The Violet Richardson Award

Honoring Young Women for Volunteer Action

a program of Soroptimist International of the Americas

SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

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 Soroptimist 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.

VOLUNTEER

The Soroptimist 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 28 $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 28 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 this 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.

Soroptimist Violet Richardson Award Application

Instructions:

Deadline:
Completed applications and any supporting materials must be received by December 1 at the address listed in Step 3. Soroptimists, Soroptimist employees and the immediate families of both are ineligible, as are previous Violet Richardson Award winners. Applications submittted directly to Soroptimist headquarters will not be considered.

Step 1: Determine if you are eligible
Eligible applicants are young women who:

- are currently between the ages of 14 and 17
- have demonstrated initiative in both identifying a problem and trying to solve it
- have had significant and noteworthy accomplishments as volunteers

Step 2: Complete the application
To fill out the form:

- Select the "Hand Tool," which appears as a small white hand.
- Move the "Hand Tool" and click on the area where you want to type.
- A cursor will appear and you can begin typing to personalize the application. (Note: You will not be able to change the type size. Please limit your answers to the space allotted.)
- Once all parts of the form are personalized, select "Save As" from the "File" menu and change the file name (for example, "VRAemailappLG.pdf," where "LG" are your initials). Click "Save."

Step 3: Email your application
Send your application with any supporting materials to:

Soroptimist Club Name: Soroptimist International of Spokane

Club Contact Person: Kathy Rettkowski

Email Address: brettkow@mindspring.com

Address: 13607 E. 30th Ave

City/State/Zip: Spokane Valley, WA 99216

Phone: 509-928-0075

All inquiries regarding this application should be made to the club contact person listed above.

Soroptimist Violet Richardson Award Application

General Information

Name _____
(Last) (First) (Middle Initial)

Date of Birth _____ **Email Address** _____

Address _____
(Number and Street)

City _____ **Province/State** _____ **Postal Code** _____

Country _____

Phone _____

Name of the organization where you volunteer _____

Phone number for volunteer organization _____

Essay

On the next page, write an essay, up to 750 words. Tell us where you volunteer and why. Describe the goals of the organization and its impact on the problem(s) it addresses. What is your role in the organization? What have you accomplished as a volunteer?

Additional Materials (Optional)

Please feel free to submit any supporting materials that you think we should see (for example, newspaper clippings, photographs, etc.). Additional materials are optional. Make sure that your name and phone number are on all additional materials.

Agreement

- I certify that all information provided in this application is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I will notify the designated club to which I have submitted this application if there are any changes.
- I understand this award is taxable in the United States. Recipients in other countries should check their local tax laws.
- I certify that this is the only application I have made this year for a Soroptimist Violet Richardson Award from this or any other Soroptimist club.
- I understand that my application and supporting materials become the property of Soroptimist International of the Americas (SIA) upon submission, and that SIA shall have sole discretion in using these materials for the purpose of publicizing the Violet Richardson Award program.

By typing your name below you adhere to the above requirements.

Signature of Applicant _____ **Date** _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian _____

Essay

Please type your essay below.