



SOROPTIMIST  
Best for Women

Soroptimist International  
of Raleigh, North Carolina  
Raleigh, NC  
27628-6426

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## NEWS RELEASE: Soroptimist Live Your Dream Awards Ceremony

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**Raleigh, NC** - Soroptimist International of Raleigh will hold their annual awards event on **March 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm to 8:30pm** at Hillyer Memorial Christian Church, 718 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, NC 27603 in honor of International Women's Day and U.S. Women's History Month. The Soroptimist Live Your Dream campaign is a worldwide initiative aimed at creating awareness about the challenges women face and what can be done to help them live their dream. During this event, two awards are presented in honor of service to the community and one is to support a woman who is the head of her household and is working to improve her education and skills.

**The Making a Difference for Women Award** recognizes women who through their professional or personal lives work to improve the conditions of women and girls in their community. Dr. Lenora Ucko, founder of StoriesWork, will be awarded the 2007 Making A Difference for Women Award for her contributions toward advocacy of domestic violence awareness and prevention.

**The Violet Richardson Award** honors young women between the ages of 14 and 17 for volunteer action such as fighting drugs, crime and violence, cleaning up the environment and working to end discrimination and poverty.

**The Women's Opportunity Award** is Soroptimist International of the Americas' major service project. This program provides women who serve as the primary wage earners for their families with the financial resources to offset costs associated with their efforts to attain higher education or additional skills and training. The award can be used for tuition, books, childcare, carfare or any other education-related expense. .

**Women Ending Violence**, Distinguished Guest Speaker, Marie Brodie, has 17 years of experience in the battered women's movement. She has worked as a crisis counselor, support group facilitator, hospital responder, youth educator, community educator, trainer, and media relations coordinator. Ms. Brodie moved to North Carolina in 1990 and worked for 9 years at Interact, Wake County's rape and domestic violence crisis center and then joined the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence in 2000 where she started a statewide training institute for the Coalition and began North Carolina's first ever collection of information on domestic violence homicides. Marie is originally from Aiken, South Carolina and she currently resides in Durham, NC where she started her own business as a domestic violence trainer and consultant called Walk in My Shoes.

Founded in 1987, Soroptimist International of Raleigh is part of Soroptimist International of the Americas, an international volunteer service organization for business and professional women who work to improve the lives of women and girls, in local communities and throughout the world. Raleigh members join with almost 95,000 Soroptimists in about 120 countries and territories to contribute time and financial support to community-based projects benefiting women. The Raleigh club helps women seeking employment and who are referred by a partner agency by providing business appropriate clothing at no cost through the Professional Clothing Closet. For more information about how Soroptimist International of Raleigh improves the lives of women and girls, contact club president Pat Lynch at (919) 846-1321.

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