



SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

VIOLET RICHARDSON VOLUNTEER
AWARD APPLICATION
Honoring Young Volunteer Leaders

Are you a young woman between 13-19 living or volunteering in the greater Lincoln area or Placer County, who passionately dedicates her time to making a difference? If your actions are driven by a desire to create positive change in your community, the Soroptimist Violet Richardson Award is an opportunity to celebrate your efforts and dedication.

Soroptimist International of Lincoln is pleased to offer a \$500 monetary award to recognize outstanding efforts in volunteerism. To be eligible for this award, you must be a young woman between the ages of 13-19 and be actively volunteering in your community.

Full Name: _____ Email Address: _____
Address: _____ Contact Phone #: _____
Name of school you attend _____ Grade Level _____
Where do you volunteer? _____ How long? _____

Please complete the information above. It will be the first page of your application.

About the Award

Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment. Although we realize that volunteering is its own reward, we also know it feels good to be recognized for your actions. And that's why we sponsor this award

The Violet Richardson Award is a tribute to young women in ages 13-19 who are actively involved in volunteer work that significantly impacts their community or the world. Whether it's combating social issues like drugs, crime, and violence, advocating for environmental sustainability, or working towards ending discrimination and poverty, your contribution is vital. Volunteer actions that benefit women, girls, and/or children are especially valued.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for this prestigious award, you must:

- Be a young woman between the ages of 13-19 volunteering to make a difference in your community.
- Reside or volunteer in Placer County.
- Have demonstrated initiative and leadership in identifying and solving community problems.
- Have significant accomplishments as a volunteer.

APPLICATION COMPONENTS

Your application should include the following:

Essay

Write an essay of up to 750 words describing your volunteer efforts and include the following:

Where do you volunteer and why?

Did you initiate the project? If so, why? What need were you fulfilling?

Describe the goals of the organization or project and its impact on the problems it addresses.

Explain your role as a volunteer and how long you have been volunteering. Indicate how you are a team player.

How have you grown mentally and emotionally through this volunteerism?

What challenges did you overcome?

Please share with us your personal struggles if YOU HAVE ANY: at school, at home, and at your volunteer organization.

What does winning a cash award for \$500 mean to you?

How will you use the award to support/further your volunteer efforts?

Has this volunteerism helped you select your career path (yes or no, and why)? Detail your accomplishments and contributions as a volunteer.

A Letter of Recommendation

Your letter of recommendation should be from someone who is familiar with your volunteer work. It should describe how long the writer has known you, in what capacity they know you, and the outcome of your efforts. Your letter of reference may not be a parent or relative.

Additional Materials

You may include any supporting materials to strengthen your application, such as newspaper clippings, photographs, etc. These are optional but can provide a richer picture of your volunteer activities. Please ensure your name and phone number are included on all additional materials.

How to Apply

Use the application sheet provided as the top cover sheet. Attach your essay, your letter(s) of recommendation, then any supporting materials.

You can scan and submit your application for the Violet Richardson Award via email to SiLincolnca@soroptimist.net or leave it with your school counselor. Applications will be picked up from school offices on February 2, 2026, at the close of school.

For any questions or additional information, please contact us at 916-804-0274 via text or phone call. You may also write to Sllincolnca@soroptimist.net Atten: Awards Committee.

Application Deadline

The deadline for submitting your application for the Violet Richardson Awards is February 2nd, 2026. Take advantage of this chance to be recognized for your invaluable volunteering and community service efforts.

We eagerly await your inspiring stories and are excited to celebrate the profound impact you have made through your volunteer work. Your dedication, leadership, and hard work are commendable, and this award is a way to honor your commitment to making a difference. Good luck!

Award winners will be recognized and receive their cash award at the Live Your Dreams awards banquet in March.

Declaration and Signature:

I hereby declare that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any false information or the use of AI to write my application will result in disqualification from the scholarship award.

Applicant's Signature: _____