Native Daughters of the Golden West

Pre-Application Discussion
Who are the Native Daughters?

The Order of the Native Daughters of the Golden West is a fraternal and patriotic organization, founded on the principles of:

- Love of Home
- Devotion to the Flag
- Veneration of the Pioneers
- Faith in the Existence of God
Native Daughter History

Native Daughters of the Golden West was instituted in September 1886 in Jackson, California by a young woman named Miss Lilly O. Reichling (later Mrs. Dyer). She loved California, and at the age of 20 years old she began an organization for all California-born women of good moral character and who also shared her love of California.
Preserving California History

Local Parlors (chapters) place plaques at historic sites. They also raise funds for the maintenance and preservation of historic sites in California, such as the missions and lighthouses.

Mission San Buenaventura

Point Fermin Lighthouse

Campo De Cahuenga
NDGW Childrens Foundation

The Childrens Foundation provides assistance for children in California whose medical needs outstrip the means of the family and who are not eligible for other medical aid. This includes provision of medical equipment and even orthodontic care in some cases.
The Native Daughters of the Golden West Home was designed by renowned architect Ms. Julia Morgan. She was a California native, and the first licensed female architect in the State. She also designed Hearst Castle and many other buildings in California.

All members are welcome to visit the N.D.G.W. Home and bring a guest. Guests must be accompanied by a member.
In conjunction with the environmental program of the US Forest Service called Penny Pines, members raise money to preserve National Forest land and replant trees in fire-damaged areas.
Veterans’ Welfare

Many members also work on outreach projects for veterans such as providing greeting cards, visiting VA patients or donating items to facilities that serve veterans and their families. Each year Native Daughters sponsors a picnic at the Veteran’s Home in Yountville.
NDGW Scholarships

The various scholarship programs provide funds to deserving students in different fields of study.
Talent Contests

Through contests for art, photography and essay writing, both elementary school and high school students are encouraged to learn more about California, its history, and its natural wonders.
Americanism and Civic Participation

Many members also participate in community events such as parades, local historical societies, church groups, and other activities that promote the good of our neighborhoods and cities.
Pioneer Roster

The Roster of California Pioneers and Index contains over 35,000 biographical entries about people who were born in or present in the State prior to 1870. Researchers may use the NDGW Collections on California Pioneers, California Women, California History, and the NDGW Order by appointment at the NDGW Home in San Francisco.
Joining a Parlor (Chapter)

- Membership is open to California born individuals.
- Members pay annual dues. The dues amount is set by the local Parlor. The Parlor also sets the meeting date and time.
- Check the Parlor page on the website to find the location of the nearest Parlor.
- Members may be asked to present a program, serve as an officer or committee member, or hostess refreshments.
- A membership application is posted on the first page of the website.
- Contact your local Parlor for more information.
Thank You!

Thank you for your interest in Native Daughters. Please feel free to email questions to ndg wgpo@att.net or phone 1-800-994-6349.