A Vision of Peace.

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR EVERY STUDENT.
Our Mission

To foster a steady stream of global citizens committed to living a contributive life.
Dear Soka Sponsor,

Soka University of America (SUA) provides a liberal arts education that fosters respect for humankind, develops character, and provides an intellectual basis for the realization of peace. Our diverse student body of approximately 435 students live on campus immersed in a unique atmosphere where they learn from one another exploring differing ideas and opinions from around the world. Students discover how to respect one another in spite of differing viewpoints. In short, Soka empowers learners to contribute to and improve society.

In order to guarantee that no qualified student will be denied a Soka education due to financial need, it is imperative that we continue to build our scholarship endowment. The annual Peace Gala, Celebrating a Vision of Peace, was created to fulfill this need and to date has contributed more than $6 million to the cause.

This is the 11th Peace Gala and you are invited to take a lead role in this event by helping in the way that best suits your ability: sponsor a table, donate an item to our auction or simply make a monetary contribution. I would be happy to discuss any of these possibilities with you as well as other ideas you might have to ensure the success of the evening. SUA is a registered 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization and as such your donation is deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Federal Tax ID number is 95-3909672.

On behalf of the students, faculty and staff at SUA, thank you for supporting the students at Soka University who are our vision of peace.

Sincerely,

Linda Kennedy
Director of Philanthropy
Soka University is a private, nonprofit, four-year liberal arts college and graduate school.

U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges 2015 edition ranked SUA #41 among liberal arts universities in the nation, #1 in Faculty Resources, #1 in Foreign Student Factor, #5 in Ethnic Diversity and #5 in Best School Value, Top 7 on the West Coast.

To promote greater diversity and access to higher education for both US and international students, all eligible admitted students to the BA in Liberal Arts program with an earned family income of $60,000 or less will receive free tuition. In addition, this need-based financial aid provides prorated awards for students who come from families with higher income levels such that tuition typically does not exceed ten percent of household income.

The undergraduate program offers concentrations in Environmental Studies, Humanities, International Studies, and Social and Behavioral Sciences.

One semester of study abroad is required for graduation.

Average class size is 13.

Student/Faculty ratio is 8:1.

Eastern and Western perspectives are taught throughout the curriculum with an emphasis on foreign language and culture.

The graduate program offers an MA in Educational Leadership and Societal Change.

Admission is open to all nationalities and beliefs.

Class of 2014 Graduate School Admissions: Aberystwyth University in Wales, UK; Bradford University, UK; Columbia University; Cornell University; George Mason University; George Washington University; Georgetown University; Indiana University; London School of Economics, UK; Minnesota State University; Monterey Institute of International Studies; NYU; Oregon College of Oriental Medicine; Oxford University, UK; Syracuse University; Tsinghua University, China; University of Ohio; University College London, UK; University of Arizona; University of Edinburgh, UK; University of Hawaii; University of Manchester, UK; University of Oregon; University of San Diego; University of San Francisco; University of York, UK; USC and Warwick University, UK.

Companies Hiring SUA Graduates: ANA Airport Service; Anneliese Schools; Apple, Inc.; Booz Allen Hamilton; Broadcom; BTQ Financial; CalFirst National Bank; Caterpillar Japan Ltd; Chaminade University of Honolulu; Check Disc Inc.; Columbia University; Conde Nast; Cornell University; DAIKO CO., LTD.; Creia Consulting; Deloitte Consulting; Dentsu Inc.; DENKA Corporation; Elite OC Productions; Embassy of Japan; Ernst & Young Advisory; First Hawaiian Bank; General Electric (GE); GlobalData; Goldman Sachs; Harvard University; Hotel Palomar; Industrial Economics, Inc.; International Organization for Migration (IOM); Japan Exchange and Teaching Program (JET); Kansai Soka High School; Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel; Marriott International; Me to We; Mitsubishi UFJ Morgan Stanley Securities; Newegg, Inc.; NHK Enterprises; Nintendo of America; Nippon Pillar Co. America; Nomura Research Institute; Pacific University; Panasonic; Peace Corps; QuantX Management LLC; Revolution Prep; Softbank Telecom Corp.; Staples Inc.; Sumitomo Mitsui Auto Leasing & Service (Thailand) Co., Ltd.; Sungevity; The Supreme Court of Japan; The Walt Disney Company; The World Bank; Tufts University; United Nations; Uniqlo; University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; University of Southern California; Wellesley College; Whole Foods Market.
A Proud Heritage

Helping students learn how to create value in their lives, their communities, and the world are central tenets of Soka education. Founded by Daisaku Ikeda, educator, author and recipient of more than 350 honorary degrees and the United Nations Peace Award, the Soka school system has established a tradition of humanistic learning and scholarship where the focus is on each student’s growth and development.

The mission of Soka University of America (SUA) is to foster a steady stream of global citizens committed to living a contributive life. SUA is founded on the belief that student-centered education is the best way to promote peace and human rights by fostering a global humanistic perspective on the world in which we live. The curriculum aims to integrate service to the community, nature and humanity with the actualization of individual achievement and happiness. Learning is pursued through developing a close and humanistic relationship between teacher and student. We believe dialogue between teacher and student is a key element in cultivating the type of wisdom and intellect that fosters global-minded individuals.

The atmosphere of diversity and humanism at Soka University has attracted students from around the globe. This year approximately 435 students, representing more than 27 countries and 35 states will call SUA their educational home. In addition to this multi-cultural campus experience, students in their junior year undertake a required study abroad program furthering their international exposure.

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The annual Peace Gala, Celebrating A Vision of Peace, is an elegant, sophisticated and fun-filled evening with headline entertainment and a fabulous auction.

The campus of Soka University in Aliso Viejo, California, will provide a beautiful location with stylish décor for this year’s Peace Gala. This year’s event will include:

- Elegant Cocktail Party
- Silent auction featuring unique items and experiences
- Gourmet Dinner
- Live auction with many one-of-a-kind items
- Performance by David Burnham
- Dancing to live music until midnight
No qualified student will be turned away due to financial need—We must continue to build our scholarship endowment.

Sponsorship Levels and Benefits

Peace $100,000
- Permanent name recognition on Soka University’s Founders Circle
- Illustrious dining table for ten
- Special listing on all printed materials
- Tribute gift

Hope $50,000
- Distinguished dining table for ten
- Special listing on all printed materials
- Tribute gift

Dignity $25,000
- Superior dining table for ten
- Special listing on all printed materials
- Tribute gift

Compassion $10,000
- Premier dining table for ten
- Special listing on all printed materials
- Tribute gift

Tolerance $7,500
- Priority dining table for ten
- Listing on all printed materials
- Tribute gift

Equality $5,000
- Dining table for ten
- Listing on all printed materials
- Tribute gift

Individual Tickets $350
2014 Peace Gala in Review

The 10th annual Peace Gala, Celebrating a Vision of Peace, was held on the campus Saturday, October 11, 2014. The evening began with guests gathering at the Soka Performing Arts Center to enjoy cocktails and hors d’oeuvres while browsing the silent auction. They were then led across the bridge over Peace Lake lined by grateful students holding candles, thanking each guest for attending as they passed by, and then welcomed by Japanese Taiko Drummers as they entered the venue.

Sophomore Prakash Bista began the program by recounting his journey to Soka from a remote village in Nepal. His heartfelt story served as a reminder of SUA donors’ unwavering dedication to the university, its mission, and the students.

Gala guests were entertained by Broadway star Ivan Rutherford, best known for his role as Jean Valjean in Les Misérables. Guests were joined by Soka students as Peace Gala veteran Derek Bordeaux provided dance music for the remainder of the evening.

Memorable highlights of the live auction included a guitar autographed by each member of the American rock legends the Eagles and brunch with NBA legends at the 2015 NBA all-star weekend legends brunch in NYC, hosted by Jamaal Wilkes.

The 500 guests attending helped raise $600,000 net to benefit the Soka Education Endowment.
2015 Gala Committee

Event Co-Chairs:
Joan May & Dita Shemke

Justine Amodeo
Arch Asawa
Norah Broillet
Matilda Buck
Chris Chen
Judy Chow
Grace Christianson
Bethany Coleman
Kathy Crilly
Susan Dixon
Sallie Doebler
Clarissa Douglass
Teresa Fu

Paula Garcia-Young
Kathy Gooch
Debra Gunn-Downing
Darlene Hawkins
Eileen Hayden
Clothilde Hewlett
Heran Houillon
Kathleen Janson
Mary Patrick Kavanaugh
Linda Kennedy
Lisa Kirk
Kimberly Lopez
John Marzullo
Terry Mitchell
Ruby Nagashima
Sheila Peterson
Di Pritchett
Amanda Railla
Coleen Scherf-Ghara
Harumi Shimamoto
Carolina Shorter
Miki Singer
Dinia Takacs
Megumi Tanaka
Masayo Yoshida

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