

Women Who Make A Difference Award Winners

Soroptimist International of Long Beach has recognized the following women and organizations advancing the status of women. Please scroll down to see all of the honorees.

90th Anniversary Special Achievement Awards



Lynn Shrum
Women Helping Women



Children's Dental Health Clinic
Organization Helping Women

Trail Blazer Award

1999 JoAnn Falletta
2009 Beverly O'Neill, Ed.D.

Women Helping Women Award

1981 Beverly O'Neill, Ed.D.

1982 Martha Drage Alexander

1983 Sarah Fogg

1984 The Honorable Sheila Pokras

1984 Mary Soth*

1985 Ding Jo Currie

1986 Norma Gibbs

1987 Jan Foster

1988 Marie Webb

1989 Maycie Herrington

1990 Iris Schutz, Dr. P.H.

1991 Olivia Nieto Herrera*

1992 Carmen O. Perez

1995 Trudy Polsky, J.D.

1996 Gerrie Schipske, J.D.

1997 Helen H. Britton

1998 Rev. Dr. Mary Ellen Kilsby*

2000 Paula Cohen

2001 Marilee Jones-Cofield

2002 Jennifer Andrews

2003 The Honorable Deborah B. Andrews

2004 Jan Peckham

2005 Theresa Murphy

2006 E. Jan Kehoe

Ruby Award

In 2007, Soroptimist International of Long Beach changed the name of the Women Helping Women Award to conform to that of Soroptimist International of the Americas.

2007 Pilar Pinel
2008 Audrey Stephanie Loftin
2009 Virginia DeMoss
2010 Julia Taboada

2011 Anita Gibbins
2012 TuLynn Smylie
2013 Kipp Kahlia
2014 Mary Alice Braly

Women of Distinction Award

1987 Katherine White, M.D.*
1988 June Cooper, Ph.D.*
1993 Marilyn Russell Bittle
1993 Louise Duvall*
1993 Geraldine Stramski, M.D.*
1994 Diane Creel
1994 Pamela Kushner, M.D.
1995 Diana Bonta, R.N. Dr. P.H.
1995 Beryl O'Kelly Brooks*
1995 Lilyan Frank
1995 Bonnie Adler Lowenthal
1995 Gene Page*
1996 Sandy Blankenship
1996 Minnie L. Douglas, Ed.D.
1996 Dorothy Mitchell
1996 Georgia Nelson
1996 Regina Grant Peterson
1996 Hazel G. Wallace, Dr. P.H.
1997 Dorothy Deatherage, Ed.D.
1997 Lois Ledger
1997 Elisa A. Nicholas, M.D., M.S., P.H.
1997 Wilma Powell
1998 Jean Bixby Smith
1998 Mary McMullin
1998 Bryna Kane, M.D.
1999 Constance W. Glenn
1999 Nancy K. Lewis
1999 Doris Topsy-Elvord
1999 Jeanne Karatsu
2000 Linda Howell DiMario
2000 Helen Z. Hansen*
2000 Pamela Seager
2000 Jana Martin, Ph.D.
2000 Pamela Bourette Schuur
2001 Carol A. Churchill
2001 Claudia Freitas
2001 Eunice N. Sato

2005 Barbara Enlow
2005 Sherry Meinberg, Ed.D.
2006 Amy Coppenger
2006 Jean Egan
2006 Guadalupe Padilla-Robb, M.D.
2006 Alexandra Torres Galancid
2006 Nancy Kindelan
2007 Amelia Nieto
2007 Sabira Tejani, M.D.
2007 Lou Anne Bynum
2007 Lillian Kawasaki*
2007 Evelyn Knight
2007 Dr. Lydia Hollie
2008 Christi Wilkins
2008 Mary Blackburn
2008 Marie LaFortune, RN., Ed.D.
2008 Kate Marr, Esq.
2008 Monica Stel
2009 Shirley Wild
2009 Michelle Molina
2009 Sithea San
2009 Lillian Lew
2009 Alyce LaViolette
2010 Pamela Shaw
2010 Tammy Newland
2010 Bea Antenore
2010 Barbara Long
2010 Laura Farinella
2010 Judith Luther-Wilder
2011 Cindy Allen
2011 Jody Cormack, DPT
2011 Robin Thorne
2011 Kimberly BeDell, M.D.
2011 Arlene Mercer
2011 Teri Tan, Ph.D.
2012 Judy Ross
2012 Helene M. Calvet, M.D.

2001 Mary Thoits	2012 Mary E. Barton, Ph.D.
2001 Malinda Waddell	2012 Daphne Ching-Jackson
2002 LaVerne Davis, Ed.D.	2012 Giovanna Martinez
2002 Phyllis O. Arias	2013 Joan Greenwood
2002 Geraldine Knatz, Ph.D.	2013 Shirlee Jackert
2002 Marcy Zwelling Aamot, M.D.	2013 Kipp Kahlia
2002 Gwendolyn Morris*	2013 Carolyn Conway Madding, PhD
2002 Marianne Venieris	2013 Judy Seal
2003 Jane Netherton	2013 Susan E. Anderson Wise
2003 Blanche Brewster Cannady	2014 Deborah Goldfarb
2003 Margaret Reep*	2014 Loucine Huckabay
2003 Suzanne Nosworthy	2014 Gisele Fong
2003 Lindsay Shields-Green	2014 Lorain Brault
2004 Shirley Saltman*	2014 Carol Jackson
2004 Virginia L. Baxter, Ph.D.	2014 Virginia Zart
2004 Diane DeWalsche	
2004 Indira Hale Tucker*	
2005 Erica Williams Hopkins	
2005 Maria Angel Macias	
	*Deceased

Businesses and Organizations Advancing the Status of Women

1993 Women Lawyers of Long Beach
 1995 California American Women’s Economic Development Corporation (AWED)
 1996 Literary Women Festival of Authors
 1997 CAMEO, Professional Auxiliary, Assistance League of Long Beach
 1998 Continuing Education Center for Women, Long Beach City College
 1999 American Association of University Women (AAUW), Long Beach Branch
 2002 Economic Development Office, Long Beach City College
 2003 National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
 2005 Long Beach Museum of Art
 2006 Children’s Benefit League
 2007 Early Care and Education Committee
 2008 Women in Non-Traditional Employment Awards (WINTER)
 2009 National Council of Negro Women, Long Beach Chapter
 2010 Interval House Crisis Shelters & Center for Victims of Domestic Violence
 2011 California Conference for Equality and Justice
 2012 Pathways to Independence
 2013 Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Long Beach Alumnae Chapter
 2014 Su Casa - Ending Domestic Violence

