



# ZONTA

## CLUB OF UTICA

### BUILD A BETTER WORLD FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

## January 2024

### President's Message

Dear Zonta Club of Utica,  
Happy New Year! As we embark on another new year together, I want to welcome each and every one of you back. I hope that the holiday season provided you with moments of joy, relaxation, and quality time with loved ones.

The beginning of a new year (and a new semester for me) marks a fresh start and an opportunity for us to reaffirm our commitment to the empowering women in our community. We had a great few months already, including another successful brunch, donating hundreds of dollars to Empowered Pathways, and supporting our Golden Z members on their activities, including 60 comfort care packages for the women at the YWCA. I am confident that 2024 holds even more promise for our efforts.

A few details:

1. In an effort to streamline our dinner meetings, we will continue to use a consent agenda that includes approval of the minutes and the finance report. Additionally, if there are any changes to the Bylaws, I will include it there.
2. The doors to Boehlert Hall should be open by 5:15. If possible, please come a few minutes early so you can pay for dinner. I'd like to start as close to 5:30 as possible.
3. Because we have so many new members, at the January meeting, I am going to ask that the committee chairs give a quick overview of what their committee does.
4. If you have any recommendations for speakers, please let me or a member of the Board know.
5. All new members are encouraged to join Zonta International **on 18 January** for one of two new member sessions that offer insights into the history of Zonta, the programs we support and the resources available to them. Go to <https://www.zonta.org/events> to register.

Here's to a year filled with compassion, empowerment, and success for Zonta Club of Utica!



**Zonta: Women  
Helping Women.**

**President:**  
Jennifer Yanowitz

**Vice President:**  
Claudia Jasinski

**Secretary:**  
Cassandra Sheets

**Treasurer:**  
Dianne DiMeo

**Directors:**  
**2023-2025**  
Catherine Maziarz

Lisa Stewart

**2022-2024**  
Tiffany Richardson  
Marianne Reynolds

Patricia Rugari

**Nominating Committee:**

Lisa Bronk

Bridget Parisi

Bea Allison

## Service NEWS

In December , the Zonta Club of Utica and its members donated \$700 in food gift cards and coats, hats, and scarves to the Empowered Pathways Program. Executive Director

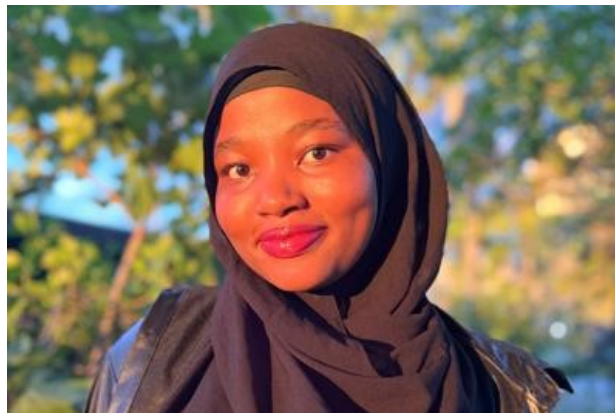


Stephanie Eghigian was very appreciative and Conveyed her thanks and gratitude.

(Empowered Pathways Staff Aryanna Russell & Fiona Quintana and Zonta Members Dianne DiMeo, Lisa Stewart, & Anne Milograno)

Sabah Haji, a student at SUNY Poly, received the Zonta Club Of Utica's STEM Award. Sabah's application then went to the District 2 Level where it was judged against applications from other District 2 Clubs.

Sabah was chosen to receive the International Women in STEM Scholarship which encourages women to pursue education, career opportunities and leadership in STEM fields. She received \$5,000 from Zonta International. She was one of eight in the country and one of thirty internationally to receive this award.



## ZONTA BRUNCH

Marianne Reynolds is collecting feedback from our October 2023 Brunch. We will compile the information and share it with the membership. We will incorporate suggestions into our planning.

Our next Brunch is scheduled for **October 27, 2024**.

We've already started collecting items for our baskets. Please bring **fall, winter, and/or Christmas items** to the January 17th meeting. We will also happily accept any gifts you may have received for the holidays that you would like to re-gift.

We will collect spa and valentine items at our February meeting.

# Golden Z

The Golden Z Club has been very active thus far this year. In October, the Golden Z students helped out by selling raffle tickets at our Champagne Brunch. In November, the Golden Z Club at Utica University participated in the Sixteen Days of Activism and hosted a screening and panel discussion of the movie, Barbie, in partnership with the campus Women's Resource Center.



Golden Z Members at the Brunch



"Barbie" Panel



The Golden Z members put together 60 comfort packages including a shower steamer, some hot cocoa, lip balm and lotion and donated it to the YWCA. They also had a mini-induction ceremony for new members.



## Zonta Says No to Violence

During the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence, our club posted information on social media and posted a "Zonta Says No to Violence" message on the city of Utica's LED sign on the Parkway. Individual members shared "Just Say No" messages on their personal social media accounts. Members also wore orange to our November membership meeting.



## Leadership Update

Registration for the 2024 Zonta International Convention in Brisbane, Australia is expected to open on January 17. the 2024-2026 Biennium and more exciting things to come! The convention promises to be a mix of fun, fellowship and inspiration. More information can be found at <https://www.zontaconvention.com>.





## NEW MEMBER

At our December meeting we inducted new member Kathleen Rushton. Kathleen is an accountant at P.J. Green. She has already immersed herself in Zonta's mission. Kathi was a tremendous asset while we were planning our last brunch. We are so happy to have Kathi as a member of our club.

Janice Fiore	December 1
Michele Sheridan	December 23
Patricia Rugari	January 8
Catherine Maziarz	January 11
Tiffany Richardson	January 15
Cassandra Sheets	January 31
Dianne DiMeo	March 1
Mary Kate Moylan	March 16
Alice Savino	March 21
Carla Percia	April 3
Joan Gallimo	April 27

