

Being a member of three clubs over the last 25 years and a President in two, has given me a broad picture of the world of Zonta. Attending two Conventions has also widened my perspective. My District roles include United Nations Coordinator, Z Clubs & Golden Z Club Coordinator, Young Women in Public Affairs Award Coordinator and Young Women in Leadership Award. I'm now commencing my 2nd biennium for the Young Women in Leadership Award. It is such an honour and privilege to work with young leaders and share what is important to them. If the opportunity comes your way grab it with both hands.

Last year's extraordinary winner, Mackenzie Li brought back wonderful memories for me working with refugees in my former career teaching English. It was people from her Rohingya Heritage who made such an impact on me. Hard work, personal discipline, courage and an amazing insight always startled me with these students. And at such a young age Mackenzie is already talking of policies to improve the lives of women and girls. These people's desire to make something out of their lives, given a new chance, was very humbling. Mackenzie's application never ceases to amaze me.

Who will we meet this year! We need more clubs to feel the urge to give these young women a platform. Please join us as we support the leaders of tomorrow.

Joanne Metzger
D23 YWLA Coordinator 2026-28

