



Thank you for joining Zontians from all over the world for the 66th Zonta International Convention. Here is a guide for the activities and events that you can participate in to make the most of your Convention experience.

NOTE: All times on the Convention app are listed in Australian Eastern Standard Time as it is based on the Brisbane, Australia, location; however, you can change from event time to local time in the app.

Does the time not work for you?

- Most sessions will be recorded and posted in the Convention App. Our goal is to post as soon as possible but posting could take up to 24 hours. Please find the recordings on Whova in the "Agenda" tab starting at the 16 June date on the schedule.
- We will not post district meeting recordings unless the district organizer provides the recording to Zonta Headquarters.

Pre-Convention

April/May

- Set up your Convention App profile.
- Upload your photo and add the virtual attendee photo frame.
- Find other virtual attendees in the 'Attendee' list.
- Join the conversation by visiting the 'Community' tab and select a topic or create a new one.
- Select events to add to your personal calendar.

May/June

- Attend your district meeting.
Check the daily agenda on the Convention app for your district time and meeting link. These meetings will take place on a separate platform outside of the app such as Zoom or GoToMeeting. Note, not all districts will hold a virtual meeting.

7 & 9 May

- **Meet the Candidates**
Meet the candidates for the 2024-2026 International Board and International Nominating Committee in this virtual session. Be sure to read the bios of the candidates in advance and come prepared with your questions.

Tuesday, 7 May

1. 12:00 Noon Central Daylight Time – Session One with the Candidates for the International Board
2. 5:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time – Session One with the Candidates for the International Nominating Committee

Thursday, 9 May

1. 12:00 Noon Central Daylight Time – Session Two with the Candidates for the International Nominating Committee
2. 5:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time – Session Two with the Candidates for the International Board

15 & 21 May

- **Bylaws Information Session**

Session One: 15 May, 8:00 a.m. Central Daylight Time

Session Two: 21 May, 3:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time

Join the Zonta International Bylaws and Resolutions Committee, International President Ute Scholz and International President-Elect Salla Tuominen for an information session on the proposed amendments to the Bylaws and Rules or Procedure and proposed resolutions.

16 May

- **Club President Orientation**

16 May, 4:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time

So, you have been elected president? Whether it is your first time or a repeat performance, this session will help you embrace your leadership potential, empower your fellow members, and equip you with communication, decision-making, and conflict resolution skills to build a thriving, productive club. We will share pro tips and unveil your presidential resources. Be a club president who rocks! Don't miss out!

17 May

- **Workshop: Ending Child Marriage: A Human Rights Violation**

17 May, 9:00 a.m. Central Daylight Time

Globally, 21% of girls are married while they are still children, robbing them of their childhood. In the last decade, about 25 million child marriages have been prevented; however, ongoing and overlapping crises create risky conditions for girls through interrupted education and income shocks caused by public health crises, protracted conflict or natural disasters. Learn more about child marriage globally and how you can take action internationally, nationally and locally to help end this human rights violation for the millions of girls at risk globally.

21 & 22 May

- **Delegates Orientation**

Session One: 21 May, 9:00 a.m. Central Daylight Time

Session Two: 22 May, 5:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time

This is the essential session for all delegates and alternates, governors and past international presidents to attend to learn about their responsibilities during Convention.

This session will review:

- Fundamentals of the delegate handbook.
- On-site check in process for a delegate or proxy.
- Responsibilities when carrying a proxy vote.
- Details on elections and the SimplyVoting platform.

- Details on voting for convention business (including bylaws) and the handheld voting devices.
- An opportunity to ask questions of the elections and credentialing committees.

23 May

- **Workshop: WOW Membership Actions: Strategies for Growth**
Thursday, 23 May, 5:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time

Certain techniques and intentional actions increase and retain membership. The purpose of this workshop is to provide attendees with a fun, interactive program designed to impart insights and actionable ideas to take back to their clubs. Attendees will leave more confident, intentional and effective in their efforts to invite and retain members.

24 May

- **Workshop: Uniting for Climate Justice and Equality**
Friday, 24 May, 8:00 a.m. Central Daylight Time

Climate change knows no borders, affecting us and communities around the world. This unique workshop aims to bring together individual Zontians from diverse backgrounds and regions to directly share their personal experiences, stories and insights about the impact of climate change on people and the pursuit of equality and justice. By amplifying global voices, we will collectively deepen our understanding, foster empathy, and inspire collaborative action to address these interconnected challenges.

28 May

- **2022-2024 Partnership Update from UNICEF USA**
Tuesday, 28 May, 1:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time

UNICEF USA has been a close partner with Zonta on our international service projects for more than 50 years. Learn about the incredible impact the projects from the 2022-2024 Biennium have had and some of the results UNICEF USA has achieved with Zonta International's support.

29 May

- **2022-2024 Partnership Update from UNFPA Partner**
Wednesday, 29 May, 8:00 a.m. Central Daylight Time

UNFPA has been a dedicated partner with Zonta on our international service projects for many years. Learn about the impact the projects from this past biennium have had and the goals that UNFPA has met through these projects with the support of Zonta International.

29 May

- **Resolution 2, Strategic Plan & 2024-2026 Biennial Goals**
Wednesday, 29 May, 2:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time

The future is bright for Zonta International. Join Zonta International President Ute Scholz, President-Elect Salla Tuominen, Vice President Fernanda Gallo-Freschi and Treasurer/Secretary Souella Cumming for a look back at the path from Resolution 2 to the Strategic Plan and how both Resolution 2 and the Strategic Plan informed the 2024-2026 Biennial Goals.

2 June

- **Funny is my business**

Sunday, 2 June, 9:00 a.m. Central Daylight Time

Vivek Mahbubani is a Hong Kong-bred bilingual stand-up comedian performing in both English and Cantonese. As Hong Kong's first male Zontian, he will joke in English about all the funny quirks of being an Indian in a predominantly Chinese community, how he loves virtual comedy performances and why he still hasn't successfully managed to learn yoga.

3 & 5 June

- **Financial Overview - Past, Present, Future**

Session One: 3 June, 2:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time

Session Two: 5 June, 7:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time

Join 2022–2024 Zonta Treasurer Souella Cumming, Finance Committee Chair Mari McKenzie and Director of Finance Cathy Ferguson to learn more about Zonta's financial performance during this biennium and the budget for the 2024–2026 Biennium. Time will be provided for questions from the audience.

5 June

- **First Timers Orientation**

Wednesday, 5 June, 5:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time

Are you ready for your first Zonta International Convention? Join the 2024 Convention Committee for a friendly, informational session where you will receive a helpful introduction to the Zonta International Convention, a sneak peek at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, tips to make the most of your convention experience, and the opportunity to ask any questions you may have. We hope you make this session part of your pre-Convention planning.

6 June (and 28 June During Convention)

- **Networking Sessions: Connect with other Zontians around the world**

Session One: 6 June, 4:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time

Session Two: 28 June, 6:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time

Join other Zontian Convention attendees to discuss your convention experience and learn what other Zontians do across the globe to build a better world for women and girls. This is a great opportunity to meet someone new and build new Zonta relationships.

7 June

- **Workshop: A New Future for Women in Widowhood**

Friday, 7 June, 1:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time

Join us for "A New Future for Women in Widowhood" led by renowned advocate and visionary Carolyn Moor and take the first step towards embracing a future filled with hope, empowerment, and the promise of new beginnings. Whether you are recently widowed, or work alongside a widowed woman, this workshop is tailored to inspire positive transformation and equip you with the holistic tools to shape a vibrant and meaningful life beyond loss in your personal and professional life.

10 June

- **NEW! 2024-2026 Proposed Projects and Education Programs
Monday, 10 June, 2:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time**

At member request, we are adding a pre-convention virtual session on the proposed 2024-2026 international service projects and education programs. Get a more in-depth look at the proposals and answers to any questions you may have in this session led by the Zonta International Executive Committee.

12 June

- **Workshop: Reimagining CSW
Wednesday, 12 June, 9:00 a.m. Central Daylight Time**

This session will focus on the revitalization of the Commission on the Status of Women based on the analysis of the results of a recent survey of civil society, led by NGO CSW/NY Co-chairs Ivy Koek and Pamela Morgan, Chair, Zonta International UN Committee.

14 June

- **Workshop: Engaging Young Zontians
Friday, 14 June, 12:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time**

Join the Zonta International Young Talent Working Group as we delve into how younger members and awardees are currently engaged in the Zonta framework and focus on the benefits that younger members could bring to Zonta if engaged in new ways. This workshop will be collaborative and encourages active participation of all attendees.

During Convention

28 June – *Livestreamed Sessions from the BCEC Great Hall*

- Opening Ceremony and Flag Parade – 8:30-11:00 AM AEST
 - Keynote Presentation by Rabia Siddique
- Business Session #1 – 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM AEST
 - State of Zonta - International President's Report
 - Executive Director's Report
- Business Session #2 – 1:30-3:00 PM AEST
 - Awardee Speeches – Amelia Earhart Fellow Ha Tran, Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholar Sanuri De Silva, Young Women in Public Affairs Awardee Andrea Frederick, and Women in STEM Scholar Shayna Spencer
 - Remarkable Women, Powerful Stories with Lynne Foley and Sue Middleton
- Business Session #3 – 3:30-5:00 PM AEST
 - International Nominating Committee Report
 - Candidate Speeches

Note: Streaming will end at the conclusion of Business Session #3 and before voting for candidates begins.

29 June - *Livestreamed Sessions from the BCEC Great Hall*

- Business Session #4 – 8:30-10:30 AM AEST
 - 2024-2026 Zonta International and Zonta Foundation for Women Budget
 - 2024-2026 Education Programs and Fundraising Goals
 - Bylaws and Resolutions Committee Report
- Networking Online Session with other Zontian attendees – 9:00 AM AEST
- Business Session #4 continued – 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM AEST
 - Bylaws and Resolutions Committee Report
- Election Results – 1:30 PM AEST
- Business Session #5 – 1:30 – 3:00 PM AEST
 - Keynote Presentation by Lisa Blair
- Business Session #6 – 3:30 – 5:30 PM AEST
 - Membership Recognition
 - Zonta Excellence in Service and Advocacy Awards

30 June –*Livestreamed Sessions from the BCEC Great Hall*

- Memorial Service – 8:00-8:30 AM AEST
- Business Session #7 – 9:00-10:00 AM AEST
 - Round Table Discussion on Climate Justice
- Business Session #8 – 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM AEST
 - Reports on 2022-2024 International Service Projects
 - Presentation of 2024-2026 Proposed International Service Projects
- Business Session #8 continued – 1:30-3:00 PM AEST
 - Presentation of 2024-2026 International Service Projects
 - 2024-2026 Biennial Goals
 - 2024-2026 Fundraising Goals
 - 2024-2026 International Committee Chairs
- Closing Ceremony & Installation – 3:30 – 5:00 PM AEST
 - Installation Ceremony
 - Welcome to Vancouver 2026

Post-Convention

The Convention App will remain available to Zontians until 30 September.

View the workshops and sessions you may have missed when they were live.

Keep the connections and conversations going on Zonta International's Mobile app year-round.