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# FIND YOUR PATH...BLAZE A TRAIL TANYA EGGER

When I first joined The Junior League of my JLT volunteer work has helped to bring Tampa 10 years ago, I had a vision for the path I would take in my League career. I wanted my placements to be something different than what I do every day. I've been working in the Communications field for 19 years.

I was asked early on to work on the Public Relevant, Best Use of Video Award. My Relations committee or write for one of the League's publications. But as a member of the media, my initial reaction was to take on new roles. So I immersed myself in placements with Connected by 25, Project Development and Evaluation Committee (PDEC), Holiday Gift Market, and the Glazer Children's Museum. They were all great placements; I met great friends, was inspired by wonderful leaders, and I learned so much about the League.

It was not until the latter part of my League career that I began to realize I had real talents that could help the League. Leaders in the League and many friends urged me to consider taking a new path.

So I started looking into leadership Tanya Egger opportunities in areas that I felt I had an Editor expertise in. I believe this new focus on

more attention to the great work that is going on every day by The Junior League of Tampa members and has also helped me grow in my professional life. My skills as an interviewer and an editor helped launch the League's first video series. Those videos have now won the WEDU Be More experience in communications has allowed The Sandspur committee to tackle some very important issues and dig deep into our history as a League.

We all have a decision to make every year when the Nominating process begins and when Willingness to Lead comes around. Whether you decide to go out of your comfort zone and try something different, or if you decide to give back doing something you're good at, your path in the League will blaze a trail for those that follow you.

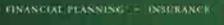


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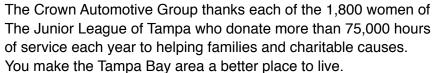
Annual Campaign | 42 Around the League | 62 Behind the Balustrades | 12 Commemorative Gifts | 46 Conversations | 52 Editor's Letter | 4

Endowment Fund | 50 Letters to the League | 10 Out and About | 56 Sustainer Interview | 16 VP Interview | 14 Who's Who | 54

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### I VOLUNTEER BECAUSE

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### **PROVISIONALS**

We introduce you to our newest League members who are a group of hardworking professionals, moms and advocates. They are truly in a league of their own.



### **PRESIDENT-ELECT**

Meet the dynamic woman who has been chosen to lead our members in 2015-2016. She gives multitasking a whole new meaning.

### **CONVERSATIONS**

Advisor, mentor, friend. The chain of mentoring is seen in all aspects of the League. We show you how the chain continues from year to year.

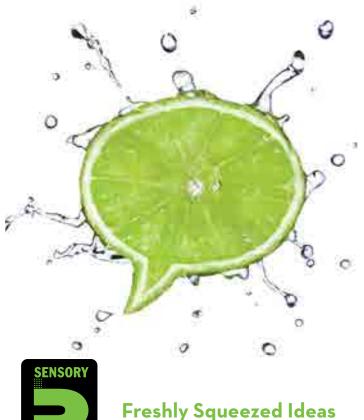
### **ON THE COVER**

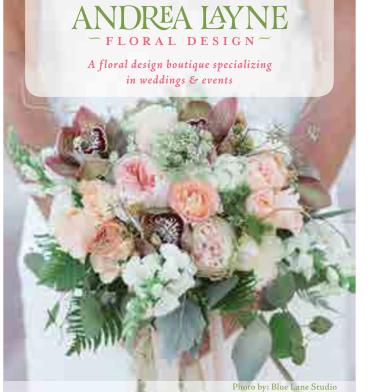
### Our Members. Our Mission.

Kids Connect committee member Monica Murphy, a JLT Active, takes time out from the first Annual Adoptive Family Reunion Picnic at Old McMicky's Farm to share why she volunteers. See more from our members in our I Volunteer Because article on page 30.

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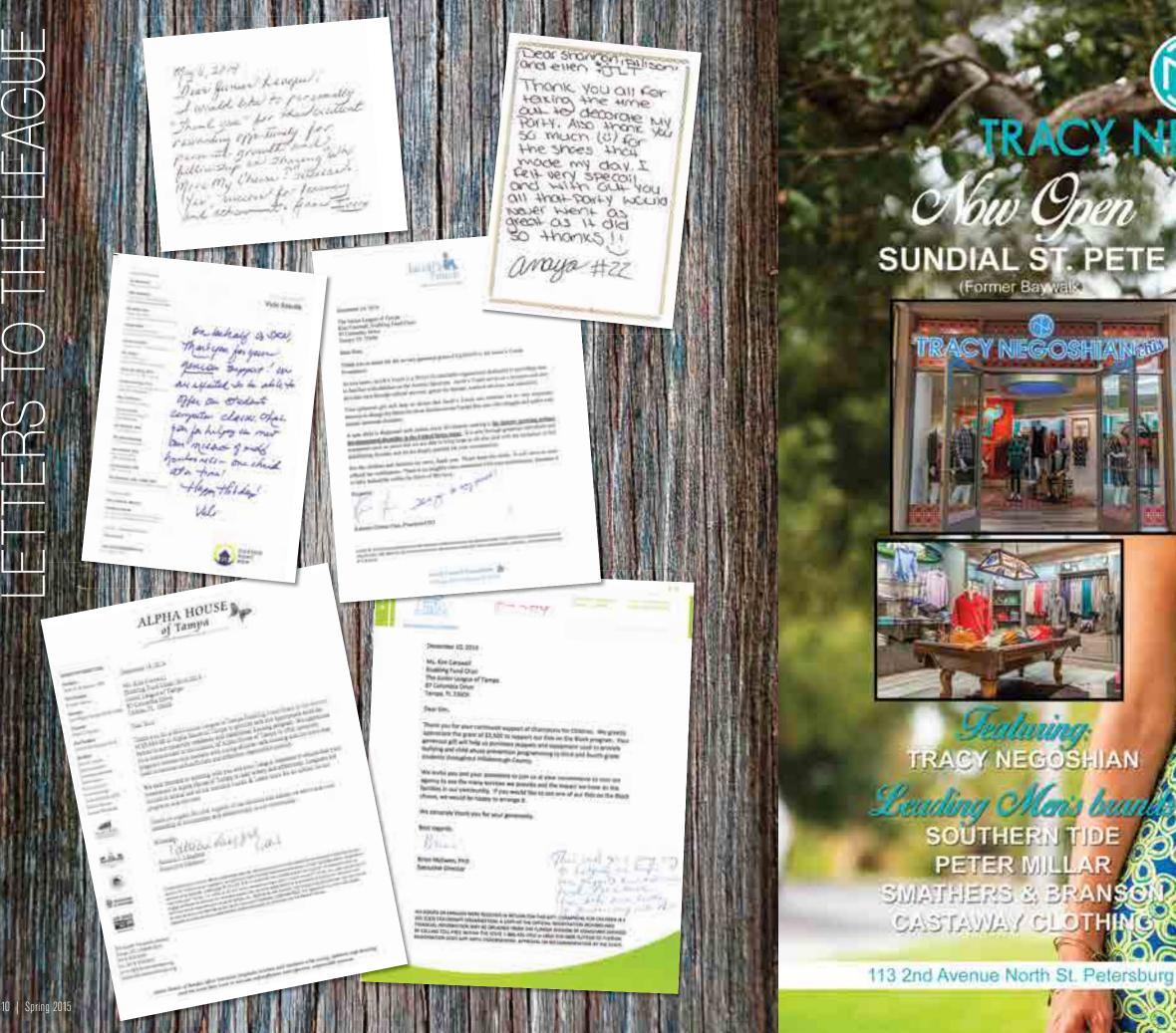
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Founded in 1926, The Junior League of Tampa, Inc. is an organization of over 1,800 women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.



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# Membership Has Its Privileges

IYNETTE RUSSELL

This slogan was made famous over 25 years ago by American Express™. I feel this New Member Preview, where numerous members, myself included, spoke about the League and what we do, this statement popped into my head. As I listened to the different members talk about what Junior League means to them, it became clear to me that there are many tangible privileges of being a member, but the intangible benefits make the biggest impact.

To me, the most obvious concrete benefit of membership is being a part of our long and rich history of community impact. The dollars raised, lives effected and change produced within the past 89 years has been tremendous. However, it is the relationships made, nonprofits created and influence our projects and partners have had on member's personal lives that are equally impressive. Throughout the decades, women have found their passion, gone on to volunteer or work with these agencies or even create their own organization beyond the JLT commitment. Recently, the Children's Board's Heart Gallery of Tampa Bay's Be Mine Gala had 15 JLT members on its host committee. Active Heather Barrow founded High Risk Hope four years ago and was recently awarded Nonprofit of the Year at WEDU's Be More Awards. Past President Allison Burden is consulting with Wheels for Success in marketing and public relations, and this is just to name a few!

Another visible privilege is JLT's long standing commitment to developing the potential of women. We train women to be volunteers by providing ample opportunities to learn about our community's needs and offer hands-on service projects that address these needs. We offer trainings in public speaking, financial and estate planning

and a leadership development program. Additionally, our parent organization, The is very true for the members of The Junior Association of Junior Leagues International League of Tampa as well. At a recent (AJLI) provides webinars with nationally acclaimed speakers, self-paced courses, and access to tools to support member development. What isn't so concrete is the personal growth that happens over time. For me personally, this has taken many forms. In the past few years I have honed the art of multi-multi-tasking, often sitting with my lap top, using my iPad and talking on a phone all at the same time. Another is realizing there is always a way to accomplish what you need to, I often say, "if plan A doesn't work, there are 25 other letters in the alphabet" Possibly the most important area of growth for me is listening. I mean really listening, which is not easy when you are multi-multitasking. Hearing my children tell me a silly story, listening to friends in a time of need or joy, or understanding members concerns or hearing about their triumphs. Taking a "moment" has made a huge impact in my life.

> As a part of AJLI, members also receive perks. They provide online learning opportunities and discounts on numerous products and services such as car rentals, hotels and resorts and group insurance plans. But being a part of AJLI also provides an instant connection with over 292 Leagues and 150,000 women around the world all committed to the same mission. Being a part of JLT provides life-long friendships, mentors and mentees, and a parade of great times. Membership truly does have its privileges.

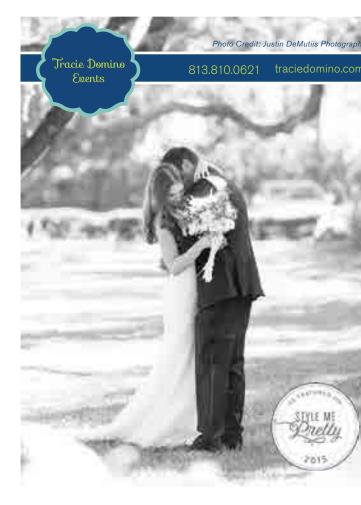


Lynette Russell President



LYNETTE RUSSELL President Active Since 2001

"The purpose of life, after all, is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost. to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experience. - Eleanor Roosevelt

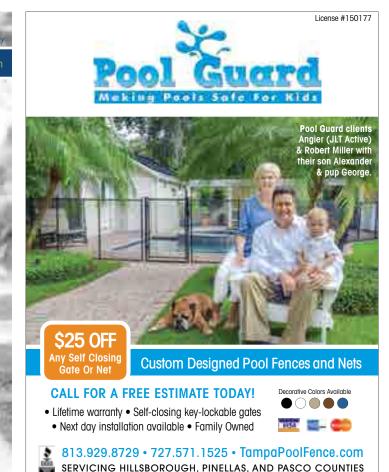


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SUZY MENDELSON Membership VP Active Since 2003

# **SEARCHING FOR YOUR** LEAGUE "LIGHT BULB"

A CONVERSATION WITH SUZY MENDELSON – MEMBERSHIP VP

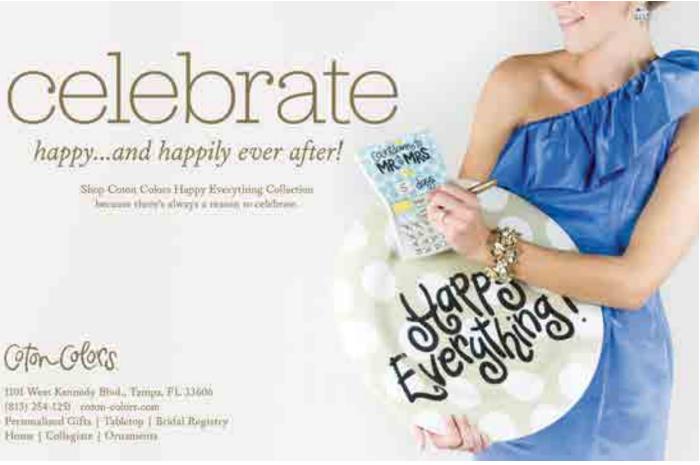
by CRYSTAL IRVING

Suzy Mendelson, Membership Vice President, joined The Junior League of Tampa 13 years ago when her life and the League were a bit different. Over time, Suzy's involvement in the League changed too. It took a while for Suzy to understand that no matter where a member is in their interest level, their profession or the amount of time they have available for volunteer work, the League offers an array of opportunities.

Suzy first joined The Junior League of Tampa at the age of 23 and enjoyed the social and growth aspects the League provided. Over the next few years, Suzy searched for what she refers to as her League "light bulb," trying different placements and eagerly learning about the impact that she could make in the community. While Suzy served as a Community Action Coordinator, she had the opportunity to work with League member, Kim Carswell. Suzy says that Kim, through her leadership and organization, made her realize that there is a "place" for every member, no matter where they are in their life. This is when Suzy's 'League light bulb' lit up!

Suzy is now a wife, mother, Vice President at The Elan Group (an employee benefits company) and Executive Board member in The Junior League of Tampa. She understands that an individual member's priorities, interests and time availability change over the span of a League career, but believes that as your life evolves there is always an opportunity to be successful as a volunteer. She encourages members to do their homework, use the resources available in the League and understand it is ok to take a step back or take on a new challenge as your time allows.

"Each day I am proud to be a member of The Junior League of Tampa," Suzy stated. She offered this thoughtful advice for our members: "Take each day as it comes and really feel great about your successes. Learn and grow from your experiences and make conscious decisions about what you want to do and where you want to go. The journey is different for everyone."



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# A Lifelong Commitment to Help

by DADA GLASER

The League's Sustainer membership has changed over the past 20 years. These days, more than half of our Sustainers work outside of the home and many Sustainers still have young children at home when they go "sustaining." These women are doing it all. Even with so many responsibilities, there remains a passionate desire to give back to our community and to serve others. It is hard to forget what we learned as Actives: that what we do, and have done, truly makes an impact in our community and on our citizens.

Becoming a Sustainer sets you free to choose your path as a volunteer. Not all of us are certain of our direction. A panel of women who have been named Sustainers of the Year, including Robin Gonzalez (2014), Harrison Giddens (2013), Celia Ferman (1996) and Joanne Frazier (1987), suggest just putting your feet on the ground and moving in a direction - volunteering where you have a passion or interest or skill set that very well may have been learned or acquired during your time as an Active. Everything you try will help you find the activity that provides a spark within.

Educator Robin Gonzalez taught middle and high school social studies and reading, but the historic preservation of her beloved Tampa was her passion. As a Sustainer, Robin developed a curriculum to study our city's historic areas and heritage. She followed her interests and used her background in education to promote and educate her community.

Harrison Giddens was always interested in the arts and history. The Tampa Museum, the Tampa Theatre, H. B. Plant Museum Society, The Chiselers, The Tampa Bay History Center and the Children's Home all play to her passion. Being Patron's Party Chairman and Decorations Chair of these organizations peaked her interest and raised thousands of dollars. Who knows? It could have been her success as Decorations Chair at so many events that evolved into her successful business, Floral Impressions. Harrison has sold her business now, but she has not stopped volunteering.

So, go ahead - take a leap. If you're not sure what to do or what direction to take, just do SOMETHING. Follow a friend, find an interest and proceed. And never forget that you have been trained by The Junior League of Tampa.

Dada Glaser Sustainer President









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# ABOLISH child sex slavery BREAKING **THROUGH** THE CHAINS

ulie Shematz was accustomed to using her body to make money. Being exploited was a way of life for her for several years. Formerly an exotic dancer, Julie is now the Director of Social Services for The Salvation Army Tampa Area Command.

Her story of domestic and sexual abuse, addiction and human trafficking victimization, and then starting over and becoming a woman who helps others rebuild their lives is a story of God's grace and redemption, she said. Today, Julie helps other women, men and children find a way out of being trafficked and exploited. Part of that restoration process begins at the Salvation Army safe house that she oversees.

Running a safe house means providing more than a safe place – it means providing an environment that is warm, comfortable and conducive to restoration. In 2014, The Junior League of Tampa helped transform a portion of the safe house into an apartment-like setting for trafficking victims.

"JLT transformed the space at The Salvation Army to allow them to bring in more human trafficking victims because the transitional house is often full. There is a shortage of beds for these victims and unfortunately, too many need a safe place to go." explained Michelle Repplinger, 2013-2014 JLT Abolish Chair.

The space is now welcoming – decorated walls with inspirational messages, a library of books, television and clean, attractively made beds.

Since opening last year, 28 people including five men have progressed through the house. For Mary (not her real name), a 32 year-old mother, her stay at the safe house and meeting Shematz was a blessing.

A Tampa police officer found Mary and learned she was sometimes homeless and being exploited by a boyfriend. She was referred to Shematz and stayed in the safe house for a couple of months before transitioning into a more stable environment.

"This place has been a real blessing," Mary said. "I'm not sure what I would have done without it."

"The safe house's structure is transitional. It is meant to be a temporary solution – getting survivors off the streets and away from their traffickers," Julie said. The safe house may be temporary, but the support is unconditional. While in the safe house, survivors work with case workers to help them make a plan for the longer-term. The next step may be moving out into an apartment, or to a rehabilitation program, or other long term shelter.

Human Trafficking is a story not everyone wants to hear or talk about. However, it is one of the fastest growing

crimes in the world. The International Labor Office estimates that more than \$150 billion in illegal profits are generated annually. There are more than 21 million people enslaved in the world today - more than at any other time in history. You may think those numbers do not impact you. However, in 2013 Florida ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> nationally in the number of Human Trafficking calls to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center, with Tampa Bay considered a hot bed for traffickers.

Experts suggest the high volume of calls from Florida to the center is attributed to several things: the Interstate 4 corridor which connects east and west Florida, professional sports teams and a booming tourist industry. Tampa also hosts one of the largest "adult" entertainment industries in the nation, which makes the state the "perfect storm" for traffickers and their victims.

Sex trafficking exists at legal establishments like strip clubs, escort services and massage parlors. Illegal brothels and street prostitution can also facilitate the trafficking of individuals.

According to the Department of Homeland Security, there are more adult entertainment facilities than McDonald's in the Tampa Bay area.

For people like Julie Shematz, the numbers are no deterrent, as she is always motivated to help the next person find freedom and a new life.

Julie works with over 100 community partners to help people who have been trafficked and/or exploited restore the life they once had. These organizations include, The Tampa Police Department, Department of Homeland Security, The Salvation Army, The FREE Network, and The Junior League of Tampa, just to name a few.

In addition to our work at the Salvation Army safe house, The Junior League of Tampa is making an impact in the area of human trafficking through The Abolish Movement<sup>™</sup>. The Abolish Movement<sup>™</sup> is a human trafficking awareness campaign which aims to:

- · Raise community awareness of the scope of the Human Trafficking problem;
- Empower the community to report suspicious activity; and
- Reach victims who need to know where to go for help.

The Junior League of Tampa strives to educate and advocate about human trafficking within the Tampa Bay area and to rally the community into action. Through the work of the League and over 100 Tampa Bay nonprofits, human trafficking survivors are able to navigate through the black hole of shame and abandonment to hope and restoration.



Members of the Tampa City Ballet performed a brilliant piece, Protecting Innocence, which premiered during the League's Art for Abolish event, a sold-out multidisciplinary arts event on January 15, 2015.



JLT members helped to transform a portion of the safe house at the Salvation Army to give victims of human trafficking a safe, comfortable place to stay.



To increase awareness about human trafficking, The Junior League of Tampa collaborated with the 13th Judicial Circuit of Florida to display the Casting Justice sculpture series by Junior League of Gainesville member Jenn Garrett. Each piece has a QR code telling the story of a trafficked victim.



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uilding a strong community means more than В just finding the ideal place to live, finding the right school for your children, and looking for the perfect job or volunteer opportunity. As women, a strong community of female counterparts - our friends, peers, and co-workers - helps to support us, build us up, and offer us direction. It can be a powerful outcome when women get together for information sharing, networking, and raising our family.

For years, as her job became more demanding, India Witte, a mother of two, periodically found herself turning to a small circle of friends for help. India is the Executive Director of USF Women in Leadership and Philanthropy and Senior Director of Foundation Board Relations for USF. Her children, 10-year-old Ingalls and 8-yearold Tucker are active in school and in sports. India, a Junior League of Tampa member since 1999, and now a Sustainer, says when her husband David is not available, she looks to her close group of mom friends to help carpool her children to sports activities.

"I have them on speed text. If a meeting goes late at work, I know I can grab my phone and see which of my friends is available. And it's reciprocal – they know they can always count on me."

India believes that, as women, we have to accept that things are not always going to be perfect. "We all want to look like we have it all under control. But I have found that you have to allow yourself to be vulnerable and ask for help. I came to realize and celebrate that asking for help is not a failure. It helps develop a unique, very special sense of camaraderie, a realization and appreciation that we're all in this together."

Women are nurturers by nature and gain satisfaction by feeling needed. Asking for help strengthens and enhances our relationships when you show you "can't do it all." A study by UCLA scientists suggests relationships among women can reverse daily stress. It may explain why women consistently outlive men. The UCLA study found in women, social ties reduce our health risks.

India says taking help graciously and extending that back builds a rapport and opens doors to new relationships. It also starts a close-knit bond because it allows for dialogue as we all work with the challenges of managing our time. Women now comprise more than 50% of the U.S. workforce and more women than men are earning college degrees. In addition, more women than ever before are joining the ranks of leadership in corporations and governments.

Renee Dabbs, a strategic consultant, has spent her with the intent of bringing women together, to share ideas, career creating environments for women to be successful. network, and inspire women in their professional and She has worked for a number of years in marketing. personal lives. communications, and imaging. Renee is a Sustainer with The Junior League of Tampa and believes one to one Paola Schifino is President and Co-Founder of Schifino relationships with women are critical. Lee, a Tampa advertising and branding agency. Paola

works with million dollar companies launching advertising and rebranding campaigns that result in huge revenue "I believe in women and what we can do collectively. increases. She was named a "40 Under 40" winner by We have more in common than we realize and once we Tampa Bay Business Journal and a Business Woman of understand that, we are unstoppable." the Year finalist, also by Tampa Bay Business Journal, in Renee has taught the concept of "Turn, Pull, Shove, Catch" 2008 and 2013.

- when you succeed, you turn around and pull up another Paola is part of many different business organizations. woman. "That's our true role. We should always turn around and see the women who are in need of support One group in particular, Bank of Tampa's Women and help pull them up as a leader as well. Women will Connected, allows her to meet other like-minded women. then rise up and do the same for another woman. Often including business entrepreneurs - women she calls the women need to be asked to take a leadership role. That movers and shakers in the community. Paola is on the is where a little shove comes into play." Women Connected Advisory Board and says they work to collaborate on ideas and strategies to help each other Renee is co-chair of Women Empowering Women in in the business world. "We learn and network and try to Legislation and Leadership (WeWill) along with another support each other."

JLT Sustainer Jen Carlstedt. It is a non-partisan, political symposium designed to identify ways women can be There is still a lack of representation by women in the relevant in the political process. At the spring 2014 board room among private and public corporations. But symposium, women from government, political, corporate, with more women in the workforce, we can see the true and nonprofit sectors shared their knowledge with each benefits of becoming advisors and collaborating with other. other women.

The objective for the symposium was to create a way for "The trend started about 10 years ago, women started women to become engaged in all parts of the political feeling very comfortable networking with each other process - getting out to vote, getting appointed to a and partnering with each other. In the past, that wasn't commission or a governing board, throwing their hat in happening," explained Paola. a political race, or understanding the issues that affect their families and community. Paola says realizing someone's potential can help

"We knew when we brought all these women in one room, we would have a combustion of energy and ideas. We hoped that after the meeting, 40% of attendees would take action when they left (vote, run for office, write a check to an organization they believed in)," explained Renee.

Three months later, the co-chairs conducted a survey that showed that's exactly what happened. "We took the mystery out of the process."

More than 100 women attended the WeWill Symposium in the spring of 2014, and the word is out. Two hundred or There is still work to be done but when women believe more women are already expected to attend the second in themselves, great things happen. Building a strong meeting in fall 2015. The attendees understood not community means celebrating another woman's only the political process but also what to do with this success, telling a female co-worker they did a great knowledge to affect their community. job on a project, or mentoring a younger female. When those bonds are made, the entire community will reap We all have the power to unlock the potential in ourselves the benefits.

and in other women. More and more groups are forming

launch that person in the right direction professionally. Paola looks for the best candidate for any position, but when that candidate is a woman, Paola says working together opens up more doors simply based on our commonalities.

"Women share the same passions. Today women are changing the world and they are empowered to do so. When we work together, it allows us to find common ground and make a difference. Today women point out when they see another women doing great work and they are not afraid to tell them," said Paola.

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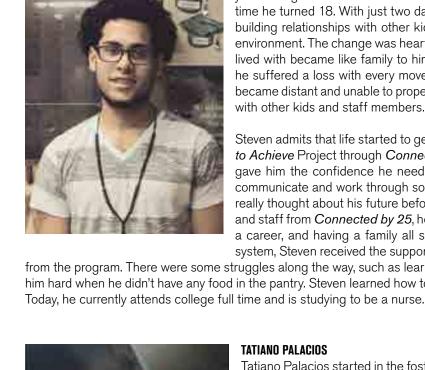
by NANCY BURKE

he Junior League of Tampa believes, through the work of our volunteers, we can strengthen and transform communities. The hope of our members is to remove the barriers to success that limit a child's ability to improve their life. Our work with the Children's Board Heart Gallery of Tampa Bay and our H.E.A.R.T project provides children in foster care a birthday party or helps celebrate other milestones in their lives. We also partner with Connected by 25 with our Ready to Achieve project which provides life skills to young adults as they age out of foster care and assists them as they prepare for their independence. We introduce you to three young adults we have had the privilege of assisting through our projects and have had the chance to watch them grow and thrive.

### CHAVON

Children's Board Heart Gallery of Tampa Bay Photo by Marissa Moss

Chavon has been part of The Children's Board Heart Gallery of Tampa for over a year. Members of The Junior League of Tampa first met Chavon through JLT's Girl Power! Project at the Joshua House. At the initial meeting, she was shy. Chavon says she didn't think of the future and wasn't focused on her goals. But through Girl Power!, she developed self-confidence and talked about her short term and long term goals. She shared that she hopes to be a surgeon one day. Chavon is an honor roll student and enjoys helping people. She has learned a lot from the leadership of League members and wants to give back to the community someday. Chavon now sees she is in control of her own destiny and is looking forward to what's ahead. She admires how generous, kind, and loving the women of JLT are and she is grateful to those at the Heart Gallery. Chavon feels like she has people who are on her side and who truly care about her.



# TATIANO PALACIOS

When she became part of JLT's Partner Project, Connected by 25, she recalls not liking it and was not devoted to the work. During that time, she ran away from group homes regularly, guit the program and lacked a purpose. But when Tatiano was 16, a lightbulb went off. She realized the path she was going down wasn't a healthy one and wanted to change. She decided to re-join Connected by 25 to re-establish her goals and create a plan to get there with the help of her teachers. "Life was rocky for me for a long time," recalled Tatiano. "When you see people around you doing the bare minimum, you don't care to do anything more. Anyone can do the bare minimum, but I knew I didn't want that."

Instead of running away, Tatiano created a plan to graduate by age 17. She spent most evenings studying for exams. She remembers receiving the phone call from one of her teachers telling her that she would receive her high school diploma. The feeling of setting and meeting a goal was very new and extremely satisfying for her. "I felt if I can do this, I can do other things, too," she said.

Being part of Connected by 25 gave Tatiano hope for achieving future goals. She currently attends community college and also has a job working in customer service. She wants to earn her Master's degree, teach in a private school and buy her own home someday. Tatiano now has confidence in herself and sees herself in a whole new light. From JLT members, she learned not only how to dress for interviews, but that there is a support system in the community if you need it. Tatiano says she is thankful for the nice people she met along the way.

### **STEVEN HERALDO**

Steven entered the foster care system when he was 16, and spent the next two years being shuffled around between group homes - five different homes by the time he turned 18. With just two days' notice, Steven would have to start all over, building relationships with other kids in the group home and adjusting to a new environment. The change was heartbreaking for him because many of the kids he lived with became like family to him. Younger kids became attached to him and he suffered a loss with every move. Because of the constant upheavals, Steven became distant and unable to properly express his emotions, which lead to fighting with other kids and staff members.

Steven admits that life started to get better when he became part of JLT's *Ready* to Achieve Project through Connected by 25. Staff members motivated him and gave him the confidence he needed to look towards the future. He started to communicate and work through some of his suppressed emotions. Steven never really thought about his future before, but in talking with members of the League and staff from Connected by 25, he began to see that pursuing a college degree, a career, and having a family all seemed attainable. When he aged out of the system, Steven received the support and the means to start a new life on his own from the program. There were some struggles along the way, such as learning how to manage money. But the reality hit him hard when he didn't have any food in the pantry. Steven learned how to be responsible, manage his time and money.

26 | Spring 2015

Tatiano Palacios started in the foster care system when she was very young, and dropped out of school when she was in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. She didn't like school and didn't consider herself the 'student-type.'



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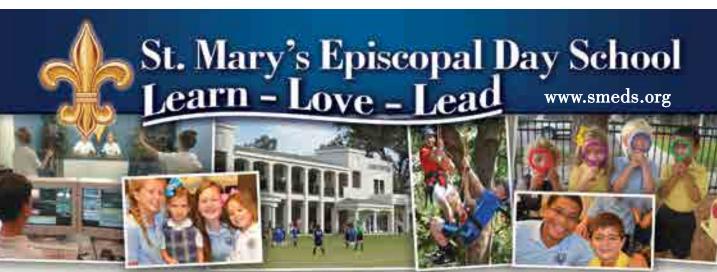
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# I VOLUNTEER BECAUSE...

by TARA DILLON AND ANGELA PARONE

other, Daughter, Colleague, Mentor... in an organization of over 1,800 women we all have something we are committed to being. How about a Volunteer? For members in The Junior League of Tampa, volunteering is another commitment that we are proud to take on within the Tampa Bay community.

As one of the League's values, we are constantly promoting voluntarism by creating a supportive, safe environment that encourages the continuous development of women to reach their highest potential as civic and community leaders.

We all have reasons why we take time out of our schedules to give back to the community - purpose, making a difference, giving back, impact - and when you ask a League member, they're eager to share why they volunteer.



We spoke to ladies attending the February 3<sup>rd</sup> and March 3<sup>rd</sup> General Membership Meetings where we all gather to be in the know of League happenings and asked, "Why do you volunteer?"

"I volunteer because...we were put on earth for a purpose and I feel that my purpose in life is fulfilled when I am serving others. As a volunteer, I get so much more joy out of serving others than I could ever give to those I am serving; it's that joy that keeps me coming back!" - Sarah S. Taylor

"I volunteer because... I know I can make a difference and what a fantastic adventure my life has become now that I volunteer!" – Courtney Bilyeu

"I volunteer because... I want to make a difference! Whether it's a difference in one child's life as they learn what foods will make them stronger & healthier or bringing a whole community together to kickoff summer in a positive way ... That's why I volunteer!" - Ashley Tardiff

"I volunteer because... I see how much the children are learning and having fun during Family Literacy Nights and it makes me feel like I'm giving some of that good fortune that I had growing up back to them. I volunteer because the appreciation on the parents' faces when they get to take food home for the week makes donating a few hours of my time seem like the least I can do." – Lauren Natale

"I volunteer because...being able to put a smile on someone's face by just spending a few hours with them is something that is worth more than anything bought." - Colleen Moffett (Balco)

We spoke to ladies attending the February 22th Training Event where we learned about Women, Wealth and Wills; taking control of household finances and setting us up for success. While there we asked, "Why do you volunteer?"

"I volunteer because...I want to give back to my community. Tampa has done so much for me, and I want to pay it forward as much as I can." – Lena Cabrera McCrory

"I volunteer because... I love seeing firsthand the impact JLT has in our community." - Kelli Pace Hardiman

"I volunteer because... I know I can't fix all of the world's problems, but I will do what I can do, to make a difference where I can right here in our Tampa community." - Kat Lewis

"I volunteer because ... it is the ultimate expression of our individual power to impact the greatest good. Through voluntarism, we empower the success of others by improving the lives and circumstances of the most disadvantaged children and families in our community." - Melissa Knight Nodhturft

We spoke to ladies attending the February 21st Food 4 Kids packing event at the Feeding America facility. While there, we were able to participate in assembling more than 700 backpacks containing food that will be distributed to children in local communities facing hardships. As we finished filling our bags, we asked "Why do you volunteer?"

"I volunteer because...I want to strengthen our community by supporting our youth and *improving their education." – Sarah Walters* 

"I volunteer because ... of the feeling of satisfaction I get knowing I helped others who aren't as fortunate. It really makes me appreciate all that I have been blessed with." – Amy Gallo

"I volunteer because ... I want to give back to my community!" - Beth Harris

"I volunteer because ... it feels good! It truly brings me joy knowing that I am doing something for someone else, and even if it's just in a small way, I know that we, all together, make a difference in peoples lives for the better." – Christine Myers

We spoke to ladies from the Kids Connect program, who attended the February 28th Adoptive Family Reunion Picnic. This was the first annual Reunion Picnic, which celebrates the more than 200 children who have found their forever homes in 2014. While there, we asked "Why do you volunteer?"

"I volunteer because...I can make a difference! Seeing the impact that the Junior League has on the community makes it all worth it." - Lauren Petrie

"I volunteer because... I want to help kids connect with their forever homes. There are so many kids in the Tampa community that are in the Child Welfare System and we want to see them be placed in loving homes." – Bailey Nicholas and Amy Patenaude

"I volunteer because...I care and I want to make a difference to children in our community." - Monica Murphy

"I volunteer because... I want to give back. Events like this make me realize the difference that one person can make." – Kendra Velilla





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### **CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2014-2015 PROVISIONALS**

The women of the 2014–2015 Junior League states, they are truly in a League of their own. of Tampa Provisional class define themselves They came to The Junior League of Tampa as in many ways – future physician, CPA, proud accomplished students, professionals, mothers, mommy, teacher, world traveler, sustainability advocates, and community volunteers. They enthusiast, loving wife, NICU RN, avid shopper, will now take the skills they gain in their first attorney, dog lover, event planner, eternal year in the League to benefit the Tampa Bay optimist, hairstylist extraordinaire, community community. Welcome to our newest members! champion, dedicated friend, speech pathologist, We are excited for the future and couldn't be Tampa native, entrepreneur, shining light in the more proud to have you in the League! darkness. As the theme of their provisional year by HEATHER TRKOVSKY









Lindsey Astles

Jenni Bell

Lauren Bird

Morgan Boatwright

Carlee Bowdoin



Caroline Boyle

Kristen Brady

Mina Brinkey

Katie Cabana

Christine Caci

Katie Callaway



Jordan Cline

Alexis Chatman

Monica Cook

Jasmin Childress



Lillian Chor





Terin Cremer





Lauren DeLuna

Caitlin Doyle





Katherine Fuller

Michelle Gallagher





Nicki Hall

Danielle Green

Caitlin Hamlin





Courtney Hubbard

Kristin Ingram Karen Hussey





Carly Kennedy

Mandy Kimmel





Camille Liebnitzky

Libby Lifsey

Sarah Ling

34 | Spring 2015



Angelia Compton







Aimee Craiq



Carol Crofton





Jessica Evanson



Kristen Floyd



Kelly Friar



Meredith Fulford



Allyson Garcia



Tiffany Gershen



Nikki Goldweitz



Jessica Gonzalez



Cali Harrison



Miranda Henderson



Kaeleigh Hill



Jessica Hohman



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Sandra Johnson



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LaKisha Kinsey-Sallis



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Michelle Mabe



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Sarah Martisek

# ROVISIONA









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Erin McKennev









Shelly Mitchell

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Samantha Neides

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Allison Welter

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"Don't be intimidated by what you don't know. That can be your greatest strength and ensure that you do things differently from everyone else." – Sara Blakely, Founder of Spanx



Lauren Rehm

Hayley Reteneller

36 | Spring 2015













Kyra Shields



Faith Shifrin



Amy Slater



Allison Smedley



Abigail Stevens



Erica Stevens



Jessica Stravino



Karlin Strube



Marianna Tountasakis



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Lindsay Yarbrough



Cally Yvel

Provisionals embarked on a Road Rally in January visiting the Joshua House and Mary Lee's House.



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# 2015–2016 PRESIDENT-ELECT

Micale Hubbard

by LAUREN CROMER

### "If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader." - John Quincy Adams

he Junior League of Tampa's President-Elect for T 2015-2016 embodies the definition of leader. Nicole Hubbard eats, sleeps, and breathes Junior League – all while being a full-time mother, wife, friend and a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist. Nicole's peers describe her as a passionate, energetic, visionary and loving woman who is committed to each woman in the League. Nicole never misses an opportunity to thank those around her and is the first to recognize members for their hard work, creating a positive environment of praise and continual celebration.

Born and raised in the Orlando area, Nicole is a natural leader who has held many leadership roles throughout all stages in her life. A standout athlete, Nicole earned a place on a traveling all-star fast pitch softball team at age nine and competed around Florida and across the country. In high school, she helped lead her varsity team to the 5A State Championship. When she wasn't on the field, Nicole was competing all over the U.S. with her high school cheerleading team, which elected her as Captain during her senior year. Off the field, Nicole was a member of the National Honor Society and Student Council, and her classmates not only voted her Senior Class President, but Homecoming Queen as well.

At Florida State University, Nicole again excelled in academics and held a variety of leadership roles with Delta Delta Delta sorority, including President. She graduated Magna Cum Laude from the nursing program and three years later took on a new challenge of Graduate School. Nicole was the youngest person in her program to graduate Summa Cum Laude with a Master of Science in Anesthesiology.

This 'superwoman' married her college sweetheart. Matt Hubbard, and they have two beautiful children, Austin, six, and Ansley who is four. Nicole is a "beautiful woman who is caring with a BIG heart, passionate, and extremely intelligent," said Matt. "I am forever amazed by her ability to switch roles from being a terrific wife, mother, and friend. She gives multitasking a whole new meaning and does it with grace."

Since joining The Junior League of Tampa, Nicole has taken on a multitude of placements on the Holiday Gift Market committee and co-chaired the event, our largest fundraiser, in 2009.

"I didn't know her when she was selected to be my Holiday Gift Market Co-Chair, but we bonded the minute we met."



She is "inspiring," said Sheri Shobert, who co-chaired HGM with Nicole. "She was working full-time, I had just started a new job, and my father was deathly ill – our plates were very full. Whenever I didn't want to do something she would say, 'We can do this Sheri!' Chairing the Holiday Gift Market was by far, my most fulfilling and enjoyable experience in Junior League, but only because I had her beside me."

After HGM, Nicole became the League's Placement Chair, and served as the inaugural Heart Gallery *Birthday Buddies* Chair. She has spent six years on the League's Leadership Council; the last three years have been spent as a member of the Executive Board as Membership VP and Community VP. Her current placement is as Fund Development VP.

"They say that leaders become great, not because of their power, but because of their ability to empower others,"





noted current Fund Development Manager, Jenny Spencer. "Nicole inspired and encouraged me to take the next step to become the Fund Development Manager, a brand-new position this year when I was having thoughts of Sustaining. Whether it is in work clogs, running sneakers, or even her leopard print heels, she is the right person to take the League into its next big stride."

"In every position she has held she has accomplished so much and made significant changes," added Nominating Chair, Kate Guilfoyle. "They all focused on pushing our organization to greater heights. Nicole is great at analyzing situations, identifying the challenges, exploring options for improvement and implementing them- while always keeping our Mission, members, and community partners in mind."

Nicole led teams to start two new community projects, while successfully launching a community partner as well as a community project. She envisioned, created, and implemented the inaugural Family Food Fest (collaborative community partner event in Sulphur Springs), and is currently helping pave the way for alternative types of corporate partnerships, fundraising, and diversified channels of income while creating and implementing the first Corporate Lunch and Learn at JLT. It is no wonder Nicole was named our 2010 Inspiring Leader of the Year!

Nicole's leadership is not just limited to JLT. She has served on committees such as Tampa Museum of Art CITY, Make a Wish Foundation, Glazer Children's Museum Inaugural Gala and Heart Gallery Tampa Bay Be Mine, which named her Advocate of the Year in 2013. Most recently, Tampa Bay Business Journal named her a finalist for its Health Care Hero award.

We congratulate this dynamic woman who embodies the modern woman balancing work, family, and volunteer life. We look forward to your never-ending commitment, engagement, and passion for serving the community and our members.

Donations to the Annual Campaign support the programs and projects of The Junior League of Tampa (JLT). Each year we ask individuals and businesses in the community, as well as our Membership, to support our Mission by donating to the Annual Campaign. Donations to the Annual Campaign are not used to pay for any general operating expenses, which are financed by membership dues and other administrative sources.

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as a new Sustainer Transfer Member as a new Transfer Member of The Junior League of Tampa JLT Executive Board I aura Everitt Shellie Huffmaster Suzy Mendelson

### Julie Cayse,

as a new Transfer Member of The Junior League of Tampa JLT Executive Board

- I aura Everitt
- Shellie Huffmaster
- Suzy Mendelson

### Caroline Foss Caroline Vostrejs Casey Carefoot Chloe Cullinan Danielle Dennis

### IN MEMORY JLT Active Krystal Schofield, Andrea Layne

Caroline Vostreis Casey Carefoot Chloe Cullinan Denise Schultz JLT Executive Board Katie Cappy Kim Carswell Laura Everitt Lindsay Dorrance Marie Hebbler Meghan McGuire

### BEST WISHES TO

### Ali Tomlin

on her marriage to Jeff St. Cyr Melissa Knight Nodhturft

### Erin Dye,

on her marriage to Rob Lastra Melissa Knight Nodhturf

### Jessica Kendall,

on her marriage to Jason Hornof Chloe Cullinan Lynette Russell Meghan McGuire

Jillian Koepke,

on her marriage to Patrick Pantano Andrea Layne Katie Cappy

Melissa Knight Nodhturft Nicole Hubbard Sara McIntire Shannon Walsh Sustainer Liaison Committee Lynette Russell

### Leslie Hodz & Laura Fender's Grandmother, Denise Schultz Katie Cappy Nicole Hubbard

on her marriage to lan Koteles

Krista Dietrich,

Marie Hebbler

Natalie Capone,

Andrea Layne

Denise Schultz

Jenny Spencer

Stacy Carlson

Nicole Hubbard

Alex Haddad,

Palermo

Rodriguez

on her marriage to Mario

Caroline Vostrejs

### Anne Vincent.

mother of Kate O'Hara Laura Everitt Rachel Lee Sara McIntire Shellie Huffmaster Tara McLaughlin

### Betty Culbreath Gibbons, JLT Executive Board

JLT Sustainer Sara Adams, Cynthia Coney

on her engagement to Ryan

Melissa Knight Nodhturft

on her engagement to Tom

Allie LaLonde,

Marie Hebbler

Stacy Carlson

Andrea Layne

Caroline Vostreis

Chloe Cullinan

Denise Schultz

Meghan McGuire

Nicole Hubbard

Sara McIntire

Katie Cappy

Casey Christopher,

Torrence

Gaggin

JLT Sustainer Betty Ann Jordan, Adajean Samson

- Stacy Carlson's Grandmother. Andrea Layne
- Danielle Dennis Melissa Knight Nodhturft
- Lynette Russell

### **Courtney Loebel** on her engagement to Joe Cox Caroline Vostrejs Katie Cappy

Jessie Wilcox, on her engagement to Todd Spolinski Suzy Mendelson

Kristin Trimble, on her engagement to Ryan Nail Andrea Layne

Lucy Teague, on her engagement to Garrett

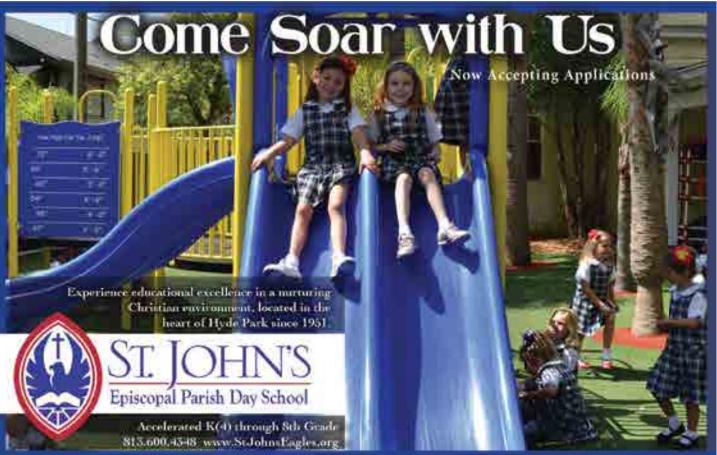
Garcia Shannon Walsh Suzy Mendelson

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# This includes a cumulative listing of commemorative gifts received December 1, 2014 through February 22, 2015.

on her engagement to Anthony

Melissa Knight Nodhturft



### **CONGRATULATIONS TO JLT'S 2015–2016 EXECUTIVE BOARD**



### **The Junior League of Tampa Endowment Fund**

Leaving a Legacy...Sustaining Our Service

Launched in 2007, The Junior League of Tampa (JLT) Endowment Fund is a permanent fund established to ensure that our League is able to maintain fiscal stability and fervently pursue our Mission without being radically affected by changes in the economic climate or decreases in lifelong membership. JLT can draw interest on the fund, but it will never touch the principal of the fund. A strong endowment fund will ensure a unique revenue stream that will give the League the opportunity to pursue exciting, new opportunities or deal with unforeseen circumstances without creating an additional financial hardship for the organization or its members. All commemorative gifts support The Junior League of Tampa's endowment.

Donating to the Endowment Fund is as affordable as your next double espresso or 18 holes. To make it easier for you to support this critical campaign, your pledge of \$1,000 or more to The Fund can be paid over a five-year period. For a small amount each week, you can Leave your Legacy and ensure The Junior League of Tampa is able to Sustain Our Service forever.

	1 WEEK	1 MONTH	1 YEAR	5 YEARS
Coffee break	\$5	\$21	\$250	Sponsor \$1,000
On the go lunch	\$10	\$42	\$500	Benefactor \$2,500
Lunch for two	\$21	\$83	\$1,000	Silver Legacy \$5,000
Dinner and a movie for two	\$42	\$167	\$2,000	Gold Legacy \$10,000
A round of golf for two	\$104	\$417	\$5,000	Platinum Legacy \$25,000

To learn more about the Endowment Fund and to make a gift online, visit http://www.jltampa.org/endowment-fund.

For questions, contact endowment@jltampa.org



The Junior League of Tampa considers it an honor to be designated as a beneficiary of an estate or foundation. We highly regard this type of planned giving and recognize donors through membership in The Junior League of Tampa 1926 Society.

The 1926 Society enables you to leave your legacy in our community by supporting the future of our League and its members.

### **Endowment Fund**

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Terrell and Joe Clark Endowment Committee 2012–13

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Donor List as of December 8, 2014 Donations less than \$250 are recognized through the Commemorative Fund.

Thank you to our inaugural member of the 1926 Society, Martha Sale Ferman.





We are honored to be the recipient of WEDU's Be More Relevant, Best Use of Video Award. Our video, "Creating the Next Generation of Leaders," features members of our Community Advisory Board explaining how our organization has been able to develop women into leaders in our community.



Congratulations to Junior League Active Member and founder of High Risk Hope Heather Barrow for being awarded the WEDU's Be More Entertaining and Be More Unstoppable, Nonprofit Organization of the Year award. High Risk Hope is a nonprofit that provides support, encouragement, information and resources to women and families who are experiencing a high risk pregnancy resulting in hospital bed rest, potential premature birth and neonatal intensive care after delivery. Heather truly is UNSTOPPABLE!



Congratulations to JLT partner Ad 2 Tampa Bay for winning WEDU's Be More Informed Award for their public service marketing campaign, The Abolish Movement, to end child sex slavery in Tampa Bay.

# CONVERSATIONS: by HEATHER TRKOVSK



ACTIVE Krista Dietrich Koteles



ACTIVE Jessica Kendall Hornof



SUSTAINER Betsy Graham

One of the tenents of The Junior League of Tampa's Mission statement is developing the potential of women. Mentoring is a key component to this undertaking. Each generation of women mentors the next to build an unbroken chain of friendship, respect, and support. Sustainer Betsy Graham, Active Jessica Kendall Hornof and Active Krista Dietrich Koteles make up a small piece of one of those chains and they offered the following thoughts on mentoring.

### How do you define "mentor"?

KK: I define it as helping another individual or group discover their potential and empowering them, in addition to providing guidance and feedback along the way.

JH: A mentor is a trusted advisor, sometimes friend, and always someone that a person can confide in knowing trust will never be broken.

BG: Mentoring is providing a listening ear, advice and encouragement to someone within the context of their personal situation and aspirations.

How do you think having a mentor helps you excel, whether in the League, your career or life in general?

KK: It gives you the confidence you need to extend yourself beyond whatever limitations you have set for yourself, even if you're unaware you have set these limitations. They are your cheerleader, believing you are capable of doing more than you could have imagined.

JH: Having a mentor can help one excel because the mentee knows someone is there for them, has their back, their best interest in mind and will give them unbiased feedback and help when asked.

BG: Mentoring is critical to fulfilling the League's Mission of "developing the potential of women." Beyond merely serving as role models, it is the responsibility of League leaders at all levels to help other members find the best path for them through the League and to support them along the way. I believe that mentoring is a key ingredient of strong leadership.

"Leadership is about making others better as a result of your presence and making sure that impact lasts in your absence." -Sheryl Sandberg, COO of Facebook

Did you feel mentored in the League, at the beginning of your League career and then as you moved through the ranks, and by whom and in what ways?

KK: I was mentored day one as a provisional by Aspen Kahl. She took me under her wing and gave me a lot of great opportunities to succeed. Not to mention she is so down to earth and such a true friend. Jessica Kendall mentored me further during my first Chair position. She helped me see areas of improvement I needed to recognize and work on in order to be a stronger leader. I've also had the pleasure of being mentored by Nicole Hubbard when chairing a first year project. I was nervous about kicking it off but Nicole's positive attitude and enthusiasm for the project gave me the confidence boost I needed.

JH: I have felt mentored from day one in the League. My first placement as an Active Member was as Assistant HGM Treasurer where I worked with the League Treasurer, Betsy Graham, and the other ladies of the finance team. As a banker, it was a natural fit; however, learning the League finances took time and someone willing to explain it. Betsy took me under her wing and spent time explaining the inner workings of the League. Ultimately, she inspired me to continue to pursue a League career in Finance. Fortunately, I had the opportunity to work with other great mentors like Jen Carlstedt and Stephanie Wiendl along the way. These women were always there to listen, give advice or pick you up when you fell. A well-rounded background in the League is important to have before climbing the ranks to the Executive Board and these ladies helped push me to get the experience first and then take the plunge to interview. Good advice and mentoring from the start is one of the main reasons for my success in the League and in my career.

**BG:** Like many League members, I was first inspired to get more involved by two committee chairs whom I greatly respected. Without the excellent leadership, guidance and support of 2002-2003 Cookbook Co-Chairs Danielle Walsh and Dara Leslie, I might not have lasted long in the League. I also think there are lots of possibilities in the League for co-mentoring relationships. Frequently in the League, you end up working closely with someone who you didn't know all that well before, and you have the opportunity to learn from each other. I had that experience with Terrie Dodson when we were appointed Cookbook Co-Chairs. As I moved on to the Board and then Executive Committee, my go-to people when faced with challenges or difficult decisions were some fabulous leaders who were a bit ahead of me on their League career path, including Christina Boe and Jennifer Johnson among others.

### Did you set out to be a mentor to others in the League or did it just happen?

KK: I don't recall ever saying to myself, "Now, you are going to mentor this person". Mentoring is sort of an unspoken, naturally occurring thing in my mind. The best mentors do it without knowing they are. I think I have just noticed when a member showed a lot of potential. I've reached out to a number of members when I feel like they'd be a really good fit for a specific role and encouraged them to go for it. On the flip side, I've tried to recognize when a member needs my time and assistance.

JH: I didn't set out to mentor anyone initially, but I love helping people and it comes naturally to me. Developing the potential of women is my favorite part of our Mission and one I aim to do daily in the League and at work. If you genuinely care for people and want to see them succeed, mentoring is a natural part of that process.

**BG:** This is a tough question as mentoring is such an integral part of League leadership that it can be hard to separate out. I chaired several large committees and thus was presented with all sorts of potential mentees. I was always happy to give someone more responsibility and the support to reach their goals! Other times, you end up spending a lot of time with someone because of your respective positions. Such was the case with Jessica Kendall as we spent countless hours together in the HGM money room for many years.

What factors do you think build mentoring relationships?

*KK:* There are two key components, respect and a positive attitude. There has to be mutual respect established. I don't think anyone is open to being mentored or mentoring someone unless there is an element of respect present. You also must have a positive attitude. We all have bad days and weak moments but it's the attitude you choose to have that makes you a strong leader and mentor.

JH: Trust is a major factor in building a mentoring relationship. Being the person people trust to seek advice for any situation, specifically difficult situations, is very important to me. Once that trust is broken, you have nothing.

BG: I think the key factors in building a mentoring relationship are time and availability. As the mentor, you have to be accessible and ready to listen. As the mentee, you must the make the time to share your thoughts, goals and challenges in a one on one setting, whether in the JLT parking lot, by phone, or over coffee, lunch or a cocktail. While a mentoring relationship requires mutual respect to begin, my experience has been that deep and lasting friendships sometimes result.

# WHO'S WHO IN THE LEAGUE

All of our members give of their time and their money to make sure The Junior League of Tampa continues to be an influential part of the community. But our members are amazing in their professional and personal lives as well. Meet just a few...



### SUZY LOPEZ | Placement: Nominating and Community Action | Active: 2006

Suzy Lopez works in the Hillsborough County State Attorney's Office as the Deputy Chief of the Narcotics Division. She is also a Lay Eucharist Reader at St. John's Episcopal Church and is the past chair of the board for Self Reliance, Center for Independent Living.

Suzy found her niche in JLT during her 2009-2010 placement when she served on the Enabling Fund committee. The committee chair, Stacy Carlson, served as her mentor, friend, and leader. The following year, Suzy served as a placement mentor and recalls it as the most incredible committee she could have hoped for. "The stars aligned," as she puts it. "We didn't really know our leader, Nicole Hubbard, or each other. We all met one hot summer night at Hula Bay to start our journey as placement mentors. And the rest, as they say, is history.

The women on that committee formed a strong bond that still exists today. I met some of my closest friends that year. We adore each other and are still grateful to our dynamic leader."

Suzy strongly believes in the Mission of The Junior League of Tampa. "We are strong women who contribute so much to our community." Suzy was born and raised in Tampa and is honored to serve her community through the work of the League. She values the training she has received and has used it in other capacities of her life, including her job and other volunteer opportunities. Suzy says she's seen Halley's comet twice. You might ask how she was able to see a comet twice if it only appears once every 75 years? She asked me to put on my reporting hat to figure it out and you might want to as well.



### ELIZABETH BROOKS HARRIS | Sustainer | Active: 1990

Elizabeth and her husband Chuck moved to Tampa in 1990. Elizabeth worked for Price Waterhouse as the couple welcomed their first child, Chase. She joined The Junior League of Tampa to meet more women and become more active in the community. "My first placement was Cookbook and I loved it."

She and the family moved to Paris where her twins, Brooks Anne and Tristan were born. During her time in Paris, Elizabeth enjoyed cooking classes at Le Cordon Bleu. "My greatest lesson was the realization that the mastery of cooking is a lifelong journey best enjoyed through practice on family and friends."

After moving back to Tampa, Elizabeth returned to her JLT placements, serving as the Recipe Tester Coordinator for the first book, Life of the Party, in the JLT cookbook series. Elizabeth enjoys preserving Tampa's heritage, saving the Old Trolley Stop in front of Gorrie Elementary, and working with the Tampa Theatre. Last March, she trekked the Himalayas and spent two nights in a tent at 17,500 feet at Mt. Everest Base Camp. "At night, the avalanches roared, but what a thrill it was to walk on the famous Icefall at the head of the Khumbu Glacier. In Kathmandu, meeting the Living Kumari Hindu Goddess was another highlight of the Nepali trip."

Elizabeth has served as a Girl Scout Leader and an Assistant Cub Scout Packmaster. She believes we should all consider the following motto, "Saying No is a learned skill that we must all acquire or there would never be time for oneself at the end of the day. But, saying 'yes' can also lead down a path of discovery and adventure."



As a Kindergarten teacher at Riverhills Magnet School for International Studies, Kristin has a heart for children and has always strived to give all students an equal opportunity for success. "I absolutely love my job. I never thought I'd become a Kindergarten teacher but it's become a part of me. I love to see the progress the children make throughout the year and how much independence they gain in the course of the year."

Kristin joined JLT to become more involved in the community and to work with partners who are also passionate about advocating for children. Kristin stays active with yoga, cycling and running. She competed in her first running race with the Gasparilla 15k in 2011. She realized then how much she is physically and mentally driven by competition. She has now run four marathons with

plans to do more. Kristin recently became engaged to Ryan Nail, who she met while they volunteered for their church. They are planning a June wedding in Downtown St. Petersburg. In the near future, Kristin might turn her newest hobby, modern calligraphy, into a side business of hand-lettered prints and personalizing envelopes.

### CLARA REYNOLDS | Sustainer | Active: 2000



Clara Reynolds is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and has spent the past 22 years working with children and their families. She started as a child abuse investigator for the Department of Children and Families and went on to become a school social worker for Hillsborough County Public Schools working with pregnant teens, elementary-aged students, and youth involved in juvenile delinguency.

About 10 years ago, Clara and another therapist created a nonprofit agency - Success 4 Kids League of Tampa, Clara was assigned to Trinkets and Treasures, which she loved. She was the last chair of this fundraising event, which served as JLT's primary fundraiser for 40 years before

& Families, providing services to women and children. In her first three years in The Junior Holiday Gift Market. Clara was also part of the PDEC committee. "I helped create some valuable projects and was involved in researching many community agencies. But the best part of my placements was meeting and learning from talented, creative, and caring women."

Clara was born and raised in Tampa. She attended Florida State University. She is married to Steven Reynolds and has one son, Corey. Clara likes to swim in her spare time and has taken her interest to some unique places, including swimming 12.5 miles around Key West, and swimming from the Sunshine Skyway Bridge to the Courtney Campbell Causeway. She has also swam around both Davis Islands and Harbour Island.

### LAUREN GSTALDER | Placement: Corporate Coordinator, Fundraising Committee | Active: 2009



In 2001, Lauren Gstalder moved to Tampa from Albany, NY to attend the University of Tampa. The gorgeous campus, dance program, and great weather with nearby beaches, was all she needed to be hooked. "I still love Tampa and the city it has become. Downtown Tampa has blossomed, the restaurant scene is better than ever, the people are kind and generous, the economy is strong, and there are great schools."

Lauren works for the American Cancer Society and is currently the Senior Manager for Community Engagement overseeing Making Strides against Breast Cancer walks for Southwest Florida. "Cancer is a disease that has touched my family and loved ones too many times and I feel very fortunate to work for an exceptional organization that I truly believe in." She volunteers as a Team Captain for the Relay for Life for South Tampa and is also a member of the Fundraising Professionals and Leading Ladies of Learning. Two of her favorite JLT placements have been Love Bundles and the FUNdraising Committee and she feels very blessed to have worked with incredible committee leaders. This past year, she and her husband, welcomed their beautiful daughter Olivia Grace who has stolen their hearts. Lauren loves to travel, hike, dance, paddle board, and kayak. Back in the day, Lauren was a competitive dancer traveling the U.S. competing in tap, jazz, ballet, swing, and ballroom.

### KRISTIN TRIMBLE | Placement: Food 4 Kids Mobile Pantry Committee | Active: 2014























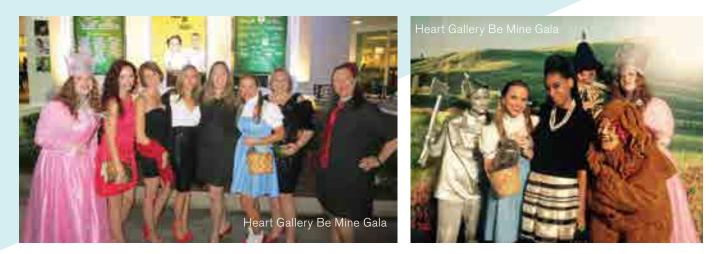














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In our 89 year history, who we are and where we come from, as members of The Junior League of Tampa, has changed dramatically. Today, the average Junior League member is a professional woman juggling many different aspects of life, from work, home, children, volunteer work, and friends.

Here's a quick look at the demographics of our current members:

# 1846 **MEMBERS**

# TRANSFERS

### WHERE THEY CAME FROM:

Atlanta, Boston, Charlotte, Chicago, Cincinnati, Fort Myers, Gainesville, Lakeland, Memphis, Minneapolis, Mobile, New York, Northern Virginia, Ocala, Orlando and St. Petersburg.

# AVERAGE 33 AGE: 33 **89%** WORK OUTSIDE THE HOME

### WHERE WE LIVE:





**17%** North Tampa, Westchase, Wesley Chapel

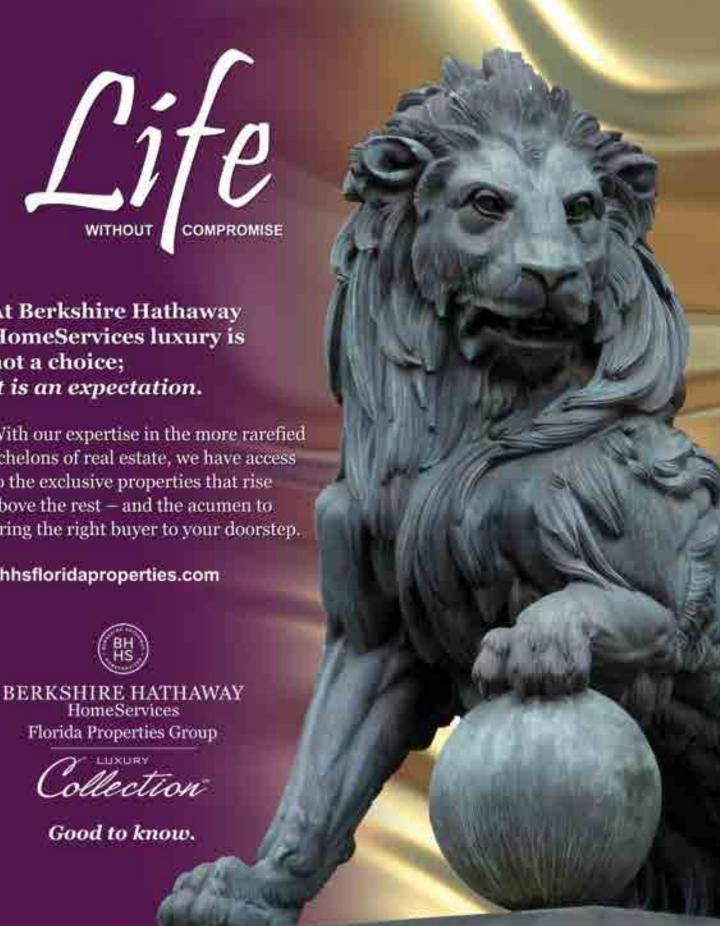


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