



On Thursday, July 27, 2023, I attended the Sorooptimist International Convention in Dublin, Ireland. The theme of the Convention was “Challenge the Future.” 1,700 Sorooptimists from across the globe gathered at the state of the art Convention Centre overlooking River Liffey.

This event is held every 4 years, bringing Sorooptimists together across our five SI Federations. They include Africa, Great Britain & Ireland, Europe, The Americas and South East Asia Pacific. There are 66,000 members, and 3,000 clubs in 118 countries.

During opening ceremonies, a new SI emblem was unveiled to take us through this next century.

Over the next 2 days, each Federation showcased the projects that they were working diligently on. We also heard inspiring talks from a diverse panel of world renowned leaders.

I chose to attend the SI Africa Federation’s workshop on cervical cancer elimination and promoting good health and wellbeing in their communities. The African Federation is the youngest in the Sorooptimist worldwide community, chartered on June 30, 2020. I was so impressed to learn that they are now embarking on a large project in partnership with the United Nations Health4Life Fund for the elimination of cervical cancer in Africa. The women are working tirelessly to raise funds and advocating for cervical cancer screening for women and HPV vaccination of girls.

Attending the Sorooptimist International Conference in Dublin, Ireland was truly an unforgettable experience. I truly enjoyed making connections with women from each Federation and it gave me a renewed drive to keep making a positive change in my local community. I look forward to the next Conference in July 2027, a cruise to Alaska on Royal Caribbean.



I took an optional Steam Train (No. 85 – the Merlin) excursion on July 28, 2023 and got to meet Lene Thygesen from SI Costa del Sol, Spain. Over the 2 hours up the Dublin/Meath/Louth coastline, we shared stories of our club activities and how much fun it is to be a Soroptimist! Our time on the train was one of the highlights of my trip!



Inside the convention center.



Janice Kurihara, Camino Real Region - District 3 Director



Keynote Speaker : Mary Robinson. She was the first woman President of Ireland. Her message to our Convention – Women leaders must step up and lead as never before!



Photo with SI of Taiwan Region. SI Taiwan donated \$100,000 to the Soroptimist International Foundation.



More fun at the Convention.



Group photo of members from the Camino Real Region at Conference.



Photo with Cynthia Jarvis, Camino Real Region Governor-Elect