

2025 Spring Conference Speakers



Peggy Van Meter
Board Member
Soroptimist International of the Americas, Inc.
Member, SI/Cumberland County, NJ

Peggy Gentile-Van Meter served a two-year term as Governor of the North Atlantic Region of Soroptimist International of the Americas 2018-2020. After her term as governor she stayed active in various roles as a Soroptimist member. Peggy continued as chair for the North Atlantic Region's Remembrance Committee, administrator for their website, and Face Book page. She was a committee member for the SIA Big Dream Campaign. Her trip to Ireland for the SI Convention was an amazing experience and one she holds such wonderful memories of. Peggy was asked to serve on the SIA 2024 Convention Committee. During that time she was also a part of the first Leadership Program, and graduated at the SIA Convention. Peggy was elected to the SIA Board for the 2024-2026 term.

Peggy has always been an advocate for human rights. Her experience as an educator has given her insights on the importance of educating the public about the dangers and spread of human trafficking. She has spoken about this horrible world wide travesty in classrooms and workshops. Domestic Violence Education and Awareness is also very important to Peggy and she has often given presentations about this. She participates in many community education projects and events. Since joining Soroptimist in 2006, she has held several board positions at the regional level, including Governor-Elect, District Director, and District Secretary and is also a member of Soroptimist International of Cumberland County, NJ where she was honored in 2015 with SICC's Soroptimist of the Year award for her hard work and dedication. Peggy is very proud to be a contributing member of the SIA Laurel Society. Peggy is also a member of Lions International and a past committee member of South Jersey Holocaust Coalition. Peggy graduated from Cumberland County College in 1976, Glassboro State (Rowan University) in 1978 and earned her Masters in Holocaust & Genocide Education from Stockton University in 2001. Peggy has given several presentations on Women and the Holocaust. Peggy's other honors include induction into Cumberland County's Women's Hall of Fame (2011), Cumberland Regional High School Teacher of the Year (2006/2007), and Cumberland County Leadership Award (2004). Prior to retiring in 2012, Peggy taught history for more than 34 years at Cumberland Regional High School. Additionally, from 2006-2017 she served as adjunct History professor at Cumberland County College. When not doing Soroptimist work, she enjoys traveling, reading, volunteering and spending time with her family. Peggy has been married for 48 years and lives in a small rural farming community in Stow Creek, New Jersey. She has two children, Timothy and Jessica. Both are settled close by on the family farm. Peggy's four grandchildren are the sparks that light up her life.



Lisa Mangiaficio
Associate Senior Director Records and Risk
Management
Soroptimist International of the Americas
Philadelphia, PA

Lisa Mangiaficio is the Associate Senior Director Records and Risk Management at SIA headquarters. She was hired by SIA as our archivist and records manager in 1993, in anticipation of the organization's 75th anniversary in 1996 to create our federation archives. Since then, Lisa has taken on a number of roles at headquarters and has recently taken on risk management as one of the operational areas she oversees, in addition to records, and governance. Prior to joining SIA's staff, she worked for the General Federation of Women's Clubs as the coordinator of the Women's History and Resource Center in Washington, DC.

Lisa has graduate degrees in history and library/information science. She is a member of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference, serving as its presiding officer from 2003 to 2005, among numerous appointed and elected board positions. Lisa is also a long-time member of the Society of American Archivists and was elected to its board for 2013-2016. In 2020, Lisa was inducted as a Fellow of the society. She currently serves as Board Member of the Society of American Archivists Foundation, where she had also served as President. Lisa served on the New Jersey State Historical Records Advisory Board from 2004-2017 and is a member of the Cherry Hill Historical Commission.