



SUPPORTING HIGHER EDUCATION FOR ADVENTIST WOMEN GLOBALLY



SCHOLARSHIPPING OUR SISTERS



2ND QUARTER 2023 | VOL 20

FROM NILDE'S DESK

BLESSINGS —FROM BUSINESS, BEEKEEPING OR CLASSROOM

Greetings from Burundi. One of the joys of leading women's seminars in various countries is the chance to meet women helped by our Women's Ministries scholarship program. While in Burundi I enjoyed talking with Myriam, wife of the Union president. She received an award in 2020 and is now assisting in the mission as well as leading women's groups.

My travel constantly shows the many ways education impacts our sisters. It gives them tools to become an even greater blessing—by teaching, healing, and leading, by sharing God's love.

One teaches women in a very poor village about beekeeping. With this income they can send their children to school. Another will start a business to provide jobs for Adventists in a country where Sabbath work is required. Others become teachers, giving the youth both skills and faith.

God is blessing our sisters in Burundi. In turn they are blessing many others, introducing them to a loving Savior. May it be said of our sisters, as of our Lord, that each "went about doing good."
Acts 10:38



REVIVED TO Bless

God promises to renew our strength each day. He will revive us that we may bless others.

The mission of **S**cholarshipping **O**ur **S**isters [SOS] is to bless Adventist women around the globe by helping them complete higher education. Education enables them to bless others—in their families, churches, and communities.

Over more than 30 years, the Women's Ministries scholarship program has given 2,762 awards, to women from 142 countries, from Argentina to Zambia, from Mongolia to Fiji to Mali.

This year, SOS has been a blessing to women such as Lian and Arely.



Lian is studying nursing in Bangalore, India. An outstanding student, she is praised by the faculty: "Lian has empathy for the opinions and feeling of others, along with shrewd powers of observation.... She is dedicated and focused. There will be no limit to her achievements."



Arely is a senior at Bolivia Adventist University, studying Science of Physical Activity. Her dream is to become a missionary, introducing people, especially youth, to Christ through social, spiritual and physical activities. Teachers say that Arely "stands out because of her character and charisma." Explaining her financial need, she says her mother sells white cow leg jelly, "even in rainy weather," to help Arely and her five siblings. But with so many in their family, finances are always an obstacle.

Scholarshipping Our Sisters depends on supporters like you—who not only give but also receive a blessing. Your gift will bless your sisters with wonderful opportunities to bless others.

To make your gift for our sisters:

Online by credit card or PayPal:
women.adventist.org

By mail: SOS, Women's Ministries,
General Conference of SDA, 12501 Old
Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904

Scan this code:



FROM 1991-2023
SOS HAS HELPED
WOMEN FROM
142
COUNTRIES

Beatrice
"inspires others with
peace and confidence,
always ready to
encourage."
Romania

2,762
TOTAL SCHOLARSHIPS
AWARDED SINCE 1991

MAY-ELLEN COLON



THE FIRST SCHOLARSHIP
RECIPIENT, WAS A
LONGTIME SUPPORTER
OF SOS

MEET OUR SISTERS



SERVING WHILE PREPARING TO SERVE

Alina is a senior at Adventus University Cernica in Romania. Her background was good preparation for her major in Social Work. After spending her early years in an orphanage, she became part of a loving family when she was nine. Soon after that her new family became Adventist, and at 16 Alina knew she also wanted to follow Christ in baptism.

Alina says she chose the Social Work major "because I love to help people and I think God gave me gifts in this direction." A teacher says of her, "I am impressed by her seriousness and her decision to serve her peers as a social worker."

A CLASS LEADER

Already Alina is serving others. At the university, she is class leader and member of the student senate. At church she assists with Pathfinders, children's and teen Sabbath schools, and participates in church programs such as Creation Sabbath, the special Sabbath for new students, and University Open Door Days.

Commending Alina, another teacher says she is "a very serious student, attentive and responsible in completing both academic and extracurricular tasks. She is enthusiastic, hardworking, and always helpful to her fellow students."

Your gift will help more women become social workers, accountants, or entrepreneurs—to bless and strengthen their families, communities and churches.

Please make checks payable to
Women's Scholarship Fund.

Mail to:
Women's Ministries Department
General Conference of
Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904

Donate on-line at
women.adventist.org

Or call to charge to credit card:
301-680-6608

THANKS FROM COSENDAI



"I write this letter to show my gratitude to God and to all through whom the Lord passed for me to obtain this scholarship. It is a great blessing for me to continue my studies. It affirms God's promise, 'For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans...to give you hope and a future.' (Jeremiah 29:11-12) Words fail me to express my joy. I promise by God's grace to work well in school and also to be a good worker for God. May the God of all wealth bless you. Sincerely,"

Senaya

Senaya, from Cameroon, is studying nursing at Cosendai in Cote d'Ivoire. Her teachers say she is a diligent and determined student, and at church she "brilliantly animates the health ministry." But since she and her mother both lost their jobs, she needs our help.

GIFTS OF REMEMBRANCE



IN HONOR

Ida Mae Johnson
Carolyn Sutton
Alvin Singleton

IN MEMORY

Rose Otis
May-Ellen Colon
Peggy Griffin
Laurentine Allen
Ethel Young

Yes, I want to support the WM Scholarship program with . . .
 My pledge of _____ per (year/month) My gift of _____ (Please print all information)

Name _____

Address _____

Charge to my MasterCard VISA Card number _____ Exp. Date _____ / _____ / _____

a monthly gift of \$ _____ on the 10th of each month beginning (month/year) _____ / _____

a one time gift of \$ _____ Signature _____

(Optional) This gift is in honor/memory of _____

WHAT YOUR GIFT CAN DO

\$30/month:
room & board, 1 semester
THAILAND

\$25/month:
1 semester tuition
BANGLADESH

\$1,050: scholarship - JAMAICA

\$1,000:
1 semester tuition
RUSSIA

\$160:
1 month tuition
ARGENTINA



This newsletter is published quarterly by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Women's Ministries Department to share news about the women's scholarship program.

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GOD'S WOMAN OF MANY TALENTS

Hearing a call from God, **Marija** began study for her second college degree, this time at Belgrade Theological Seminary (BTS). Explaining her decision to enroll at BTS, Maria says, "I wanted to do something for God, but I didn't immediately plan to enroll in college. I prayed and had several testimonies that God was calling me to college. I believe God has a plan for me. I am motivated by the disciples; they left everything and followed Jesus as soon as He invited them."

She completed her first degree in Fine Arts, an area well suited to her artistic talents. Her paintings were shown in two international exhibitions, her graphics at two other international exhibits, and she has shown her original fashion designs at Fashion Week, as well as at the Gallery of Fine Arts in Nis. Her talents now benefit the seminary in many ways, including decorating the chapel for a special Thanksgiving Sabbath.

Marija uses her talents in many ways. She helped lead activities at Children's

Summer Camp in Bosnia, and organized humanitarian projects and Global Youth Day. Along with her student husband, Marija is serving the church he pastors near Belgrade. Serving as youth leader, she also preaches, writes children's songs, gives Bible studies, and visits church members.

Regarded highly by BTS faculty, Marija is described as "diligent, one of the best students at BTS. She is dedicated, resourceful, creative and always ready to help other students who may be struggling."

SERVING WITH HEART

Marina "serves with all her heart and puts others first." Attending Myanmar Union Adventist Seminary, she is studying to be a teacher. Teachers praise her creativity, her talent for problem solving, and her skill leading children's programs. "Always smiling, she is industrious in everything she does."

Born into a family of another religion, Marina lost both her parents when she was young. She says, "An Adventist lady (my mother now), a teacher in the village school, took me as her own child, even though she was single

at that time. She cared for me and sent me to the Adventist school. As her love and care influenced me, I came to know Jesus and accepted Him as my personal Savior. Even if I face difficulties, I know that Jesus will always be by my side and give me strength to overcome."

But finances are a real problem for Marina because her adoptive mother married and has more children now. It has become difficult for her family to help with tuition even though it's only \$400 for the year.

When we help Marina, we give Myanmar a talented, dedicated Christian teacher.



IN A NEW LAND

Originally from Ukraine, **Anastasiia**, along with her parents and sister, moved to Israel six years ago.

Because of the war in Ukraine, her grandparents have joined them, but no financial assistance is available for them, so it is difficult for the family to help with her tuition.

GIVING 100%

Anastasiia is studying for her BS in Nursing. Teachers praise her as responsible, patient, and trustworthy, a good student who "gives 100% to her studies."

At church she is active with the Pathfinders and also as Assistant Youth Leader. In the community she does volunteer work for holocaust survivors. "She knows how to lead people. She loves to serve others and God."