



### **SURVEY RESPONSES on Spring Retreat**

So far, the majority of responders are happy to join us in Wells, Maine on May 2nd in person for an inspiring day at a [lovely location](#). And, just 12 people confirmed they would only attend remotely, but we need at least 30.

**We are missing responses from over 100 of you!!  
So, it is really hard to plan.**

PLEASE take 3 minutes to complete the survey and encourage other members in your club to do so as well. Thank you.

**[SPRING RETREAT SURVEY](#)**

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## **Zonta District 1 February 2026**



Dear District 1 Zontians,

We are living in a time that history will remember—one that echoes, in its own way, the turmoil and moral reckoning faced in parts of Europe in the 1940s. How fortunate we are to stand together as members of Zonta International during such a defining moment. At our October conference, Keryn Kriegl reminded us that “Zonta is a movement.” She was right. And now, that movement is mobilizing.

Later in this newsletter, you will find the powerful statement Zonta International issued in response to the United States’ withdrawal from multilateral institutions. Those who seek to diminish our power count on hesitation—on the time it takes for a group to organize and respond. But as Zontians, we are already organized. We are already awake. And we are ready.

Every psychotherapist I know is witnessing a rise in anxiety among their clients. Some understand that it stems from the relentless churn of social media and national news. Others—especially those who have tried to avoid the reporting—don’t realize how deeply it is seeping into our thoughts, our routines, and even our relationships. Much of this anxiety comes from feeling helpless, as though events are unfolding beyond our control. But we do have control. Not all of us can rally or protest, but some of us can. Not all of us want to write letters or postcards to our elected officials, but some of us do. Not all of us can lend our voices through podcasts, public events, or Letters to the Editor, but some of us are ready to speak. Not all of us can donate to organizations feeding the unhoused or supporting candidates who share our values, but some of us can.

And whatever each of us is able to do—large or small—we do not only for the world, but for ourselves. Action restores our sense of agency. Action reminds us that we are not powerless. So join hands with your sisters—in mind, in body, or in spirit. For yourself, and for our world. The Zonta International statement ends with: “because a better world is possible, and Zonta International is building it.” In the spirit of Zonta

Happy New Year,

## Zonta International responds to U.S. withdrawal from multilateral institutions

As an organization with General Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council and a long and successful history of partnership with the United Nations and its agencies, Zonta International expresses its deep concern and profound disappointment in the decision by the Government of the United States to withdraw from, or disengage with, a number of key international organizations, conventions, and treaties established under the auspices of the United Nations and the broader multilateral system.



[Read our full statement here](#)

## Three District 1 AE Fellows Celebrated



The Zonta Club of Chelsea and North Shore hosted the annual Amelia Earhart Dinner on January 15th at the Hilton Garden Inn, Boston, in collaboration with the Zonta Club of Malden. The event honors the spirit of pilot Amelia Earhart, who had been a Zonta member, and recognizes young women recently awarded Amelia Earhart fellowships to pursue Ph.D. degrees in aerospace engineering and space sciences.

Zonta International awards thirty \$10,000 fellowships annually. Three of these were Zonta District 1 awardees, all Ph.D. candidates at MIT: **Myrella Cabral** of Brazil, studying

Aerospace Engineering; **Palak Patel** of the US, studying Mechanical Engineering, and **Fatima Zaidouni** of Morocco, studying Physics. Each spoke about her area of study contributing to global aerospace projects.

**Dr. Irene Porro**, Director of the Christa Corrigan McAuliffe Center for Integrated Science Learning ([www.cm-center.org](http://www.cm-center.org)) at Framingham State University was keynote speaker. Dr. Porro highlighted the importance of making science learning relatable and experiential across the ages, the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration, and the importance of women's participation in global advances in science and space exploration.

**Mary Knight**, Secretary of Zonta District I presented each fellow with, "wings," a pin symbolizing empowerment, academic excellence and the legacy of Amelia Earhart. **Janice Tatarka**, President of the Zonta Club of Chelsea and North Shore presented recipients with flowers.

Event coordinator, **Lee Farrington** noted in summary, "All three Fellows were such a pleasure to meet and hear from. In addition to the monetary award and their "wings", each received one year membership in Zonta International, and expressed a desire to support our mission of making a better world for women and girls and the connections. Dr. Porro related well to our mission as well. Upon learning that a fellow countrywoman was the incoming Zonta International President, she asked to be connected to Fernanda Gallo Freschi to brainstorm ideas on how the CM-Center can be involved in Zonta's efforts. Attendees of the ceremony were impressed also with the raffle table, the tributes to Amelia Earhart and the opportunity to network. The 2026 Amelia Earhart Dinner was truly inspiring."

Submit Club News and Events

## DISTRICT 1 CLUBS IN THE NEWS!

Several Clubs in the District have sponsored awards for **Women in Business Leadership and Women in STEM**. As pictures and write-ups are available, please send them to [info@zontadistrict1.org](mailto:info@zontadistrict1.org), so they can be published at [www.ZontaDistrict1.org/news-events](http://www.ZontaDistrict1.org/news-events).

Education Chair, **Lorraine Bartlett**, also reminds us that the **2026 Young Women in Leadership** Scholarship applications are being accepted by clubs in the District. Details and forms are published at [www.ZontaDistrict1.org/resources/young\\_women](http://www.ZontaDistrict1.org/resources/young_women).

District 1 In the News!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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**During the month of March, nonprofits around the world celebrate Women.** International Women's Day (3/8) recognizes women for their achievements regardless of national, ethnic, linguistic, economic or political divisions. The Zonta International community also celebrates Zonta Rose Day, a time to reflect and give tribute to the women who have empowered us.

Clubs are encouraged to share their March event information and pictures with our District and International communities.

### **CSW70 9-20 March 2026**

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is the largest annual gathering on women's rights worldwide, and is the principal global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. **As an NGO with General Consultative Status, Zonta International is invited to participate in the annual CSW in New York - in person or virtually for FREE.**

Priority theme: Ensuring and strengthening access to justice for all women and girls, including by promoting inclusive and equitable legal systems, eliminating discriminatory laws, policies, and practices, and addressing structural barriers.

**[Join the ZI CSW Mail List to be kept updated!](#)**

### **New Member Orientation - 19 March 2026 10AM and 7PM EST**

Are you new to Zonta? Join members of the Zonta Headquarters Team as we welcome you. We will provide a history of Zonta, highlights of the programs we support and tips for the resources available to you. This is also an opportunity to meet longtime members who serve on the International Membership Committee and other new members from around the world.

**[Registration links.](#)**

### **Coffee chats with Salla - 23 April for Volunteer appreciation week (19-25 April)**

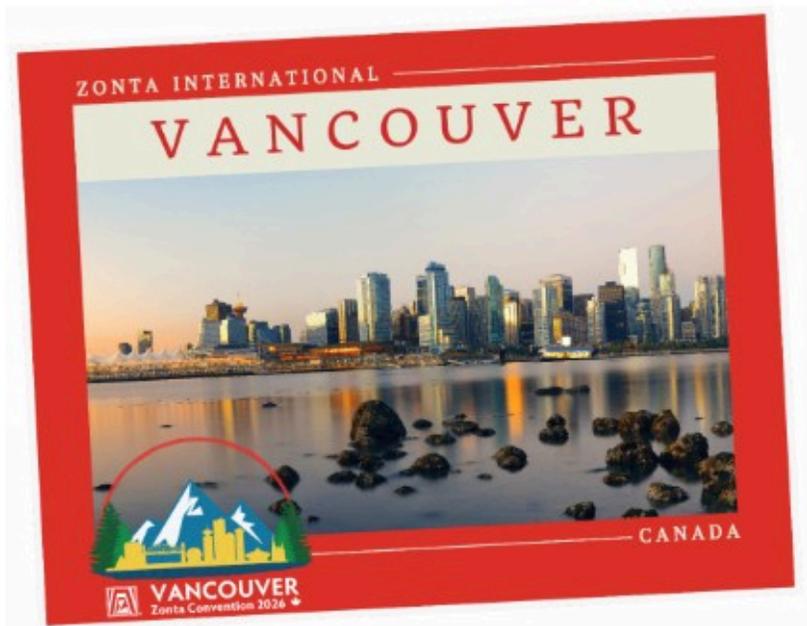
Zonta International appreciates our 25,000+ volunteers around the world. Join Zonta International President Salla Tuominen for an open discussion all about volunteering and how it drives Zonta's advocacy and service work globally.

Registration coming soon

**2 May 2026 —District-wide Spring Retreat Hampton Inn, Wells, Maine** Hotel rooms available for Friday and Saturday. Stay tuned to see the agenda for this one-day retreat! If you have not taken our quick survey, please do so right away!!

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**11-14 July 2026 Join us in Vancouver for the [67th Zonta International Convention.](#)**



## Greetings from Vancouver, Canada!

Dear Zontians,

Have you registered for the 2026  
Convention in Vancouver?

We are excited to announce our  
Keynote speakers: Sally Armstrong and  
Melina Laboucan-Massimo. Visit the  
Convention website to [learn more](#)  
about Sally and Melina.

Do not miss the early bird special rates  
and register for Convention today, eh!

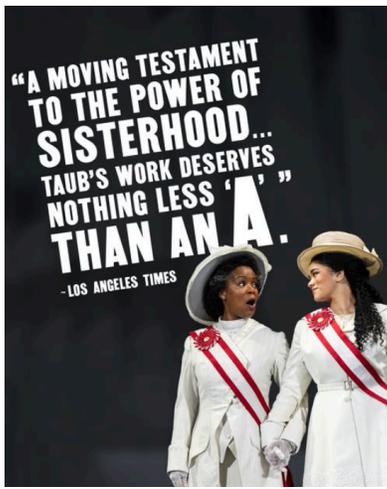


To: All Zontians

From: Zonta International

[Register Now](#)

Scan the QR code above to share  
your excitement for Vancouver!



The musical **SUFFS** is now touring the U.S. and you need to see it, and take a group of friends - young and old - with you. It is really, really important that we know this history and understand that the Equal Right Amendment has never been passed.

I had the opportunity to see it at the Bushnell in Hartford, CT recently and was thrilled by how accurately this important history was portrayed.

In her show about trailblazing yet flawed suffragists, creator and star Shaina Taub recalls a fraught and still resonant slice of American women's history. The show revolves around unsung suffragists – aka suffs – who courageously took to the streets to protest inequity. These women crossed age, race, and social divides, though they often fought among each other about the "right" way to advance the movement and who should do so.

If you can not find a play in your area, check out your local library for the book and music, and view the [Story Behind the Broadway Musical](#)

Mary Knight



Zonta International District 1

# Seeking Treasurer to Empower Women and Girls

Join us in **supporting women** worldwide and apply!



Your skills could keep Zonta strong! District 1 urgently needs a volunteer Treasurer to help steward our mission and manage finances. Without one, we'll need to hire a paid bookkeeper — which means increased dues for all members.

**What you'll do:**

- Keep accurate financial records
- Prepare clear reports for the Board
- Manage budgets & payments
- Help plan for Zonta's future

**Time:** Only a few hours a month, with participation in board zoom meetings.

**Skills:** Comfort with numbers

Mentors are available on an ongoing basis to help with the specific requirements of the job.

**Your leadership today helps ensure Zonta's strength tomorrow.**

Contact [info@ZontaDistrict1.org](mailto:info@ZontaDistrict1.org) to learn more.

Zonta District 1 | PO Box 1034 | Belchertown, MA 01007-1034 US

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