

65TH ANNIVERSARY



SOROPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL
MANHATTAN BEACH

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:

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LUNA FEST

Our annual presentation of the LUNAFEST Film Festival was held at the Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center in March. This festival gives women artistic expression for a wide range of ideas and is always inspirational and entertaining. Our guests enjoyed these powerful award-winning short films from around the world, as well as the discussion with film makers Bola Ogun and Katrell Kindred about their careers and perspectives.

We raised over \$9,000 to fund our Soroptimist programs. We want to thank all those who attended, and we also thank our sponsors and supporters.





live YOUR dream

education & training awards for women®

The signature program of Soroptimist is the Live Your Dream Education and Training Awards, for women who provide the main financial support for their families as they work to improve career prospects through education. Each year about \$2 million is awarded to over 1,500 women through this program by our clubs in 22 countries.

This year our club awarded \$9,000 to five South Bay women. They were enrolled in undergraduate or vocational training at local schools, while working and raising children, and the funds helped them cover expenses as needed.

The dinner awards ceremony allowed us to hear about the obstacles these women have faced and the steps they are taking to make better lives for their families. It was inspirational!

Photo left: Award recipients Jocelyn Boyd, Charnisa Bradley, Tiffany Logan and Nancy Posadas



Nancy Posadas, SIA Past President Dawn Marie Lemonds, Jocelyn Boyd, Chanell Sharp, Charnisa Bradley, President Cheryl Abel and Chair Kelly Fogarty

DREAM IT • BE IT

CAREER SUPPORT

{for girls}



This annual program is designed to help girls grow up to be strong, successful, happy adults. Dream It, Be It is designed for girls in secondary school who face obstacles to their future success. It provides girls with access to professional role models, career education and the resources to live their dreams. Soroptimist clubs work in partnership with girls in small groups or a conference setting to provide them with the information and resources they want and need to be successful. The topics covered include career opportunities, setting and achieving goals, overcoming obstacles to success and how to move forward after setbacks.



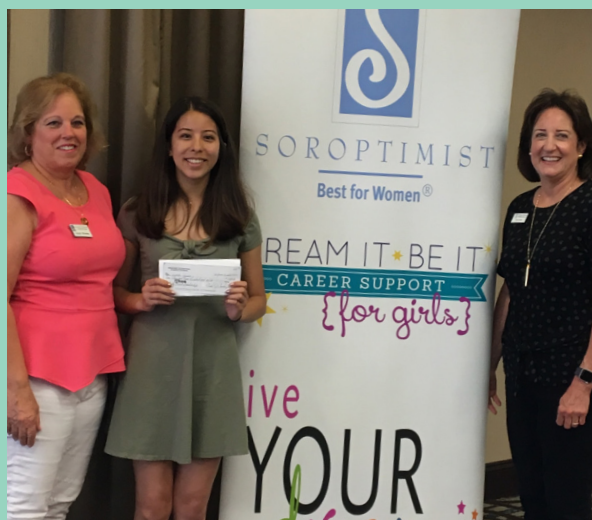
This year we were invited to the offices of WPromote in El Segundo. Presenters from WPromote and Chevron gave valuable support to our program. We also thank our Founding Sponsor, Southern California Edison.

FOCUS ON GIRLS



The Mira Costa "S" Club

partners with us for our Breast Cancer Comfort Bags project and LUNAFEST and we support their efforts to raise money and provide service in the community. We've sponsored this club for over 55 years to demonstrate to teens the importance of service in the lives of women.



Bella Arnao received the **Trudy Smart Memorial Scholarship** of \$1,500 in honor of her service through "S" Club (pictured with Susan Wheeler and Cheryl Abel). Bella will attend UCLA to study biology.



We support the **Crown Jewel Club** with volunteers and funding to provide lessons and mentoring for fifth-grade girls to inspire dreams and plans for having the great lives they deserve. To fulfill the promise of the program we created a \$1,000 scholarship for alumnae when they graduate from high school. Sydney Sonnier was our honoree at an awards dinner this year and described the lasting impact the program has had in her life.



1 18 BINGO!



We hosted great Bingo nights in October and April for friends and guests. Our potluck dinners have become legendary! The funds raised support our programs.





TASTING & TRIVIA



Friends and competitors joined us at King Harbor Brewing for a night of trivia where teams pooled their resources and competed for prizes and bragging rights. A pizza oven, raffle, and great beer were enjoyed by all!



BREAST CANCER COMFORT BAGS



Manhattan Beach Police Chief Derrick Abell and Sgt. Tim Zins presented a check at our holiday party.



Our club has now delivered over 2,400 tote bags filled with items to assist women starting chemotherapy for breast cancer in our underserved areas of the South Bay.

A survey of patients and caregivers increases our commitment to this project and we are moving forward with additional ideas to increase the usefulness of the bags to patients and create a more supportive system. They are currently delivered to oncology clinics at three South Bay locations, and the bags are available to give to women in our community through personal contacts.

The Manhattan Beach Police Department raises funds for breast cancer with the Pink Patch Project. We partnered with them for a fundraiser at California Pizza Kitchen and helped publicize their service activities. As a result of their work throughout the community, we received nearly \$4,000, allowing us to make and distribute 100 additional kits! We had a great time and are very grateful for this collaboration.



Amy Choi and Cheryl Abel with the Challenge Coins sold by the MBPD.





65th Anniversary



In 2018 we celebrated our 65th Anniversary. Our Charter Member, Bette Deziel, was recognized by Manhattan Beach Mayor Steve Napolitano and the entire City Council for her years of service to the community, and our club members attended the celebration. Bette was also honored at the Camino Real Region Spring Conference in April 2019.



We are partners with Days for Girls International for our newest hands-on service project. Soroptimists share their vision of the dignity and worth of every girl and woman. Days for Girls provides sustainable feminine hygiene solutions and health education. When girls have education and opportunity, then communities and our world are stronger. They have delivered over one million kits in 120 countries.

Our club holds monthly local work days to prepare fabric for the Los Angeles Chapter assembly dates, and this year we helped arrange for delivery of kits to Agra, India.

Websites:

www.simanhattanbeach.org

www.soroptimist.org

www.soroptimistinternational.org



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