Dena Gardi is a SF native and lives in San Francisco with her husband, John, three children and a big, happy dog. She is a graduate of SF State University and holds an elementary teaching credential. She taught briefly, then, entered the corporate world.

After administrative positions at an insurance company, a distribution company and an architecture firm, she found her niche at McKesson Corp, where she worked as Community Relations Manager and Program Officer & Secretary, McKesson Foundation. She felt she was one of the luckiest people in the world to get paid for an interesting, inspiring, fulfilling job where she coordinated employee volunteer involvement, ran the United Way campaign, made grants to nonprofit organizations, and much more.

Seventeen years ago, Dena left corporate life behind to focus on raising her children, a son on the autism spectrum and newborn boy/girl twins. Since then, she has volunteered at her children’s schools, chairing events and serving on PTA boards. Her interest in NCJW was sparked by her mother, Tanette Goldberg, who was an active volunteer for many years and received the Hannah G. Solomon award for her extraordinary contribution to the Bay Area community. A few years ago, Dena began working with NCJW SF vice president, Linda Kurtz, to develop a scholarship program for the organization. NCJW SF now has five scholarship programs, awarding a total of 11-13 awards annually. Dena is currently President of the Board of Directors of NCJW SF.