



SOROPTIMIST®  
Investing in Dreams



# The Bonnie McLaren Award

Honouring Young Women  
for Volunteer Action

A program of Soroptimist International of North & West Vancouver  
[www.soroptimistnvwv.org](http://www.soroptimistnvwv.org) | [soroptimist@shaw.ca](mailto:soroptimist@shaw.ca)

# The Bonnie McLaren Award



**Bonnie McLaren** was a member of Soroptimist International of North and West Vancouver from 2001 until her passing in 2010. In her ten years with the club Bonnie exemplified what we as Soroptimists strive for. Her generosity of spirit and commitment to making the world a better place was evident in everything she did, and she worked tirelessly, without fanfare, to truly make a difference.

Bonnie grew up in West Vancouver, attended West Vancouver Secondary School and the University of British Columbia, and she her husband Andy McLaren raised their three children in North Vancouver. Bonnie was a keen traveller, a dedicated Soroptimist, an enthusiastic member of a morning walking group; active in her gardening club and enjoyed weekends at their cottage in Pender Harbour.

Bonnie was the driving force behind many Soroptimist fundraisers that helped contribute substantial funds to benefit the homeless and at-risk youth on the North Shore. In particular, she devoted many hours to a Soroptimist award program that recognized young women in our community whose volunteer activities helped to make the world a better place.

Bonnie's legacy lives on with the **Bonnie McLaren Award** established by the Soroptimists of North and West Vancouver. With the award, we honor her cherished memory by recognizing young women on the North Shore in their pursuit of leadership aspirations through volunteer service in the community. Volunteer actions that benefit women or girls are particularly encouraged. Winners are eligible to receive cash awards for themselves and the charitable organizations of their choice.

**This award is made possible through a generous donation from the McLaren family to Soroptimist International of North & West Vancouver through the West Vancouver Foundation.**



# It's What You Do That Counts!

Are you a young woman between the ages of 14 and 17 who volunteers in your community or school? Who sees challenges instead of obstacles? Hope instead of despair? If you are a young woman who believes in the power of volunteer action, then you may be eligible to win a Soroptimist Bonnie McLaren Award.

The Bonnie McLaren Award recognizes young women who make the community and world a better place through volunteer efforts.



## Who is a Bonnie McLaren Award Honoree?

- A young woman who is caring, compassionate, creative and most of all committed to making the world a better place.
- A young woman who has demonstrated leadership and initiative in both identifying a problem and in trying to solve it. Taking a first step in making a difference in the world shows both leadership and initiative.
- A young woman who has had significant and noteworthy accomplishments as a volunteer.
- Volunteer actions that benefit women or girls are of particular interest.

Soroptimist International of North & West Vancouver is an organization of women whose members volunteer in their communities, often working on the same problems that you do. 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 Soroptimist Bonnie McLaren Award Program

If you think you would make a good Bonnie McLaren Award candidate, please complete this application and tell us about your volunteer action. Good luck! And, even if you don't win a Bonnie McLaren Award, we applaud your efforts to make your community and the world a better place.

## Deadline:

Completed applications and any supporting materials must be received by 11:59 pm, Mon, March 31, 2024. Soroptimists, Soroptimist employees and the immediate families of both are ineligible, as are previous Bonnie McLaren Award winners.

## Step 1: Determine if you are eligible

Eligible applicants are young women who:

- are currently between the ages of 14 and 17, in high school, and resident in North Vancouver or West Vancouver
- have demonstrated initiative in both identifying a problem and trying to solve it
- have had significant and noteworthy accomplishments as volunteers

## Step 2: Complete the application

To fill out the form:

- Fill in the following two pages and begin typing to personalize the application.
- Note: You will not be able to change the type size. Please limit your answers to the space allotted.
- Once the two pages are complete, save the form and email this to us at **[soroptimist@shaw.ca](mailto:soroptimist@shaw.ca)**
- You may also print the two relevant pages and email a clear PDF copy to us

## Step 3: Email your application

- Send your application with any supporting materials by email to **[soroptimist@shaw.ca](mailto:soroptimist@shaw.ca)**

**[Address all inquiries regarding this application to soroptimist@shaw.ca](mailto:soroptimist@shaw.ca)**

