



Soroptimist Celebrating Success! 2006 Entry Instructions

Soroptimist Celebrating Success! recognizes successful club projects that improve the lives of women and girls or promotes Soroptimist as an organization that improves the lives of women and girls. The description should not exceed two (2) typewritten pages. Entries should describe projects that:

- benefit women and/or girls or promotes Soroptimist as an organization that improves the lives of women and girls, in local communities and throughout the world.
- are innovative and successful;
- can be replicated in other communities/regions;
- show a measurable outcome or impact.

Guidelines for Submission

- The project described on the entry form must be ongoing or completed **after** February 2005. New entries are encouraged. Clubs may submit an entry for a project entered last year if it is ongoing, and has **not** previously received recognition as a finalist.
- Club presidents must authorize submission of entries.
- Shared projects among clubs are welcome. Please submit only one joint entry per project.
- Be certain to describe only one project per entry.
- Do not submit the same project in multiple categories.
- Entries must arrive at Soroptimist headquarters on or before January 26, 2006. Due to the volume of entries received, headquarters cannot acknowledge receipt of submissions. **Please send the entry only once. Do not mail and fax the entry.**
- Do not submit entries in binders or folders.
- Clubs may submit supporting materials such as photos or news clippings. Please mark them with the name of the club and the project name. These items will not be returned. Do not staple photos.

Award Categories

Approximately 15 semi-finalists will be selected in each of the 10 categories listed below. All semi-finalists will receive a patch to display on the club banner. Semi-finalist entries will be submitted to a panel for final judging. At the judge's discretion, first-, second-, and third-place finalists may be selected in each category. Finalists will be announced at the 2006 convention in Philadelphia. All finalists will receive a certificate.

Club presidents can share their club's success in one or more of the following categories:

PROGRAM

Global Community: This category recognizes clubs for projects that improve the lives of women or girls throughout the world. Projects can include environmental projects that focus on women or girls or projects that increase awareness about global issues as they affect women, including war and natural disasters.

Human Rights for Women/Girls: This category recognizes clubs for projects that address the rights of women and/or girls to live free of violence. This may include projects on trafficking, domestic violence, or any other type of violence or discrimination against women or girls.

Status of Women and Girls: This category recognizes clubs for projects that enhance the status of women and girls and encourage them to achieve their full potential. This may include mentoring projects, women's literacy projects, increasing women's access to health care; advocacy or action on issues affecting the status of women (economic inequality, health, challenges facing older women) or girls (teen pregnancy, peer pressure, poverty, eating disorders etc.).

Working Women: This category recognizes clubs for projects that improve the status of women in the workplace. This may include projects addressing sexual harassment, child care for working families, working conditions, pay equity or women in leadership positions.

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising: This category recognizes club fundraising projects that are creative and successful. In addition to raising funds, projects should involve the community, promote a positive image of the organization, and raise awareness about the Soroptimist mission to improve the lives of women and girls. Entries need to include the cost of the project, the net proceeds and how the contributions were distributed.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership Enhancement/Retention: This category recognizes clubs for activities that enhance the experience of current club members. This may include: member recognition programs, leadership opportunities, and any efforts designed to heighten member participation, pride in and satisfaction with Soroptimist membership as an international organization that improves the lives of women and girls in local communities and throughout the world.

Member Recruiting: This category recognizes clubs for member recruitment strategies. This should include organized activities to attract new members such as planned year-round outreach strategies and recruiting members through service projects that focus on women or girls.

New Club Building: This category recognizes club efforts aimed at chartering successful new clubs within the past year. This may also include a joint effort by two or more clubs. Entries should provide a timeline and summary, and any unique and creative strategies involved in the process.

PUBLIC AWARENESS

Public Awareness: This category recognizes clubs for carefully orchestrated public awareness efforts supporting the club's efforts to improve the lives of women and girls. Entries should describe what steps were taken to promote the club and its projects, and how these actions raised the club's public profile.

Web Site: This category recognizes clubs for the quality of their web site. Web sites will be judged on: adherence to federation established guidelines; look, tone and professionalism of the site; and its perceived value as an informational and promotional tool. Club web sites should promote the club's efforts to improve the lives of women and girls. To enter the club web site category simply fill out the application form and provide the web site address. No narrative program description is necessary.

Soroptimists Celebrating Success! 2006

Entry Form

Deadline: January 26, 2006

Completed entries must be received at Soroptimist headquarters by January 26, 2006. Entries received after that date will not be included in the awards judging. Supplemental information such as news clippings or photographs may be submitted; however they will not be returned. **DO NOT** send materials in binders or folders. Faxed entries and supplements are not encouraged due to the poor quality of some fax transmissions.

Please type or print clearly.

Club: SI of _____ Club Number _____

Submitted by _____

Daytime Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Authorization for submission of a project: (Note: Club presidents must authorize submission of a project.)

Club President _____

Signature _____

Daytime Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Project Title _____

Date Established _____

Total club funds spent on this project in 2005-2006 _____

Total member hours spent on this project in 2005-2006 _____

Specifically, how did club members participate? _____

Check the category being entered. Select only one category.

Program

- Global Community
- Human Rights of Women/Girls
- Status of Women and Girls
- Working Women

Membership

- Membership Enhancement/Retention
- Member Recruiting
- New Club Building

Fundraising

- Fundraising

Public Awareness

- Public Awareness
- Web Site

Project Description

Describe the project, how it benefits women/girls or promotes Soroptimist as an organization that improves the lives of women and girls, and the impact/outcome of the project. **Response may not exceed two (2) typewritten pages. (For web site entries, provide the web address only. No narrative project description is required.)**

Mail entries to:

Soroptimist International of the Americas
1709 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
USA