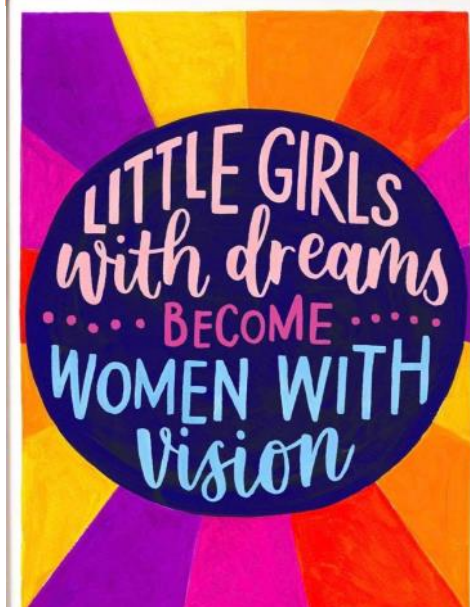


**Due to the Holiday, our Speaker's Meeting  
will be held on Wednesday, January 8th  
and our Business Meeting will be held on  
Wednesday, January 22nd**

# Plan Ahead

*Soroptimist International of Palm Desert  
monthly newsletter*

**A Wish for the New Year  
Let's all live our dreams!**



## Making a Difference, One Step at a Time

### President Message

Dear Ladies,

As we enter a new year, I am filled with gratitude for each and every one of you who make up the incredible community of our women's SIPD. Together, we have accomplished so much in the past year, and I am excited to see what we can achieve in the year ahead.

January is a time for new beginnings and fresh starts. It is a time to reflect on our goals and our aspirations, and to set our intentions for the year ahead. As members of SIPD, we have the unique opportunity to make a real difference in the lives of women and girls in need.



I encourage each of you to take the time this month to think about how you can contribute to our goals. Whether it is through volunteering your time, donating to our programs, or spreading awareness about the work we do, every little bit helps. I am confident that together, we can continue to make a meaningful impact of the lives of women and girls.

Thank you for your dedication and support, and here's to a successful and fulfilling year ahead.

Warm regards,  
Diane  
President SIPD

**Along with our friends from  
Dusty Wings, we shared the  
spirit of the season and giving  
with the Kinder Class  
Las Palmitas  
Elementary School.**



We Are a Global Volunteer Movement Working Together  
to Transform Lives of Women and Girls

Soroptimist is a global organization of women who volunteer their time talent and resources to improve the lives of women and girls through programs that lead to their economic and social empowerment.





## Sharing Some Christmas Magic at the Salton Sea



Happy New Year from Mrs. Bauman!

I want to take a moment to shout-out to our fabulous Soroptimist sister Becky Goebel! Becky single handedly created Christmas magic for 24 of Salton Sea's youngest students. The children in Room 202 were treated to a hot cocoa party complete with cocoa balls and candy treats. But, that's not all! Each child was given a coloring craft stocking stuffed with four pairs of new, warm, socks and smarties candies. The children were thrilled with the gifts and had so much fun decorating the stockings in class. The very next day, they all came sporting their new socks and showing them off to their friends. Thank you so much Becky; you made some special memories for some deserving little students!





**Thank You Everyone Who Responded to our Coat Drive.  
The results were Warm Students, Smiling Faces,  
and, the Joy of Giving.**



# Shivering Students Coat Drive





## Your Monthly Dash of SOLT

### January is Soroptimist Stargazer Month

Marlon Carrier

Did you know that the Soroptimist International of the Americas (SIA) 2024-2025 Club Calendar tells us that January 2025 is Soroptimist Stargazer Month? It is!

In 2019 the SIA monthly giving program became the **Stargazer Monthly Giving Program**. Today more than 1,000 Stargazers collectively donate more than \$65,000 monthly to support the SIA mission.

#### A few **FAQs**:

- Give any amount starting at \$5.00. Less than a visit to Starbuck's!
- Choose to support either of the Dream Programs (LYDA or DIBI) or make an unrestricted gift to be used where most needed.
- Monthly donors receive a silver star pin in recognition of their support.
- All gifts accumulate towards qualifying for Laurel Society membership (Attache Level \$1,000) for an additional recognition pin plus an invitation to the biennial Laurel Society event at Convention.

Want to learn more or register to participate? **CLICK** this link >> [Become a Stargazer Monthly Donor](#)

**SCROLL** down and **CLICK** the link that looks like this:

**BECOME A STARGAZER MONTHLY DONOR!**

Double your impact with the employer matching program and encourage others to dedicate their donation to you to count towards Laurel Society recognition.

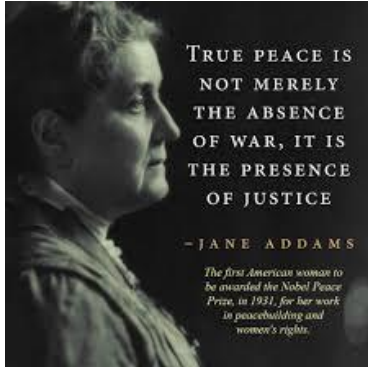


## **RECOGNIZING THE WOMEN WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

**Jane Addams: Pioneer for Social Change**  
*Suffragist, settlement house founder, peace activist.*

Jane Addams was one of nine children and daughter of a miller. She was college educated at Rockford College for Women and graduated valedictorian at the age of 17 in 1881. Jane rejected marriage and motherhood in favor of a lifetime commitment to social reform.

Addams and a friend, Ellen Gates Starr, traveled to England in 1881, where they were inspired by the famed Toynbee Hall in London—a special facility to help the poor. In 1889, they leased an old mansion in an immigrant neighborhood in Chicago. Hull-House, as it was named, provided a place for immigrants of diverse communities to gather.



Having quickly found that the needs of the neighborhood could not be met unless city and state laws were reformed, Addams and other Hull House residents sponsored legislation to abolish child labor, establish juvenile courts, limit the hours of working women, recognize labor unions, make school attendance compulsory and ensure safe working conditions in factories.

Addams wrote and lectured, openly opposing World War I. After the armistice, she founded the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, and she served as president from 1919 until her death in 1935.

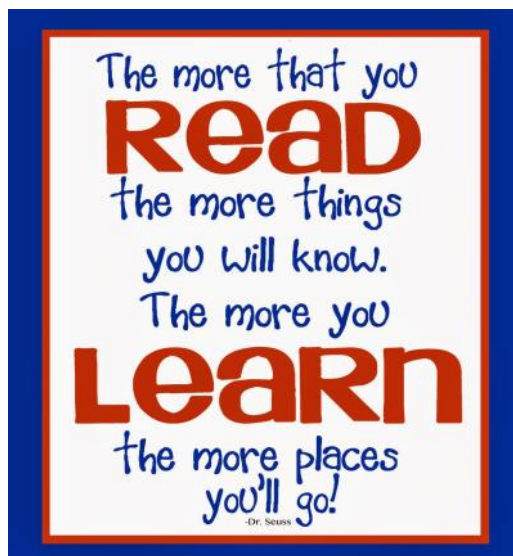
The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) is a non-profit non-governmental organization working "to bring together women of different political views and philosophical and religious backgrounds determined to study and make known the causes of war and work for a permanent peace" and to unite women worldwide who oppose oppression and exploitation. WILPF has national sections in 37 countries.

The WILPF is headquartered in Geneva and maintains a United Nations office in New York City.

Four years before her death, in 1931 she received the Nobel Peace Prize.

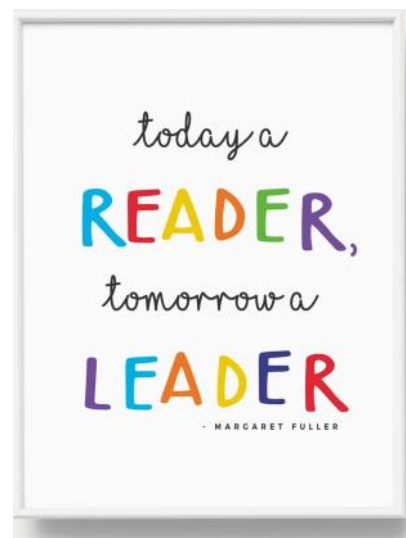
She was the mother of social work, Jane Addams shaped social legislation that continues to impact the world.





## Soroptimist MIGHTY GIRL BOOK LIST

Let's see how many  
books we can get for  
the Bookshelf at  
Cesar Chavez  
Elementary School



### Empowering Books

Book	Author
Just Like Me	Vanessa Brantley
You're Enough	Margaret O'Hair
A Smart's Girl Guide	Nancy Holyoke
I Am Enough	Grace Byers
I Like Myself	Karen Beaumont
Hair Love	Matthew A. Cherry
Be Kind	Zetlow Miller
Girls Can Do Anything	Caryl Hart
I Am	Aaliyah Wilson
Not So Different	Cyana Riley
Think Big, Little One	Vashti Harrison
Dear Girl	Krouse Rosenthal
Like A Girl	Lori Degman
101 Awesome Women Who Changed Our World	Julia Adams
The Little Girl Who Dared to Dream	Wonderbly
The Girl With A Mind For Math	Julia Finley Musca
Girl Power 5 Minutes Stories	Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
Find Your Happy! A Kids Self Love	Patricia May
Speak Up Molly Lou Melon	Patty Lovell
Dear Black Girl	Kimberly Lowe
Eyes That Kiss In The Corners	Joanna Ho
Change Sings	Amanda Gorman
Today I'll Be A Princess	Paula Croyle
She Persisted Around The World	Chelsea Clinton & Alexandra Boiyer
Alma And How She Got Her Name	Juana Martinez Neal
A Good Kind Of Trouble	Lisa Moore Ramee
Out of Range	Heidi Lang
The Firefly Summer	Morgan Matson
Sisterhood of Sleuths	Jennifer Chambliss Bertman
Lil Libros: My First Space Words	Nina Astronauta
Lil Libros: Ellen	Nina Astronauta
Lil Libros: We Are All Scientists	Nina Astronauta
Lil Libros: Technology	Nina Astronauta
Lil Libros: Engineering	Nina Astronauta

## Soroptimist International of Palm Desert

### Grade Level Books

Book	Grade Level
<b>TK/Kinder</b>	<b>TK/Kinder</b>
Princess Truly: Princess Truly in I Am Truly	
Marvin Gets Mad!	
What Does It Mean to be Kind?	
It's Okay to Make Mistakes	
Molly Lou Melon: Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon	
Little Critter: I Am Sharing	
Please, Mr. Panda	
Llama Llama Time to Share	
And Here's to You	
Owl at Home	
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Grade</b>	
Amazing grace	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Grade</b>
Ruby's Wish	
The Girl Who Thought in Pictures	
The Pout-Pout Fish in the Big-Big Dark	
Shelia Rae, the Brave	
The Carrot Seed	
I'm Happy-Sad Today	
Grandma Loves You	
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Grade</b>	
I like Myself	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Grade</b>
The Princess Knight	
This Little: This Little Trailblazer	
The Youngest Marcher	
Happy in Our Skin	
Spoon	
Kindness to Share from A to Z	
The Best Book to Read	
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade</b>	
Miss Rumphius	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade</b>
A Chair for My Mother	
Grace for President	
Mermaid Queen	
Judy Moody Was in a Mood	
Last Stop on Market Street	
Camille and the Sunflowers	
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	
Elizabeth lead the Way	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>
Ruby and the Booker Boys: Brand New School, Brave New Ruby	
The Quickest Kid in Clarksville	
The Girl Who Loved Horses	
The Eyes of The Weaver	
Girl Wonder	
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	
Pippi Longstocking	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>
Sonia Sotomayor	
The Tryout	
Anna Hibiscus	
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	
The Moon Within	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>
One Crazy Summer	
Matilda	
El Deafo	
I Got This	
The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate	
Hidden figures	
Fly Girls	
Life in Motion	
Rad American Women A-Z	
Who Was Frida Kahlo	
<b>Extras</b>	
Triceratops	<b>Extras</b>
A Day at School	
You Are An Amazing Girl	



# Christmas WISHES

*Your dedication, hard work, and passion have truly shone through, and we are honored to recognize your exceptional achievements.*

*As a token of our appreciation and to celebrate your success, we are delighted to present you with this gift certificate. This gift is a small gesture of our gratitude and we hope that you will enjoy this gift and use it to treat your family to something special this holiday season.*

*Warmest regards,*

*Diane Backovich*

*President*

*Soroptimist International of Palm Desert*

**December 2025**  
**Thank You Marie for once again hosting**  
**our Holiday Auction Party**



Leanna Pettit, Esther Sjostrom, Marie Newton



The holidays went well unfortunately I didn't take too many photos. It was really hectic around here, but the kids enjoyed making the gingerbread house we also made tamales together, which I didn't get pictures of either. They actually did the gingerbread house before I got home from work and the baby took it all apart before I could see it Christmas Eve and School finished out very great. I completed my three classes with A's and B's And I'm ready for this next semester.



**I AM GOING INTO MY LAST SEMESTER AT COD JUST FINISHED  
FALL SEMESTER WITH STRAIGHT A'S  
I HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED TO CSUSB  
I HAVE BEEN DOING MY BEST IN SCHOOL  
TRYING TO DO MY BEST FOR MY FAMILY AND GIVING THEM  
A CHANCE TO SEE HOW LIFE CAN BE WITH A DEGREE.  
2025 I WILL BE GRADUATING HOPEFULLY 🌟 IN SPRING  
RIGHT AFTER MY BIRTHDAY.**



Doris with Shayra (our first new member of 2025)





## **Gratitude from the Soroptimist House of Hope**

Dearest Friends and Supporters,  
As we close the year 2024, we find ourselves reflecting with immense gratitude on the impact you have made in our community. Your generosity and support have kept our doors open and have empowered us to continue enhancing Soroptimist House of Hope. This advancement is vital as we strive to improve the services we offer to our valued clients.

This year has been particularly transformative thanks to the gracious donation from Supervisor Manuel Perez of the Fourth District of Riverside County. With his support, we've embarked on the exciting renovation of our garage, converting it into two dedicated office spaces. This initiative ensures our clients have a safe and confidential environment to meet with our primary therapist, fostering an atmosphere of trust and healing.



Clean out to start the addition.

### **Did you know?**

In 1981, Soroptimist House of Hope, Inc. became the area's first substance abuse disorder recovery facility for women in Riverside County's Coachella Valley. There were five other treatment sites in the area, but none had a program exclusively for women.

Riverside County was at that time known as the methamphetamine capital of the U.S., local area Soroptimist clubs were well aware of the need to help women with addictions. Ten local area clubs of Soroptimist Golden West Region decided to take on this project.

With no government assistance, the ten local Soroptimist clubs raised the sufficient funds to establish and begin to operate the first recovery home for women. A four bedroom house was purchased in Desert Hot Springs where the program is delivered in a residential, family-style environment to a maximum of six recovery clients. The ten Soroptimist clubs named this facility the "House of Hope."

## **SHOH Holiday Party**



Margaret and Becky attended the SHOH Holiday Party on December 9th at the house. They shared a lovely meal prepared by both Staff and Residents, followed by Inspirational Testimonies from all Alumni present.

It was heartwarming to hear where they are today and how they still credit their recovery to SHOH.

Santa handed out gifts to the Resident's children.

It was a truly special evening.



**SHOH Alumni**





We all have unique gifts to share with the communities who need it most.

By empowering women and girls through access to education and training, the lives of individuals, families, and whole communities can be improved.

Through Soroptimist, you join a global movement of volunteers, partners, fundraisers and donors who believe in the power of women and girls to change the world.

## Connect with us

There are many ways to join our club and support our mission. Contact us to find out more about volunteer opportunities, fundraising events, and ways that you can help to get our message to your friends and family.

**Soroptimist International of Palm Desert**  
P.O. Box 13997,  
Palm Desert CA 92255  
760-534-8782

### 2024-2025 OFFICERS

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Rose Mary Jameson, Past President  
Bets Kreger, Secretary  
Becky Goebel, Treasurer

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### NEWSLETTER

Natalie Angrisani, Editor  
[itsnatalie@gmx.com](mailto:itsnatalie@gmx.com)

## 50 Reasons to Join Soroptimist

Community Service | To Make a Difference | Worldwide Contribution | Friendship  
Networking - Locally & Globally | Travel | International Conventions  
Environmental Issues | Advocacy of Women's Issues | Women's Opportunity Awards  
Legislative Issues | Personal Growth Potential | Membership Transferability  
Regional Conferences | Raise Awareness of Women's Issues | Integrity of Profession  
Learn Compatibility | Women Helping Women Rally Against Domestic Violence  
Live Your Dream Awards | District Meetings | Globally Conscious Awareness  
Education | Participation in UNIFEM | Promote Status of Women | Human Rights  
Advocate Girls' Issues | Promote Youth Volunteerism | Spend Leisure Time Wisely  
Leadership Training Opportunities | Take Action on Women's Health Issues  
International Goodwill | Give Back to the Community | United Nations Representation  
International Understanding | Experience the Joy of Achievement | Friendship Links  
Accentuate the Love of Country | Be Part of a Global Voice for Women  
Develop Fellowship | The Pride of Achievement | Cross-cultural Opportunities  
Domestic Violence Awareness | Dream It Be It | Personality Development  
Service to Members in Need | Participation in UNICEF | International Chat Line  
Achievement Through Action | Lifelong Friendships

