



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women



Virginia M. Wagner Educational Award

Fact Sheet

- 1) Each Soroptimist International of the Americas Region use to select and support a specific region project. In 1972, the Midwestern Region established as their Region Project an award given annually to a woman who is attending college/university to further her education in order to provide advancement.

At the 2004 Spring Conference, the name was changed from the “Region Award Project” to the “**Virginia M. Wagner Educational Award**,” in honor of Dr. Virginia M. Wagner, Midwestern Region Governor 1982-1984, to commemorate her interest in higher education for women.

- 2) Only those women residing in the states of Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin may apply.
- 3) Women may apply for only one Soroptimist award, and to only one club, per calendar year.
- 4) Judging at the club, district, and region level is conducted by three non-Soroptimists who utilize a standardized scoring sheet for each application.
- 5) Judging is based on effort toward education (35%), general impression (20%), scholarship (15%), extra-curricular activities (15%), and need (15%). Therefore, this award is particularly relevant for the woman in a bachelors, masters, or doctoral program of study.
- 6) The **winner** of the “Virginia M. Wagner Educational Award” will be awarded **\$2,500.00** and each of the **remaining 3 district winners will receive \$1,000.00 each** at Spring Conference.
- 7) There are three primary differences between the Federation’s Live Your Dream Award (LYD) and the Region’s Virginia M. Wagner Educational Award:
 - The LYD Award is weighted toward need.
 - The LYD Award can be given to a woman who is enrolled in a non-college or technical training program.
 - The Virginia M. Wagner Educational Award is for Midwestern Region only. Federation (SIA) does not provide any funding for the award.