

SIA 48th Biennial Convention

When: July 24 – July 27, 2024

Where: Hyatt Regency Bellevue
Bellevue, Washington

Theme: Reaching Higher

SIA Attendees: ~700

SIUMC Attendee: Donna Jones

SIA Executive Director/CEO: Michelle Burnett

2023-2024 SIA President: Bobbi Enderlin

2022-2023 SIA President: Stephanie Smith



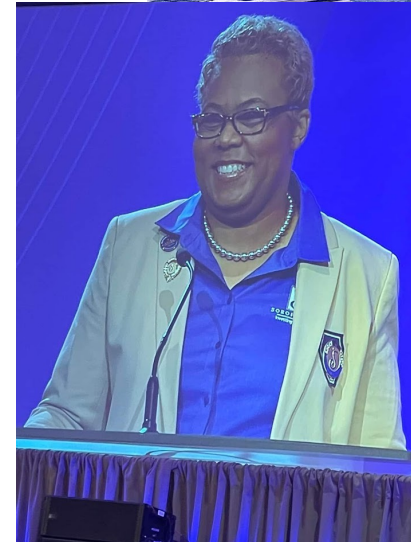
Other CECR Attendees

- Robin Davis – CECR Governor, SI/Woodbridge,VA
- Kerri Ardner – CECR Governor-Elect, SI/Fairfax
- Jamilah Dalton – President, SI/Manassas, VA
- Deborah Mackes – SI/Manassas, VA & 2022-2024 SIA Board member
- Linda McCann – CECR Treasurer, SI/Salisbury, MD
- Lee Ann Schwope – SI/Woodbridge, VA
- Carolyn Skowron – SI/Raleigh, NC
- Lashonda White – SI/Raleigh, NC



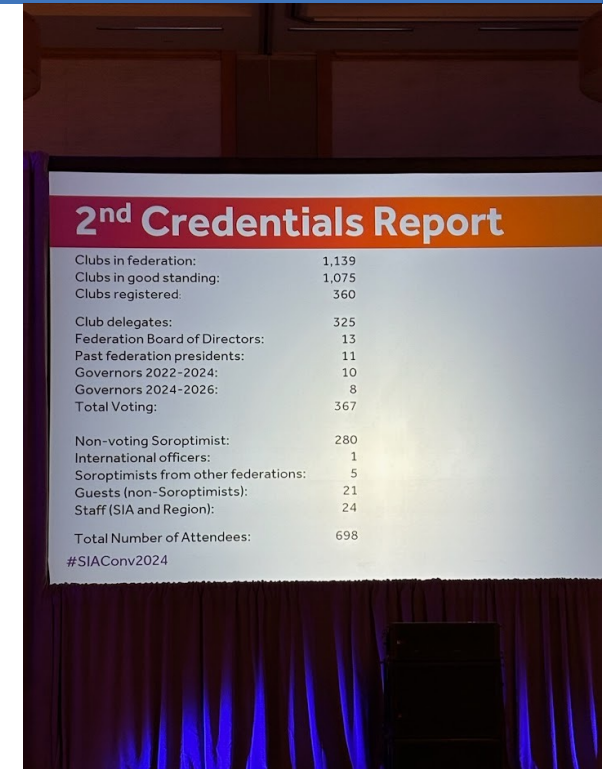
Day 1 – Opening Friendship General Session

- First Time Attendees Orientation
- Delegates Briefing
 - Convention Delegates Handbook
 - Vote on Credentials Report, Standing Rules, Amendments
- Opening Session
 - Welcome
 - Salute to Nations
 - Opening Friendship Reception



Day 2 – General Business Meeting

- Credentials Report & Standing Rules
- Finance Report
 - Assets - \$17.295M
 - Surplus after FY23 - \$1.2M
 - Operating Income
 - 48.6% - Contributions
 - 36.0% - Dues
 - 0.2% - Sales
 - 5.2% - Investment/other income
 - Allocation of Expenses
 - 21.2% - Membership
 - 18.4% - Programs
 - Able to fund programs via generous donations



2 nd Credentials Report	
Clubs in federation:	1,139
Clubs in good standing:	1,075
Clubs registered:	360
Club delegates:	325
Federation Board of Directors:	13
Past federation presidents:	11
Governors 2022-2024:	10
Governors 2024-2026:	8
Total Voting:	367
Non-voting Soroptimist:	280
International officers:	1
Soroptimists from other federations:	5
Guests (non-Soroptimists):	21
Staff (SIA and Region):	24
Total Number of Attendees:	698

#SIAConv2024

Day 2 – General Business Meeting (cont.)

- 9 Proposed Amendments to SIA Bylaws – approved with 2/3 majority
 - Proposals #1 to #4 – updates to align with Pennsylvania law
 - Proposal #5 – when SIA Board may propose amendments
 - Proposal #7 – update method of nominations to the SIA Board
 - Proposal #8 – update method of elections to the SIA Board
 - Proposal #9 – expand and rename Fundraising Council as the Global Fundraising Council

SIA Club Voting occurs early October to December 2024

Day 2 – General Business Meeting (cont.)

- Proposal #6 – reduce number of Electoral Areas to thirteen
 - CECR currently in Electoral Area 12 with North Atlantic Regions
 - Electoral Area 13 includes Northwestern and Peaks to Plains Region
 - Proposal
 - Move CECR and North Atlantic to Electoral Area 11 and join Midwestern, South Central, and Southern Regions
 - Electoral Area 12 becomes Northwestern and Peaks to Plains Region
 - Electoral Area 13 becomes Taiwan Region
 - Electoral Area 14 eliminated
- Implication for CECR
 - CECR is relatively small compared with other regions in Electoral Area 11
 - SIA Board positions from CECR will be harder to get



SIA Club Voting occurs early October to December 2024

Day 2 – General Business Meeting (cont.)

- Keynote – Local and Global Together: Soroptimist International
 - SI is 66,000 members in 120 countries
 - SI holds a position on various issues in a set of Position Papers (currently 30) – one voice about where we stand
 - SI is part of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)
 - 21 SI Reps ensure voices of women & girls are heard
 - Annual meeting in NYC; SI President + 80 from delegation (passes split among SI Federations)
 - 1 of 13 organizations focusing on women & girls

Day 2 – General Business Meeting (cont.)

- 68th CSW focus
 - How SI works in local communities
 - How climate change impacts women & girls
 - Funding
- UN 2030 – Agenda for Sustainable development
 - 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
 - SI Dream programs support 5 UN SDGs and 17 specific targets
 - SDG1, SDG4, SDG5, SDG8, SDG10
 - Poverty; inclusive & equitable quality education; gender equality; sustainable economic growth; reduce inequality within and among countries

Day 2 – General Business Meeting (cont.)

- Keynote – Encountering Your Inclusive Leadership Potential
 - Sandra Garcia, CEO – Encounter Your Potential
 - www.EncounterYourPotential.com
- How do you show up as an Inclusive Leader
 - Humility, Empathy, Vulnerability, Resilience, Responsible Curiosity
- 5-Step Action Plan
 - Self-Reflection
 - Make a Commitment
 - Measure Progress
 - Share Your Journey
 - Be Patient and Persistent

Day 3 – Dream updates, SIA LYD Recipient

- Only 40% of SIA Clubs implement DIBI
- SI/Metropolitan Sacramento created a beautiful DIBI mural
 - Partner – Hope Through Art Foundation
- LYD – 2269 women and \$3M in awards, highest ever!
- 2024 SIA LYD Recipient – Daryn Brito
- Laurel Society and Star Gazer
 - Contributions > \$1000 in various tiers
 - Star Gazer is a monthly contribution program



Day 3 – Workshops

- SIA Website Evolution: Taking our Online Experience to New Heights!
 - Session to gather input for public website update
 - Encouraged to sign up for Tech Talks and Live Webinars
 - Contact siahq@soroptimist.org with additional thoughts/ideas
- Making the Ask: Soroptimist Mission-Focused Fundraising Panel Discussion (Lee Ann Swope was facilitator, former SIA Fundraising Chair)
 - Key takeaway – build relationships with businesses in local community
 - Make a list, block off dates to approach businesses, bring materials, “make the ask”, write the “thank you”
 - Clubs shared their examples
 - Ask Lee Ann about Annual Report template that we can give to our Donors

Day 4 – Workshops (cont.)

- Improving Your Financial Prowess; Took a lot of notes! Key takeaways:
 - Non-Profits have their own language
 - Include list of activities on Income or Profit/Loss Statement
 - Budget should be approved by the Club
 - Should always have a 2nd person count the “cash” and both signoff
 - Restricted / Unrestricted Net Assets – need to be tracked
 - Operating Reserves can sustain a Club for a period of time
 - No magic #, write down we are keeping the money
 - Clubs should have a ‘giving acceptance’ policy (e.g. donations outside our mission)
 - Failure to submit 990’s 3 years in a row results in loss of non-profit status
 - Suggest Clubs have a credit card – disputes are protected
 - In Kind Donations – confusing, many have challenges with tracking and taxes
 - SIA is conducting a Treasurer Training early next year
 - Kim Grossman, SIA CFO – KimberlyG@soroptimist.org

Day 4 – Workshops (cont.)

- Membership Basics; Clubs shared what they have done
 - Virtual sessions to educate members
 - SIA – checklist for new/prospective members in Club Toolkit
 - Perhaps use this for a membership event
 - Create book club, lunch bunch outside of the Club
 - Reach out to veterans
 - Award members who recruit new members
 - Highlight past members
 - Member Portal – must have a valid email address, currently only President and Treasurer have access
 - Training videos already created
 - Each Club can have an “Admin” role to access the Portal

Day 4 – Closing General Session

- Keynote – Inspiring Greatness Through G.R.I.T. (Guts, Respect, Innovation, and Teamwork)
 - Robyn Benincasa – Award winning keynote speaker
 - Two-time World Champion Adventure racer, San Diego Firefighter and CNN Hero
- 2023-2024 Soroptimist Leadership Fellows Program Graduation – Kerri Ardner, CECR
- Invitation to our 49th Biennial Convention
- Evening Gala
 - Installation of 2024-2025 SIA President Ginger Cole
 - Welcome to incoming leaders; 2022-2024 volunteer recognition



SIA 49th Biennial Convention



When: July 22-25, 2026

Where: Incheon, South Korea