \$5000.

## SOROPTIMIST GROVE IN GRIFFITH PARK

Since 1932, Sorooptimist International of Los Angeles has been proud to lay claim to a little corner of Griffith Park, the Sorooptimist Grove. This beautiful spot in the Ferndell area of Griffith Park boasts picnic tables and BBQs, and is located close to the Trails Café and a children's playground.



# Community Outreach

Downtown Women's Center (DWC) holds a special place in our hearts. Downtown Women Center's mission is to end homelessness for women in greater Los Angeles through housing, wellness, employment, and advocacy.

Over the years, Soroptimist International of Los Angeles has donated thousands of dollars to aid DWC's facility expansion and meal programs.

## Providing Shelter

For over 30 years, Soroptimist International of Los Angeles' major community service project has been providing two multi-residence houses for charitable use.

In the 2024-2025 fiscal year, 178 men, women, and children found refuge in these homes.



Soroptimist International of Los Angeles is active from September through June each year, with two meetings a month from 6:00-8:00 pm on the first and third Wednesday of each month.

Our meetings are held via Zoom but we also meet throughout the year in person for fun membership activities. Attendance is NOT mandatory - we understand there is life outside of Soroptimist!

Throughout the year there are opportunities to meet with other clubs in our Camino Real Region at the annual Fall Workshop and Spring Conference.



## **Why YOU will want to be a member of Soroptimist International of Los Angeles**

The importance of volunteerism cannot be overstated. Soroptimist International of Los Angeles is uniquely focused on and poised to address some of the critical issues and needs facing women and girls. Our values: Equality, Empowerment, Education, Diversity, and Fellowship.

Our club welcomes new members who lend their talents to actualize dreams. But there is more. We delight in the fellowship and friendship that membership offers—with like-minded persons interested in service, achievement and engagement.

While there are no mandatory participation requirements, we encourage participation through twice monthly virtual meetings, committee meetings, planned fundraising, and program events.

**We are waiting to hear from you!**



# Dues

Soroptimist International of the Americas (SIA) is our Federation, which consists of clubs in North America, Latin America, and the Pacific Rim. A member of Soroptimist International of Los Angeles, Ginger Cole, is the immediate past President for Soroptimist International of the Americas! Soroptimist International consists of five federations worldwide.

Camino Real Region (CRR) is our Region. Our Region consists of 22 clubs in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties.

Annual dues are collected in June for the next club year from July to June. Dues support programs (such as the Dream Programs) for our local club as well as our Region and Federation. Dues are prorated for members joining after January 1st.

Founders Pennies are an optional annual donation to celebrate the founding of our organization and support the global Dream Programs. Founders Pennies are set at \$0.06 per member times the number of years that Soroptimist has been in existence (since 1921).

Membership dues are due by June 30th of each year and can be paid via Zelle at [finance@soroptimist-losangeles.org](mailto:finance@soroptimist-losangeles.org) or by check sent to SI Los Angeles, 5042 Wilshire Blvd #5005, Los Angeles, CA 90036.

## **Mandatory Dues**

SI Los Angeles \$90

SIA \$102.25 (Dues: \$78.00, per capita: \$9.25, liability insurance: \$15.00)

Camino Real Region \$30

New Member Fee \$10

**TOTAL: \$232.25**

## **Voluntary Contributions**

Founders Pennies: \$6.30 (\$0.06 x 105 years)

CRR Service Fund: \$10.00 (Camino Real Region's service fund is used to support the Region's Live Your Dream awardees)



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SI Los Angeles | Chartered July 19, 1922



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### **Application for Membership**

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Thank you for your interest in Soroptimist International of Los Angeles. As someone interested in improving the lives of women and girls, joining Soroptimist will provide you with the opportunity to meet others who share an interest in providing and supporting individual and community volunteer service in an atmosphere of collegiality, friendship, and fun. Membership in Soroptimist International, extended at the club level, is entrance into an international organization with members who value international goodwill and understanding and the economic, educational, and health advancement of all women regardless of origin or social condition.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email (required) \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate (*optional*) \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide any information you would like to share about yourself:

How did you hear about Soroptimist and/or our club?

Why are you interested in joining our Soroptimist club?

**Please send your application to  
membership@soroptimist-losangeles.org or  
5042 Wilshire Blvd #5005, Los Angeles, CA 90036**

**www.soroptimist-losangeles.org**



SI of Los Angeles



[www.soroptimist-losangeles.org](http://www.soroptimist-losangeles.org)



@soroptimistla

**Soroptimist International of Los Angeles**  
**5042 Wilshire Boulevard Box 5005, Los Angeles, CA 90036**  
**[info@soroptimist-losangeles.org](mailto:info@soroptimist-losangeles.org)**

Platinum  
Transparency  
2025

**Candid.**

Soroptimist International of Los Angeles is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.