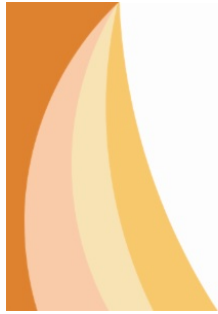


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Zonta News

Build a Better World for Women and Girls



Dear Greetings!

After leaving university and starting my career as a junior lawyer, I found myself feeling bored without the vibrant extracurricular activities that had enriched my university experience. When I confided in my mother, we explored my aspirations: to engage in something truly meaningful while also benefiting society. As a dedicated Zontian herself, she encouraged me to join the organization. Though I initially hesitated, I was welcomed with warmth, support and a spirit of diversity and mentorship, which continues to define my experience. And I have made friends across generations.



President Salla Tuominen (center) with her aunt, Marjo Juhola (left) and her mother, Zontian Tarja Tuominen (right)

This is the same journey that other young people can take in Zonta. They can discover spaces where they are challenged and empowered to create a brighter future for women, girls and themselves, all while receiving the support and inclusion they deserve. Young people may act and view the world differently from the older generations, but it is the reality and it is the opportunity. The world is changing. They should be emboldened, given meaningful roles and listened to as their ideas are vital for innovation and positive change.

When we consider our relevance and sustainability, we must also recognize the importance of giving young people a prominent seat at the table. Young people are not just future leaders, they can be our current ones. The idea that the younger generation is “not quite ready” must be challenged; readiness is about perspective, commitment and passion—attributes that I have seen in our student members, education awardees and young professionals.

According to the [World Economic Forum's 2025 Global Shapers Impact Report](#), young people want to be involved and solve today's issues for a better tomorrow:

- Despite significant global challenges in recent years, young people remain optimistic: **83% of young people view the world as full of opportunities.**
- About **74% of young people feel empowered** to act on the issues they care about.
- Young people can drive social justice, with **36% of participants in youth initiatives from underrepresented groups.**

In honor of [International Youth Day](#) and beyond, we need to think about the sustainability of Zonta's future, which is why I urge you all to embrace the leadership capabilities of the next generation, whom we have dubbed as Generation Zonta, and empower them now. Invite them to speak out more at meetings and ask what ideas or projects they have, because they are the key to future-proofing our organization. When we give Generation Zonta opportunities, we are giving opportunities to a future Zonta International President eager to secure our legacy.


One great way to start championing Generation Zonta is by [applying for the Zonta Cross-Mentorship Program](#). A new session begins in September. This initiative celebrates diversity and forges connections across all ages. Through mentorship, we can share our experiences and knowledge, creating fertile ground for mutual growth. By committing to this program, we allow future leaders to build a vibrant, diverse network that paves the way for their success.

Thank you for your continued support of each other as we build a better world for women and girls with Generation Zonta.


Kind regards,



Salla Tuominen
President 2024-2026
Zonta International and Zonta Foundation for Women



TAKE YOUR OPPORTUNITY
TODAY TO BECOME A
MENTOR OR MENTEE



Make a gift today in honor of our
long-term projects and friendships!



Building a better world with Generation Zonta

Zonta International is dedicated to empowering young individuals to take an active role in creating a brighter and more equitable future for women, girls, and their communities.

As part of this mission, we sought insights from Zontians regarding the significance of supporting and [mentoring our young members](#). They highlighted that mentorship plays a crucial role in fostering leadership skills, confidence and awareness of global issues among young people.

Zonta also makes space for the future leaders through the establishment of Z clubs and Golden Z clubs. These clubs serve as a vital platform for youth engagement, creating opportunities for service and personal growth while cultivating a sense of community and collaboration among members. Participants are encouraged to take part in projects that address local and international challenges, promoting both



personal development and social responsibility.

Through these initiatives, young people are equipped with the tools and experiences necessary to become advocates for change, ensuring that they are prepared to uplift and empower future generations. Learn how we are building a better world with Generation Zonta by clicking on the button below.

[Read the full article](#)



Celebrating International Day of Friendship with #ZontaHearts

In July, Zonta members came together to celebrate the International Day of Friendship by sharing their #ZontaHearts and submitting photos showcasing their friendships. We invite you to watch the video that highlights the bonds and support of a Zonta Friendship.



Zontians in Action

Zontians are taking action to build a better world for women and girls! Read the stories below highlighting how Zonta clubs and student clubs are making an impact in their communities and beyond.

UV Golden Z's Project REACH wraps up with hope and heart

The Golden Z Club of the University of the Visayas, in partnership with the Zonta Club of Cebu I, Philippines, Barangay Day-as, Barangay Zapatera and the READucate Foundation, has officially concluded Project REACH (Reading for Empowerment, Achievement and Comprehensive Holistic Development), a literacy initiative aimed at strengthening reading skills and promoting holistic growth among young learners.

With mentorship from the Golden Z club, 31 daycare students advanced through their reading program, achieving an impressive 90% average score. The project also established a library of more than 200 books, both digital and physical, to support ongoing learning.



Celebrating 10 years of service and advocacy

More than 60 members of the Z Club of Macleans College gathered with Zontians, community members and executives of their school for a special event honoring the club's work, advocacy and achievements.

The celebration highlighted the Z club's 10th anniversary and commitment to service and advocacy, capped by a donation of NZD\$1,000 to Foster Hope, the New Zealand District Project supporting children in foster care.



Zontians in the News

Zontians are making headlines in their local news. Learn how their initiatives are inspiring their communities and beyond.

The Zonta Club of Ludington Area was recently featured in their local press for empowering individuals to protect themselves and addressing the underreporting of sexual assault. Read more about their coverage here: [Zonta Club distributes drink-spiking detection coasters across Mason County.](#)

Click the buttons below to be inspired by Zontians taking action within their own communities. Then, tell us how you are changing the world by sharing your story!

Local Service & Advocacy

Local Zonta Says NO Actions

Submit a Share Your Story

We proudly highlight our [#ZontiansinAction.](#)

See the steps our members have taken to make a difference around the world.

[WATCH NOW](#)

Be inspired at the Share Your Story Festival!

Don't miss out on the first virtual Share Your Story Festival on **Tuesday, 26 August**. Join us as clubs

from all around the world gather to share their stories of impact and transformation. You will hear from six dynamic clubs that have made waves in their communities through innovative service and advocacy efforts.

Click below to register and see how our global community is creating real change.

[Register](#)



Zonta & UNICEF Virtual Experience

Join Zonta International and UNICEF for a one-of-a-kind look into **Laaha: A safe space for women and girls**. Laaha provides information to women and girls on sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence, including where and how to access services when needed. It is the first-ever platform designed by and for women and girls in humanitarian settings to address gender-based violence.



Zontians will hear from UNICEF staff about the impact of this initiative and the lifesaving resources available to women and girls in conflict areas. Participants will also see how the platform is being integrated into daily life across various countries.

Thursday, 4 September

6:00 AM ET

Find your meeting time: [Meeting Planner](#)

[Register](#)

12:00 PM ET

Find your meeting time: [Meeting Planner](#)

[Register](#)

ZONTA ADVOCACY SERIES



How is Artificial Intelligence impacting Gender Equality – causes and consequences

12 PM CDT | Tuesday, 9 September
Register at www.zonta.org/events



[Register](#)

Global Programme to End Child Marriage Annual Report

The UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to End Child Marriage, supported by Zonta International, recently released

their 2024-2025 Annual Report along with individual profiles on the 12 project countries.

Some key achievements include:

- 7.4 million adolescent girls (aged 10–19) were empowered through life skills and comprehensive sexuality education.
- 4.7 million boys and men engaged in promoting positive masculinities and challenging harmful gender norms.
- 3.5 million girls benefited from social protection, poverty reduction and economic empowerment programmes.



[Click here](#) to read and share the report.



SAVE THE DATE
11 OCTOBER
2025 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL



10.DEC.25
SAVE THE DATE
www.zontasaysno.com

ZONTA SAYS NO
TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
ONLINE SUMMIT

Join Zonta at CSW70 in March 2026



STAY CONNECTED ABOUT CSW!

 [JOIN THE MAILING LIST](#)

CSW70 
MARCH 2026

Zonta Essentials: The "Standard-Setting" of the Council of Europe's key strengths

Continue to learn more about Zonta's participatory status at the Council of Europe (CoE), Europe's leading human rights organization, brought to you by Zonta's Council of Europe Committee. [Click here](#) to read part 7. The "Standard-Setting" of the Council of Europe's Key Strengths.

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

[Click here](#) to read the basics and part 6 of the series. [Watch the latest CoE webinar](#) on "Being a women's rights activist: What you should know about the Council of Europe, the continent's leading human rights organization."

Meet this month's Remarkable Woman: Zainab Bangura



Zainab Bangura embodies a relentless spirit in advocating for conflict resolution, reconciliation and human rights. As the former special representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence

in Conflict from 2012 to 2017, she made significant strides in promoting justice and healing. Beginning her journey with the UN in the United Nations Mission in Liberia, Zainab took on the challenge of managing the largest civilian component of the mission, dedicated to building the capacity of government institutions and fostering community reconciliation.



Zainab met with Lynne Foley OAM, host of the Remarkable Women, Powerful Stories podcast, to share her vision as a social activist dedicated to fostering positive change. She believes that poverty is the greatest violation of human rights and advocates for education as the essential key to breaking the cycle of poverty.

Listen to Zainab's story on the go | [Spotify](#) | [YouTube](#)

Congratulations to our club anniversaries this month!



Zonta Club of Oswego
USA, District 2
70th anniversary

Zonta Club of Manawatu
New Zealand, District 16
50th anniversary

Zonta Club of Bundaberg Inc
Australia, District 22
35th anniversary

We applaud your efforts in advocating for the women and girls in your community and beyond. To see which other clubs are celebrating a milestone anniversary in August, visit [Zonta News](#).

Important Dates and Events

- 26 August: [Share Your Story Festival](#)
- 4 September: Zonta & UNICEF Virtual Event | [6 AM ET](#) | [12 PM ET](#)
- 9 September: [How is artificial intelligence impacting gender equality - causes and consequences](#)
- 14 September: [Zonta Says NOW Intercontinental Think Tank](#)
- 18 September: [International Equal Pay Day](#)
- 11 October: [International Day of the Girl](#)
- 15 October: Zonta Women in Business Leadership Award International Deadline
- 24 October: [UN Day](#)
- 8 November: Happy 106th Birthday, Zonta!
- 9 November: [Zonta Says NOW Intercontinental Think Tank](#)
- 15 November: Amelia Earhart Fellowship application deadline.
- 25 November: International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
- 25 November - 10 December: [Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women/ 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence](#)
- 10 December: [Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women Online Summit](#)



www.zonta.org

Zonta International is a global organization based in 64 countries building a better world for women and girls. Zonta International envisions a world in which women's rights are recognized as human rights and every woman is able to achieve her full potential. In such a world, women have access to all resources and are represented in decision-making positions on an equal basis with men. In such a world, no woman lives in fear of violence.

Zonta International | 1200 Harger Road Suite 330 | Oak Brook, IL 60523-1817 US

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