

SGI-USA ORGANIZATION MEMO

DATE: JANUARY 4, 2019

MEMO: 2019-ORG-001 REV

THE YEAR OF
2019 Soka Victory
TOWARD OUR 90TH ANNIVERSARY

DISTRIBUTE TO: District through Territory Women's Division Leaders
FROM: SGI-USA Women's Leader, Naoko Leslie
SUBJECT: Women's Division Guidelines 2019 REVISED

Women's Focus

The dynamic pulse of kosen-rufu lies in our energetic efforts to contribute greatly to society and to expand our network of trust and friendship. (*My Dear Friends in America*, p. 477)

In 2019, let's each determine to expand trust and friendship to secure the peace of the land by:

- Sponsoring one friend (especially in the young women's division) to receive the Gohonzon and to nurture them for the future.
- Connecting with YWD in our districts and our co-YWD leaders.

February Commemorative Gongyo

On February 27, let's celebrate SGI-USA Women's Day with a commemorative gongyo meeting to pray for peace of the land. This meeting will be open to all women and young women.

SUGGESTED AGENDA:

- Gongyo
- Message
- Video Encouragement by SGI-USA Women's & Young Women's Leaders (to be provided)
- Experience
- Gohonzon Conferrals
- Closing Encouragement by Local Leader

The zone can decide the best level for these gatherings based on venue capacity, whether at local centers or district/chapter homes.

This meeting should not include food, special gifts, decorations or extensive planning. Please keep it simple in order to fully focus support and energy on the monthly discussion meeting.

FNCC Conferences

The FNCC Women's Conference theme is: Year of Soka Victory—Toward Our 90th Anniversary! Together with Sensei! Together with *The New Human Revolution!*

CONFERENCE DATES:

- **Apr 12–15** Women's #1—Open to all women's division
- **Jun 21–24** Women's #2—Ages 45 and under
- **Oct 11–14** Women's #3—Open to all women's division

America Victory Daimoku Group

"Prayer in Nichiren Buddhism means to chant daimoku [Nam-myoho-renge-kyo] based on a pledge or vow. At its very core, this vow is to attain kosen-rufu."

(*The New Human Revolution*, vol. 1, p. 269)

The America Victory Daimoku Group (open to all women's division) will continue to gather and chant Nam-myoho-renge-kyo for great advancement in the Year of Soka Victory—Toward Our 90th Anniversary!

The main objective of this activity is to unite in prayer for total victory based on the following:

- Sensei and Mrs. Ikeda's excellent health and longevity
- Secure the peace of the land through our human revolution
- Personal breakthrough and victories
- Victory in our organizational goals

The frequency can be decided by the leaders at the level they are being held. Please share short encouragement from *The New Human Revolution* published in the *World Tribune*, *Living Buddhism* or any volume of *The New Human Revolution* to conclude each meeting.

Attendance or daimoku count reports DO NOT need to be collected.

In February 1990, President Ikeda named this gathering of women’s division members “Sophia” (meaning *skill, intelligence, wisdom* in Greek) with the intent that its members expand their intellect for the sake of their personal happiness, the happiness of others and the protection of our kosen-rufu movement.

The purpose of the Sophia Group is to develop leaders who are rooted in the oneness of mentor and disciple and who advance kosen-rufu on the frontlines by creating victories in the district.



STUDY MATERIAL:

The material will be *The New Human Revolution* published in the *World Tribune*, *Living Buddhism* or any volume of *The New Human Revolution*. No copies of the material should be made or handed out.

FACILITATORS:

Facilitators should be selected and assigned by the appropriate level (region or chapter) of women’s leaders.

- ✓ Prior Sophia Group experience is not necessary.
- ✓ With the spirit of continually raising more successors, leaders should select individuals they feel confident will fulfill this important responsibility and keep the Sophia Group activity fresh and vital.
- ✓ Each zone is asked to submit their facilitators name list to their territory women’s leader by January 25, 2019.

ELIGIBILITY:

- ✓ Sophia Group is open to all women’s division members who bring their own material to the study meetings.
- ✓ The monthly meetings will be held from March–December 2019.
- ✓ Please use this as an opportunity to encourage new women’s division members to join Sophia.
- ✓ There is no need to collect or submit name lists.

GROUP SIZE:

The group should be small enough to accommodate meaningful discussion, with ideally no more than 10 to 12 women.



Facilitator Orientation link is forthcoming in early February.



This information is also published on the [sgi-usa.org](http://sgi-usa.org/Women's%20Division) Women’s Division page:
www.sgi-usa.org/category/wd/



Five Eternal Guidelines for the Women’s Division

1. Everything begins with prayer.
2. Advancing harmoniously with our families.
3. Fostering young successors.
4. Cherishing our communities and societies.
5. Joyfully sharing our experiences in faith.