

It's What You Do That Counts!

Are you a young woman between the ages of 14 and 17 who volunteers in your community or school? Who sees challenges instead of obstacles? Hope instead of despair? If you are a young woman who believes in the power of volunteer action, then you may be eligible to win a Violet Richardson Award.

The Violet Richardson Award recognizes young women who make the community and world a better place through volunteer efforts such as: fighting drugs, crime and violence; cleaning up the environment; and working to end discrimination and poverty. Volunteer actions that benefit women or girls are of particular interest.

Soroptimist is an organization of women whose members volunteer in their communities, often working on the same problems that you do. Although we realize that volunteering is its own reward, we also know it feels good to be recognized for your actions. And that's why we sponsor this award.

The Violet Richardson Award Program

The Violet Richardson Award program begins at the local Soroptimist club level, where the type of award varies. Club-level winners then become eligible for one of 29 \$1,000 awards. In addition, \$1,000 will be contributed in honor of these winners to their volunteer organizations. One finalist will be chosen from among the 29 winners for an additional award, including a contribution of \$2,500 to the finalist's volunteer organization.

If you think you would make a good Violet Richardson Award candidate, please complete the enclosed application and tell us about your volunteer action. Send it to the local Soroptimist club listed on the application.

Good luck! And, even if you don't win a Violet Richardson Award, we applaud your efforts to make your community and the world a better place.

Soroptimists, Soroptimist employees and the immediate families of both are ineligible, as are previous Violet Richardson Award winners.

Violet Richardson

Violet Richardson (Ward), a physical education teacher, was the president of the first Soroptimist club in 1921. Violet believed in personal responsibility and the motto, "It's what you do that counts." She lived her life accordingly—as an active volunteer in her community and as a pioneer in the health and physical education field.

In particular, Violet was committed to creating opportunities for girls and young women. In addition to her Soroptimist activities, Violet was involved with the Girl Scout Council and the American Association of University Women. Violet's dedication to the causes of young women and her devotion to improving life in her community were an inspiration to everyone who knew her. Soroptimist established the Violet Richardson Award to honor the memory of this unique woman and her dedication to volunteer action.



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About Soroptimist

Soroptimist International of the Americas is an international organization of professional and business women who volunteer their time toward community projects benefiting women.

Soroptimist's major service project is the Women's Opportunity Awards program, which helps women to gain the education and training they need to improve their lives. The organization also focuses on domestic violence prevention and elimination.

Soroptimist programs, including the Violet Richardson Award, are funded by The Soroptimist Foundation, Soroptimist's charitable arm.

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Making a Difference
for Women Since 1921

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The Violet Richardson Award Honoring Young Women for Volunteer Action

a program of Soroptimist International of the Americas

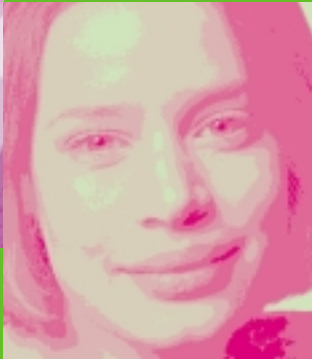
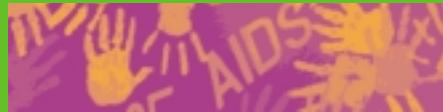


inspirational responsible
motivated dedicated honest
committed enthusiastic loyal
respected compassionate
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You



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