

**Founder Region
Soroptimist International of the Americas**

2021 Call to Conference

April 28 – May 2, 2021

Virtual Conference



*Dream **BIG** for the future!*



SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

Kris Chorbi, Governor

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Dear Members of Founder Region,

It is my honor and pleasure to invite you to the 45th Annual Founder Region Conference! The pandemic may have created obstacles for us to meet in person, but we will continue to deliver exciting and engaging opportunities to be together from April 28 - May 2, 2021 via Zoom. The Founder Region Board, along with our Founder Region Fellowship Board, hope you will join us as we celebrate our past and *"Dream **BIG** for the future!"*

We begin on Wednesday with a Fellows Reception hosted by the Founder Region Fellowship Board, as they honor the many donors to our foundation. On Thursday night, the Legislative Advocacy Committee has planned an exciting presentation with speakers from various backgrounds in public service entitled, *"We've come a long way...but not nearly far enough"*. This program intends to educate and inform you about the progress in pay equity, equality in the workplace and Title IX, culminating in what we can do as Soroptimists to further our equality. You will also have an opportunity to pose questions to our panelists during a round robin breakout room Q&A.

Prepare to be inspired Friday evening with our Fellowship Presentation and celebration of new Fellowship recipients. On Saturday morning, join us for a special Keynote Speaker, SI President Sharon Fisher, where she will share the *"Global Impact of Soroptimist"* and updates on the SI President's Appeal, *"Road to Equality"*. Saturday afternoon will include the business of our region, election of the 2021-2023 Nominating Committee, and hear from our official visitor, SIA Director Freda Powell. We will share the successes of region clubs, announce Soroptimists Celebrating Success region winners, and more! Join us Saturday night to celebrate the **100 Year Anniversary** of Soroptimist with special messages of hope from our Past Governors, presentations from SIA special guest Lisa Mangiafico and the Founder Region Board, and untold stories about Violet Richardson Ward.

YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS IT!

On Sunday, we will remember our beloved members who were lost last year with the "Celebration of Service" memorial tribute. We will end our time together by honoring our district and region Live Your Dream Award, Violet Richardson Award, and Barbara Stevenson "S" Club Award recipients. Hear from our awardees live as they share their stories of resilience and innovative ways they provide service to our communities.

We have so many opportunities to get involved and have some fun! (see flyers for details)

Conference Attendance Incentive Drawings – Attend any session and your name will be entered into a drawing to win free registration and meals for the 2022 Founder Region Conference at the Waikiki Beach Marriott Hotel, Hawaii. **ATTEND ALL SESSIONS** and win a chance to become a Fellow or level up, donated by Founder Region.

Nominate a club member who embraces change and supports the "Soroptimist Forward" vision for the Governor's *"Dream **BIG** for the future!"* award. Support the Conference Service Project and help us sew 100 dresses for "Dress a Girl Around the World".

Visit our Conference Club Sales page and support fundraisers in our region. Order your commemorative Founder Region 100 Year Anniversary shirt, and REMEMBER to register early to receive your commemorative Founder Region History booklet. I look forward to seeing you, celebrating with you, and sharing our 2021 Founder Region Conference with you.

Cheers, Governor Kris



CALL TO FOUNDER REGION CONFERENCE

WHEN: April 28 - May 2, 2021

WHERE: Zoom Video Conferencing

REGISTRATION: All members who wish to attend must register individually through [Eventbrite](#) for the various sessions. Registration will be open from March 5, 2021 to May 2, 2021. **All members registering by April 15th will receive a free commemorative Founder Region History booklet.**

DELEGATES: Each club may be represented by 3 delegates pursuant to Founder Region Bylaws. After completing registration, any alternate selected by the club board of directors to fill a vacancy in the club's representation, shall present a statement signed by the club president showing that she/he was duly approved, giving the date of such approval and certifying that she/he is a regular member.

Each club is responsible for submitting the delegates' registration form to Registration Chair Cara Begley by April 7, 2021. Late delegate registration is accepted until April 15th for final voting. Mail form to 2401 Silverado Drive, Antioch, CA, 94509 or email jakesnana@rocketmail.com. For questions, contact Cara at (925) 689-1360.

CREDENTIALS: Credentials Chair Dona Gaddis Wolf will verify your registration as a club delegate and you will receive a confirmation email with voting instructions. You will then receive your ballot through eBallot for online voting when the polls open. Please see Call to Caucus for the voting timeline. For questions, contact Dona at (925) 597-0766 or email gaddiswolf@comcast.net.

VOTING BODY: The voting body of the Conference shall be the Region Board members and the accredited delegates of each club in good standing. A club shall be deemed in good standing if all requirements of the Founder Region Bylaws and those established by the region conference, region board, and federation bylaws and procedures have been met at the time its delegates register. A delegate shall represent only the club in which the delegate's membership is held.

NON-DELEGATES: All Soroptimists and guests are encouraged to attend.

Register through [Eventbrite](#)

Responsibilities of Club Delegates

The elected club delegates should have a working knowledge of Soroptimist International and Federation Bylaws, Region Bylaws, the objectives and ideals of the organization, and experience as a member of a club board or committee. An understanding of parliamentary procedure and a spirit of goodwill and understanding will help the delegate, the club, and the conference body.

The Club President, who serves as a delegate and the leader of the club delegation, should:

1. Allocate time at a business meeting to discuss Proposed Candidates and Bylaw Amendments (if any) and solicit club opinion or direction.
2. Arrange with the other delegates for assigning sections of the report on conference to be given to non-attending club members.
3. Participate in the **Caucus Call** on March 31, 2021 to learn about the Proposed Bylaw Amendments.
4. As soon as possible after conference, schedule time at a club meeting for delegates to present their reports.

Prior to Conference Delegates should:

1. Study the **Call to Conference** which indicates the tentative agenda listing business to be transacted, forms, presentations, social events & attendance incentives.
2. Verify with Club President or Treasurer that the **Club Delegate Registration Form** has been submitted for all delegates before the deadline to ensure online voting access.
3. Participate in the **Caucus Call** to learn about the Proposed Bylaw Amendments.
4. Study the Proposed Bylaw Amendments and review Resumes of Candidates and discuss with your club
5. Refer to the Call to Caucus for timeline of voting through eBallot.
6. Cast your vote online through eBallot **between April 17 and April 30**.

During Conference Delegates should:

1. Check with the Credentials Chair if you have not received your eBallot link to cast your vote.
2. Attend all sessions and take notes for precise reporting back to club.
3. Vote with the club viewpoint in mind.
4. Make sure you vote online **before May 1**.

After Conference Delegates should:

1. Prepare a report to present to your club that may include action taken during the business meeting and reason for each action.
2. Discuss awards – who won them and why? How can your club participate next year?
3. Present their personal evaluation of the conference and encourage increased club attendance at future meetings and conferences.

Register through [Eventbrite](#)

Click to follow link.



FOUNDER REGION CONFERENCE 2021

Soroptimist International of the Americas



DELGATE REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete this form to register your club delegates for voting electronically on all nominated positions and Bylaw Amendments sent out with the Call to Conference 2021. The deadline for Registration of Delegates is **April 7, 2021**.

Refer to the Call to Caucus for the timeline of voting.

(SUBMIT ONE PER CLUB)

CLUB NAME: _____

DELEGATE POSITION	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	EMAIL ADDRESS
PRESIDENT			
DELEGATE #2			
DELEGATE #3			

For Credentials, I hereby certify that the above named delegates are members in good standing of this club: _____

Signature of President or Secretary: _____

Email: _____ DATE: _____

Complete instructions for electronic balloting will be emailed to all delegates. Voting will commence on April 17th and remain open until April 30th. **Please complete this form and send to both the Registration and Credentials Chairs:**

Registration Chair: Cara Begley

Email: jakesnana@rocketmail.com

Phone: (925) 689-1360

Credentials Chair: Dona Gaddis Wolf

gaddiswolf@comcast.net

(925) 597-0766

*Late registrations will be accepted until April 15th, but may miss voting on Ballot #1 if there are any amendments to the proposed amendments.

Founder Region 'Call to Caucus'

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31



Club Presidents and Conference Delegates

Join us for the Region Caucus Conference Call where you will have the opportunity to learn about the proposed amendments to Founder Region Bylaws and Founder Region Fellowship Bylaws that will be voted on before conference. You will also have the opportunity to nominate candidates from the floor for the 2021-2023 Nominating Committee. Voting will take place through eBallot online.

Online Voting Timeline:	
March 5	Call to Conference released
April 7	Delegates registration deadline
April 7	Amendments to Proposed Amendments due via email
April 8	Credentials Report #1 verified
April 9-15	Electronic Ballot #1 open
April 15	Delegates Briefing via email
April 7-15	Late registrations accepted
April 16	Credentials Report #2 verified
April 17-30	Electronic Ballot #2 open
May 1	Voting results announced

TIME OF CALL:

7:00 pm – California time

(4:00 pm – Hawaii time)

(12:00 pm April 1 – Guam/Saipan time)

(11:00 am April 1 –Palau time)

Please **register** in advance
of the Caucus Conference
Call (Ctrl + Click to follow link)

**Once registered, you will
receive the instructions to
join the meeting via Zoom.**

Download the proposed amendments in advance from the [conference](#) page on the Founder Region website. All members are welcome.

www.si-fiounderregion.org

For information contact:

Laws & Resolutions Region Chair

Sheila Bearden shebehere@aol.com

or

Governor Kris kchorbi5@yahoo.com

Virtual Conference Agenda

Online Voting Timeline

March 31, 2021	Caucus Conference Call - 7:00pm	All times are Pacific Daylight Time.
April 7, 2021	Delegates registration deadline	
April 7, 2021	Amendments to Proposed Amendments due via email	
April 8, 2021	Credentials Report #1 verified	
April 9-15, 2021	Electronic Ballot #1 open (if applicable)	
April 15, 2021	Delegates Briefing via email	
April 7-15, 2021	Late registrations accepted	
April 16, 2021	Credentials Report #2 verified	
April 17-30, 2021	Electronic Ballot #2 open	
May 1, 2021	Voting results announced	

2021 Conference Agenda

All times are Pacific Daylight Time

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

6:00pm - 7:30pm	Fellowship Reception	President Cheryl Poncini & Fellowship Board
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THURSDAY, APRIL 29

6:00pm - 8:00pm	Legislative Advocacy	Legislative Advocacy Committee
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FRIDAY, APRIL 30

9:00am - 12:00pm	Founder Region Board Meeting	Governor Kris Chorbi
9:00am - 12:00pm	Founder Region Fellowship Board Meeting	President Cheryl Poncini
7:00pm - 9:00pm	Fellowship Presentation	President Cheryl & the Fellowship Board

SATURDAY, MAY 1

10:00am - 11:30am	Keynote Speaker	SI President Sharon Fisher
1:00pm - 3:00pm	Founder Region & Fellowship Business Meeting	Governor Kris & President Cheryl
3:00pm - 3:30pm	Q&A with Official Visitor	SIA Director Freda Powell
6:00pm - 7:00pm	Cocktail Social Hour	Governor Kris & the Founder Region Board
7:00pm - 9:00pm	100 Year Anniversary Celebration	Governor Kris & the Founder Region Board

SUNDAY, MAY 2

11:00am - 1:00pm	Memorial Tribute & Awards Presentation	Governor Kris & Governor-elect Vicki Ham
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Register through [Eventbrite](#)

Presidents' Checklist

- ☐ Share the Call to Conference materials with your club by emailing to all your members. Review Nominee's resumes and Founder Region & Fellowship Bylaw Amendments.
- ☐ **NOTE:** Remind club treasurers that the SIA 5008 forms and Founder Region New Member forms must be received by **Tess Albin-Smith, Treasurer** by **March 31, 2021** to qualify for the Julia "Bess" Combs Membership Increase Award.
- ☐ **Tentative Agenda (see enclosed agenda on page 8 for detail):** You will not want to miss any of the events we are planning for our 45th Annual Founder Region Conference.
- ☐ **Delegates' Registration:** Remember to submit the Delegate Registration form before **April 7, 2021**. Contact **Credentials Chair Dona Gaddis Wolf** with any questions at (925) 597-0766 or email gaddiswolf@comcast.net.
- ☐ **"Dream BIG for the future!" Award:** Submit your club nominee to **Joy Swank, Secretary** at soroptimistjoy@gmail.com for honoring on our social media sites before conference.
- ☐ **Dream Programs Fundraiser:** Sell or purchase raffle numbers and submit with club check to your District Representative by **April 8, 2021**. Draw for the gift card raffle within your club before conference.
- ☐ **Early Bird Registration:** Register through [Eventbrite](#) by **April 15, 2021** to receive your commemorative Founder Region History Booklet. Registration open through Conference.
- ☐ **Registration:** Register yourself through [Eventbrite](#) for each session you wish to attend and remind your members to do the same.
- ☐ **First Time Attendees:** Encourage new members to register and attend conference. They will receive a special recognition gift from the Governor after conference.
- ☐ **"Celebration of Service" Memorial Tribute:** Send completed memorial form to *Governor Kris Chorbi* at kchorbi5@yahoo.com by **April 8, 2021**.
- ☐ **Club Sales Registration Form:** Send completed information as indicated on the Online Club Sales form to *Treasurer Tess* at tess@alumni.ucdavis.edu by **April 25, 2021** for posting on the region website.
- ☐ **Pre-Conference Founder Region Board Meeting Silent Observer Registration Form:** Return to *Secretary Joy* at soroptimistjoy@gmail.com by **April 8, 2021**.
- ☐ **Pre-Conference Founder Region Fellowship Board Meeting Silent Observer Registration & Representative for Club Fellow Forms:** Return to **Dana Holve, Founder Region Fellowship Secretary**, at danaholve@gmail.com by **April 8, 2021**.
- ☐ **Candidate Resumes:** Share and discuss with club members prior to conference so the delegates will be ready to vote. Download from the Founder Region website at www.si-founderregion.org.
- ☐ **Bylaw Amendment Proposals:** Share and discuss with club members prior to conference to ensure the delegates will be ready to vote. Download from the Founder Region website at www.si-founderregion.org.
- ☐ **T-Shirt:** Order your 100 Year Commemorative shirt through [Custom Ink](#) before April 1st.

Register through [Eventbrite](#)

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY PRESENTATION

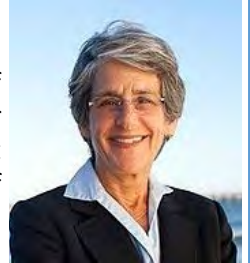
Thursday, April 29, 2021 6:00pm-8:00pm

"We've come a long way...but not nearly far enough!"

Topics include: Equality in the Workplace, Pay Equity, Inequity of Women of Color, Title IX

PRESENTERS

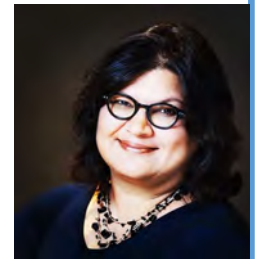
Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson is a former prosecutor and practicing attorney, educator, and small business owner. She was elected to the California State Senate in 2012 to represent the 19th Senate District, which includes all of Santa Barbara County and western Ventura County. A graduate of Scripps College in Claremont, California with a joint major in government and sociology, she received her law degree from Boston University Law School before returning to California to work as a deputy district attorney for Santa Barbara County. Eventually, she became the managing partner for the Law Offices of Eskin and Jackson, with offices in Ventura and Santa Barbara. She is also chair of the Select Committee on Women, Work and Families and chair of the Joint Legislative Committee on Emergency Management.



Dr. Lois Merriweather Moore is an author, researcher, and educator who has observed educational programs in Egypt, Mexico, Italy, Cuba and Spain. She is a retired Adjunct Professor in the International and Multicultural Education Department of the University of San Francisco where she presented research and published 2 books. Her commitment to educational excellence and community spans over 30 years. She has received the Martin Luther King Humanitarian Award, the Novato Citizen of the Year Award, the Bay Area Blacks in Philanthropy Leadership & Achievement Award, the Carl. A. Grant Multicultural Research Award and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Gates Millennium Scholarship Award. She is an inductee of the Marin Women's Hall of Fame and currently serves as President of the Board of California's 4th District Agricultural Association.



Surina Khan is a first generation immigrant and came to the US with her parents and five older siblings in 1973, and has been dedicated to gender, racial, and economic justice issues ever since. As CEO of The Women's Foundation California, Surina oversees the Foundation's strategic direction which is focused on building community-based power through investing in effective community-based organizations, training community leaders in policy advocacy, connecting key partners, and mobilizing significant financial resources. Surina first became involved with WFC as a volunteer in 2004 serving on a grants review committee. She joined the staff in 2005 as a Senior Program Officer and was promoted to Director of Programs and then Vice President of Programs.



Honorable Sandra A. Simms is a member of SI/Waikiki Foundation, Inc. She graduated from Hyde Park High School before attending and graduating from the University of Illinois at Chicago with her B.A. degree in political science and sociology. Simms later obtained her J.D. degree from DePaul University College of Law in 1978. In 1991, Simms became the first African American female judge in Hawaii upon her appointment to the District Court of the First Circuit. Three years later, she was appointed Circuit Court Judge for the First Judicial Circuit by Governor John David Waihe'e, III. Simms retired as a circuit court judge in 2004.



LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

Linda Witong, Chair
Phyllis Gordon
Madalienne Peters
Rachel Farac
Laura Middlemiss
Angie Haramoto



Source: National Women's Law Center, Equal Payback Project, 2017

Register through [Eventbrite](#)

You will then receive an email with log in information and the link for the presentation.

Founder Region

Pre-Conference Board Meeting

Friday, April 30, 2021

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. via Zoom

Link for the meeting will be provided upon approval of registration.

Silent Observer Registration

Members interested in attending the open board meeting must pre-register with the Region Secretary. Members must be "in good standing" to be eligible to attend.

Submit Registrations to: Secretary Joy at soroptimistjoy@gmail.com

Or mail to Joy Swank, 3959 Sierra Vista Drive, Vacaville, CA 95688

Soroptimist International of _____

Attendees: 1. _____

Email _____

2. _____

Email _____

3. _____

Email _____



Founder Region Fellowship, Inc.

"Seeking to advance the Soroptimist mission by awarding grants to outstanding women in the final phase of their doctoral degree."

Dear Founder Region Soroptimists:

The 2020-2022 Founder Region Fellowship Board is having an amazing first year! Our District Meeting raffle was very successful despite the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the generosity of our members, Fellowship named 16 new Fellows or Fellows who "leveled up." The Fellowship merchandise and Amazon gift cards raffle prizes were a big hit as well.

Currently, we are working on what we traditionally consider our primary fundraiser of the year. This year, due to mandated virtual meetings, our "Peacock Challenge" fundraiser is based on donations in which the raffle prizes are primarily Fellowship experiences. (See the flyer in the Conference materials for more details.) Those experiences include a Fellowship-hosted Zoom lunch or tea on Saturday, June 5 with a Fellowship award recipient. Another raffle prize experience is co-hosting a Fellowship awards recipient at both the upcoming Conference Fellows reception and Fellowship night as well as being a Silent Observer at two Fellowship semi-finalist interviews in March 2022. Of course, for every \$1,000 raised, we will draw for a Fellow or level-up. Remember: the larger your donation, the more raffle numbers you earn. As a bonus and based on the size of the donation, donors will receive one or more Fellowship merchandise items as "Thank You" gifts.

The "Peacock Challenge" raffle numbers went on sale in December; **sales end on April 7, 2021**. The Fellowship Board will draw raffle winners by mid-April. Those winning the co-hosting prizes will then be notified so they can prepare to co-host Fellowship awardees at Conference. The remaining raffle winners will be announced at Conference. Contact your Fellowship District Director to purchase raffle numbers.

Two additional fundraisers will be held this spring. One is a virtual Silent Auction for Deanna Hanks' pins coming in April. The other is a virtual fun walk/run scheduled for May; sign-ups are happening now. More details about both events are in this Call. Our fundraising supports the primary focus of Fellowship: to finance the Fellowship awards which recognize women in the final phase of their doctoral studies and whose work is likely to improve the lives of women and girls or benefit society in general.

In this time of social distancing and working remotely, Fellowship has utilized technology to deliver information about our Fellowship awards program to deans and student advisors at accredited universities and colleges with doctoral programs in Founder Region. As a result, we received 45 completed applications from students representing the University of Hawaii, U.C. Berkeley, Mills College in Oakland, Saint Mary's College in Moraga and California State University, East Bay in Hayward. The Fellowship Board has selected 23 applicants to interview in early-to-mid March. Following the interviews, the Board will select the women who will receive the 2021 Fellowship grants.

Fellows will not want to miss our virtual Fellows Reception at Conference on **Wednesday, April 28 from 6 – 7:30 p.m.** We plan to have Zoom breakout rooms to make informally meeting the 2021 award recipients more like meeting them in person. Everyone is invited to join us on **Friday, April 30 from 7 – 9 p.m.**, for our virtual Friday evening program which will feature the 2021 award recipients talking about their work and future plans. Our Fellowship District Directors will close the evening by recognizing our 2020-2021 Fellows and those Fellows moving to the next level. If you want to be recognized at this conference for your new Fellow level or want a club member to be so recognized, final payments need to be received by Fellowship Treasurer Teresa or your Fellowship Director soon.

On behalf of the 2020-2022 Fellowship Board, many thanks for your ongoing support. In its 73rd year, the Founder Region Fellowship program would not exist without each of you.

Warm regards,

President Cheryl

Treasurer Teresa &

Fellowship Directors Billie, Dana, Fawn, Crystal & Denise

Cheryl Poncini

President

Teresa Karlson

Treasurer

Billie Knight

Director District I

Dana Holve

Secretary

Director District II

Fawn Williams

Director District III

Crystal Arbuthnot

Director District IV

Denise Ridge

Director District V



FOUNDER REGION FELLOWSHIP VIRTUAL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE APRIL 28 – MAY 2, 2021

Wednesday, April 28

6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Fellows Reception

- ✦ Attendance by Invitation to University Fellowship Award Recipients, Fellows & Raffle Co-Host Winners
- ✦ Chat with our Outstanding Fellowship Award Recipients in Breakout Rooms

Friday, April 30

9:00 a.m. – Noon

Fellowship Board Meeting

Registered Silent Observers Welcome

Friday, April 30

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Fellowship Awards Program

- ✦ Hear How a Fellowship Award Made a Difference for a Past Award Recipient.
- ✦ Learn about the Work of Our Outstanding 2021 Fellowship Award Recipients.
 - ✦ Congratulate New Fellows & Those Moving to a New Level.

Saturday, May 1

1:00 – 1:30 p.m.

Fellowship Annual Business Meeting

- ✦ Fellowship Bylaws Amendments Voting Results Announced
 - ✦ Raffle Winners Announced
 - ✦ Silent Auction Winners Announced





FOUNDER REGION FELLOWSHIP ANNOUNCES A:

TWO WEEK VIRTUAL SILENT AUCTION OF *DEANNA PINS* LEADING TO FELLOWSHIP'S PREMIER EVENT – THE APRIL 30 FRIDAY EVENING PROGRAM.

Deanna Pins are unique Soroptimist pins made by the late Deanna Hanks of SI/Dixon.



AUCTION STARTS: April 16, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. (PDT)

AUCTION ENDS: April 30, 2021, at 11:00 p.m. (PDT)

WHERE: ONLINE (Details will be released in early April.)



You won't want to miss the fun of online bidding for a unique pin or other jewelry item crafted by Deanna.

Proceeds to go to Founder Region Fellowship, a 501(c)(3) non-profit and Founder Region's Identifying Project, which assists amazing women in the final phase of their doctoral programs.

Education Inspires BIG Dreams!

FOUNDER REGION FELLOWSHIP'S 2020-2021 PRIMARY FUNDRAISER:

THE PEACOCK CHALLENGE--Help Fellowship Raise Funds for 2021 Fellowship Awards to Assist Women in the Final Phase of their Doctoral Programs



This fundraiser runs from December 2020 to April 7, 2021. Drawings will be held on April 12. Co-host winners will be notified by phone. Remaining winners will be announced at Conference. Contact your Fellowship Director.

The More Money Fellowship Raises, the More Awards We Can Present

The Focus: The Raffle prizes are Fellowship experiences.

The Bonus: Fellowship merchandise as "Thank You" gifts (keep for yourself or give as gifts to others for any occasion). The number of raffle chances and types of gifts are based on the size of your raffle donation.

THE RAFFLE PRIZES

For four raffle winners, the opportunity to co-host (with a Fellowship Board member) two 2021 Fellowship award recipients. (Two raffle winners per Award Recipient)

Co-hosting will include:

- Co-presenting a Fellowship Award Recipient at the virtual Fellow 2021 reception to be held on Wednesday evening, April 28, 2021; AND
- Co-presenting that Fellowship Award Recipient at the virtual Fellowship Friday evening program on April 30, 2021; and
- Attending two Fellowship award selection interviews in early-to-mid March 2022 as Silent Observers either in person* or via Zoom.

For three raffle winners, the opportunity to have lunch or tea with a Fellowship Award recipient on Saturday, June 5, 2021.

- Lunch or tea will be ordered and delivered by a restaurant local to each of the raffle winners, compliments of Fellowship; AND
- During lunch or tea, the raffle winners will have 75 minutes to informally chat with the Fellowship Award recipient via Zoom.

For two raffle winners, a \$50.00 gift card to either Amazon or Starbuck's (each raffle winner's choice).

For every \$1,000 raised, a region-wide drawing for a Fellow or to level-up.

DONATION LEVELS / RAFFLE CHANCES / THANK YOU GIFTS

<u>DONATION</u>	<u># of CHANCES</u>	<u>THANK YOU ITEM/S</u>
\$25.00 - \$49.00	One	One pair of long pearl earrings w/ bead
\$50.00 - \$99.00	Two	Level 1 + an Earbud case
\$100.00-\$249.00	Three	Levels 1 & 2 + an FRF PopSocket
\$250.00-\$499.00	Four	Levels 1, 2, & 3 + A second pair of long pearl earrings w/ bead
\$500.00-\$749.00	Five	Levels 1, 2, 3, 4 + a Pearl Necklace w/ beads
\$750.00-\$999.00	Six	Levels 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 + a Pashmina

*NOTE: Fellowship is unable to pay transportation or other expenses to attend the interviews. Therefore, raffle winners unable to attend two interviews in Hawaii or California in person may attend as a Silent Observer via Zoom.



Founder Region Fellowship

Fun Run/Walk

May 15-29, 2021



Registration \$25
Add a t-shirt for \$10



Join an existing team or
make your own team!

Let's have some fun and help
raise funds for women.

Choose a 1 mile, 2 mile or 5k route and do it outdoors in your own area or on a treadmill. You pick the date. Just submit your results by the 29th. Please be mindful of social distancing when running/walking.

Click [here](#) for more information and to register or go to www.racerooster.com and search "Dream Big"

Questions: email Crystal at FRFfunrun@gmail.com

BIG Thanks to our sponsors (as of 3-2-21)



Proceeds support our grant program which benefits women in the final phase of their doctoral studies.
Founder Region Fellowship is a 501(c)(3) non-profit.

Founder Region Fellowship Pre-Conference Board Meeting

Friday, April 30, 2021

9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Silent Observer Registration

Zoom link will be provided when registration is approved.

Members interested in attending the open board meeting must pre-register with the Founder Region Fellowship President.

Members must be in "good standing" to be eligible to attend.

Submit registrations to:

**Cheryl Poncini, P.O. Box 64143, Sunnyvale, CA 94088 or
email to cherylponcini.75@gmail.com.**

Soroptimist International of _____

Attendees: 1. _____

Email _____

2. _____

Email _____

3. _____

Email _____

Deadline: April 8, 2021

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Sharon Fisher, Soroptimist International President 2019-2021



**Saturday, May 1, 2021
10:00am - 11:30am via Zoom**



“Global Impact of Soroptimist & Update on SI President’s Appeal”



Meet Sharon: *“The place I call home is British Columbia, Canada, outside Vancouver, where I am an active member of SI of the Langleys in Western Canada Region. My Soroptimist service has included club, region and Federation leadership. I have served on the Soroptimist International board and most recently held the position of Assistant Director of Advocacy where I chaired the President’s Appeal, Educate to Lead: Nepal. We are still reporting on projects underway in Nepal that have been achieved through the generous donations of clubs around the world. I can promise the impact these projects are having on the women and girls in Nepal is life changing.*

In the twilight years of my career, I am serving a not for profit association bringing education, awareness and prevention of adult abuse, neglect and self-neglect to communities throughout the province. I am the Director of Administrative Services. Prior to this, my career was primarily around publicly traded companies with positions including principal, director, capital formation, business planning and investor. I hold a designation as a Certified Public Accountant.

My two sons live close to me and I have two grandsons to spoil. I have a passion for salmon fishing and spend time at Whistler with the family and hope to continue skiing. Of course most of my free time is reserved for Soroptimist service.”

SI PRESIDENT’S APPEAL 2019-2021—“Road to Equality”

President Sharon Fisher’s “The Road to Equality” President’s Appeal – strategically focuses on taking Action and Advocating on topics affecting women and girls, including Child Marriage, Female Genital Mutilation, Domestic Violence, Rights of Older Women, Migration, and Human Trafficking. The Appeal incorporates a mix of projects, alongside information, and education, to build awareness and engage Soroptimists and friends through discussion. A recent addition to the programme are the SI Voices Webinars, where you can hear from a range of experts and grassroots activists on the key subjects. Through access to tools, facts and stories, we believe that each of us will be able to raise our capacity to be a *global voice for women* on our journey towards achieving gender equality. The topics and pages below will develop and expand over time, so please do revisit this page regularly. [LEARN MORE](http://www.soroptimistinternational.org) at www.soroptimistinternational.org

Register through [Eventbrite](#)

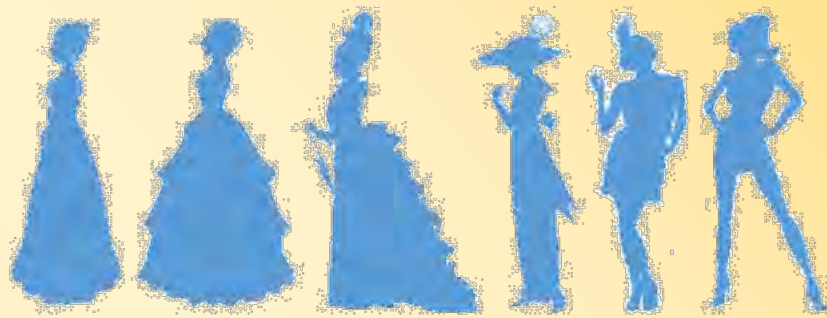
You will then receive an email with log in information and the link for the presentation.



The Road to Equality
SI PRESIDENT’S APPEAL 2019 - 2021

Celebrate 100 Years of Soroptimist

1921



2021

Join us Saturday Night of Conference 6:00pm Social, 7:00pm Presentation

- ◆ Special greetings from our Past Governors
- ◆ Stroll down memory lane over the past 10 decades
- ◆ Untold stories about Violet Richardson

**Wear your best 1920's
headpiece & pearls!**



SPECIAL PRESENTATION

by Lisa Mangiafico

SIA's Associate Director of Records and
Curator of SIA Archives

**"Parallel Paths: Two Roads Leading to
Soroptimist International"**



Founder Region 2021 CONFERENCE FUNDRAISER

*"Dream **BIG** for the future!"*

We want to dream **BIG** for the future and directly help women in our communities during this pandemic and beyond.



Purchase Raffle Numbers
\$5.00 each or
3 for \$10.00

Each club will be provided raffle numbers to sell within their own club.

Provide Gift Card(s)
Valued at \$150.00

The prize should be gift card(s) from local women owned businesses within your community.



Return **one** check from your club with the raffle number log.
{payable to: Founder Region} by **April 8, 2021** to your Fundraising Committee Representative

➡ **NEW INCENTIVE:** one number will be drawn for a \$1,000 Laurel Society membership.

During conference, have the drawing within your club and award the gift cards.

Please contact your District Representative for more information

Leanne Davis	Chair	1278-25th Ave., #5, San Francisco, CA 94122-1545	Cell: 415-571-5949
Karen Jameson	District I	282 Mistral Way, Vallejo, CA 94591	Res: 707-642-0512
Kathy Hahn	District II	3510 Valley View Ct., Vallejo, CA 94534	Cell: 707-372-3971
Lillian Meyers	District III	670 W. Napa St., Ste C Sonoma, CA 95476	Bus: 707-935-1124
Andrea Boldt	District IV	P. O. Box 1144, Redway, CA 95560	Cell: 707-498-6712
Malia Lau	District V	2464- D Pali Hwy., Honolulu, HI 96817	Cell: 808-295-5433

Proceeds benefit Region and Federation Dream Programs.

➡ **SELL ALL YOUR NUMBERS** ⬅

Clubs selling all their numbers will be entered into a drawing for \$250 donation toward Club Giving.



*Dream **BIG** for the future!*

Award

Nominate a member in your club who embraces change and supports the **“Soroptimist Forward”** vision.

Club: _____ President: _____

Club Contact: _____ Email: _____

Nominee: _____ Years of membership: _____

Nominee Email: _____

Tell us how your member continues to
*“Dream **BIG** for the future!”* in your club.

Email **NOMINATION FORM & PHOTO** to Secretary Joy Swank at soroptimistjoy@gmail.com
by **April 15, 2021**. Members will be honored on the Founder Region Facebook page
and in a special issue of the region newsletter.

Attendance Incentives

EARLY REGISTRATION

Register by April 15th and receive a FREE commemorative Founder Region History booklet.



DRAWING #1

Attend **ANY** session of our virtual conference and be entered into a drawing to win free registration and meals at the 2022 Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii.



DRAWING #2

Attend **ALL** sessions (Thursday-Saturday) of our virtual conference and be entered into a drawing to win a \$1,000 Fellow (or level up), in support of Founder Region Fellowship.



Register through [Eventbrite](#)

Live Your Dream Program Incentive

For every Live Your Dream award given by your club in the 2020-2021 club year, you will be entered into a drawing to win \$1,000 to use for your LYD program. Let's increase the number of awards given in our region to support the 2021-2031 Big Goal:

“Invest in the Dreams of Half a Million Women and Girls through Access to Education”.



**Drawing will take place at the 2021 Conference in May. Funds must be used to give an additional LYD Award in the 2021-2022 club year.*



In Memoriam

Founder Region, Soroptimist International of the Americas, Inc.

“Celebration of Service” - Memorial Form **2020-2021**

We would like to honor those Soroptimist members who have passed away since March 15, 2020. Please complete this form to provide us with your deceased member's information and send us a photograph, so we may include them in the Sunday morning “Celebration of Service” Memorial at Conference. Additionally, your member will be recorded in the memorial album maintained in conjunction with the Founder Region Memorial Redwood Grove.

Please type or print legibly:

Soroptimist International of _____

Name of deceased member: _____ Date of Death: _____

Year Inducted: _____ or number of years of service: _____

Club President: _____ Email: _____

Please complete a separate form for each deceased member and submit with photo to Kris Chorbi, Governor at kchorbi5@yahoo.com or mail to 801 Azalea Lane, Eureka, Ca 95503.

Deadline to submit form and photo is April 8, 2021.

Please mark your calendar: The 2021 Virtual Redwood Memorial Grove Service will be held Sunday, **June 13, 2021 at 11:00am** via Zoom. The service is moderated by Chair Debbie Thompson and presented by members of the Founder Region Board. Please join us for a virtual walking tour through the redwoods, history of the grove, and special presentation about our Northern California State Parks.

All members are encouraged to attend this inspiring and moving service. Please join us as we remember our beloved members.

[Register](#) now for this event.

Invitation to Host 2024 Conference

To: All Clubs in Founder Region

From: Joy Swank, Region Secretary

Subject: **Invitation to Host Region Conference 2024**

According to Founder Region Bylaws, it is time for clubs to submit invitations to host the region conference to be held in May 2024 at a location within the boundaries of Districts I through IV.

Article VI – Meetings

Section 6.1 – The Region shall hold an annual conference the first weekend in May that does not include Mother's Day for the purpose of conducting the business of the Region, promoting Soroptimist projects and programs and in order to provide opportunities for leadership and personal development of members.

- a. Final venue will be approved by the Region Board.
- b. Every sixth year conference shall be held at a site located within the boundaries of District V.

If you would like to take advantage of this fun and exciting opportunity, please send your offer to host a conference to Secretary Joy Swank by **April 8, 2021** at soroptimistjoy@gmail.com.

Future Founder Region Conferences

YEAR	LOCATION	HOST CLUBS
2021	Virtual Online Zoom	Soroptimist International of The East Bay Soroptimist International of El Cerrito Soroptimist International of Oakland - The Founder Club Soroptimist International of The Tri-Valley
2022	Marriott Resort Waikiki Beach	Soroptimist International of Central Oahu Soroptimist International of Honolulu Soroptimist International of Maui Soroptimist International of Waikiki Foundation, Inc.
2023	Marriott City Center Oakland	Soroptimist International Marin County Soroptimist International of Novato

Founder Region 100 Year Commemorative Shirt

Sport-Tek Women's Competitor Long
Sleeve V-Neck Performance Shirt —
True Royal

Sizes XS to 3X Fit True to Size

Under \$25.00

**Order individually
or as a club**

[ORDER NOW](#)



FRONT



BACK

Place order through [Custom Ink](#)

Pay online and ship to your address.

Group sale ends April 1st to receive by conference.

(Expect delivery within 2-4 weeks after April 1st)

Custom Ink will charge a \$0.49 per-item fee to cover credit card processing fees.
Applicable tax may apply at checkout and shipping is \$6.95 for California & Hawaii.

***A second group sales order can be set up if there is enough interest.**

For questions or to request an order after April 1st,
contact Governor Kris at kchorbi5@yahoo.com.

Conference Service Project

We are partnering with “Dress a Girl Around the World” organization and SI/Antioch to do a region-wide service project in honor of our 100 Year Anniversary. We are joining the dedicated volunteers throughout the United States and around the world to sew dresses for girls in need because we believe that **every girl deserves at least one dress**.



Dress a Girl Around the World

Imagine a world where every girl owned at least one dress

“As a seamstress myself, I believe that having a garment that makes you feel beautiful and special is the first step to feeling empowered and confident. During this pandemic, I find solace and calm when I sew and I hope you will join us in making these beautiful dresses for sweet girls all over the world.” — Governor Kris

GOAL = 100 DRESSES

We ask every club to make 2 or more dresses.

Instructions are posted on the Founder Region website [here](#).

Don't sew, no problem!

You can donate fabric, beads, bias tape, lace, elastic, rickrack or buttons.

For questions, contact Chair Cara Begley from SI/Antioch at
(925) 550-4924 or email jakesnana@rocketmail.com.

Mail completed dresses or donations to Cara Begley, 2401 Silverado Dr., Antioch, CA 94509

Note: Avoid white or lightweight fabric (ie. Gingham etc).



Human Trafficking Awareness

As Hope 4 Women International distributes the dresses to girls in need, they educate them and their parents/guardians of the traps of human trafficking and like to include this "awareness" during their time of dressing girls. This label is attached to the dresses before they are sent out to girls around the world. For more information, visit [Dress a Girl Around the World](#). Labels will be affixed to finished garments by Chair Cara Begley.

Virtual Conference Club Sales

Clubs are invited to participate in selling items for fundraising on the Founder Region website. We are creating a **Conference Club Sales** page in order to support our clubs during these challenging times. These items will remain on the region website until June 30, 2021 to encourage sales throughout the region. Let's support each other and our Soroptimist mission!

All we need is a photo of your item, the price and the contact person who can receive orders. Please complete this form and return it, along with a picture of your item(s), to Treasurer Tess Albin-Smith at tess@alumni.ucdavis.edu by **April 25, 2021**. Be sure to include shipping costs associated with each item or include it in the total price.

Please refer to the Use of SIA Registered Marks Policies, Licensing Frequently Asked Questions and Licensing Application/Fee Payment information available on the SIA website before placing any orders for items to sell within the region. An application must be sent to SIA, along with a \$50 fee, for each item/form (for items not previously granted permission to sell from SIA). Use of SIA's registered marks is governed by the Use of SIA Registered Marks Policies and SIA Bylaws and Procedures. http://www.soroptimist.org/members/fedinfo/fed_info.html.

Virtual Club Sales Form

Soroptimist International of _____

Contact Name & email: _____

Club Website Link: _____

List sale items including price:

Note: Raffle Ticket Sales are not permitted online.

You must have a current non-profit raffle permit prior to selling tickets or numbers.

For more information about raffle permits visit: State of California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General

<http://oag.ca.gov/charities/raffles>

**Return this form & photos to Treasurer Tess at
tess@alumni.ucdavis.edu by April 25, 2021.**

*Founder Region takes NO responsibility for the quality of sales items or for shipping issues.

Contact each club directly to place your order.

Virtual Conference Standing Rules

Due to the SIA mandate to “pause” all in-person activities throughout the Federation until further notice, the 2021 Founder Region Conference will be held virtually via Zoom Video Conferencing from April 28—May 2, 2021. Voting on the Founder Region & Fellowship Business, Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws, and election of the 2021-2023 Nominating Committee will be administered through eBallot.com.

Standing Rules for the Virtual Conference:

- 1. Registration** - All delegates must be registered before being added to the voter list of the electronic ballot system provided by eBallot.com.
- 2. Credentials**
 - a) The electronic ballot administrator shall provide User Name and Access Code for voting delegates.
 - b) Credentials Report #1 coincides with the opening of electronic ballot #1 which includes voting on Amendments to the Proposed Bylaws Amendments.
 - c) Credentials Report #2 coincides with the opening of electronic ballot #2 which includes voting on the elections, Bylaws Amendments as amended, and other conference business.
- 3. Communications** - Communications will be through email, the Founder Region website, Facebook page and conference calls.
- 4. Motions** - Main motions and amendments shall be written and sent to the chair electronically through email.
- 5. Debate** – If during a conference call there is a debate, then debate shall be limited to two minutes for each speaker, five minutes per question and ten minutes for each article, except when permitted otherwise by the voting assembly by a two-thirds vote. No member may speak more than twice to the same question, except by consent of the voting assembly on the conference call.
- 6. Decorum**
 - a) All scheduled conference calls will be called to order on time.
 - b) The Chair at all times shall be addressed as Governor Kris.
 - c) A delegate or other member shall be allowed to speak when the opportunity is open or called by district and having been recognized, shall state her/his name and the name of her/his club distinctly.
 - d) The Chair shall recognize each member desiring the floor in proper order by district.
 - e) Both delegates and non-delegates shall be allowed the privilege of the floor. Precedence shall be accorded delegates.
 - f) Region committee chairs shall be accorded precedence of the floor at the discretion of the Chair, with the consent of the delegates, if they are speaking to an issue affecting their committee, or to an issue proposed by their committee and which was sent with the Call to Conference.
 - g) Members should be respectful of those around them and turn off any equipment that would distract from the meeting: cell phones on vibrate, computer notifications on silent during conference sessions.
- 7. Publicity** - No discussion or action shall be released for publicity without the approval of the Region Governor.
- 8. Recording Devices** - Conference Calls may be recorded when announced by the Chair. Recording devices (i.e. tape recorders, video cameras) shall not be used during the Conference without the written consent of the Region Governor.



SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

Register On **Eventbrite**

STEP 1

Go to [2021 Founder Region Conference Event](#) page and register for the sessions you wish to attend.

STEP 2

After you register, view the *ONLINE EVENT PAGE* for details about the sessions and access to the Zoom links.

STEP 3

On the day/time of each session, access the *ONLINE EVENT PAGE* through your email confirmation or reminder to access the Zoom link.

*NOTE

If this is the first time you have used Eventbrite, you will need to create an account with the email you used to register and create a simple password for future use.

Sign in to access this event

You're not logged in.

Sign in with the account you used to register for this event, or purchase a ticket to attend.

[Sign in or create account](#)

If you have not logged in before, follow the steps to create a new account using the email address associated with your ticket.