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January 22, 2019

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Dear PPSEAWA USA sisters,

The United Nations General Assembly has declared **24 January as the first-ever International Day of Education**, in celebration of the role of education for peace and development.

*What are the challenges to education today?*

- 262 million children and youth still do not attend school.
- 617 million children and adolescents cannot read and do basic math.
- More girls than boys still remain out of school - 16 million girls will never set foot in a classroom (UNESCO Institute for Statistics).
- Women account for two thirds of the 750 million adults without basic literacy skills.

The PPSEAWA USA Scholarship Award was established in 2002 with the hope to benefit a young woman to complete her secondary education. Over sixteen years, we have granted 21 scholarships to girls in PPSEAWA countries such as Fiji, India, Samoa, Thailand, and the United States. The candidate must be an adolescent girl who has financial need, comes from an underrepresented or rural population, and is recommended by a school principal or village elder. Guidelines are available at [www.ppseawa.org](http://www.ppseawa.org).

The Education Scholarship Fund is entirely supported by contributions from individual members and local chapters. We are committed to keeping our national philanthropy, the Education Fund, strong for years to come so we can continue offering a life-changing opportunity to a young woman every year. Donations for the Education Scholarship Fund are always welcome. Make checks payable to "PPSEAWA USA" with a note that it is intended for the Education Scholarship Fund, and send to:

Tsui-Mei Liao, PPSEAWA USA Treasurer  
34-28 153<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Flushing, NY 11354

Thank you!  
Akari Yamada, PPSEAWA USA President