

DISTRIBUTE TO: District through Territory Leaders and Zone/Territory Offices
FROM: SGI-USA Organization Center
SUBJECT: 2019 Soka Victory District Information

SGI-USA is truly excited to announce a new “Soka Victory District” initiative starting this year, as a way to focus on growth and victory towards the 90th anniversary of the Soka Gakkai in 2020. This initiative replaces the previous “Lion District” program.

The new Soka Victory District initiative will introduce four criteria for Districts to challenge in 2019. The criteria are:

1. **Twenty members and guests to attend a discussion meeting at least two times during the year.**
2. **Twenty people to subscribe to the SGI-USA publications (the combined subscriptions package for the *World Tribune* and *Living Buddhism*).**
3. **Two people to receive the Gohonzon and start practicing Nichiren Buddhism.**
4. **Seven people participating in the SGI-USA Sustaining Contribution Plan.**

The rest of this memo highlights key information pertaining to the Soka Victory District initiative in 2019.

Soka Victory District Monthly Timeline

The SGI-USA Organization Center would like to inform you of the following monthly timeline regarding Districts that are designated “Soka Victory Districts”:

Third Friday of Each Month	Fourth Week of Each Month	Kosen-rufu Gongyo Meetings
DATA INPUT/ VERIFICATION	NOTIFICATION/ AWARD SHIPMENT	ACKNOWLEDGMENT
All data pertaining to the (4) criteria to be designated a “Soka Victory District” must be entered in our statistics database and will be subsequently verified by all Territory MIS staff as well as the SGI-USA Organization Center <i>(All pertinent data must be entered by the third week; otherwise, there will be a one month delay for a “Soka Victory District” to be designated).</i>	A representative for each District will be notified by one of their respective Zone or Territory office staff or an appropriate leader once they are designated a “Soka Victory District.” An award, certificate and message from General Director Adin Strauss for all verified “Soka Victory Districts” will be shipped to the appropriate center or location where Kosen-rufu Gongyo meetings are being held at the beginning of the following month.	The SGI-USA would like to acknowledge all verified “Soka Victory Districts” at Kosen-rufu Gongyo meetings.

Please see below for a specific 2019 Soka Victory District Timeline:

Kosen-Rufu Gongyo Dates	Data Input Deadline	Verification Date	Notification	Award/Certificate Shipment
April	22-Mar	25-Mar	26-Mar	2-Apr
May	19-Apr	22-Apr	23-Apr	30-Apr
June	17-May	20-May	21-May	28-May
July	21-Jun	24-Jun	25-Jun	2-Jul
August	19-Jul	22-Jul	23-Jul	30-Jul
September	16-Aug	19-Aug	20-Aug	27-Aug
October	20-Sep	23-Sep	24-Sep	1-Oct
November	18-Oct	21-Oct	22-Oct	29-Oct
December	15-Nov	18-Nov	19-Nov	26-Nov
February (2020)	27-Dec	30-Dec	31-Dec	9-Jan

For any questions related to this timeline, please contact your Territory office below:

West Territory

BEATRICE LOPEZ

LA Friendship Center

(323) 692-2463

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Central Territory

KIMBERLY HERRMANN

Chicago Culture Center

(312) 447-2229

kherrmann@sgi-usa.org

East Territory

LORI KARP

New York Culture Center

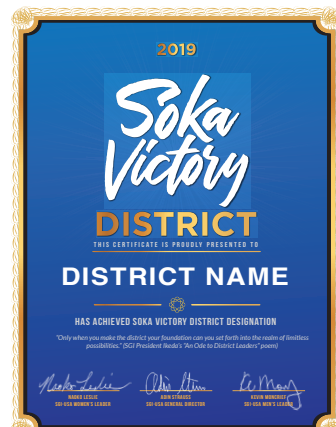
(212) 727-7870

lkarp@sgi-usa.org

Soka Victory Award & Certificate

SHIPMENT

The below award and certificate along with a message of congratulations from General Director Adin Strauss will be mailed prior to the Kosen-rufu Gongyo meeting.



AWARD CEREMONY

The award ceremony should be held as part of a Kosen-rufu Gongyo meeting with representative District leaders in attendance. The District name will be announced in the *World Tribune*.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What are the criteria for becoming a Soka Victory District?

- Twenty members and guests to attend a discussion meeting at least two times during the year.
- Twenty people to subscribe to the SGI-USA publications (the combined subscriptions package for the *World Tribune* and *Living Buddhism*).
- Two people to receive the Gohonzon and start practicing Nichiren Buddhism.
- Seven people participating in the SGI-USA Sustaining Contribution Plan.

Q. Enable 20 people to attend a discussion meeting: Who does this include?

A. The 20 people include district members and guests. Visiting chapter through national leaders are not included in this count.

Q. Since guests can be counted for the discussion meeting attendance toward the goal of 20, can guest subscriptions also be counted toward the goal of 20 subscriptions?

A. Yes.

Q. Enable two people to receive the Gohonzon and start practicing Nichiren Buddhism: What about those additional family members receiving new member certificates only?

A. This benchmark refers only to new members receiving the Gohonzon.

Q. What is the definition of 7 sustaining contribution plans?

A. Any District that currently has a total of 7 sustaining contributors. If a district started the year with 7 or more sustaining contributors, then this criteria would already be met.

Q. How long does the “Soka Victory District” designation last?

A. The “Soka Victory District” designation lasts for the calendar year.

Q. How are “Soka Victory Districts” reported?

A. Our statistics database generates reports pertaining to discussion meeting attendance, subscriptions, Gohonzon conferrals and sustaining contributors. Discussion meeting attendance is entered by District or Chapter leaders via the SGI-USA Member Portal. Subscriptions, Gohonzon conferrals and sustaining contributors are input by SGI-USA Zone office staff. Our statistics database will be able to identify “Soka Victory Districts” after the first reporting period, on March 15, 2019.