ZONTA CLUB OF OTTAWA, CANADA

ZONTA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 2
BUILD A BETTER WORLD FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

JEAN M. COON HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Community Service Award for High School Juniors & Seniors

Who was Jean M. Coon?

Jean McCoy Coon was a graduated cum laude from Syracuse University in 1951. She continued her education at Syracuse Law School, graduating magna cum laude in 1953.

Jean's legal career began as Legal Counsel for Municipal Affairs in the New York State Comptroller's Office. Returning to the Syracuse area when her father was ill, Jean served for a year as Deputy Clerk to the Children's Court of Onondaga County. After her father's death, she returned to the Albany area and, in 1956, joined the N.Y. S. Assembly staff as a Research Counsel. In 1957, Jean became an Assistant Attorney General in the N.Y.S. Department of Law. In 1971 she became Assistant Solicitor General for New York State. She ended her career as Deputy Counsel for the N.Y. S. Education Department.

Jean argued many precedent-setting cases in the New York State Court of Appeals and her reputation among the bar and the judiciary was unparalleled.

Jean joined the Zonta Club of Saratoga County in 1962, transferring from the Zonta Club of Syracuse. She served as the Governor of District 2 and was Parliamentarian of the Zonta International Board from 1979 - 1980. She served as Chairman of the Zonta International By-Laws Committee.

An active member of her Ballston Spa community, her humanitarian efforts were always with a small "h" and never self-serving. Good things just happened and most people never knew that Jean was the impetus behind the results.

In 1982, Jean died at age 52. Shortly thereafter, District 2 established the District 2 Jean M. Coon Humanitarian Award to honor her many achievements, and to continue her example of doing good for others.

Who May Apply?

High School junior or senior students who preform outstanding community service may apply by submitting a completed application and reference letter to a Zonta club in their locality. Academic achievement is not relevant. Each of the 28 Zonta Clubs in District 2 solicits & accepts applications from high schools in its area. In the spring, each club reviews the applications it receives, and selects a single club candidate. Each club candidate becomes a District finalist. The Jean M. Coon committee reviews each finalist application and an award winner is announced in May.

What is the Amount of the Award?

$800 CAD - Zonta Club of Ottawa, Canada
$1000 USD - Zonta District 2

How Does the Winner receive the Award?

The check is presented to the winner at an award luncheon at the District 2 October meeting (Seminar or Conference) each year. The date & location of the meeting is announced not later than September.

Zonta Club of Ottawa, Canada's winner will be contacted directly

How to Apply?

Application forms are mailed to local school guidance counselors in the late fall. All application materials must be received at the Zonta club by the deadline indicated, usually in February or March. Club candidate applications are due to the District by April 1st. If the Zonta club contact information is not printed on the application, please locate a Zonta club nearest you by using the Club Locator at www.Zonta.org. You may contact your local Zonta Club directly. Your local club's president and email address can be found on the District 2 website: www.ZontaDistrict2.org.

Please send your completed application to:
Zonta Club of Ottawa, Canada
c/o Valerie Hume, Committee Chair
Email: zontaottawayouth2@gmail.com
Deadline: March 15, 2027

Zonta Club of Ottawa, Canada

ZONTA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 2
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JEAN M. COON HUMANITARIAN AWARD APPLICATION

Date: _____

Name:_____

Address:_____

Phone # _____

Email Address: _____

Grade Level ☐ Junior ☐ Senior

High School Name & Address: _____

_____

_____

School Phone # _____

Applications may be filed electronically xx by xxxx. All applications must be submitted to a local Zonta Club. Check on line for the appropriate email, mailing address, and due date. Please do not send applications directly to the District 2 Scholarship Chair or Governor.

To locate a Zonta Club near you, go to www.Zonta.org and enter your zip code.

Send you completed application to:
Zonta Club of Ottawa, Canada
c/o Valerie Hume, Committee Chair
Email: zontaottawayouth2@gmail.com
Deadline: March 15, 2027

Zonta Club of Ottawa, Canada

Essay Question Instructions:

Compose essays for the following two questions. If additional space is needed, a separate page may be used. Include name, page and question number on any additional sheet(s).

1. Why do you perform community service and why did you select your specific community service projects? (Not more than 100 words)

2. Briefly describe three (3) of the Community Service projects you have performed and the impact you believe that these service projects have had on your community and the targeted community if it is different from your local community. (Up to 400 words, attach additional pages)

Zonta Club of Ottawa, Canada
Deadline: March 15, 2027

Service Report Instructions

On page 4, adding an additional sheet if necessary, describe your community service**,** both required community service and voluntary. Include only service performed during your high school years.

When initially referencing an organization or charity group, please use the full name instead of an acronym or initials.

Description of the community service should include positions held (if in an organization, church group etc.) and the approximate number of hours per week, monthly or year that you served. If a "one time" event, describe your role and time spent. List any achievements in your voluntary service. If you are still volunteering service to an organization, provide the start date and indicate that it is ongoing. The number of hours for the activity should be as of the date you submit your application.

For required service, please indicate the number of hours you must perform, and the amount of these service hours you've already completed. Please place a (R) behind any service hours you did as required community service.

Example:

School

*Reading to 1st graders 10 hours (R) of **10-hour** graduation requirement* = 10 (R)
Worked at school bake sale. 4-hours (One time) = 4

Non-School

Teaching church school for 3 years - (5) 2-hour classes =10 hours/year years =30
Ring bell for Salvation Army for (two) 4-hour slots, x 2 years =16
Reading to a blind man 3 hours per week (Ongoing) To date: =30
*Worked in soup kitchen- 7 hours (R) of **20 hours** required for Confirmation (Ongoing)* = 7 (R)

Total Service Hours

1. Number of hours required to be performed 30 and # hours completed 17.
2. Number of service hours performed in conjunction with a school project 14.
3. Number of service hours for outside-of-school service: 83

Total of line 2 +3 = *97*

Zonta Club of Ottawa, Canada
Deadline: March 15, 2027

Student's Service Report

Please list your service projects, following the P. 3 general instructions.

School Activities: Activities completed with school sponsored groups or events, either required (R) or voluntary.

Non-School Activities: Activities completed with community, civic or church groups.

Total Service Hours

1. Number of required hours_____& # of required hours completed_____.

2. Number of service hours performed in conjunction with a school:_____.

3. Number of service hours for outside-of-school service projects: _____.

Total of line 2 + line 3=_____.

Zonta Club of Ottawa, Canada
Deadline: March 15, 2027

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION,

JEAN M. COON HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Please request a Letter of Recommendation from your PRINCIPAL, GUIDANCE COUNSELOR, TEACHER or NOT-FOR-PROFIT REPRESENTATIVE. Submit it as the last page of your application. PLEASE NOTE: LETTERS MUST ADDRESS YOUR PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY SERVICE.

Zonta Club of Ottawa, Canada

c/o Valerie Hume, Committee Chair Youth Awards
Email: zontaottawayouth2@gmail.com
Deadline: March 15, 2027