

DISTRIBUTE TO: Region through Territory Women's Division Leaders
FROM: SGI-USA Women's Leader, Naoko Leslie
SUBJECT: 2019 Updates for the 2nd Class of Champions of Peace and Happiness Group

Champions of Peace and Happiness Group

“A great network for happiness and peace can arise from the courageous faith of a single woman.”

—SGI Honorary Women's Leader Kaneko Ikeda

HISTORY

On October 21, 2015, SGI President Ikeda named the new SGI-USA women's training group (for women's division members ages 45 and under) the Champions of Peace and Happiness Group.

AIM

Through study and dialogue, the group's members will take the lead in studying and living the wisdom contained in Sensei's core teachings in order to become shining examples of disciples who advance kosen-rufu and win in their lives, forever rooted in the oneness of mentor and disciple.

PURPOSE

Its purpose is to raise capable women's leaders who can assure the growth and development of kosen-rufu in America toward the Soka Gakkai's 100th anniversary in 2030 and beyond.

STUDY

Study and dialogue are vital to this effort. For that reason, the group's members will study volumes 1 and 2 of *The Wisdom for Creating Happiness and Peace*, a compilation of SGI President Ikeda's guidance from his 150-volume collected works.

In addition, the group members are encouraged to study:

- President Ikeda's shakubuku campaigns from *The New Human Revolution* to learn the spirit of propagation; and
- Soka Spirit from the SGI-USA publications to combat the negative tendencies within our lives and environment that seek to divide people and cause harm to ourselves and others.



DURATION AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

Duration: 90–120 minutes (including gongyo and chanting Nam-myoho-renge-kyo)

Frequency: Meetings to be held every other month for two years. Additional study and preparatory meetings can be held as local organizations deem appropriate.

Coordinators: Assigned region-level leaders will schedule, coordinate and attend meetings. They may also assist presenters and find guest leaders. (A link is forthcoming with encouragement and direction to coordinators.)

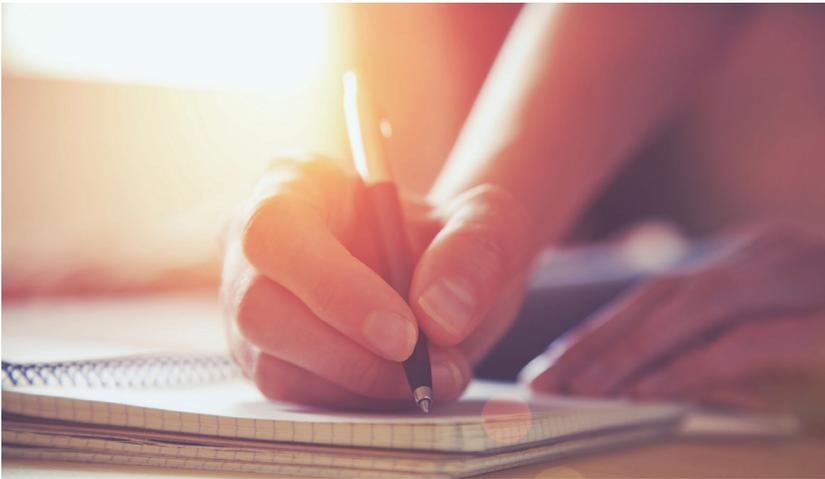
Presenters: All group members are presenters. They may ask their women's region leader for support with preparing and practicing for their presentations.

Meetings: Ideally, meetings should be held on the region level, but may be held at the chapter level in frontier areas (after discussion with region and zone leaders).

Note: Please do not serve food at your regular meetings. However, you may choose to have food at graduation.



Champions of Peace and Happiness Group



IMPRESSIONS (NEW UPDATE)

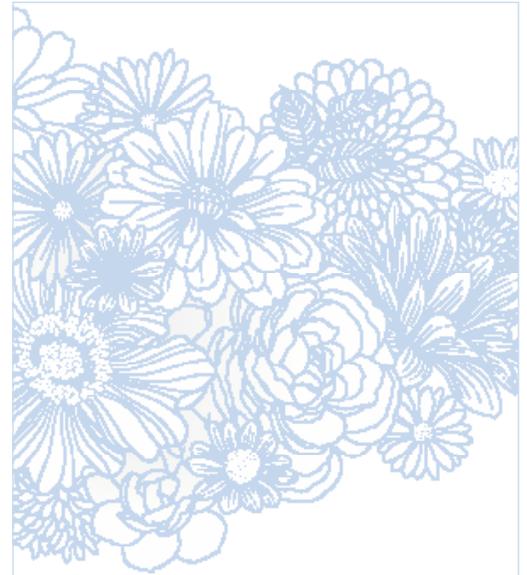
In place of writing an essay at the time of graduation, have each member write an impression after each meeting, starting from the first meeting in February 2019. The impression sheets will be returned at graduation so that each member of the 2nd class can reflect on their growth and development in the group.

The impression sheet is attached.



GRADUATION

The 2nd class will be graduating in December 2019. Certificates will be sent out at a later time.



CHAMPIONS OF PEACE AND HAPPINESS MEETINGS SAMPLE AGENDA (90–120 MINUTES)

- **Gongyo and chanting** Nam-myoho-renge-kyo (20')
- **Opening words** by a senior leader (5')
- **Presentation** by local Champions of Peace and Happiness members from the assigned study material (20')
- **A well-prepared experience** related to the study material (10')
- **Discussion/Q&A:** Each member should prepare one thoroughly thought-out response to the study material (40')
- **Closing encouragement** (20') (by coordinator or region–national guest leader)

