



Young Ladies' Grand Institute

A Catholic Women's Organization

Debra Ramirez-Cruz, Grand President

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December 2024 ~ January 2025

Dear Sisters:

Please note this letter covers both **December 2024 and January 2025**. As we celebrate the joyous season of Advent and look forward to welcoming the New Year 2025 with family and friends, let us pause a moment to reach out to our YLI sister members who are ill or alone and are in need. A simple prayer, a short telephone call, or a greeting sent via mail or email can help share sisterly love and kindness to brighten their day.

BOARD OF GRAND DIRECTORS MEETING:

As you know, the Board of Grand Directors meeting was held on November 2 with the Remembrance Mass celebrated at 11:00 am at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Sacramento, CA. It was a lovely mass with the names of Golden Jubilee Burse card recipients carried up to the altar.

Board Meeting Highlights

- The Board approved Grand Institute's purchase of a Zoom annual subscription.
- Grand President Debra appointed a Convention Location Search Committee to explore options for the next convention in 2026.
- Exciting plans are being made by Districts 8 and 19 for the 2025 convention with the theme "Sing the Praises of YLGI". It will be held in Reno, Nevada at the Silver Legacy from July 21 -23, 2025 (Monday through Wednesday with the Symposium on July 24, 2025). Please mark your calendars. More information will be distributed at the March Board meeting in the spring.
- Spring Board of Grand Directors Meeting will be held on Saturday, March 1, 2025, and District Deputy Orientation will be held on Saturday, August 23, 2025.
- The 2025 YLGI trip is a 16-Day Panama Canal cruise from January 8, 2026 – January 24, 2026, on the Island Princess. The cruise will be going through the Historic Canal, with exciting port-of-call destinations. This cruise leaves from Los Angeles and ends in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Call Rhonda Kersting for more information and specific pricing.

QUARTERLY REPORTS for the quarter ending **December 31, 2024**, are due **January 31, 2025**, with the quarterly Per Capita Tax of \$3.50 per member, Grand Institute Assessment of \$0.25 per member, and Death Assessment of \$1.05 per beneficial member. The check should be made out to Young Ladies' Grand Institute and two (2) copies of the report sent to this office within 30 days after the end of the quarter.

GOLDEN JUBILEE BURSE PRESENTATIONS: Institutes are continuing to support the Golden Jubilee Burse. Institute donations must reach the Grand Secretary's office in a timely manner.

Any donation presentation before March 31st must reach the Grand Secretary's office at least thirty days ahead of the planned presentation (i.e., February 10 by January 10; March 7 by February 7).

If your presentation is after March 31st, your contribution must reach the Grand Secretary no later than March 1st so the funds can be accounted for prior to March 31st which is the end of our fiscal year.

Please contact the Grand Treasurer if there is a reason your donation will be late reaching the Grand Secretary's office. We will work on a solution together.

GRAND PRESIDENT'S PROGRAM – Patricia McGuire, Chairman, provides another option to consider: Please see the attachment for information about “Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation (mhopus.org)” for more options.

REMINDER FROM THE GRAND TREASURER: Have you cashed your convention check or any other check you've received in recent months? If you put it in a special place and cannot find it, please let June know and she can arrange a replacement check. Thanks!

VOICE OF YLI SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS: As a reminder, all renewals must be sent to the Voice of YLI circulation chairman Pat Fontana. Please do not send checks to the Grand Secretary. Pat Fontana will send them to the Grand Secretary after they are processed for renewals.

PAST GRAND PRESIDENT BARBARA LOVIO

It is with a heavy heart that I report that our dear Past Grand President Barbara Lovio passed away on October 22, 2024, and was laid to rest on November 12. Barbara was installed as Grand President on July 2, 2003, in the meeting room in the Yakima Convention Center, Yakima, Washington. She presided at the DoubleTree Hotel, Lloyd Center in Portland, Oregon from June 28 -30, 2004. Her program encouraged YLI sisters to use the principles of Stewardship; Time, Talent, and Treasure to support “Sisters Helping Sisters.” Barbara will be missed tremendously. As shared by Grand Director Josie Garcia, “A part of her lives on in all of us. She touched so many lives. May she now rest in peace.”

Condolences can be sent to Gilbert Lovio and family. Donations for the Hilda Hines Scholarship fund in Barbara's memory can be sent to #195 St. Paula Institute c/o Sylvia Martinez, Recording Secretary.

PRESIDENT/SECRETARY LIST ~ Please make the following changes to your copies of the Presidents/Secretaries list. Please feel free to email or call with any additional changes. Thank you.

- 1 St. Francis of Assisi ~ President Nancy Porter's email should be xxxxxxxx
- 67 Tahoma ~ Recording Secretary Priscilla “Percy” Wolfe's email should be xxxxxxxx
- 111 St. Monica's ~ President is Jeanette Mendonca, xxxxxxxx
- 140 Mater Christi ~ Recording Secretary is Patty Traini xxxxxxxx
- 195 St. Paula ~ Recording Secretary Sylvia Martinez' new address is xxxxxxxx
- 200 Ave Regina ~ President Maria Mondragon's email is xxxxxxxx
- 208 Ana Malia ~ Recording Secretary Francis Sakaguchi's email is xxxxxxxx
- 211 St. Pius X ~ Recording Secretary Natalie Newman's new address is xxxxxxxx
xxxxxxx - info can be obtained from Grand Secretary.

OFFICE HOURS: Please note the YLI office will be closed from December 20, 2024, through January 3, 2025.

OFFICIAL VISITS OF GRAND PRESIDENT DEBRA RAMIREZ-CRUZ

DECEMBER	2	258 Our Lady of Hope, Martell, CA	
	3	179 Our Lady of Fatima, Escalon, CA	
	12	125 St. Alphonsus, Fairfield, CA	
	18	149 Immaculate Heart, Patterson, CA	
JANUARY	4	127 Ramona, Fresno, CA	
	8	221 Our Lady of Roses, Newman, CA	
	13	197 Saratoga, Saratoga, CA	75th Anniversary
	14	173 St. Francesca Cabrini, Rodeo, CA	
	18	1 St. Francis of Assisi, San Francisco, CA	
FEBRUARY	3	240 Our Lady of Bethlehem, Seaside, CA	
	5	193 Antoinette, Hughson-Ceres, CA	
	8	124 Notre Dame, Redwood City, CA	
	10	101 Antioch, Antioch, CA	
	11	211 St. Pius X, Lakewood Long Beach, CA	
	15	184 Holy Family, Lemoore, CA	
	18	223 St. Patrick's, Hilmar, CA	
	19	111 St. Monica's, Willows, CA	
20	78 St. Anne's, Pinole, CA		

May the greatest gift of Christmas bring you the Joy of Faith, the Joy of Peace, the Joy of Happiness, and the Miracle of Love!

With Sisterly Love, Hugs and Prayers,

*Debra Ramirez-Cruz
Grand President*

*Patricia McGuire
Grand Secretary*

Attachments: Deputy Gram & Grand President's Program "Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation"

Grand President's Program
"The Power and Glory of Music"

The following information is provided by
Patricia McGuire, Chairman,
Grand President's Program

I know that you have been immersed in the multitudes of ways students can be affected by the power and glory of music. The Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation provides another option to consider. Please read on if you are interested.....

[ABOUT US – Mr Holland's Opus Foundation \(mhopus.org\)](http://mhopus.org)

How many of you have seen the movie "Mr. Holland's Opus"? The movie was made 28 years ago and was the catalyst for the creation of a namesake non-profit. This foundation has changed the lives of hundreds of thousands of kids by giving them access to learn and play music in school--keeping music education alive and strong.

What does the foundation do?

- Donates high quality musical instruments to deserving under-funded music programs.
- Provides support services to school districts (read more to discover details...)

How can music impact a child's education?

- Music's role in a child's education is key in engaging them, sparking their creativity and unique voices and improving their overall enjoyment and success in school.
- A vibrant music-rich curriculum makes an immense difference in their lives.
- Adding music to a child's life is like watering a flower. It makes a child grow in so many ways that it is imperative that music education programs are kept alive (Michael Kamen)

My purpose in sharing this link is to provide information concerning the foundation:

- Provides grants and services
- Provides Adopt a School programs
- Shares information regarding Music Rising which addresses areas affected by destruction caused by catastrophic hurricanes. This is accomplished by replacing musical instruments lost or destroyed by the deluge. It can help students return to a normal life following the destruction.

Please visit this website if you are interested in learning more about another way to help students gain access to the power and glory of music.