

Founded in 1921, Soroptimist International is a global volunteer movement with a network of over 75,000 club members in 130 countries. While we advocate for human rights and gender equality, the heart of Soroptimist International's advocacy is its work across six United Nations (UN) Centers, where Soroptimist UN representatives ensure that the voices of women and girls are heard.

Chartered in 1922, SILA is the third club in the Soroptimist network and will celebrate its 100th birthday next year. For 99 years, we have worked to improve the lives of women and girls in various communities throughout Los Angeles. Our signature programs include:

- Graduate Fellowship Awards for Women in Graduate Study
- Live Your Dream: Education and Training Awards for Women
- Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls in Secondary School
- Partnership with the 1736 Family Crisis Center

We also work with the Los Angeles Downtown Women's Center and donate to Clothes the Deal, which provides gently used business clothing to women returning to the workforce.

All programs and projects are funded by the generous donations of our supporters.

Why YOU Will Want To Be A Member of SI Los Angeles

The importance of volunteerism cannot be overstated or underrated today and there are many, many opportunities in our community. However, within this community, SILA is uniquely focused on and poised to address some of the critical issues and needs facing women and girls. Our values: Gender Equality, Empowerment, Education, Diversity, and Fellowship.

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

There are many ways to grow your own leadership in the club and beyond. The impact of working with members around the world is indescribable. You will meet members from other countries when they visit our club and meet even more via digital platforms. As a member, you will be invited to travel throughout our Region, and our Federation which includes all of Central and South America, Mexico, Canada, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, Guam, Taiwan, and of course, the USA. International meetings will increase your opportunities for more new friendships and service through international programs and projects.

SILA meets twice monthly, September through June—either in-person or digitally. Members participate in planned fundraising and program events. And we plan fun times too. Contact us at:

www.soroptimist-losangeles.org
We are waiting to hear from you!

Soroptimist International Los Angeles (SILA)



Soroptimist International Los Angeles

Post Office Box 861897
Los Angeles, CA 90086-1897
Email: info@soroptimist-losangeles.org
Website: www.Soroptimist-losangeles.org

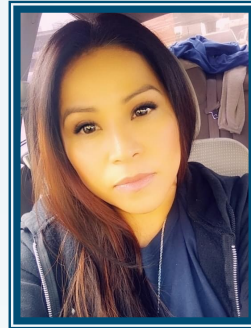


2021 Fellowship Award

ALEJANDRA MAGANA GAMERO

Alejandra is a 2nd year doctoral student at UCLA in the Department of Education. Her dissertation examines the experiences of Mexicanas in master's degree programs and the ways in which master's degree programs can serve as transformative experiences. She received her bachelor's degree in 2018 from Santa Clara University in Psychology and Ethnic Studies and her master's degree in 2019 in Education from UCLA. Alejandra is also the cofounder of Latinas Talk Dinero, a bilingual financial literacy platform whose aim is to empower individuals to take control of their finances and establish a healthy relationship with money. She is passionate about educational equity, access to higher education, and anti-racist pedagogies. In her free time she loves hiking, running, working out, and biking.

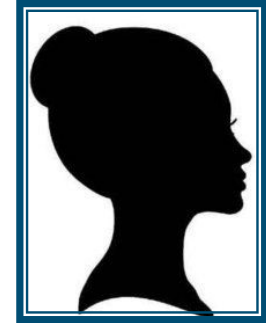
2021 Live Your Dream



AMADA ALVAREZ

As a single mother of three beautiful girls, Amada wants to get her AA in Sociology at East Los Angeles College and plans to transfer to UCLA through the honors program since she holds a 3.85 GPA. She is a formerly incarcerated student who wants to work with people who have been in the same situation and help them get an education and stay out of jail. She wants to help people get off of drugs and learn their worth in life just as she did. Amanda says, *"The missteps I have overcome in life have been so exhilarating and fulfilling. I want to get my Bachelors after ELAC and continue my work and even open a non-profit. My passion is to help people by becoming an advocate or counselor to help incarcerated people get back on track. I presently work at Homeboy Industries and want to grow there. All the education I get will help me to help others; helping one another even when it seems impossible."*

2021 Live Your Dream



BRITTANY RAYOS

Brittany is a single mother of four who is working hard to *"finish something"* for the first time in her life. She selected medical billing and coding because when she was looking for a job, she saw that it was something in high demand. She says, *"I knew that I was pregnant when I started the program, so I decided to use all of my doctor visits, bills, and experiences while I was going to school. I saw that my new chosen career was more than just numbers. I was the patient who was confused by the billing process and everything that was involved. It was then I decided to know both ends so that patients like me receive the services that they need."* Brittany's goal is to be the most helpful in anything that she does and to show her four children that *"where we come from does not determine where we have to stay in life."*