

ZONTA SERVICE RECOGNITION AWARDS 2016 – 2018

The Zonta Service Recognition Awards were established to recognize outstanding service projects undertaken by Zonta clubs and districts which benefit women in the local community. Service projects can be those projects that empower women and girls in general to achieve equal rights and to secure their access to all legal, political, economic, educational, health and professional resources or those projects focusing on prevention of violence against women and girls. **In this biennium, the focus is also on the United Nations Goal #5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.**

All districts are encouraged to exhibit the submitted district and club service projects during the 2018 Zonta International Convention in Yokohama, Japan.

A complete description of the Awards, eligibility criteria and the nomination process including the timing are given in the following sections.

1. OBJECTIVES OF THE ZONTA SERVICE RECOGNITION AWARDS

Guided by the pursuit of excellence in community service, the intentions of the Zonta Service Recognition Awards are:

- To give recognition to outstanding service projects undertaken by Zonta clubs or districts which benefit women or girls in the local community.
- To honour the clubs or districts for their outstanding performance in carrying out their service projects.
- To foster the exchange of ideas showcasing service projects of clubs or districts on the Zonta International website and at the Zonta International Convention in 2018.
- To draw up exemplars or models in service projects benefitting women or girls in the local community and giving visibility to Zonta International, hence, increasing the credibility of the organization.

2. RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE ZONTA SERVICE RECOGNITION AWARDS

Description of the Awards

- a) Name of the Awards
The outstanding community service awards are known as the Zonta Service Recognition Awards.
- b) Sponsorship of the Awards
The Zonta International Service Committee receives, evaluates and recommends to the Zonta International Board which nominations from clubs and districts should receive the Zonta Service Recognition Award. The final decision is taken by the Zonta International Board.
- c) Number of Awards given during the Biennium
The Zonta Service Recognition Awards will recognize **six (6)** of the most outstanding service projects carried out **by clubs** and up to **three (3)** organised **by districts**.

d) When the Awards are given

The Zonta Service Recognition Awards will be given to deserving Zonta clubs and districts at the end of the biennium during the Zonta International Convention in 2018 in Yokohama, Japan.

3. ELIGIBILITY FOR THE AWARDS

There are two categories of projects to be considered for the Awards:

- a) Service projects that **empower women and girls in general to achieve equal rights and to secure their access to all legal, political, economic, educational, health and professional resources**; and
- b) Service projects focusing on **prevention of violence against women and girls**.

Consideration for service awards will be for service projects involving members providing **direct hands-on service to women and girls**. Fundraising projects are not service, they are tools to help clubs and districts implement their service projects.

Club service projects:

A Zonta club may nominate up to two (2) projects, one project in each category. Projects may be new projects this biennium or may have commenced in the past and are still ongoing this biennium. They must take into account the benefits they have given to the women or girls in the local community and the visibility and credibility they have provided to Zonta. **The club projects that won at previous Conventions cannot be resubmitted. Nomination form must be signed by the Club President.**

District service projects:

Each district may nominate one (1) project in either of the two categories. The project may be a new project this biennium, or may have commenced in the past and is still ongoing this biennium. It must take into account the benefits it has given to the women and/or girls in the local community and the visibility and credibility it has provided to Zonta. **The district projects that won at previous Conventions cannot be resubmitted. Nomination form must be signed by the Governor.**

4. DISTRICT EVALUATING COMMITTEE

The district evaluating committee will appraise submitted nominations for club service projects. The governors will appoint the district evaluating committee composed of three (3) members with the district service chairman as the chairman. The two (2) other members can be any Zontians from their respective district. The district evaluating committee will judge and select at most three (3) outstanding club service projects, **at least one of them must be from the category of projects to prevent and fight violence against women and girls.**

The district evaluating committee will base its decision on the following criteria:

- a) the benefit it has given to the women and/or girls in the local community;
- b) the visibility and credibility to Zonta International created by the project; and
- c) the sustainability of the project.

The decision of the district evaluating committee will be final and will not be subjected to changes or revisions. The chairman of the district evaluating committee will submit the district finalists to the governor.

District Finalists for the Club Service Projects

The governor submits the three (3) district finalist of the club service projects to the Zonta International Service Committee, by email to Zonta International Headquarters to zontaservice@zonta.org by **28 February 2018**.

5. NECESSARY DOCUMENTS

What are the necessary documents to be submitted when nominating a club or district project?

Each project submitted electronically for nomination must contain:

- a) a **typed completed nomination form** for each project to be considered;
- b) **one digital photo** image (**at least 300 dpi**) that shows the activity undertaken (a collage of pictures will not be accepted); and
- c) a brief **200 word** typed description of the project.

These documents must be sent by email. The brief explanation of the project **must not exceed 200 words**

The description shall include:

- the name of the club,
- in which district the project is carried out,
- town/city/country where the project is carried out,
- the date it started and for how long it will continue,
- who the beneficiaries are and what the benefits are to women and/or girls from that project, and
- how many Zontians carried out the service project (or percentage of club members who gave that service), and the role of any collaborating organization.

The project must also mention the visibility it has given Zonta International.

6. TIMELINES FOR THE ZONTA SERVICE RECOGNITION AWARDS PROGRAM

The search for the Zonta Service Recognition Awards gives credit to the impacts brought about by the projects in the current biennium.

The nomination of the project must be submitted by the following deadlines:

- Club service projects to the governor by email by the deadline determined by the district.
- Winning club service projects judged by District Evaluating Committee must be sent to the Zonta International Service Committee at Headquarters, by the governor, by email to zontaservice@zonta.org by **28 February 2018**.
- District project nominations must be sent directly to the Zonta International Service Committee at Headquarters by email to zontaservice@zonta.org by **28 February 2018**.

7. FINAL EVALUATIONS ZONTA SERVICE RECOGNITION AWARDS

Club service projects:

The Zonta International Service Committee will evaluate the most outstanding club service projects selected and submitted by districts, select the six (6) outstanding projects – **at least two of them must be from the category of women preventing violence against projects** – and recommend to the Zonta International Board those chosen to receive the

Zonta Service Recognition Awards. The final decision is taken by the Zonta International Board.

These projects will be the recipients of the Zonta Service Recognition Awards in their respective category. The six (6) Zonta clubs of the winning projects will be recognized at the 2018 Zonta International Convention in Yokohama, Japan and their club names will be posted on the Zonta International website and in the social media. All club service project finalists submitted by the governors may be exhibited during the International Convention in Yokohama, Japan.

The recommendations of the Zonta International Service Committee approved by the Zonta International Board are final and will not be subjected to any revision.

District service projects:

The Zonta International Service Committee will evaluate the district service projects, select up to three (3) outstanding projects and recommend to the Zonta International Board those to receive the Zonta Service Recognition Award. The final decision is taken by the Zonta International Board.

These projects will be the recipients of the district Zonta Service Recognition Awards. The districts with the winning projects will be recognized at the 2018 Zonta International Convention in Yokohama, Japan. The names of three (3) winning districts will be posted on the Zonta International website and on social media. All district projects submitted may be exhibited during the International Convention in Yokohama, Japan.

The recommendations of the Zonta International Service Committee approved by the Zonta International Board are final and will not be subjected to any revision.

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