

2016-2018 BIENNIUM • ISSUE THREE • SEPTEMBER 2017

The Zontian

The Voice of Zonta International



INSIDE: CALL TO CONVENTION

Recognizing excellence in service,
advocacy and membership growth



ZONTA
INTERNATIONAL
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

**ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
HEADQUARTERS**

Welcome from the Staff

Zonta International Headquarters, located in Oak Brook, Illinois, is a staff of 16 employees that manages the day-to-day operations of Zonta International and Zonta International Foundation and supports the Zonta International Board in implementing policies and programs to further the objectives of Zonta International.

Our friendly, capable staff is ready to assist you!

MEMBERSHIP

memberrecords@zonta.org

COMMUNICATIONS

pr@zonta.org

WEBSITE

webmaster@zonta.org

PROGRAMS

programs@zonta.org

FOUNDATION

contributions@zonta.org

GENERAL

zontaintl@zonta.org

If you are visiting the Chicago area, we invite you to visit Headquarters. Enjoy a tour of our offices and see artifacts from Zonta's 97-year history. To schedule a visit, please call +1 630 928 1400 or stop by our offices during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. CST.

World Headquarters

1211 West 22nd Street, Suite 900
Oak Brook, IL 60523-3384
USA

www.zonta.org



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Cover: Zonta International President Sonja Höning Schough visits with a girl during her site visit to Madagascar. Above: Zonta's international service project: Let Us Learn Madagascar, a partnership with UNICEF USA, is an integrated project where all the different parts together help to keep girls in school.

Allison Summers, Executive Director; Kate Edrinn, Community Engagement Manager; Communiqué Graphic Design, Design
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Photo by: Therese Schroeder

**A MESSAGE FROM
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT
SONJA HÖNIG SCHOUGH**

.....
**Together, we can and
will create a better world
for women and girls!**
.....

Dear Zontians,

This past May, I sat with four young girls in a Madagascar classroom where they told me about their dreams. They dreamt of a future where they could get an education and be midwives, doctors or policewomen. When our meeting was over they walked home in complete darkness, as they do every school day of the year. To reach their dreams they need to continue in school and to know their rights. These rights and opportunities are not only essential for the girls that are benefitting from our international service projects—it goes for all girls and women in the world.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals approved by the UN Member States in 2015 shall transform the future of the globe but can only be achieved if everyone's potential is realized. We in Zonta International are focusing our advocacy efforts on Goal No. 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. This goal includes ending violence; eliminating harmful practices such as child, early and forced marriage; ensuring women's participation in leadership and decision-making and several more indicators. All 17 goals are interconnected and need to be reached if we are to give the girls in Madagascar and all other places in the world the future they want and deserve. We must focus on Goal No. 5 as none of the others can be obtained if we do not achieve gender equality.

Goal No. 1 is a vision to end poverty. This goal cannot be achieved if girls cannot grow up with the possibility of being part of the workforce and being self-sufficient. Without access to quality education, Goal No. 4, they will not be able to have the skills to earn a better and fair income and find a decent job, which is connected to Goal No. 8, sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. And, if you are exposed to violence, early marriage and early pregnancies, Goal No. 3, good health and well-being for everyone, will not be achievable.

We all need to support and advocate in our countries so that the global goals are reached. Find out where your country is in its way to fulfillment. Read more about the High Level Political Forum that took place at the UN in July this year in this issue of *The Zontian*. This was the first session for a follow-up on Goal No. 5 and Zonta was there. I am very proud to say, we were heard and seen. Use our training material for the Sustainable Development Goals to educate all members and set plans for what you can do in your club, area and district.

But we as women cannot do it all alone—we also need men to support our causes. Zonta International therefore endorses the UN Women HeForShe campaign. If every club contacts their community leaders to sign on—we will have come a long way. Read more later in this issue.

Next year we will meet in Yokohama for our International Convention—I want us all to stand there and celebrate our successes in coming closer to our mission and vision. Together, we can and will create a better world for women and girls!

I end by thanking each and every one of you for giving your time, energy and money to support our mission. Without you and your commitment, we are nothing.

Warm regards,

Sonja Hönig Schough



VOICES IN MEMBERSHIP



People gather around a table and voices speak excitedly about future plans of service and advocacy initiatives. While this scenario seems like any normal Zonta meeting, only a few of the members are actually sitting in the German home of Ille Prockl-Pfeiffer, president of the Zonta e-Club of Bavaria; the rest of the faces and voices come from multiple laptops set up among the group.

Nine of the 15 members are young professionals and most are on the move—either traveling or studying abroad, or starting new apprenticeships, jobs and internships—but that has not kept them away from Zonta.

These Zontians were first recruited more than one year ago when Ille started sending out messages to past Zonta award recipients and mentees. Contacting them was tricky, as email addresses change, but convincing them to join was not that difficult. The recipients already knew about Zonta and what our organization did for them and other young women. But what really captured them were the benefits of an e-club. Instead of meeting every month for a meal, the club works any time they want to.

“It’s an opportunity to choose your time and choose what you can do,” Ille said. “Everyone should make her own time panel—if they are at the moment writing their master’s thesis or bachelor’s work, they can step back. I tell them, ‘Be on the meeting calls, read the protocols and if you have ideas, give them but first focus on your work or job at the moment.’”

While she has to change the typical way club business is done, Ille resolves that, “work will be done on a different schedule, but the work will still be done.”

(Top) Ille Prockl-Pfeiffer, president of the Zonta e-Club of Bavaria, stands holding a phone showing a video chat of a member for an e-club meeting while other members attend via computer and in person. (Left) Denise Sylvester, member of the Zonta Club of Roscommon County Area stands with Cherie Johnson and Lani Ochs during Advocacy Day at the North American Inter-District Meeting.

“It’s amazing the impact you have both locally and internationally.”



Staying in communication is a priority for Ille. If prospective members are not able to join, she offers to put them on the newsletter list so that they can stay informed of what the e-club is doing. And once they do join, members are able to connect not only on the phone, but via email, apps and Skype. The only concern she has about communicating this way is what to do once they surpass the number of people they can have in a free chat.

Ille does not seem worried about the non-traditional e-club, which is the first in Germany and the second in all of Europe, or the non-traditional members.

“All young women want to be a part of something international,” Ille said. “They are interested in Zonta for that type of membership and the service projects.”

Personal Connection

The international connection and service opportunities that Zonta International offers are also important to Denise Sylvester, member of the Zonta Club of Roscommon County Area, MI, USA.

“It’s amazing the impact that you have both locally and internationally,” she said. “It’s the service, but then in addition to the service, it’s the relationships and knowledge and mentorships from so many incredible women.”

Denise, whose last name might seem familiar, was connected to Zonta International before her mother, District 15 Governor Anna. Not so long ago, when she was finishing high school, Denise and a group of friends participated in a pageant run by the local Zonta club. She made such an impression that the club president encouraged her to apply for a club-sponsored scholarship. Denise’s enthusiasm for Zonta was contagious as her mother then wanted to join. Years later, both Denise and her mother, Anna, are still actively involved in Zonta. »

Zonta spirit runs in the family. Denise Sylvester (right) pauses for a moment at the Zonta Club of Petoskey’s Great Girls in History exhibit to take a photo with her mother, District 15 Governor Anna (center), and member Cherie Johnson.





The next member of your club could be your neighbor, student, friend or child. What a potential member may see as an obstacle or barrier to membership can be easily overcome by not only looking for what the potential member can do for your club, but by also looking at what Zonta has to offer each individual member. Who will you reach out to today to introduce to Zonta?

Find tools and resources to help you get started at membership.zonta.org/Tools/Global-Membership-Drive.

**ADD YOUR VOICE TO
EMPOWER WOMEN** 

Professional Advancement

Personal connections are a universal language in Zonta. When the Zonta Club of Colombo IV, Sri Lanka, sent out invitations to join the club, many went through friends and family. At the first meeting, all members were young professionals and some were the children of older members.

Club President Ruki Pinidiya recognizes that clubs and organizations in the social sector need volunteers with new talents and that Zonta's young professionals bring new skills, creativity and enthusiasm. But the relationship is not just one way.

"[Membership] in turn benefits the young professional member to develop their networking and interpersonal relationship skills and business interests," Ruki said.

Membership Development

While Zonta is known for its service and advocacy, it also empowers and develops its own members. Joanna Lee, president of the Zonta Club of Tainan Phoenix, Taiwan, personally recruited several male members from another organization after she recognized how their skills and leadership could add to Zonta International.

Joanna said she thought, "What a pity if their talents are simply limited to Toastmaster. Let me guide them and yield them a different stage."

Joanna urges other clubs to not ignore males' assistance to Zonta's membership development as male members also recognize the objectives of Zonta International and are willing to put in the work to empower women through their service and advocacy. ■

The Zonta Club of Tainan Phoenix, chartered in June, poses during a club meeting.



REFLECTIONS FROM THE FIELD:

Daily Challenges Girls Face in Madagascar

By Sonja Hönig Schough
President
Zonta International Foundation

In May, I went to Madagascar to participate in a visit to UNICEF Madagascar and the Let Us Learn program, a project Zonta International has committed 1 million US Dollars to this biennium.

Though I have traveled to many countries, Madagascar was new and different; two clear standouts for me were that the nature is fantastic and diverse, and that you still can feel the influence from French colonial rule. But what struck me above all was the poverty; many families live on only US\$2 a day or less. Violence is frequent and young girls are especially targeted. It is one of the most cyclone-prone countries in the world and there is a high vulnerability to climate change.

Additionally, access to education, which many of us often take for granted, is stymied, and a service that should be free of charge is not. Many villages pay for their own teachers in schools— a cost that is significant for a poor family.

One day I met with teenage girls who told me about their dreams. They all envisioned a better future for themselves and for their families and shared with me their hopes for careers.

We were in a classroom without lights, as so many are in Madagascar, and even though it was not later than 4:30 p.m., it started to be very dark in the room. One of the girls told us how much better it was with the solar lamp she was able to rent for her home; with it she could do her homework when she got home and hopefully get better grades. This put into context for me the fact that electricity seldom exists in people's homes and schools. As a result, many of the children walk home in complete darkness, some of them as far as 5 km. Again, services we take for granted but that have a significant impact on a girls' safety, studies, and future opportunities. »



Madagascar Photos: ©UNICEF Madagascar/2017/AbelaPalaivita

Every extra year a girl attends school increases her possibility for an income and self-sustainability.



children first.

Nonetheless, I was impressed by these young girls and their drive, and this conversation reinforced my belief that they and their fellow sisters need all the support we can give them. They are the future. Girls must have the possibility to continue their studies and not stop at the lower levels. Every extra year a girl attends school increases her possibility for an income and self-sustainability. It also delays early marriages and early pregnancies. Education is an important key to development for the individual, but also for the society.

What I like especially with Let Us Learn is that it is an integrated program. It is not enough just to get the children to school. The schools must also be built in such a way that they are safe from natural disasters like cyclones and even more importantly, child friendly and free from the threat of violence. The teachers must be trained so they may deliver a quality education. There must be separate and safe latrines and handwashing stations so girls do not drop out in their early teens.

Zonta International has been a partner to UNICEF USA for more than 40 years, and I am convinced the Let Us Learn project will be added to our list of success stories together. Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Zonta International Service Fund to support the Let Us Learn project this biennium.

FROM THE FIELD



Liberia

112 women and girls received treatment to repair an obstetric fistula in 2016; **48** of them successfully completed the rehabilitation program and returned to their communities empowered with the skills to be economically independent.





THE IMPACT OF YOUR SUPPORT

Visit www.zonta.org/donate to make a donation to the Zonta International Foundation to support Let Us Learn Madagascar: An Integrated Program for Adolescent Girls or one of our other programs making a difference for women and girls. The following are examples* of the impact your gift could provide in Madagascar.

- \$25** could provide a school bag, notebook, pencils and other supplies to three students.
- \$70** could train one teacher at the lower secondary level, contributing to school retention and the implementation of a quality education for children in Madagascar.
- \$100** could provide pedagogical materials to ensure a quality education with appropriate learning resources for one school.
- \$240** could support two families for an entire year with a monthly cash transfer used to meet their basic needs.
- \$435** could provide catch-up classes for five students who have been out of school for at least one year.
- \$1,000** could provide seven recreation kits that would encourage sports involvement and physical activity for more than 620 students.
- \$34,800** could support the construction of a cyclone-resistant, child-friendly and inclusive classroom with latrines, water points, and school furniture.

**These price points are exemplary. Your contribution will be compiled as part of the overall funding provided by Zonta International Foundation.*

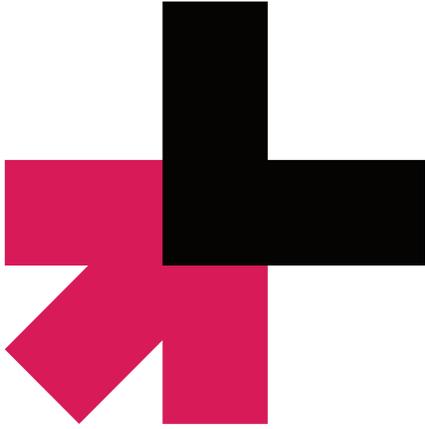
Nepal

A comprehensive advocacy campaign, rolled out in the second quarter of 2017 is raising awareness of gender-based discrimination and structural barriers hindering women's leadership and participation in economic activities at home, in the community and in the labor market.



Niger

320 safe spaces across all eight regions of Niger have been identified by the Ministry of Women Promotion and Protection of Children. These safe spaces will reach an estimated **32,000** adolescent girls.



HeForShe

Engaging Men to Take Action

Achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls has always been at the heart of Zonta's global and local service and advocacy efforts and is now an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Reaching this goal by 2030, however, will require that we engage men and boys as equal partners in our work toward gender equality. That is why we are pleased to announce Zonta International's support for the HeForShe campaign, a dedicated platform and systematic approach through which men and boys can become ambassadors of equality.

HeForShe, launched by UN Women in September 2014, uses innovative online, offline and mobile phone technology to identify and activate men and boys in every city, community and village around the world. The actions begin online with a simple affirmation that gender equality is not only a women's issue, but a human rights issue that requires the participation and commitment of men and boys. From that initial affirmation, HeForShe then moves beyond awareness to action, asking men and boys to identify what matters to them and what they will do to make a difference.

Take Action

Zonta clubs are encouraged to use the HeForShe platform to engage men and boys in their communities to join Zonta International as equal partners in our mission to empower women and girls and achieve gender equality. Find more information and resources to get your club started at www.zonta.org/heforshe.



Zonta International President Sonja Hönig Schough meets with Felicity Appleby and Lucas Fernando Lopez from UN Women. Sonja was accompanied by her granddaughter, Alice.



IISD-ENB / Kiara Worth.

GENDER EQUALITY

Key to Achieving Sustainable Development

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. It is a simple statement for a complex issue. If you want to achieve gender equality, you must lift women out of poverty; however, for a woman to escape poverty, she must enjoy equality and have the same access to resources, economic opportunities and technology as men. If you want to empower girls, you must put an end to harmful practices like female genital mutilation and child, early and forced marriage, but you also must ensure that girls have equal rights and are empowered to realize those rights.

When the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted in 2015, women's organizations, like Zonta, applauded the inclusion of Goal No. 5, a stand-alone goal on gender equality. However, at the same time, we emphasized that achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls was a prerequisite to achieving the other 16 SDGs.

Now, nearly two years later, Member States and stakeholders, including nearly 2,500 civil society representatives, gathered at the United Nations in New York from 10–19 July for the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development to evaluate progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, focusing on six of the SDGs, including Goal No. 5. The theme of the 2017 HLPF was “Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world.” >>



WECF International / Hanna Gunnarsson.

GOAL NO. 5

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

During the Ministerial Segment of the HLPF, 43 countries presented their Voluntary National Reviews, assessing progress at the national and sub-national levels. There was a very tightly organized response mechanism for civil society to respond to the governments' voluntary reviews.

During the HLPF, Zonta International hosted a panel discussion on child, early and forced marriage with the Permanent Mission of Zambia to the UN, UNICEF USA, Girls Not Brides, Soroptimist International, Unchained At Last and the Association for Dalit Women's Advancement of Nepal (ADWAN). Zonta's event was one of only three events focused on child marriage out of the hundreds of side events organized. Following that panel, UN Committee Chairman Leslie Wright represented Zonta International at a high-level meeting organized by the Office of the President of the General Assembly and UNFPA entitled "Investing in youth to harness the demographic dividend and achieve the 2030 Agenda."

The process for review and implementation for NGOs and their partners at the HLPF is demanding as there are numerous side events that amplify the issues at stake but not all governments address Goal No. 5. "Much more work needs to be done at the grassroots level if we are to expect a transformation in our world," said Leslie, reflecting on the HLPF. "Expectations are high, and so far, support is low. We need to step up our efforts to achieve the change we want."

Learn more about the HLPF and the outcome document at: sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf.

Zonta was represented at the High Level Political Forum by Zonta International UN Committee Chairman Leslie Wright. Different colored scarves were worn to spotlight and raise awareness about eight priorities for SDG implementation. Red (page 11) signified protecting and engaging women's human rights defenders while the blue scarves (above) signified reforming and repealing discriminatory laws and policies.



Country in Focus: Bangladesh

In its voluntary national review to the HLPF, Bangladesh noted its efforts to ensure women's rights, including the National Women Development Policy, adopted in 2011, that aims to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and create a favorable environment for women to access the economy, education and health care.

The report also highlighted the government's strong commitment to reducing child marriage in Bangladesh. Bangladesh recently enacted the Child Marriage Restraint Act 2017 which emphasizes community responsibility, as well as that of local public officials, to actively prevent child marriages; and the Prime Minister of Bangladesh has committed to ending marriage for children under the age of 15 by 2021 and for children under the age of 18 by 2041.

Challenges noted in the Bangladesh voluntary national review:

- Achieving pay equality for women
- Addressing violence against women
- Preventing child marriage
- Ensuring conducive workplace environments for women

Country in Focus: Nigeria

Despite acknowledgement that gender equality and women's empowerment are critical to economic development and the advancement of women, Nigeria noted a number of challenges in its voluntary national review to the HLPF, including:

- Physical, psychological and sexual abuse against women and girls
- Female genital mutilation
- Early marriage
- HIV/AIDS

The Nigerian government, however, is taking steps toward the achievement of SDG5, including, among other actions, developing a National Strategic Plan aimed at ending child marriage and a working group to coordinate child welfare services. As part of the operations of this working group on child protection, 92 child marriage cases have been investigated between 2016 and 2017. The government has also introduced measures to encourage rural women to form cooperatives in order to enable members to have access to microcredit for small business development and financial integration.

For more details about these and other voluntary national reviews, visit: sustainabledevelopment.un.org/vnrs/.

Right Honorable Helen Clark

Zonta International Honorary Member



Throughout her professional life, Helen Clark has broken new ground and shattered glass ceilings, rising through the ranks to the top of the political system in New Zealand and then becoming one of the most powerful women in the United Nations and a global leader in sustainable development.

As the first woman elected to serve as Prime Minister of New Zealand, serving three successive terms from 1999 to 2008, Ms. Clark engaged widely in policy development and advocacy across the international, economic, social, environmental, and cultural spheres. Under her leadership, New Zealand achieved significant economic growth, low levels of unemployment, and high levels of investment in education, health, and the well-being of families and older citizens. She and her government stood for the full inclusion of all in a multicultural and multi-faith society. She advocated strongly for New Zealand's comprehensive program on sustainability, including on addressing climate change.

And now, we honor her as a Zontian.

Zonta International is proud to recognize the Right Honorable Helen Clark, former Prime Minister of New Zealand and former Administrator of the United Nations Development Program and Chair of the United Nations Development Group as our newest International Honorary Member.

Helen Clark joins 40 women whom Zonta has recognized for their significant contributions to advancing the status of women worldwide.

"I am honored to be awarded honorary membership of Zonta, a service organization dedicated to the advancement of women which I have long admired."

"It's an honor to welcome Helen Clark to our honorary membership," said Zonta International President Sonja Hönig Schough. "Her work in advocating for inclusive and sustainable development and the full inclusion and empowerment of women in development, as well as her advocacy for efforts to end violence against women align with Zonta International's mission. I am proud to welcome her to Zonta."

Ms. Clark said: "I am honored to be awarded honorary membership of Zonta, a service organization dedicated to the advancement of women which I have long admired."

We look forward to seeing Ms. Clark join us in our work to empower women everywhere.



Zonta International
64th Convention • Yokohama, Japan

CALL TO CONVENTION

29 June–3 July 2018



convention.zonta.org



Kon'nichiwa



© Yokohama Convention and Visitors Bureau

Our Fellow Zontians,

Come make history at the 64th Zonta International Convention in Yokohama, Japan.

Experience the fellowship of our organization with your fellow Zontians from all over the globe. This convention is the time to gather together and celebrate the impact we make in the world through our work in service and advocacy. We will recognize the strength, dedication and commitment we embrace within each other as we empower women worldwide.

Yokohama, Japan's first port of call, is a world-class city and the 2018 Convention Committee is working hard to ensure that your experience in Japan is one you will never forget. Not only is the Pacifico Yokohama directly connected to the InterContinental Yokohama Grand hotel, allowing for quick access to Convention workshops and meetings, it is also in walking distance to beautiful parks, unique attractions and breathtaking landmarks to take in at the end of each day.

The 2018 Convention will officially start the celebration of Zonta International's centennial anniversary. It is the gateway for Zontians to enter our commemoration of the last 100 years!

Come to Yokohama with plans for the future; leave with lasting memories.

Sonja Hönig Schough

Zonta International and Zonta International Foundation President



Sadako Miyake

*Chairman, Sponsorships, Program and Tours
Zonta Club of Okayama, Japan*

Makiko Yamamoto

*Chairman, Facilities and Services
Zonta Club of Sendai I, Japan*



© Yokohama Convention and Visitors Bureau

Explore Yokohama

Yokohama is a beautiful city located in the center of Japan, 30 minutes south of Tokyo. Since its opening as an international port in 1859, Yokohama has been a place for exchanges of cultures, people, information and goods. In just about 150 years, a small fisherman's town has grown to a city with a population of more than 3.7 million people and is now Japan's second largest city.

Yokohama is known for its many tourism attractions including the futuristic Minato Mirai 21 district, the Sankeien Gardens where buildings designated as important cultural properties stand in harmony with nature and the Sky Garden, offering a 360-degree view of Yokohama and Mt. Fuji on clear days. A rich selection of sightseeing spots and citizens offering genuine hospitality will make your stay a memory for life.

It is easy to get to Japan. More than 2,200 weekly flights arrive from 38 different countries with direct flights from 100 cities around the world.

The Pacifico Yokohama National Convention Hall is connected to the InterContinental Yokohama Grand hotel, making travel easy to and from your accommodations. The buildings' architecture has become a symbol of Yokohama, under the theme "Waves, Wind and Sunlight."



© Google

Travel Japan

TOURS

HISTORIC KAMAKURA

4 hours | US\$90

Come to Kamakura, the historical samurai capital of Japan, and stand inside the Great Buddha statue that dates back to 1252 AD. Visit the Hasedera Temple, home to the nine-meter, 11-headed wooden statue of the goddess Kannon, and enjoy breath-taking views over the city.

YOKOHAMA GARDEN & BEER

4 hours | US\$90

Garden design is an important Japanese art form that has been refined for more than 1000 years. Walk among the ponds, rivers, and the beautifully designed gardens at Sankei-en before heading to the Kirin Beer Factory to discover the unlikely history of beer in Japan.

HAKONE DAY TOUR

8 hours | US\$140

Leave Yokohama behind and travel to Hakone, the gateway to Mt. Fuji. Ride the world's second-longest cable car where you will see the geographical amazements that shape this volcanic area. Then, set sail on Lake Ashi aboard a pirate ship to travel to lunch at the Hakone Hotel. Bring your camera to capture the notoriously shy Mt. Fuji.

YOKOHAMA OUTLET SHOPPING

5 hours | US\$80

Quench your curiosity for Japanese fashion trends with a shopping trip to Mitsui Outlet Park Yokohama Bayside. This open-air shopping mall by the sea is a Japanese interpretation of Western life, featuring 85 major brand outlet shops and a magnificent view of one of Japan's largest marinas.

CONTRASTS OF TOKYO

8 hours | US\$135

While it is impossible to see all of Japan during convention, you can get the highlights of the country on this tour. Start the day seeing Tokyo's most inspiring views from Japan's tallest structure, the Tokyo Skytree. Then, immerse yourself in the atmosphere of centuries' old Japanese culture and ride a rickshaw on the streets of Asakusa. End your day shopping in Ginza, Tokyo's fashion capital.

DISNEY TOKYO

10 hours | US\$150

Enter Tokyo Disneyland where the magic of Disney comes alive and relive fond memories. Take flight across seven incredible lands filled with classic attractions, shows and street parades, some with a Japanese twist.

YUKATA

4 hours | US\$175

Immerse yourself in Japanese culture by donning a yukata, a light kimono, and strolling through a Japanese garden. Learn how to correctly wear the yukata at your hotel and when you are properly dressed, you will be taken on a photo shoot at some of Yokohama's famous landmarks.

POST CONVENTION TOURS

HIROSHIMA & OKAYAMA

2 nights, 3 days | US\$1000

Travel by bullet train to Hiroshima and visit the historical sites of the A-Bomb Dome and Peace Memorial Museum. On the second day, see Miyajima Island, which is famous for its iconic Japanese torii gates and Itsukushima Shrine, and enjoy Hiroshima's famous okonomiyaki meal. Spend an afternoon and evening at your leisure before your return to Yokohama on the third day.

KYOTO & NARA

3 nights and 4 days | \$1700

Step off the bullet train and into an ancient world of charming temples, shrines and traditions. For four days, you will visit famous sites including: Kinkakuji, the Golden Pavilion of the Shogun; Tenryuji Temple with its rustic Zen gardens; Arashiyama, where you will take a rickshaw ride through the enchanted bamboo forest; Todaiji Temple, home to Japan's largest bronze Buddha statue; and Fushimi-Inari Shrine, which was featured in the movie, "Memoirs of a Geisha." Explore the old Guion and Kawaramachi shopping districts before heading back to Yokohama.

ZONTA HOUSE IN YAMADA-MACHI

1 night and 2 days | US\$1200

Travel to Morioka in northern Iwate Prefecture by bullet train to visit the Zonta House and enjoy dinner in a ryokan, a Japanese-style inn with a hot spring. The next day, take in the Moiooka Castle Ruins Park, which was transformed into a modern park with vivid colors and historic grandeur, before heading back to Yokohama.

For the most up-to-date tour information, visit convention.zonta.org.



Experience Convention

CONVENTION EVENTS IN BRIEF

SHARE YOUR STORY FESTIVAL

Begin your convention journey with inspiration from your fellow members! The Share Your Story Festival will spotlight compelling service, advocacy and membership stories delivered by select clubs from the Pacifico's National Convention Hall main stage. This fun, fast-paced session will provide creative ideas for you to take back to your own club.

DISTRICT MEETINGS

District meetings are an opportunity to meet with Zontians from your district/region to connect, discuss pertinent district matters and prepare your members to gain the most from convention.

LUNCH OPTIONS

Zontians may add bento boxes for lunch to their registration or choose to venture out to local restaurants.

FIRST TIMERS ORIENTATION

First-time convention attendees are invited to a special welcome and orientation.

DELEGATES TRAINING

All delegates, alternates and proxies must attend this training to learn about their responsibilities during Convention and to familiarize themselves with the electronic voting system.

OPENING CEREMONY

The Opening Ceremony is the official beginning of Convention and includes the impressive flag parade, featuring the colors from Zonta's 66 countries, and keynote speeches addressing Zonta's key priorities.

JAPANESE TEA CEREMONY

Get acquainted with a Japanese traditional Tea ceremony by observing a Sen schoolmaster who is a member of the Zonta Club of Kyoto II.

CANDIDATE SPEECHES/MEET THE CANDIDATES

Hear candidates' presentations and follow up with "Meet the Candidates" where Zontians have the opportunity to personally talk to those candidates running for international office.

HEICHINROU, CHINESE DINNER— OPTIONAL TICKETED DINNER

Heichinrou, meaning, "a place welcoming distinguished, good people," first opened in 1884 in Yokohama's Chinatown and is the oldest Chinese restaurant still operating in Japan. The restaurant is considered one of the finest examples of Cantonese cuisine and features luxurious meals, including seasonal dishes only offered for a short time.

GOVERNORS REUNION DINNER

All past governors up to the 2016-2018 Biennium can register for this invitation-only dinner. This is a ticketed event where invitees will enjoy fresh cuisine along with heart-warming conversation.

ELECTIONS

This is a delegates-only event; no one else will be admitted. Elections will start promptly at 8:30 AM. Seating will begin at 8 AM. Once the doors are closed, they will not reopen until the election results are affirmed by the Elections Committee.

MARINE ROUGE, WESTERN BUFFET— OPTIONAL TICKETED DINNER

Climb aboard the Marine Rouge and dine while you cruise through the Port of Yokohama. See the beauty of the city from the water as you dine with your fellow Zontians.

PIPS DINNER

All Past International Presidents (PIPs) are invited to an invitation-only dinner.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

All Zontians are welcome to attend the memorial service to remember those Zontians who have passed away during the 2016-2018 Biennium. To submit a name for the memorial, please visit convention.zonta.org.

YAKATABUNE HAMASHIN, TEMPURA COURSE— OPTIONAL TICKETED DINNER

Enjoy delicious, freshly-prepared dishes with a beautiful night view of Yokohama from Hamashin, a dining experience on a yakatabune, a traditional Japanese houseboat. Styled like a Japanese inn with beautifully woven straw mats, the yakatabune smoothly glides through the water, offering both a comfortable ride and an unforgettable experience.



WORKSHOP: ATTRACTING ATTENTION FOR SERVICE AND ADVOCACY THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media is a powerful tool to raise awareness of Zonta International and your local service and advocacy efforts. Learn the basic rules of social media and leave equipped with the knowledge to use Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn to amplify your message and grow your club's social media audience.

WORKSHOP: COLLABORATIVE MEMBERS EQUAL A BETTER WORLD FOR WOMEN

Achieving our mission requires commitment, collaboration and communication from all Zonta club members. Learn how to overcome differences, foster positive communication within your club and district and utilize the skills and talents of every member to create a positive environment to achieve Zonta's mission.

WORKSHOP: INFLUENCING DECISION MAKERS— ZONTA CLUB ADVOCACY

Change starts at the local level. Learn how to create an action plan to move your local advocacy forward with practical advice and instructions for identifying issues, developing an advocacy strategy, and communicating with government officials and the media with knowledge and authority.

WORKSHOP: CLUB PRESIDENTS LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Are you a newly elected club president? Get expert advice from experienced Zonta leaders on how to create a club culture that delivers on Zonta's mission and exceeds member expectations. You will leave this workshop ready to lead your club on a path to success.

A special rate is available to Golden Z club members for the 2018 Convention. We encourage all members to join us in Yokohama!

- Gain experience
- Network with global advocates
- Become inspired
- Plan for your future in Zonta

FOUNDATION RECEPTION

This special reception will recognize districts, clubs and individual Zontians for their generous support of the Zonta International Foundation during the 2016-2018 Biennium. This is an invitation-only event.

CLOSING CEREMONY

Join your fellow Zontians at this final business session in celebrating the closing of the 2018 International Convention. The highlights of this ceremony will include the installation of the 2018–2020 Zonta International and Zonta International Foundation Boards, International Nominating Committee and Governors and recognition of the 2016–2018 Zonta International and Zonta International Foundation Boards and Governors for their work and time dedicated to Zonta International this biennium.

SAYONARA TO YOKOHAMA —A GRAND GALA DINNER

Enjoy the hospitality of the Zonta clubs in Japan with an elegant evening of Japanese culture, featuring Noh theater masters Kurouemonn Katayama and Shingo Katayama and award-winning soprano singer Michié Nakamaru. This will be an opportunity to visit one last time with your fellow Zontians from all over the globe as we say 'Sayonara' to Yokohama and the 2016-2018 Biennium, and welcome the beginning of Zonta's centennial anniversary celebration!





Registration Fee Schedule

Registration	Before 28 February	1 March – 20 May	After 20 May
Zontian—full rate	US\$390	US\$450	US\$525
Zontian—single day	US\$150	US\$165	US\$180
Non-Zontian/Guest	US\$100		
Golden Z member	US\$50		

Cancellations, refunds and name changes: Cancellations received by 28 February will receive a refund of registration fees, less an administrative charge of US\$100. Cancellations received between 1 March and 20 May will receive a refund of half the registration fee, less an administrative charge of US\$100. Cancellations after 20 May will not be refundable. Guests and Non-Zontians will receive a full refund, less a charge of US\$25.

Change of name will result in an additional fee of US\$50 for Zontians. Change of name for Non Zontians/Guests will result in an additional fee of US\$25.

Guests are welcome to attend the opening ceremony and register for tours and special events.

InterContinental Yokohama Grand Hotel

The elegant InterContinental Yokohama Grand is the 2018 Convention hotel. It is directly connected to the Pacifico Yokohama National Convention Hall, making travel easy to and from your accommodations.

A limited room block will be available with special guest room rates. To gain access to the room block website and reservation information, you must first register for the 2018 Convention.

The hotel is pleased to offer the following special rates for the Zonta International 2018 Convention:

Single: JPY28000

Double: JPY28000

Triple: JPY37000

Individual reservations will be made through a designated link that the hotel will provide for Convention attendees. No reservations will be accepted via telephone or third party websites.



Experience Vivid Japanese Culture at the Grand Gala Dinner

For entertainment, we will have the great honor of experiencing one of the oldest traditional arts in Japan: Noh, a fusion of Japanese dance and music. Through the Noh mask, master performers connect with the audience, expressing deep emotion. Award-winning Noh masters, Kurouemonn Katayama and Shingo Katayama, will be performing “Shakkyou,” or Stone Bridge. This program, meaning ‘holding everything happily,’ is usually the finale in a Noh performance and is, thus, very suitable for the closing of the 2018 Convention.

We are also honored to have Michié Nakamaru, a soprano singer who has performed around the world alongside renowned talents such as Luciano Pavarotti. Ms. Nakamaru made her operatic debut in 1986 and has since traveled the world, winning awards and recognitions like the Order of the Star of Italy—Commendatore. She continues to perform on stages all over the globe with other modern masters of opera.

Share Your Story Festival

Friday, 29 June

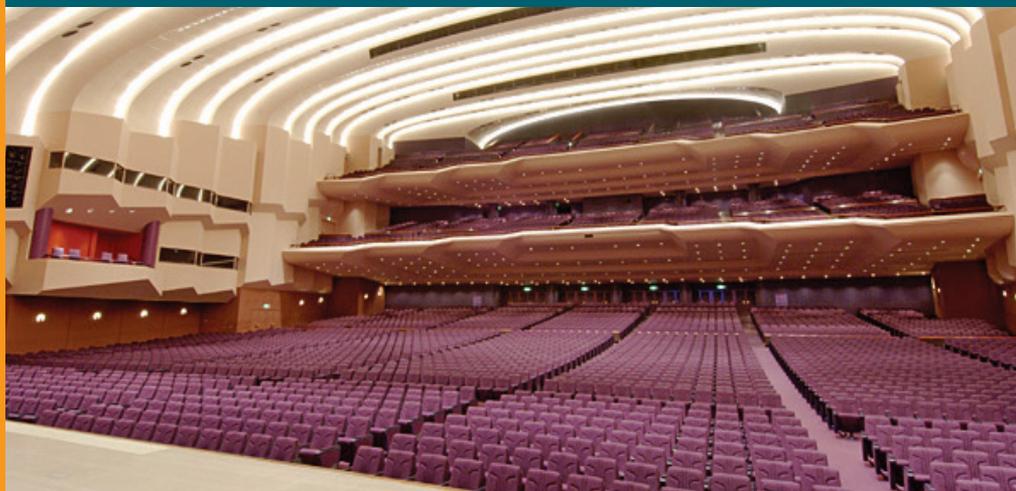
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

Auditorium, Pacifico Yokohama

Every day, around the world, Zontians are working to improve the lives of women and girls – and we believe these innovative and inspiring stories need to be shared. We will feature great Zonta stories of service, advocacy and membership on the main stage at the 2018 Convention.

Do you have a story to share? Find more information and enter your club at convention.zonta.org. (space is limited)

Be creative. Have fun. Leave inspired.



©Pacifico Yokohama

Schedule-at-a-Glance

	THURSDAY JUNE 28	FRIDAY JUNE 29	SATURDAY JUNE 30	SUNDAY JULY 1	MONDAY JULY 2	TUESDAY JULY 3
REGISTRATION AND CREDENTIALING*						
8:30	<i>Be sure to visit the Convention Market Place and Zonta Store</i>			Elections 8:30–9:30 AM (seating starts at 8 AM)	Memorial Service 8:30–9:15	Business Session (Coffee included) 8:30 AM–1 PM
9:00			Opening Ceremony With Flag Parade 8:30 AM–12 PM		Business Session (Coffee included) 9:30 AM–1 PM	
9:30		Share Your Story Festival 9 AM–12 PM				
10:00		District Meetings 9 AM–1 PM				
10:30						
11:00						
11:30						
12:00		Lunch 12–1 PM				
12:30			Lunch 12–1:30 PM <i>Come view a Japanese Tea Ceremony</i>			
1:00					Lunch 1–2 PM	Lunch 1–2 PM
1:30			Committee Leadership Training 1–3:15 PM	Business Session 1:30–3 PM		2018–2020 Team Luncheon 1–3 PM (by invitation only)
2:00						
2:30						
3:00						
3:30						
4:00			First Timers Orientation 3:30–4:25 PM	Candidate Speeches (Coffee included) 3:30–5:30 PM	Business Session 2–5:30 PM	Business Session 3:15–5 PM
4:30		Delegates Training 4:30–5:30 PM				
5:00						
5:30		Rehearsal: Flag Ceremony 5:35–6:30PM	Meet the Candidates 5:30–6:30 PM		Rehearsal: Installation 5 PM–5:45 PM	
6:00						
6:30		Rehearsal: Memorial Service 6:30–7 PM				
7:00	President's Dinner (By invitation only) 7 PM	Yakatabune Hamashin Tempura Course (Optional ticketed dinner) 7 PM	Heichinrou— Chinese Dinner (Optional ticketed dinner) 7 PM Governors Reunion Dinner (Ticketed event) 7 PM	Marine Rouge— Western Buffet (Optional ticketed dinner) 7 PM PIPs Dinner (By invitation only) 7 PM 2018–2020 Board Gathering (By invitation only) 7–9 PM	Foundation Reception (By invitation only) 7 PM	Sayonara to Yokohama— a Grand Gala Dinner (Ticketed event) 7 PM

*Official times to be released online. For the most up-to-date schedule, please visit convention.zonta.org



RECOGNIZING ZONTIANS

Discover and be inspired by the service projects, membership initiatives, and incredible generosity from Zontians around the globe.

Convention is the time to recognize the districts, clubs and individual members who have strived to ensure the health and impact of Zonta through their service, membership and work within the foundation.

There are three ways to gain recognition for this work: the Zonta International Service Recognition Awards, the Zonta International Membership Recognition Awards and the Zonta International Foundation reception.

Learn more about how you, your club and your district can be recognized at Convention for the work you do every day in Zonta. Inspire others as we advance together into the next biennium. All recognition is awarded for activity from 1 June 2016 – 30 April 2018. Please review all requirements as some previous projects can be considered for the Service Recognition Award.

2016–2018 Zonta International Service Recognition Awards

Every biennium, thousands of service projects are conducted by Zonta clubs worldwide, yet, only a few have been awarded the Zonta Service Recognition Award. Last year, the work of seven Zonta clubs and three Zonta districts was recognized on stage at the 63rd International Convention in Nice, France. Each of the award-winning projects focused on changing the lives of women and girls.

Learn more about what these recipients did by visiting our website at zonta.org/Local-Action/Zonta-Service-Recognition-Award

There are two categories of projects to be considered for the club and district awards:

1. Service projects that empower women and girls in general to achieve equal rights and to secure their access to all legal, political, economic, educational, health and professional resources
2. Service projects focusing on prevention of violence against women and girls

Learn more about eligibility and other requirements at: membership.zonta.org/service-tools.

2016–2018 Zonta International Membership Recognition Awards

Members are the heart of Zonta. When we add and strengthen our voices in our organization, we make a greater impact in local and global communities. When members share their passion for Zonta, Zonta remains strong for the future.

There are three ways to be awarded for your work with recruitment and retention: individual, club and district recognition.

For more information on how to be recognized, visit: membership.zonta.org/Tools/Membership-Tools.

2018 Zonta International Foundation Donor Reception Recognition

The generosity of Zonta's districts, clubs and individual members is simply remarkable. This biennium, Zontians committed to raising more than US\$5.3 million to support Zonta's global service projects.

The Foundation hosts a special donor reception for the most generous district, club and individual donors at every convention. Donations must be received at Headquarters by 30 April 2018 to qualify.

For more information about the Foundation Reception, please visit: membership.zonta.org/Tools/Foundation-Tools.

Zonta... what it means to me!
To me, it means helping, volunteering, assisting, being there where the need is. It means friendship and family, it means commitment and care. Zonta, to me, is where extraordinary happens!

—Paige Porter, President of the Zonta Club of Olympia, 2014–2016 Zonta International Membership Recognition Award recipient



USING SOCIAL MEDIA TO SHARE YOUR ACTIONS

Zonta is always in action. With members in every time zone around the globe, we are always planning or conducting service and advocacy actions. Use the power of social media to connect and share your work with your fellow Zontians.

CONNECT with partner organizations, sister clubs and influencers in your community

PLAN, create and promote events

SOCIAL MEDIA ENABLES YOU TO



SHARE your service and advocacy actions with the Zonta International community and public

ENGAGE in conversations with club members, neighbors and potential members

STAY UP-TO-DATE with actions being taken on ALL levels of Zonta International. Many messages do not make it into the newsletters, but are highlighted on our social networks.

Here are some facts about Zonta International's social audience that you might not have known:

20 percent of Zonta International's fans on Facebook are 45-54 years old, followed by 17 percent who are 35-44 and 16 percent who are 55-64 years old.

What this means: The majority of our members are this age group. The presumption that social media is for only for younger people is false. Potential members are already on Facebook and are already engaged in our messages.

37 percent of Zonta International's followers on Twitter are 24-33 years old.

What this means: Prospective young professional members are already following Zonta on Twitter and in turn are familiar with our message and mission.



Here are some actions you can take today:

- **Create and use a social media account.** We are active on four major social media networks (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram). Pick which one works best for you and keep trying different ways of getting Zonta's message to your community, club members and fellow Zontians.
- **Like, share and comment on Zonta International's posts.** This is the simplest way you can join the conversation. When you share, like or comment on a post, you are taking our message and quickly bringing it to your friends and followers.
- **Create a page for your club, area, district.** If you create a group for your club, no one outside of the group will be able to see what you are doing. Groups are good for internal conversations, but if you want to share with your community or other clubs, they will not have access.
- **Interact, engage and connect with your fans.** Respond when someone comments. This creates a relationship and shows you are present. Use a hashtag # in front of a word or phrase used within our international campaigns and slogans. A hash-tagged word on social media turns that word or phrase into a searchable link. Using a hashtag makes it easy for Zontians to find common actions that are happening around the globe, like during our #ZontaSaysNO campaign or when you want to see other #ZontiansinAction.
- **Share Your Story.** Once you Share Your Story on our website, you can share the link after it has been posted. This simple action creates more recognition for your work, and the work of your fellow Zontians.

LEADERS



OF TOMORROW

Our Golden Z and Z club members are the leaders of tomorrow, but they are already changing the world through their service and advocacy. To recognize the student clubs whose projects and programs best express the ideals of our organization, Zonta International annually awards the Emma L. Conlon Service Award. Below are the 2017 Emma L. Conlon Service Award winners who made a significant impact in their communities and the world.

GOLDEN Z CLUBS

1ST PLACE—Golden Z Club of St. Michael's College of Laguna, sponsored by the Zonta Club of Laguna, Philippines

The club raised awareness for Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women and Sustainable Development Goal No. 5 with events such as “I Walk in Her Shoes,” where 250 men walked around a mall in women’s shoes to pledge their support for gender equality. The club also did service to support local teen mothers and hosted a youth forum.



2ND PLACE—Golden Z Club at the University of San Carlos, sponsored by the Zonta Club of Cebu II, Philippines

The club held a forum to raise awareness for Mental Health Awareness Week and started #YouAreNotAlone, an online campaign to start a conversation about mental health. The club also hosted a gender rights discussion and organized a workshop on defense against assault.



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3RD PLACE—McMaster University Golden Z Club, sponsored by the Zonta Club of Hamilton I, Canada

Members held a Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women event where they educated participants about gender-based violence. The club also created a display featuring 50 female heroes and raised money for a local women's program.



Z CLUBS

1ST PLACE—Z Club of Colombo, sponsored by the Zonta Club of Colombo II, Sri Lanka

The club facilitated a workshop on public speaking and effective communication for a local girls' school and co-hosted a program culminating in a School Gavel Club, where girls participated in interschool competitions. The club also joined a nonprofit trust, helping to fight the stigma of mental health and sent toys to Syrian refugee children.



2ND PLACE—Z Club of Childlink High School, sponsored by the Zonta Club of Cebu II, Philippines

Club members traveled to Hong Kong to work with Z clubs there on the #SayNoToCyberbullying campaign, which was launched as part of the 16 Days of Activism. Members also visited a school to discuss issues such as peer pressure and tutored children about anti-bullying.



3RD PLACE—Z Club of Auburn, sponsored by the Zonta Club of Auburn, USA

With the help of a local architect, the club designed a butterfly garden for its school grounds as a memorial to a former member who was killed by a drunk driver. The club also hosted an activity day for local children and donated nearly 60 new blankets for new mothers.



ZONTA SAYS NO TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN



Zonta Club of Kankakee, IL, USA

Issue in Action: Trafficking in Persons

21 million people worldwide are victims of trafficking

70 percent of them are women and girls*

Act now to
#EndTrafficking #ZontaSaysNO

Learn more and share your actions at www.zontasaysno.com.

*www.unodc.org

2017

WOULD YOU LIKE TO CELEBRATE ZONTA'S CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY BY ENSURING ZONTA'S FUTURE?

You may be interested to learn more about the Centennial Anniversary Endowment Campaign. Through the Campaign you can leave a legacy. Your gift to the Endowment Fund will guarantee that Zonta will be able to sustain projects and programs to meet the needs of future generations of women and girls.

You can find more about the Endowment Campaign and contact the committee for support at:

www.zontaendowmentcampaign.org

CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY
ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN

BELIEVE • INVEST
EMPOWER



ADD YOUR VOICE TO EMPOWER WOMEN

www.zonta.org/addyourvoice



WHY DID YOU ADD YOUR VOICE TO ZONTA?

"I have enough female friends that I can look at what they're going through and what my parents were going through, what my grandparents were going through, and realized this is important. I was hoping that adding my voice would help, being maybe that male voice that convinces other males down the line that there is a problem here.

It's really nice to see an organization that looks at current events and goes, 'we need younger people.' It's nice to be acknowledged, to have people notice us and care about us and what we have to say. This is a good opportunity to have my generation's voice heard. I'm glad Zonta looked at it and went, 'what can we do to get those voices heard within our organization?' and implemented the membership drive and the young professional membership category."

Devin Reynolds, Young Professional

ZONTA CLUB OF SOUTH PUGET SOUND, WA, USA
DISTRICT 8





WELCOME TO THE ZONTA INTERNATIONAL FAMILY!

The Zonta International community extends a warm welcome to our new Zonta clubs and Z and Golden Z clubs, chartered since September 2017.

ZONTA CLUBS

- **The Adirondacks**
District 2, Area 1
- **e-Club of Bavaria**
District 14, Area 3
- **e-Club of Thailand**
District 17, Area 6
- **Greater Springfield Inc**
District 22, Area 4
- **Colombo IV**
District 25, Area 1
- **Potsdam**
District 27, Area 7
- **Marseille Gyptis**
District 30, Area 1
- **Tainan Phoenix**
District 31, Area 2

GOLDEN Z CLUBS

- **University of Akron Golden Z Club**
District 5, Area 3
- **Kilgore College Golden Z**
District 10, Area 2

- **Cagayan State University— College of Allied Health Sciences**
District 17, Area 4
- **Cagayan State University— College of Business, Entrepreneurship and Accountancy**
District 17, Area 4
- **Cagayan State University— College of Hospitality and Industrial Management**
District 17, Area 4
- **Taguig City University Golden Z Club**
District 17, Area 5
- **CQUni Mackay Golden Z Club**
District 22, Area 5

Z CLUBS

- **DLSB Hungary**
District 14, Area 1
- **Z Club of Rotorua Girls High School**
District 16, Area 4

- **Prois International Christian School**
District 17, Area 3
- **Z Club of Cataggaman National High School**
District 17, Area 4
- **SMCL Senior High School Z Club**
District 17, Area 5
- **The Ambassadors Z Club**
District 22, Area 1
- **St. Patrick's College Z Club**
District 22, Area 5
- **St. Cath's Z Club**
District 22, Area 5
- **Melton Secondary Z Club**
District 23, Area 4
- **Z Club of Kathmandu**
District 25, Area 2
- **Z Club of Stara Zagora**
District 30, Area 5
- **Concordia Z Club**
District 31, Area 2



ZONTA
INTERNATIONAL
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

1211 West 22nd Street | Suite 900
Oak Brook, IL 60523-3384 | USA

Get Social



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Zonta International



Zonta International Official Group



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