



FROM NILDE'S DESK

GOD'S DREAMS

FOR SOS, FOR THEM, FOR YOU

Scholarshipping Our Sisters, helping women achieve higher education, has been the dream, passion and work of many women for decades. Scholarship recipients, our sisters, are fulfilling their dreams and impacting their world with the skills, talents and knowledge developed through education, thanks to the generosity of many who support SOS.

Dreams don't stop with the contribution an educated woman can bring to her community, country, or society. An educated woman's impact may go far. Higher education may bring financial security, safety from violence, and social stability.

But when a woman receives education with eternity in mind, her dream is not limited to what she can achieve in this world. God's dream for her becomes her own. She can impact her world through her educational achievements, but also through her lifestyle, character, influence, and daily walk with Jesus. She can become a blessing and a witness to others of God's dreams for them—in this world and for eternity.

As you support SOS, **YOU** are a blessing! **YOU** are making a difference in the life of needy women through your generosity, kindness, and prayers. **YOU** are part of God's dream for women around the world today!

FROM MEXICO TO MONGOLIA

From Mexico to Mongolia to Sudan, your support for our sisters is traveling far.* This July, 17 women received awards to help them complete their education. The GCWM scholarship program gave funds totaling \$13,000 to women studying at 14 different schools, including Sagunto in Spain and Bugema University in Uganda.

These women are studying 10 different majors, including Business, Chemistry, Education, Theology, and Health Science. Five of them are married, 4 have dependent children, and one is deaf. Let's meet a few of these special women.



Andrea, studying in Mexico, says she is studying Health Science because "I want to help alleviate people's physical problems and also introduce them to Jesus as our main healer."



In Ethiopia **Tatu**, a mother with 4 children, is studying to be a teacher. She looks forward to helping her students learn about Jesus.



At the Italian Adventist University, **Elisa** is in her last year studying Theology and serves as the Assistant Chaplain. Teachers say of her, "She is responsible and diligent, with excellent leadership skills."

With our help, these women, our sisters, will make a tremendous difference in their communities and their churches. Through these women, you are blessing the world.

*Other countries: Bangladesh, Congo, Japan.

[NEWS BITES]

\$25,115
TOTAL AWARDED
IN 2022

11
COUNTRIES
RECEIVED
AWARDS IN JULY

\$1,000
WILL PROVIDE A
SCHOLARSHIP FOR
JAPAN

5
AWARDS TO WOMEN
IN EAST-CENTRAL
AFRICA DIVISION





WELCOME, Nilde!

We are delighted to welcome **Nilde Itin**, the new Associate Director of General Conference Women's Ministries. Because her responsibilities include guiding Scholarshipping Our Sisters [SOS], the SOS team looks forward to working together with Nilde to strengthen the program and help even more women achieve their educational goals.

MEET NILDE

Prior to joining the GC Women's Ministries department, Nilde served as Assoc. Director for Women's, Children's and Family Ministries at the Northern Asia-Pacific Division in South Korea (2015-2018) and as Director for Admissions and Records and Women's Ministries Director at AIAS (Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies) in the Philippines.

Nilde is the wife of German Lust (Assoc. Treasurer at the General Conference) and the mother of two young adult children, Annie and Alex and a son-in-law, Brian.

Born in Argentina, Nilde grew up in a pastoral missionary family and is a fourth generation Seventh-day Adventist. She received her master's degree in Education from River Plate Adventist University.

For more than 20 years, Nilde has worked as an educator, while being a wife, mother, sister, daughter, aunt and friend. Nilde loves nature and outdoor life, hiking, organizing, serving and ministering to others, and spending time with friends.

She is eager to see women growing in faith, demonstrating salvation's joy through their talents, words, lives and acts of love, and engaging in the mission of the Church.



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

OUTSTANDING!!

Want to be amazed? Meet **Zultsetseg**, a student in Mongolia majoring in Finance.

Zultsetseg has a stunning list of accomplishments: Dean's List at the National University of Mongolia; Best Student Paper Award at Academic Conference of Mongol Bank; delegate to UN Youth Advisory Panel Mongolia; President of the school club Ephilo (research economic and business issues as they relate to the world); captain of girls' handball team which placed first in the School Handball Championship; volunteers with an NGO, sorting, packing and filling pallets with non-perishables; volunteers with Amnesty International organizing human rights education events. And oh, yes, she plays piano and guitar and has incredible computer skills.

Zultsetseg has 5 siblings, and their father left, but her mom encourages them all to complete university. Zultsetseg's goal is a master's degree. But she says God is the greatest influence on her life "because He changed my perspective and taught me that nothing is impossible."



GIFTS OF REMEMBRANCE

IN MEMORY

May-Ellen Colón
Laurentine Allen
Peggy Griffin
Mildred Graham



IN HONOR

Carolyn Johnson
Rose Otis
Raquel Arrais
Nilde Itin
Carolyn Kujawa

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

\$25/month:
1 semester tuition
BANGLADESH

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

\$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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→ MEET OUR SISTERS



PREPARING FOR SERVICE

HUIJEONG, TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT YOURSELF.

I am studying at Sahmyook University in Korea, my home country. I am in my second year of nursing studies, and I look forward to showing God's love by service to others.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE TO BECOME A NURSE?

When I was young, my brother was very sick. This made life hard for my family. As a result I decided to become a nurse to serve those who suffer, both the patients and their families. Early in my life I had no goals or beliefs, but when my brother died, I needed something to hold on to. Deciding to become a nurse and serve others lead me to faith.



SERVICE IS A WORD YOU USE OFTEN. WHAT ARE SOME WAYS YOU HAVE SERVED?

At church, as president of the youth Sabbath school, I helped plan activities to welcome newcomers and do useful activities. It was difficult because the group's opinions varied. As leader, I had to be neutral. To serve well I must hear everyone's ideas.



At college I served on a nursing team of 24 people who prepared a course to introduce new freshmen to our faith. Covid meant the course and all preparation was on Zoom. Not only had team members never met, but it is hard to talk about religion to 70 freshmen who know nothing of Adventism. We did our best, and I was glad for the opportunity to talk about the God who cares for me. At first it was frustrating, but as I met and talked with each one personally, we became friends.



In the community I demonstrated servant leadership by volunteering with weekly food distribution to the poor and the homeless. Service is a way we reveal God's love.

WHAT DO YOU FEEL ARE SOME OF YOUR STRENGTHS AND TALENTS?

I like to talk to new people, and I remember faces, perhaps because to understand their emotions I focus on their expressions. I like meeting people because I learn new things. Maybe that's why I like volunteering. I love seeing the happiness on people's faces.

YOU APPLIED FOR A WM SCHOLARSHIP BECAUSE OF FINANCIAL HARDSHIP, RIGHT?

Yes. My family helps a little, but my father will retire soon and can no longer help me. I work some, but with nursing clinicals I won't have time to work.

I want to live a life of service. In my studies I want to learn as much as I possibly can, not merely get a grade. My financial situation worries me, but I don't give up my dream. When times are hardest, God shows me a miracle—through financial troubles, a car accident, my brother's death, and now this scholarship opportunity. I know I am always loved by God. I want to share that love.

Remembering May-Ellen Colón

May-Ellen Colón, the first Women's Ministries scholarship recipient, passed away August 3, 2022.

In 1991, Rose Otis, who created the GCWM Women's Scholarship Program, presented the first award to May-Ellen Colón. At the time, May-Ellen was a graduate student while she and her husband Gaspar Colón were serving the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Russia.

May-Ellen developed a special relationship with General Conference Women's Ministries. Along with her husband, she fondly and systematically supported the WM scholarship fund. May-Ellen's award was \$250, but the Colóns "gave back" to the fund many times over to assist Adventist women around the world who also needed funds for their tertiary education.

Their method was to save all loose change in a special container. Every month or two a cottage cheese carton or applesauce jar filled with coins would appear at WM. On one occasion, May-Ellen reported that while making a purchase she had considered presenting exact change. Gaspar gently chided, "That change is for women's scholarships."

May-Ellen made friends around the world as she traveled in her various positions. She began her career as a teacher, then served overseas as co-director of Family Ministries in both the Africa-Indian Ocean and the Euro-Asia Divisions. From 1999 she served in the General Conference Sabbath School/Personal Ministries Dept. as Assoc. Director and then as Liaison with Adventist Community Services and ADRA.



But GCWM will always remember her as a special friend, our "Poster Child" for the potential our Women's Scholarship program nurtures around the world.

You may read the full tribute to May-Ellen Colón at the GCWM website, <https://women.adventist.org/first-scholarship-recipient>