



A global volunteer organization that improves the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF THE AMERICAS

SIA Program Reference Guide

Soroptimist Dream Programs

Soroptimist is a global women's organization whose members volunteer to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment. The Dream Programs of Soroptimist ensure women and girls have access to the education and training they need to reach their full potential and live their dreams. Soroptimist is committed to investing in programs that have a sustainable, measurable change for women and girls.

Soroptimist Live Your Dream: Education and Training Awards for Women

The Soroptimist Live Your Dream Awards were established in 1972 to assist women with primary financial responsibility for their families to obtain the skills training and education necessary to improve their employment status and standard of living for themselves and their family. Each year, more than US \$2.1 million in club, region, and federation funds is awarded to nearly 1,500 women in SIA's 21 member countries and territories. The women receiving these financial awards may use them for any costs associated with their educational efforts, including tuition, books, child care, and transportation. All the materials your club needs to participate, including an easy to use club participation toolkit, can be found in the members section of the website.

[Live Your Dream Awards Resources](#)

Soroptimist Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls

Soroptimist Dream It, Be It targets girls in secondary school who face obstacles to their future success. It provides girls with access to professional role models, career education and the resources to live their dreams. Soroptimist clubs in 21 countries and territories work in partnership with girls in small groups or a conference setting to provide them with the information and resources they want and need to be successful. The topics covered include career opportunities, setting and achieving goals, overcoming obstacles to success and how to move forward after setbacks or failures. SIA offers multiple resources on our website to assist clubs with their local-level projects including a planning toolkit, program guide, and the seven session curriculum.

[Dream It, Be It Resources](#)

Other Soroptimist Programs

Soroptimist Club Grants for Women and Girls

The Soroptimist Club Grants for Women and Girls are awards given to Soroptimist clubs to start or continue projects in their communities that improve the lives of women or girls, in accordance with the mission of SIA. The deadline for proposals is **March 1**.

[Soroptimist Club Grants for Women and Girls Resources](#)

Live Your Dream Online Community

[LiveYourDream.org](#) is an online community empowering offline action, helping women and girls to live their dreams. Each supporter decides their own involvement level and how they'd like to engage or take action in a number of Soroptimist's award-winning programs. Through this online community, SIA will open up opportunities for non-Soroptimists to engage with us and help deliver our mission. In addition, it provides opportunities for members and dreamers to conduct these projects:

Soroptimist Club Recognition

Soroptimists Celebrating Success Awards

The Soroptimists Celebrating Success Awards program recognizes successful club projects that improve the lives of women and girls and that promote Soroptimist as an organization with that mission. These awards recognize the best practices of Soroptimist clubs in each of the four areas of the SIA strategic plan: fundraising, membership, program and public awareness. Each region will select one project in each of the four areas and the Soroptimist Board of Directors will select the top entry in each category from the region finalists. Entries are due to the region on or before **July 1**

[Soroptimists Celebrating Success Awards Resources](#)

Certificate of Appreciation

Replacing the Club Award, the new Certificate of Appreciation honors clubs that have met the below requirements during that club year. Clubs do not need to apply for the award. Any club who meets these requirements will automatically receive the certificate.

Participate in SIA programs

- Participate in the Live Your Dream: Education and Training Awards for Women
- Participate or support Dream It, Be It

Support SIA's Culture of Philanthropy

- Contribute at least 10 percent of funds raised locally to Club Giving in support of our federation programs.
- Donate Founders Pennies for every member in support of our federation programs.

Grow Engagement with SIA

- [Provide personal email addresses to SIA headquarters.](#)
- [Submit your club's projects for a Soroptimists Celebrating Success Award.](#)
- [Focus on recruiting new members into your club and creating a happy and healthy club experience.](#)

General Information

The SIA program information and resources listed below can be found in the program section of the members' area of the SIA website.

- [How can your club participate in the Soroptimist Dream Programs?](#) - Our Dream Programs are designed for all clubs! Learn the different ways your club can participate.
- [Frequently Asked Questions about our Dream Program Strategy](#) - Read answers to your questions about our strategy of focusing on building the collective impact of our Dream Programs.
- [Our Target Population](#) - Learn why Soroptimist empowers women and girls who face obstacles.
- [Contact information for Program Region Chairs](#)
- [Outcomes-Based Club Project Evaluation](#)