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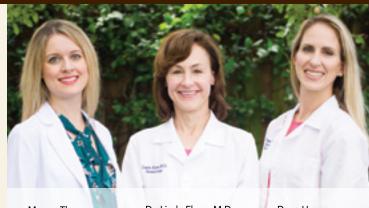
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FERMAN HAS PROUDLY SUPPORTED THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF TAMPA FOR OVER 70 YEARS.

INSPIRED and EMPOWERED



As we begin a new League year, The Junior League of Tampa continues to grow and embrace the diversity of our Membership and our community. With many exciting changes, from updates and renovations to our Headquarters building, to expanding League initiatives and community outreach, this year promises to be one of our best yet!

In particular, I look forward to working with our 2018-2019 President, Isabel Dewey, and our JLT leadership to share, promote and celebrate the League's exciting public affairs initiatives for this year. With the midterm election season in full swing, the notion of public service is at the front of the public's collective mind. The inherently contentious political climate is frustrating for many of us, and it can be overwhelming to navigate seemingly infinite subjects of public debate and concern. Of course, many of these issues coincide with the League's core areas of nonpartisan focus, such as child welfare, poverty and women's rights.

The Junior League of Tampa's unwavering commitment to community impact and empowerment is an inspiring reminder that we can meaningfully help others and, in doing so, can strengthen our own skills as women and leaders.

In this issue, you will meet three renowned women in the Tampa Bay area who embody the quintessential traits of leadership and empowerment. Each with her own unique path to success, they have graciously shared with us their stories, insights and advice for professional and personal fulfillment.

As the Tampa Bay region continues to develop and establish its national presence, I am proud that The Junior League of Tampa remains committed not only to voluntarism and outreach, but also to the advancement of its Membership and all others we serve. As women committed to empowering ourselves and others, we can be a voice not only for other women, but for children, families and all other unique cross-sections of our community.

Kenda

Kendra Lyman Editor

# SANDSPUR

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#### MEET THE SANDSPUR'S EDITORIAL STAFF





#### KENDRA LYMAN. *Editor*

Kendra has been an Active member of JLT since 2015 and previously served as a contributing writer and as Assistant Editor for *The Sandspur*. She works as a construction law attorney and has lived in Tampa since 2013. In her free time, Kendra enjoys running, attending concerts with her husband Chance, and spending time with friends and family.



#### LAUREN VAGNONI, Assistant Editor

Lauren is a first-year Active member of JLT. By day, she works as an attorney for a property insurance company. She holds an undergraduate degree in psychology from the University of Florida and a Juris Doctor degree from Florida State University College of Law. In her free time, she enjoys volunteering within the Tampa Bay community, spending time with friends and family and watching Gator football. Lauren also loves planning socials and events as she serves as this year's League Resource Liaison for The Sandspur Committee.



#### ELIZABETH WEIBLEY, Features Editor

Elizabeth first joined JLT in 2017, and this is her first year as an Active member. By day she is a Financial Aid Administrator at the University of South Florida, and by night she is a Disney-obsessed, dog-cuddling bookworm.



#### KATE DOUGLASS, Copy Editor

Kate is a first-year Active member who, outside of the League, works in stewardship & fundraising communications. She studied nonprofit management at FSU before working at a museum in NYC. Now living in South Tampa, Kate enjoys horseback riding, yoga, traveling and spending time with family.



#### CARRIE MINERVA, *Photographer*

Carrie has been an Active member of JLT since 2016 and previously served two years as an Active member of the Junior League of Fort Lauderdale. She is a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner for the Veterans Health Administration. She is a woman of faith who enjoys photography, fitness, and conjuring up creative meals in the kitchen. Carrie and her husband live in South Tampa and recently welcomed their first child. Amelia!

#### NICHOLE VILD, Photographer

Nichole has been a Junior League member since 2013 and belonged to the Emerald Coast and Northern Virginia chapters before transferring to Tampa in 2015. Nichole is a logistics planner for the U.S. Army and enjoys travel and photography in her spare time.

#### SAMANTHA LITRICO, Advertising Coordinator

Samantha is a first-year Active member of JLT as Advertising Coordinator for *The Sandspur*. She graduated from St. Leo University with a degree in psychology and marketing, and she currently works as a training and development manager. Samantha is passionate about public speaking, writing and volunteering. She loves being a part of the League and the many opportunities it provides to serve in the community.

Learn more about The Sandspur Contributing Writers throughout the magazine.

#### **OUR MISSION**

Founded in 1926, The Junior League of Tampa, Inc., is an organization of 1,900 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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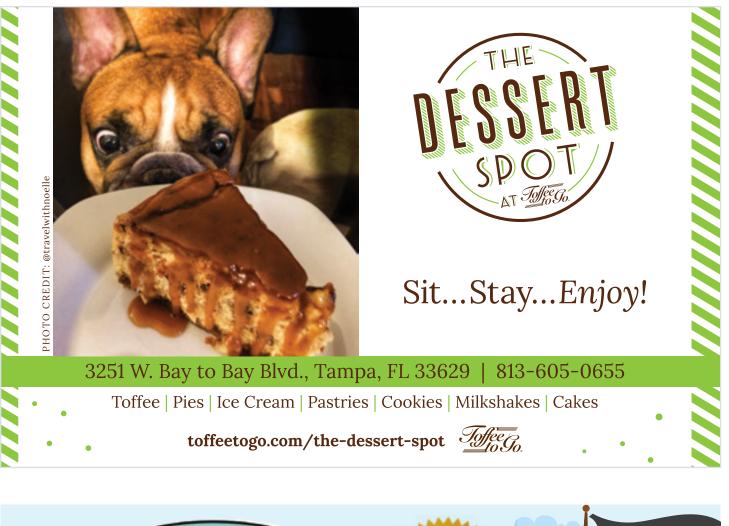


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### Empowered Women Empower Women

As a student of the social sciences, I have always found the role of women fascinating. We are the center of our communities, families and culture. We have the power to lead, to comfort, to protect and to nurture. At a recent family reunion, stories of family members raising the children of others during the Cuban Revolution highlighted what we do-we see the need, we step up and we keep moving forward, even if the circumstances are

less than ideal. We see it as an extension of ourselves, not as a burden. This is the power of women.

As the leader of a women's organization, I am amazed daily by our members and women who are carrying the torch in Tampa Bay. The Junior League of Tampa members are driving community change, working together and building each other up, all while doing so in their free time as they balance careers, relationships and obligations. Our Sustaining members are inspirational with the influence they assert as the leaders in business, nonprofits and volunteer organizations. I am moved by our Active members who work tirelessly to improve child welfare and education in Tampa Bay while developing their own full potential.

Our members are mirroring what is going on in our country. In the same decade that has women 'leaning in' and being brave enough to share their personal stories of discrimination, I am motivated by our leaders driving policy, educating each other and making an impact through our volunteer projects.

We need to change the perception that motivated and assertive women are selfish and have ulterior motives. I see the contrary every single day. I am proud to represent 2,000 powerful women. This issue of *The Sandspur* showcases both The Junior League of Tampa and community leaders who are living our mission to 'develop the potential of women and improve communities.' I know that you will be as inspired as I am that the power of women is undeniable and changing Tampa Bay for the better.

Yours in Service,

Isabel Dewey President, 2018-2019

#### Ady 15, 2018

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Again, thank you for your commitment to holping the smallest newborns. I hope you will continue to follow our progress as we strive to help prolong programdes and improve the extrement for premature infants one hospital bed at a time.

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The Murray-Child Development Center is committed to providing dedicated developmental care for children in our community with and without disabilities. Our program serves children 12 months to 5 years of age where we avaid families with preventary health care, implement through and early intervention planes, and other critical developmental services. Services such as these are crucial for children like-James, age 4, who we identified through our indical assessment process is an endoring additional attention in codir to booms developmentally equal to peers within his age group. James is now counting, knows his alphabet, and is learning to eat acid tools.

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Volt us at www.easterseats.com/florids to learn more about us and how you can be more involved in your community or feel free to give me a call with any questions you may have.

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August 7, 2018

#### Dear Junior League of Tampa,

As I anxiously waited on my frost porch for our foster placement to be dropped off, many encotions were flooding my heart and mind. I was heartbroken for this child who had been ripped away from their family. I was nervous about this total stranger who was coming to live about this total stranger who was coming to live with us, yet I was excited that we were beginning the journey that God had called us to.

I was told that the children would show up with I was tool that the chauren would show up wit nothing, but you cannot prepare for them because you do not know the gender or age of the child. So when both of our placements showed up with a backpack full of age accessible inverse. I was theilight Then, when I appropriate items, I was thrilled! Then, when I saw the tag on the bag "I giving, caring organization. ove Bandley", I felt so proud to be a part of such a

As an active, I thought about how much the children would be impacted by the Love Bandles, yet now as a Sustainer and a foster parent, I realize how much the formilies love and appreciate the help that the Love Bandle provides at such a our fittle one will now be asing that backpack to start her ast day of Pre-K this

Thank you so much, JLT, for the Low Bundles and the ongoing support you provide for children and families in need! Keep up the great work?

Sincerely, Risa nurner

Lisa Turner, Sustainer

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# The Power of Women How Three Tampa Leaders are Making a Difference

by MAREN AUXIER

It is an exciting time to live in the Tampa Bay region as the area continues to improve and offer new experiences for residents and visitors alike. Tampa's ongoing growth and development also coincide with reinvigorated attention nationwide to women's rights and empowerment. In this ever-changing landscape, both accomplished and aspiring women throughout our community play a critical role in Tampa's thriving professional sphere, and their community leadership continues to inspire and facilitate the growth and success that attracts others to Tampa from all over the nation.

I recently had the pleasure of sitting down with three women whose impressive accomplishments and current roles make them true pillars of the Tampa community. They have graciously shared their insights, experiences, and inspiring initiatives on issues affecting women in the professional world and particularly in the Tampa Bay area.



#### MAREN AUXIER

Maren works in PR and marketing in the healthcare space. She obtained a degree in Creative Writing from Eckerd College, which is what brought her down to sunny Florida from her home state of Michigan. In her spare time, Maren enjoys exercising, traveling and spending time with her fiancé, friends and family.



KATHLEEN SHANAHAN: CEO, Turtle & Hughes; former Chief of Staff for Dick Cheney and Jeb Bush

Kathleen Shanahan is a prominent Tampa businesswoman, as well as a Sustaining member of The Junior League of Tampa. She is Co-CEO of Turtle & Hughes, one of the nation's largest independent electrical

distributors, and she previously served as the Chief of Staff for both Florida Governor Jeb Bush and for Vice President-elect Dick Cheney, as well as Special Assistant to then-Vice President George H.W. Bush. Kathleen's prior service also includes positions as Chair of Florida's State Board of Education, board member of the Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority (HART), and board member of Tampa General Hospital.

#### **Greatest Accomplishment**

While it is difficult to select one in particular, Kathleen is proud of her ability and success in transferring her skillset from working in politics to business. She was not initially sure that she could accomplish that transition, and she now encourages others to find ways to utilize skills acquired in one's current roles to create new opportunities.

In her current position, Kathleen appreciates the ability and opportunity to apply her past political experience toward meaningful community impact by actively participating in public policy matters, while also maintaining focus on business development and employee growth as her professional livelihood.

#### Impacting the Community

During her tenure as Chair of Florida's State Board of Education, Kathleen was particularly impressed with the commitment and advocacy of women and mothers statewide in their efforts to ensure that their children have access to the best education and resources Florida can offer. "I saw such passion, drive and focus on behalf of their children," she said. "It was motivating to stay involved."

#### Advancing One's Career

"If you can run a carpool, you can run a business." Kathleen believes that women in particular often resign themselves to the fallacy that they do not have the requisite skills to tackle a certain job, role or other challenge simply because they may lack prior experience. Rather than dwelling on what a person has not done or accomplished in the past, she recommends focusing on what one has done (such as running a carpool!) and how those skills and experience could be utilized as part of a new opportunity.

Kathleen also advises women to emphasize the importance and value of networking, as well as finding a mentor and being a mentor for others. "Your network inside and outside of your organization can help you."

#### The Workplace Environment for Women

Kathleen believes that the recent "Me Too" and "Time's Up" cultural movements have helped spur improvements in the workplace environment for women. However, the progress has been relatively minimal in many contexts, and there is still significant room for improvement.

#### **Balancing Work and Home**

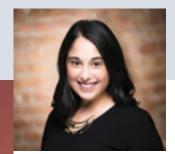
"I really work at it. I [am] a big believer in taking time off, working out, setting down technology and making time to unload," she said. Kathleen added that she has always has her best ideas when out riding a bike or going for a hike, with a firm belief that clearing one's head creates space for creativity and new ideas.

#### Traits of Great Leaders

Kathleen offers three traits of a great leader: a good sense of humor, the ability to work hard, and being a good listener.

#### Recommended Reading

Team of Rivals by Doris Kearns Goodwin



LAKSHMI SHENOY: CEO, Embarc Collective (formerly Tampa Bay Innovation Hub)

Lakshmi Shenoy is a recent transplant to the Tampa Bay area and is the CEO of Embarc Collective, formerly known as the Tampa Bay Innovation Hub. Embarc Collective strives to make Tampa Bay a prime destination for diverse startup talent. Before moving to Tampa, Lakshmi lived in Chicago and served

as the Vice President of Strategy & Business Development at 1871, the top university-affiliated business incubator in the world. Prior to 1871, Lakshmi focused on growth strategies for a variety of businesses through previous roles at Prophet Brand Strategy, Time Inc., Procter & Gamble, and Leo Burnett. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in sociology from the University of Chicago, and a Masters of Business Administration from Harvard Business School. Lakshmi was recently recognized in 2017 as one of Chicago's "20 Rising Brand Stars" by Ad Age.

#### **Greatest Accomplishment**

While working at 1871, Lakshmi had the opportunity to be a part of a group called WiSTEM, a 12-week program that supports women founders. The program helped give women access to capital, customers and technology talent.

The model was recognized across the country, and the companies that sprung from it are some of the most inspiring organizations Lakshmi has had the opportunity to work with. "I was really proud to know that I was a part of building the foundation of this network of women supporting women, and I think this is something the women in the Junior League can relate to."

#### **Impacting the Community**

Lakshmi moved to the Tampa Bay area to take on her role as CEO of Embarc Collective, an organization committed to making Tampa a prime destination for diverse startup talent. She hopes to meaningfully impact the community, both personally and professionally, by making Tampa a central "landing zone" for entrepreneurs and startups nationwide.

As part of this initiative, Lakshmi and her team are creating a deliberate space where startups can grow and thrive. "When you create that physical hub, you are able to create a sense of energy, because you are putting a lot of really amazing activity into a single place," she said. "That is what creates a buzz."

#### **Advancing One's Career**

Do not get left out of important conversations, or else decisions will be made for you instead of by you. "You've got to be in the room where it happens," she said. Importantly, you cannot always wait to be invited into the conversation. "It is about showing up, speaking up and making the most impact," she added.

#### The Workplace Environment for Women

Lakshmi believes there is still a long way to go for women in the professional world, although she is glad to note a recent upward trend of women in senior leadership roles.

She also believes that, when possible, women should do their best to make those senior leadership positions work better for other women. "We should incorporate more flexibility into jobs so that smart women who are perfect for leadership roles do not have to opt out of the workforce because they are juggling work and family obligations." She also adds that women need to advocate for each other and highlight one another's strengths and abilities.

#### **Balancing Work and Home**

Lakshmi focuses on integrating her work and life rather than finding a balance between the two. "I try to be kind and patient with myself when different dimensions of my life take priority," she said.

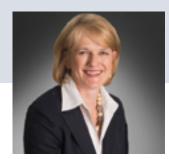
#### **Traits of Great Leaders**

Lakshmi believes that a great leader should possess integrity, should operate with the long view, and should put one's team and customers before oneself.

#### **Recommended Reading**

*Feminist Fight Club: An Office Survival Manual for a Sexist Workplace* by Jessica Bennett *Skimm'd from the Couch* by theSkimm (podcast)

#### NANCY TOWER: CEO, TECO



Nancy Tower is President and CEO of Tampa Electric Co. (TECO) and recently relocated to the Tampa Bay area with her family. She previously served as Chief Corporate Development Officer for Emera, where she focused on mergers and acquisitions and the advancement of strategic growth projects in the areas of electric and gas transmission and generation. Nancy has held numerous other senior roles for other major companies, including positions as controller, vice president of customer operations and chief financial officer. Nancy is also a 2011 recipient of Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100 Award.

#### **Greatest Accomplishment**

Nancy is most proud of raising her three children. "There are lots of times when you are working really hard and your children are young and you are traveling, and you are wondering how it's all going to turn out," she said. "I am very close with my children, and they are all doing well. They are my greatest accomplishment."

#### Impacting the Community

Nancy has historically been highly involved in the communities in which she has lived, and her past service includes chairing the United Way campaign for several years. She looks forward to many opportunities she has on the horizon to get more involved in the Tampa Bay area through TECO and other voluntarism efforts as she settles into the community.

#### **Advancing One's Career**

Nancy encourages both men and women to be curious and always learning. "It is important to manage your career," she says. "Look for opportunities through the lens of, am I going to learn something that is going to advance my career, learn the business and grow?"

"I think it is important to put your hand up and say, 'I'd like that role," she added. She stresses the importance of being proactive in going for the job or position that you want, and being confident in your ability to do it. This does not mean that a person needs to know it all, but she should trust that she knows enough.

#### The Workplace Environment for Women

Although Nancy notes that our society still has a way to go, she considers herself fortunate to have worked in organizations with multiple women in leadership and other senior positions.

#### **Balancing Work and Home**

Nancy believes it is important to find time for oneself, and she particularly enjoys waking up early in the morning and going for a run with girlfriends.

"Whatever job I was in did not define me," she said. "For me the most important thing was family and friends."

#### **Traits of Great Leaders**

Nancy lists three guidelines for a great leader: do not have a big ego, effectuate direct and clear communication, and practice humility and respect for others.

#### **Recommended Reading**

Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead by Sheryl Sandberg



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#### HOLIDAY GIFT MARKET: A TAMPA WONDERLAND

#### by ELIZABETH WEIBLEY

With the start of a new League year, the countdown to The Junior League of Tampa Holiday Gift Market Presented by Publix (HGM) has begun. With an inspired vision to combine favorite HGM traditions with new features to offer an even better shopping experience, the HGM Committee has been hard at work to make this year's event the best yet!

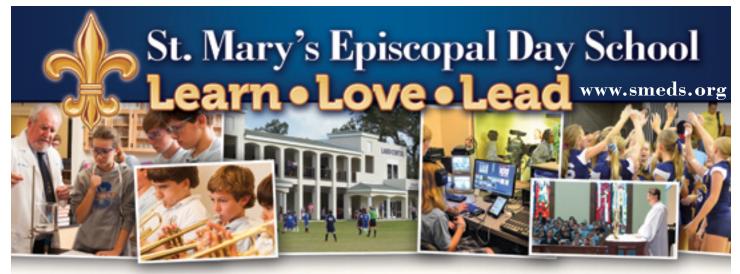
The theme for the 2018 HGM, which will be held November 8-11, is "Tampa Wonderland," and the Arrangements Committee, led by Taylor Traviesa, is spearheading a beautiful new color scheme and revamped decor. Attendees will also enjoy this year's new valet parking and package assistance to make the HGM experience even more enjoyable. Along with these improvements comes exciting new programming including two new events: Mimosa Sip n Shop and Holiday Gift Market Tea Lounge. The Mimosa Sip n Shop event is a private, ticketed experience that will be held on Saturday, offering mimosas and one hour of exclusive shopping before HGM opens to the public that day. The new Holiday Gift Market Tea Lounge, featured on Saturday and Sunday, will offer a special area where guests can enjoy hot or iced tea, finger sandwiches, and cakes. Each of these new events will provide attendees with more ways to spend time with friends, relax and enjoy the shopping experience, and even plan a special date night!

In addition to these new events, this year's Market will also replace the traditional Enchanted Forest with an exciting new Giving Tree. This eye-catching, decorated tree will incorporate an ornament pull, encouraging shoppers to purchase tickets to select ornaments from the tree, each of which will offer an item of value donated by HGM merchants and local businesses. For the youngest guests, JLT is partnering with the Glazer Children's Museum to bring the museum's Imagination Playground to HGM. This area will offer an exciting indoor playground near the Mother's Nook, allowing parents to enjoy well-earned shopping breaks as they watch their little ones play and explore.

JLT is also excited to offer—for the first time sponsorships for individual HGM programs and events. HGM has secured more than \$60,000 in corporate sponsorships thus far. JLT is proud to once again partner with its presenting sponsor, Publix, along with other corporate sponsors including Kendra Scott, The Florida Cattlewoman, Valley National, TECO, Bonati Spine Institute, Tropical Smoothie Café, South Tampa Kids Dental Krewe, The Pink Palm, All Children's Hospital and U South Tampa. The Holiday Gift Market plays a critical role in funding the League's mission, and all proceeds from the Market directly support the community projects that drive our organization.

The Junior League of Tampa's 2018 Holiday Gift Market is shaping up to be a WONDERful time, so be sure to get your tickets—on sale now!

ELIZABETH WEIBLEY Elizabeth first joined JLT in 2017, and this is her first year as an Active member. By day she is a Financial Aid Administrator at the University of South Florida, and by night she is a Disney-obsessed, dog-cuddling bookworm.



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Join the conversation! Tag your social media images with #myJLTampa to share your League experiences.



## PROVING AGGESS FOR A A NO LIMITS LEAGUE

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF TAMP.

#### by SAM LITRICO

The Junior League of Tampa is comprised of passionate and devoted members, united by a shared mission to serve, and all with unique backgrounds, talents, perspectives and challenges. In light of reenergized initiatives for Diversity and Inclusion within the League, JLT is particularly excited for this year's significant renovations and improvements to the JLT Headquarters building. Headquarters last underwent major renovations more than thirty (30) years ago, and JLT leadership is confident that these exciting updates will improve accessibility and enjoyment by all members and guests.

As a critical part of the League's ongoing efforts to foster acceptance and inclusion among its Membership, the updates to the Headquarters building will better serve and support members--including those who may need physical accommodations. Importantly, many of the renovations will significantly improve the building's compliance with the national ADA Standards for Accessible Design. Specific enhancements include:

- An exterior keypad at the existing accessible entrance on the east side of the building (next to the reserved disabled parking space)
- Removal of the workroom door to permit easier entry and exit
- Improvements to the overall flow and accessibility of rooms, walkways and other building spaces

In addition to modifications for improved accessibility, the Headquarters building is also undergoing a "facelift" to update and modernize the building's overall aesthetic. Along with fresh paint and new flooring throughout the building, the foyer, front office and boardroom are being updated with new furniture and decor. With renovations completed in early fall, members will be able to enjoy these long-awaited upgrades throughout this League year and beyond.

Samantha is a first-year Active member of JLT as Advertising Coordinator for *The Sandspur*. She graduated from St. Leo University with a degree in psychology and marketing, and she currently works as a training and development manager. Samantha is passionate about public speaking, writing and volunteering. She loves being a part of the League and the many opportunities it provides to serve in the community.

#### SAM LITRICO

# CANDIDATES FOR CHANGE

by BRIDGET ABBAS

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This year's midterm election season is poised to bring significant change to political landscapes across the United States, including Florida and the Tampa Bay community. At the state level, Florida voters will decide on proposed revisions to the Florida State Constitution and will elect a new Governor, a U.S. Senator, U.S. Representatives, an Attorney General and a Commissioner of Agriculture. In local elections, voters in the Tampa Bay community will also fill numerous county commission and school board seats.

#### A COMMUNITY EFFORT

As part of its core mission to serve and empower our local community, The Junior League of Tampa is committed to improving access, information, and interest among local voters through nonpartisan efforts and initiatives in line with other JLT goals and values. Over the past year, JLT President Isabel Dewey spearheaded new and reinvigorated League efforts to facilitate and encourage local voter education and participation. Dewey initially coordinated an impressive meeting between numerous organizations that share many of the League's nonpartisan, community-interest goals and priorities, including the local chapter of Jack & Jill America as well as Parent Teacher Associations and other professional organizations. Representatives of these organizations created a catchy slogan-Activate813-to identify and celebrate their voter mobilization efforts. As one of its initial efforts, the League conducted a successful voter registration





drive earlier this year. Inspired by the Tiger Bay Club, a nonpartisan political forum that hosts regular meetings with political candidates, and with the support of other Activate813 organizations, JLT organized and hosted a Candidate Forum, which was held at JLT Headquarters on September 13<sup>th</sup>.

#### WHAT IS A CANDIDATE FORUM?

A candidate forum provides an opportunity for valuable discourse between local candidates and community members. These events are open to the public and encourage all members of the community to meet and learn more about the individuals running to represent them in various elected capacities. Local candidates invited to these forums typically embrace the opportunity to explain their respective positions on important issues pertaining specifically to the group(s) hosting the forum as well as the community at large.



#### JLT'S ROLE

JLT's Candidate Forum was organized by the Public Affairs Committee, an inspiring group of League members with extensive advocacy experience. In order to facilitate efforts at both state and the local levels, JLT appointed two Co-Chairs for this year's Committee: Maggie McCleland, focusing on local public affairs, and Melanie Brown, focusing on state-level elections and related issues. Through its coordinated and deliberate efforts at both local and state levels, McCleland says the Committee aims to "create a meaningful engagement between our members, the community and our representatives."

The Candidate Forum was open to the public and facilitated valuable discourse between attendees and candidates on critical issues such as public safety, gun control, human trafficking and education. Through meaningful participation, attendees not only listened and learned, but also shared their own important thoughts and insights with the candidates.

JLT's Candidate Forum and other similar initiatives will help members "talk the talk and walk the walk," says McCleland. Through ongoing efforts to empower our community, the League hopes to encourage all eligible voters to be informed and to actively participate in upcoming elections.

Information on the proposed constitutional revisions can be found at flcrc.gov.

To register to vote or find voter-related information, visit the Hillsborough County Supervisor of Elections website at votehillsborough.org.





BRIDGET ABBAS Bridget is a fifth-year Active member of JLT and a veteran educator. She is passionate about teaching her middle school students to read, write and think critically about the world around them. When not teaching, Bridget also serves on the boards of several nonprofit educational organizations.



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO AMBER NICOLE PHOTOGRAPHY FOR CAPTURING THESE PHOTOS OF THE 2018-2019 EXECUTIVE BOARD AND MANAGEMENT COUNCIL!

# 2018-2019 EXECUTIVE BOARD

Meet The Junior League of Tampa's 2018-2019 Executive Board! Bringing years of diverse and exciting experience to their positions, these women look forward to leading the League through another successful year of service and impact.

Lauren is a fifth-year Active and Tampa native. She holds a psychology degree from the University of Florida and a master's in Rehabilitation & Mental Health Counseling from the University of South Florida, and is dual licensed as a mental health counselor and a marriage and family therapist. Lauren enjoys spending time with her fiancée and step-daughter, going to concerts and trying new restaurants.

#### LAUREN CROMER



"A GOOD LEADER INSPIRES PEOPLE TO HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THE LEADER. A GREAT LEADER INSPIRES PEOPLE TO HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THEMSELVES." – ELEANOR ROOSEVELT,

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF NEW YORK



#### ISABEL DOMINICIS DEWEY President

Born in Spain to Cuban parents, Isabel Dewey grew up as the youngest of seven siblings in Satellite Beach, FL. She was the first woman in her family to go away to college when she left for the Honors Program at Florida State University, where she graduated summa cum laude in three and a half years. From there, she continued her studies and earned a master's degree in Public Policy from the University of Chicago.

Isabel was hired out of Chicago by IBM, where she has had a 17-year consulting career ranging from business process redesign for clients to developing and implementing human resource strategy inside the Global Business Services division. She has enjoyed leveraging both her interest in improving communities and business acumen to shape the direction of The Junior League of Tampa.

Isabel's Junior League career also started 17 years ago. As a newly married military spouse, she joined the Junior League of Las Vegas. Three years later the Deweys moved to Hurlburt Field, Florida, where Isabel transferred to the Junior League of the Emerald Coast. When John Dewey, Isabel's high school sweetheart and husband, separated from the Air Force in 2007, the Deweys settled in Tampa to raise their three sons Evan(13), Daniel (11) and Gabriel (8).

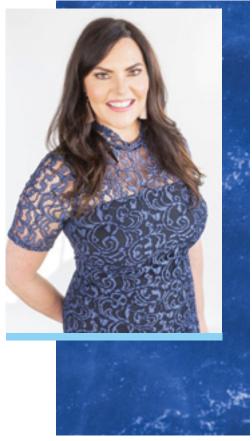
During her time with JLT, Isabel has chaired the Training Committee and Kids Connect Committee and has also served on the Nominating Committee. However, she has spent the majority of her time doing what she loves most—and that is in the policy realm. Isabel has chaired the Public Affairs Committee four times and led all of the Junior Leagues of Florida as the State Public Affairs Committee Chair. In 2016, Isabel was honored as the "Inspiring Leader of the Year," the highest recognition for an Active member. Outside of the Junior League, Isabel sits on the Hillsborough County Children's Services Advisory Board, the State Attorney's Community Council and is a Cub Scout Den Leader.

This year, Isabel looks to maximize our mission by developing our members through effective training and civic engagement and improve our community by successfully reaching the families and children who are most vulnerable. She is honored and humbled to lead the organization in the year ahead.

#### MELISSA KNIGHT NODHTURFT PRESIDENT ELECT

Melissa Knight Nodhturft is a founding shareholder of Glausier Knight, PLLC, a real estate and business litigation law firm that provides a broad array of legal services to community associations, including condominium associations and homeowners' associations. Prior to founding Glausier Knight, Melissa was an associate attorney at Bush Ross, P.A. and served as Chair of the firm's Diversity and Inclusion Committee. She brings a wealth of administrative and regulatory experience and judicial knowledge to her practice having worked as a Staff Attorney for the Southwest Florida Water Management District and a Judicial Staff Attorney at the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit. Melissa was recently named to the 2018 Super Lawyers Rising Star list, an honor bestowed on only 2.5% of all Florida attorneys. She has also been featured in South Tampa Magazine's Top 10 under 40, a list highlighting young, philanthropic and successful professionals who live and work in Tampa Bay.

Melissa credits her commitment to sustainable community development to her 3-year tour of service as a Peace Corps volunteer and volunteer leader in Honduras. Melissa has steadfastly served the Tampa Bay community through the League and its issues-based community impact initiatives since becoming an Active member in 2010. Her tenure in the League includes service as a member of the Project Development and Evaluation Committee, Chair of the Community Action and Food 4 Kids community project committees, inaugural Chair for The Luminaries, and election to the roles of Provisional Education Chair and Secretary and Membership Director on the Executive Board of Directors. In 2015, she was named JLT's Inspiring Leader of the Year. As this year's President Elect, Melissa looks forward to serving as the 2019-2020 President of The Junior League of Tampa.



#### ROBIN DELAVERGNE SUSTAINER AT LARGE

Robin DeLaVergne is a graduate of the University of South Florida, where she earned a Master of Science degree in audiology. Robin is a past President of The Junior League of Tampa, and she was honored as JLT's 2017 Sustainer of the Year. Outside of the League, she is Senior Vice President of Development at Tampa General Hospital, where she previously served as Senior Vice President and the Executive Director of the Tampa General Hospital Foundation. Robin is extremely active in the Tampa Bay community as a member of USF Women in Leadership and Philanthropy, TGH Foundation Women's Leadership Council, Florida Philanthropic Network, USF Town & Gown and Leadership Tampa Alumni. Robin has also served as an Honorary Commander for the 6th Air Mobility Group at MacDill Air Force Base and is a past Chair of the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce, past Chair of the Tampa Bay Partnership's CEO Direct Program, and a past member of the Board of Directors for Metropolitan Ministries and the United Way. She serves on the Tampa Downtown Partnership Board of Directors and the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and was appointed by Governor Rick Scott to the Children's Board of Hillsborough County. Robin's distinctions and recognitions include the 2012 Women of Distinction Award from the Girl Scouts of West Central Florida, the 2017 Woman of Distinction Award from the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce, and Leadership Tampa Alumni's 2017 Parke Wright III Award.





#### JENNY SCHROEDER SECRETARY

Jenny Schroeder transferred to The Junior League of Tampa in January of 2016 from the Junior League of Birmingham, Michigan. She joined the League in 2012 as a legacy member. Throughout her League career, Jenny has enthusiastically taken on a variety of diverse leadership roles in membership, fundraising events and community projects. Her favorite JLT placement to date was her role as the 2017-2018 Chair of the Volunteers At Large Committee, a newly formed committee focused on expanding and improving the scope of JLT's voluntarism in the community at large and in partnership with other similar organizations aligned with the League's goals and initiatives. Jenny is passionate about helping others- both within and outside of the League. She looks forward to serving as Secretary on the Executive Board, as it will provide her with the opportunity to not only learn from the other Board members, but also to become even more familiar with JLT, its partners and the community it serves. Outside of the League, Jenny works as a litigation paralegal at a firm in downtown Tampa and has one furchild-a toy poodle named Merlin.

#### ASHLEY WATTERS LEADERSHIP DIRECTOR

Ashley Watters is originally from Tennessee, but now calls Tampa home with her husband Jack and their two fur babies. Her love for helping people extends from her career as a Commercial Lender for Centennial Bank to her various leadership roles in the League. Ashley joined JLT in 2012, and her placements have included roles in membership as the Provisional Education Chair, in fundraising as the Fund Development Manager, and in various community projects as well. Looking forward to this year and her role as Leadership Director, Ashley is excited to once again step outside of her comfort zone as she works with the Nominating Committee to strategically evaluate the state of the League's needs and community focus in order to facilitate stellar leadership.





#### CAROLINE VOSTREJS FINANCE DIRECTOR

Caroline Vostrejs was born in Stuttgart, Germany, and moved to the United States when she was 5 years old. She was raised in Ocala, Florida, and attended the University of Florida. Caroline works as the Director of Business Development for The Beck Group in Tampa. This is her second year on the League's Executive Board, where she is returning as Finance Director. Caroline joined JLT in 2007, and one of her most memorable placements was serving as Co-Chair of the Holiday Gift Market Committee in 2012. "I learned a great deal that year about myself, the League and about running a large-scale event. It was so much work, but so very rewarding," she said. "The best part was working with the HGM team and then sharing our success together. Each placement I've had thus far has taught me something new or introduced me to a new person. That's my favorite part about the League." Caroline and her husband Ryan have two dogs, Goose and Hawk, and are expecting a daughter in January. Caroline is the oldest of three. Her sister Andrea is also an Active member of JLT, and her mother Diane is a Sustainer. Caroline says of the League, "It is rare to find a place where it's safe to make mistakes; JLT affords us this opportunity."

#### MEGHAN MCGUIRE STRATEGIC PLANNING DIRECTOR

Born in London and moving several times before graduating high school, Meghan McGuire is happy to currently call Tampa her home. She is a proud graduate of The Florida State University and loves to travel, research ancestry, watch historical documentaries and spend time with family and friends. Since joining the League in 2009, Meghan has enjoyed working with many inspiring women and experiencing a variety of different placements, including her past role as Membership Manager. Meghan's time in JLT has shaped her as a person and shown her that even small contributions in any role can truly make a difference. She is excited to see what the next few years bring for the League and privileged to be a small part of it...mosquito or member!





#### TAYLOR JONES COMMUNITY DIRECTOR

Taylor Jones is a fourth generation Tampa native and has been a member of The Junior League of Tampa for over 10 years, serving in a variety of roles and placements. She earned a degree in communications from the University of South Florida, and serves as the Vice President of Kirbys Mens Wear, a 59-year-old family-owned local business. Throughout her time in JLT, Taylor has been particularly committed to the League's membership satisfaction, member retention, mentoring and leading by example. This year, Taylor looks forward to being back in the heart of the League's community initiatives and helping to shape JLT's focus and community impact. She and her husband Wesley have two daughters, Blakely and Annabelle, and Taylor enjoys spending time with family and friends and traveling around the world.

#### LESLIE HODZ MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Leslie graduated from the University of Florida with a degree in business and a minor in environmental horticulture. She and her husband Adam (a Florida State Seminole) have a daughter and son, Payton and Blake, and a 10-year-old English Bulldog, Walker. Leslie's hobbies include volunteering, traveling, working out and spending time with family and friends. This year as Membership Director, she is looking forward to connecting with the League's Membership more than ever before and working on major strategic initiatives, such as the League's Diversity & Inclusion plan and the continued evolution of the JLT Points System. Her vision is to allow and encourage all members to choose their own JLT path and "adventures" in order to create a more meaningful and personalized experience. Leslie also hopes to utilize her position and resources to better connect members through affinity groups and to expand meetings and other events beyond JLT Headquarters in order to reach other areas of Tampa.







# 2018-2019 MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

The members of the 2018-2019 Management Council are poised to guide The Junior League of Tampa and its Membership through another great year. Created in 2014, the Management Council oversees and manages the day-to-day operations of the League.

Morgan is a first-year Active member who, outside of the League, works on the Real Estate Asset Management team at Bloomin' Brands. She graduated from Florida State University and is so happy to have moved back to her sweet hometown of Tampa. Currently residing in Hyde Park, she loves spending time

with her boyfriend Anthony and her family, trying new recipes and foraging for flowers around town.



#### LINDSEY PARKS Advocacy manager

As Director of Membership and Programming for the Tampa Downtown Partnership, Lindsey Parks brings over nine years of experience in membership relations, special event planning, project management, government relations and community affairs. Prior to joining the Partnership, Lindsey served as Project Manager in Ballard Partners' Tampa office, where she worked on notable projects such as the opening of the Deputy John Kotfila Memorial Dog Park. Lindsey earned a Bachelor of Science in political science, as well as a second bachelor's degree in criminology, from The Florida State University. As a 2015 graduate of Leadership Tampa Bay, Lindsey is proud to be highly active in the Tampa community. She has been a member of The Junior League of Tampa for 7 years and, as this year's Advocacy Manager, she looks forward to the privilege of meaningfully advocating for women and children both locally and at the state level.

#### STEPHANIE HAAS COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

Stephanie (Sabo) Haas was born in northwest Indiana and grew up in St. Cloud, Florida. She graduated from the University of South Florida with a Bachelor of Arts in religious studies and went on to earn her Juris Doctorate from Valparaiso University School of Law. Upon graduation in 2007, Stephanie relocated to New York City where she joined Russell Reynolds Associates, a world leading recruiting firm, working directly for the Chief Executive Officer. New York City is where Stephanie and her husband, John, met and married in 2010. They relocated to Tampa in 2014 and she joined The Junior League of Tampa in 2015. Stephanie's previous roles in The Junior League of Tampa include Provisional Education Recruitment Coordinator and Meeting Manager. In addition to The Junior League of Tampa, Stephanie is also Sponsorship Chair for Girls Rock Camp St. Pete and Site Coordinator for the John F. Germany Library Read to Dream Program.





#### KATIE SELMAN Community Child Welfare Manager

Katie Selman was born on Langley Air Force Base, Virginia, and grew up in Germany, where her father was stationed in the U.S. Army. German is Katie's first language as her mother is German. She holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in business administration. Katie currently works for UnitedHealthcare overseeing clinical pharmacy operations. She joined The Junior League of Tampa in 2011, and she is also a court-appointed Guardian ad Litem for 6 foster children in Hillsborough County, a Girl Scout Troop Leader, and a foster parent for underage kittens and puppies for the Humane Society of Tampa. In furtherance of her service to the community and beyond, Katie also recently "adopted" a deployed U.S. Army troop in Africa to whom she sends care packages and other goods in support and appreciation. She is excited to serve as the League's 2018-2019 Community Child Welfare Manager and is confident that she and her six committee chairs will continue and further JLT's commitment to improving the lives of children in our community. In her free time, Katie enjoys the beach, traveling, spending time with family and "Sunday Brunches."



#### REBECCA TOWNER COMMUNITY EDUCATION MANAGER

Rebecca Towner is a proud graduate of the University of Tennessee, and is originally from Illinois. She and her husband have lived in many places throughout the country and, fittingly, her most memorable placement in The Junior League of Tampa was serving on the Transfer Committee. As a transfer from Minneapolis herself, Rebecca had the ability to truly connect with other transferring women and help them acclimate and enjoy their first year in Tampa and JLT. As this year's Community Education Manager, Rebecca is eager to guide each of her committee chairs and leaders to empower one another and embrace the values and missions of their community initiatives. She believes we all joined the League for our own unique reasons, and one of the most compelling for Rebecca is empowerment.

#### COURTNEY BILYEU FUND DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Courtney Bilyeu was born into a Navy family in Monterey, California, and she attended high school in Denmark. Courtney received a bachelor's degree in mass communications from James Madison University and is an alumna of Alpha Sigma Tau sorority. She and her husband Allan, a retired Special Forces Lieutenant Colonel, have called Tampa home since 2012. Courtney joined The Junior League of Tampa in 2013. Her most memorable JLT placement thus far was her position as Social Chair, as she loves people and is a natural event planner. Her goal this year as Fund Development Manager is to put the FUN in FUNd Development! Courtney looks forward to implementing new ideas and inventive ways to promote the League and emphasize its service and contributions to the community.





#### LAUREL MOYNIHAN MEMBERSHIP MANAGER

Laurel Moynihan is originally from Birmingham, Alabama, and she lived in several other states before moving to Florida. She graduated from The Florida State University and moved to Tampa shortly afterwards to begin her career. Laurel joined The Junior League of Tampa to make new friends and become more involved in the community. She has been constantly inspired by the other women in the League, which has served as motivation in becoming this year's Membership Manager. Her most memorable JLT placement thus far was last year, as Provisional Chair, which she describes as "the most fulfilling experience." Outside of the League, Laurel works as a manager in the Shared Services Center at PwC. She and her boyfriend Andy love the outdoors, and Laurel enjoys bike riding along Bayshore and cheering on her Seminoles at football games.

#### BRANDY WALTZER OPERATIONS MANAGER

Brandy Waltzer was born in New York and grew up in Brandon, Florida. She studied criminology, political science and business at The Florida State University, and she currently works as the Southeast Marketing Senior Associate for PwC. She joined The Junior League of Tampa in 2014, and she has been continually inspired not only by her desire to make a difference in the community, but also by the intelligent and driven women she has met and worked alongside in the League. One of her most memorable experiences in JLT was her role as Assistant Chair for Kids in the Kitchen at the Spring during her provisional year. "It was memorable for me because the children at the Spring have often had so many difficult experiences by the time they arrive at the facility. The activities we planned for them gave us the opportunity to make them smile during a rough time." Outside of the League, Brandy loves exploring new foods and cocktails, and she also loves to travel. In the past year or so, she has visited Spain, Ireland, the United Kingdom, Canada, Mexico and Colombia—and Amsterdam and Croatia are next on her list!





#### KITTY FORENZA TREASURER

A native of the Clearwater/Safety Harbor area, Kitty Forenza attended the University of Florida and joined The Junior League of Tampa in 2012. Kitty works in healthcare consulting and considers philanthropy and service to be her life's greatest works. As Treasurer, she plans to work with the Chairs and other leadership to continue to appropriately maximize and oversee League finances while furthering the League's mission, values and goals in the Tampa community. When asked who has influenced her life, Kitty said, "My parents are the epitome of selfless humans and have taught me the importance of giving without expectations. They raised me to speak up during times of inequality and strife, and to value times of growth—all of which make us more well-rounded, worldly and prepared for what lies ahead." She and her husband Mat live in Channelside with their geriatric and lovable bulldog, Harley. One of Kitty's favorite quotes, from Maya Angelou, embodies her passion for service: "People will forget what you said. People will forget what you did. But people will never forget how you made them feel."

#### BRITTANY STAHL ASSISTANT TREASURER

Brittany Stahl was born and raised in St. Pete Beach. She attended The Florida State University for undergraduate studies, then moved to New York City where she attended graduate school and worked in TV news for a few years. Now in Tampa, Brittany is Vice President and Employee Benefits Practice Leader at the commercial insurance agency that her father founded, and still runs today-Stahl & Associates Insurance. "The business experience I have really translates to the League, especially in the fundraising and treasury roles, that are more the behind the scenes/ "business" side of the League." Brittany also appreciates and embraces JLT's core mission and service initiatives. "I think what really made me fall in love with the League and connected with its purpose is the amazing work we do in the community. When you are really immersed in it, and working with the children that we serve, you get to understand the League's true purpose and impact and you want to do everything you can to stay involved and help others." When she has occasional downtime, Brittany enjoys traveling, golf, tennis, snow-skiing in the winter and spending time with her friends and family.



#### RACHEL JACKSON LEGAL CHAIR

Rachel Jackson was born in Baltimore, Maryland, and grew up in a small town on the Chesapeake Bay. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in government and politics, as well as a Juris Doctorate from the University of Maryland. Rachel relocated to Tampa in 2009 with her husband Geoff, who was born and raised on Davis Islands just steps from the League's headquarters. Rachel joined the Junior League of Tampa in 2010 with a goal of gaining personal connections to her new community and meeting like-minded women. She is grateful that some of her most cherished friendships and experiences in Tampa have come from her involvement with the League, and she looks forward to having a more active role during the 2018-2019 year. Outside of the League, Rachel is a legal director at Syniverse Technologies, overseeing corporate compliance, intellectual property and commercial technology transactions. Rachel has two children, Alexander (age 4) and Rowan (age 2), whom she describes as equally adorable, hilarious and stubborn. She lives in South Tampa with her family and golden-doodle puppy, Ninja. She is an avid reader of romance, an aspiring yogi and a lover of food and wine.





#### MARYSUE MATTHEWS OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Marysue Mathews was born in New Jersey and raised in Tampa, Florida. She attended The Academy of Holy Names and subsequently studied business management at The University of Tampa. She and her husband Jim have four grown children and four grandchildren. Marysue was first hired by the League as a part-time receptionist in 2008, and she now serves as the Junior League of Tampa's Office Administrator. Marysue enjoys assisting JLT members in their volunteer roles and helping them bring their ideas and initiatives to life throughout the course of their placements each year. She believes the League's members are some of the most devoted, dedicated and hardworking women she knows. Her favorite recent accomplishment is the League's conversion to its electronic Digital Cheetah platform and, in particular, the transparency and accessibility it offers members. Outside of her role in the League, Marysue loves traveling, boating, reading and spending time with her family.

#### EMILY READ Meeting Manager

Emily Read is originally from South Tampa, and she is happy to once again call it her home. She earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Mercer University, as well as a Master of Science degree in accountancy from the University of Virginia. Emily began her career with KPMG in Charlotte, North Carolina, and she still works with the same group—now as a Senior Manager in the company's Business Tax group. She originally joined the Junior League of Charlotte in 2012 and transferred to The Junior League of Tampa when she moved back in 2015. She looks forward to utilizing her skills and experience this year to assist in planning effective and informative meetings for the League's General Membership, as well as the Management Council and Leadership Council. In her spare time, Emily enjoys spending time with her husband and baby, working out at OrangeTheory and taking weekend beach getaways.



#### 2018-2019 LEADERSHIP COUNCIL



Children's Literacy Project Elizabeth Fisher







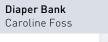




Laura Campbell

Community Advisory Board Alison St. Cyr







Dragon Boat Event Co-Chair Lillian Chor



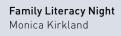
Dragon Boat Event Co-Chair Katie Crowe



Enabling Fund Sarah Peet







Shelby Tuttle

Food 4 Kids

Autumn Etheredge

Caroline Wright

Kristen Brady

Fundraising-Corporate

Fundraising-Annual Campaign



Fundraiser Development and Evaluation Shannon Tompkins

Fundraiser Development and Evaluation













Holiday Gift Market Elect Co-Chair Laura Warren



**IMPACT Newsletter** Sophie Steinberg

JLT Marketplace Cookbook Morgan Nobo

JLT Marketplace Merchandise Dawn Short

**Kids Connect** Jennifer Bell

Kids in the Kitchen Heather Hall



Girl Power! Elizabeth Scarola

Gasparilla Invasion Julie Johnston

Grants Diana Hechavarria

Headquarters Carlee Cone Bowdoin

Sarah Heller



Holiday Gift Market Co-Chair Kimy Marino

Holiday Gift Market Co-Chair



Holiday Gift Market Elect Co-Chair Annie McKibben













Mentor Laura Everitt

Love Bundles Co-Chair

Love Bundles Co-Chair

Tricia Boucek

Erin Jones

The Luminaries

Allison Smedley

Cassidy Murray

Abigail Stevens

Mobile Interactive Literacy Opportunity Carrie Bien

Member Meetings and Events Co-Chair

Member Meetings and Events Co-Chair

**Project Development and Evaluation** Allie Torrence

**Prospective Member Engagement** 

Placement Jennifer Dutkowsky

Kendra Velilla

**Provisional Education** 

Elizabeth Dunsmoor

Public Affairs-Local

Maggie McCleland

**Public Affairs-State** 









Melanie Brown Public Relations and Marketing BeverlyAnn Foster







The Sandspur Kendra Lyman



Teneille Kuznicki

Toastmasters Katelyn Rumenik

Training Jenny Augustyniak

Transfer Kara Bernstein

Volunteer at Large Nicki Mohr Hall



Sustainer President Leslie Jennewein

Ready to Achieve

Strategic Planning

Fiona-Lee Gerrard

Sustainer (Active) Tracie Domino

Ashley Stultz

Technology Andrea Webb

The Sandblast Entela Caisse



The Sustainer Spur



### LATEST LOGOS LAUNCHED

THE DESSERT SPOT	GLAUSIER KNIGHT ATTORNEYS AT LAW	Bolt Pigsm	ALLMAG AUTO PARTS	
	Coral Reef MEDICAL SUPPLY	Why tots. BOUTIQUE	BITE CAFÉ	
IS YOURS NEXT? SENSORY Marketing   Advertising   Design				

## THE SUSTAINE SPUR

#### THE SUSTAINER SPUR'S EDITORIAL STAFF:



#### Teneille Kuznicki, The Sustainer Spur Editor

An Active Member of JLT since 2011, Teneille works in Program Management. She was previously the Co-Chair of the Luminaries Committee, and also part of the Inaugural Committee. Teneille grew up in Trinidad and Tobago, just got married and enjoys travelling the world.

#### SUSTAINER EXECUTIVE BOARD 2018-2019:

Sustainer President: **Leslie Jennewein** Sustainer President-Elect: **Marsha Lane** Sustainer Corresponding Secretary: **Catherine Marston** Sustainer Recording Secretary: **Ann VonThron** 



## Trailblazing

I often look at my life and wonder how "How did I get here?" while trying to figure out "Where do I want to go, What do I really want to attain?" Perseverance is key.

I was raised on Trinidad and Tobago, a small island in the Caribbean, where most citizens rarely travel or move outside of the country. My mother though, had different goals for our family. When I think of the "Power of Women", both my mother and grandmother come immediately to mind. These two women have shown me that not only is family key, but also how you build and maintain your family develops your will and perseverance. How you grow as a person and as a woman grounds you in understanding what it takes to be powerful in your beliefs, the decisions you make and to learn from your past.

My mother is a trailblazer, setting the foundation for me to be the first of many things in our family. While playing field hockey at the national level for Trinidad and Tobago, she powered her way into a male dominated industry at the Port Authority of Trinidad and Tobago, then moved into the insurance industry. My mother however, was not the only trailblazer. She also developed a network of women who are pioneers in sports, education, industry and commerce. These women became my aunts, sisters and friends, and through them I was able to witness first hand, the true power of women. My father and husband often joke that between my mother and me, we almost always get our way. It is not that we just want something, it is because we have set a goal to achieve. We focus on accomplishing a task and approach our goal with calm consideration and accountability.

Coming from a family of firsts, it is only natural that I was drawn to The Junior League of Tampa. This is a trailblazing organization. We forged our own path, developed our vision and have been steadfast in our beliefs. As you read this first issue of the new *The Sustainer Spur*, I challenge you to think about your vision for today and for tomorrow. Where does your "Power" come from? Is it your grit and determination? Is it your thoughtful nature or does it just resonate in simply who you are as a person?

midi

Teneille Kuznicki *The Sustainer Spur* Editor



Life is not easy for any of us. But what of that? We must have perseverance and above all confidence in ourselves. We must believe that we are gifted for something and that this thing must be attained.

— Marie Curie

### Learn To League Again



"Learn to League Again"! I joined The Junior League of Tampa nearly 30 years ago - when I was in my 20s. I often reflect on that time in my life and remember how many of us joined the League during, unarguably, one of the most hectic times of our lives. We were either planning weddings, raising young children, continuing our education, starting new careers or managing multiple responsibilities at once. There were never enough hours in the day to accomplish all of our goals, but we were each on a mission to support the Tampa Bay community, and were confident that we could trust in the League process as a member and volunteer. Whether it was sorting items in a dusty warehouse for the annual Thrift Sale, spending hours at meetings planning for our next project, or rehearsing for the Junior League Follies, it was not until years later that I truly appreciated the investment that I made in this organization. Those memories will forever be a part of *my League*, and I will forever treasure the friends that I made throughout the years; these connections and memories will never be forgotten.

Each of us have our own unique JLT experiences and perspectives. What is your history with the League? What is your future? Are you like many of my friends who contributed significant time and energy over the years and could not wait

to turn 40 and become a Sustainer? Many of us resign, expecting never to return to the League. I understand. I took my own hiatus and later took that first step of restarting my League career and I am so glad that I did.

I am sure that you share my genuine appreciation for the League and the valuable connections made throughout the years. You have earned your status and you deserve it! I wholeheartedly want to convince you to come back and Learn to League Again. Come see what your League is doing to make a difference in the Tampa Bay community.

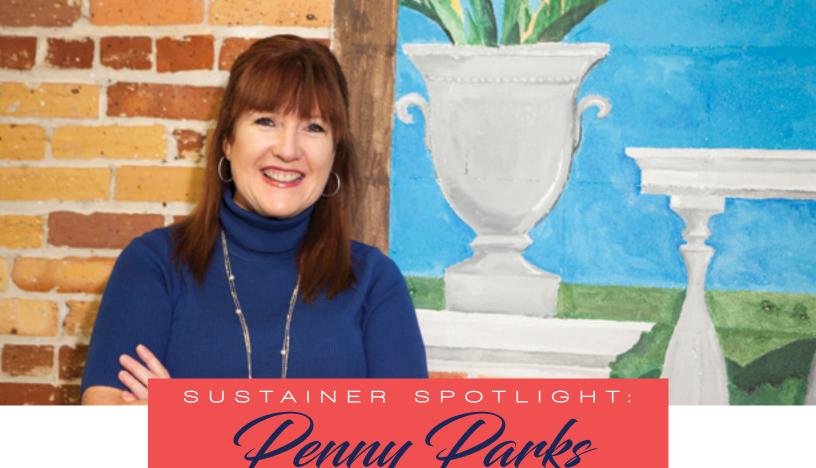
I hope that you will join us for an exciting fall, filled with a variety of Sustainer events - some of which we have enjoyed in the past, as well as a few new ones! The Junior League of Tampa will offer Sustaining members a variety of social, volunteer, mentor and training activities throughout the year. Popular events include, the Fall Cocktail Party, Lunch Bunch, Bridge, Holiday Gift Market Luncheon, Art & Antiques and Christmas Cocktail party, to name a few.

I am also excited that, with the League's Decade of Dedication initiative, we now welcome Sustainers who are much younger than 40 years old. As a result, The Junior League of Tampa Sustaining members are now a much larger and even more talented group of accomplished women!

Welcome to all new Sustaining members; I encourage you to learn from the amazing women who came before you, and we can, in turn, learn from you.

We celebrate our Sustainer leaders, advocates, volunteers, members, mentors and friends. I invite you all to Learn to League Again!

Leslie Jennewein Sustainer President



by STEPHANIE HAAS

"Promoting women to corporate boards, elected government positions, roles in traditionally male dominated industries and advancing the cause of women has been a life-long passion of mine." Sustainer Penny Parks has this advice for women, "Don't ask for permission, just do it. Be tenacious and don't let anyone steal your dream."

The Junior League of Tampa Sustainer, Penny Parks, knows all about The Power of Women. Penny's professional career has spanned over three decades and has included senior positions in the traditionally male dominated financial industry, including roles at Bank of America, Northern Trust, and the Royal Bank of Canada. Today, she is President of Links Financial LLC, a company she founded in 2006. Links Financial assists growing and mid-sized business owners, real estate developers, and investors in obtaining debt financing.

As an Active member of The Junior League of Tampa, Penny held multiple committee chair roles, including Training Chair and Trinkets & Treasures Auction Solicitation Chair. Parks recounts that her League experience equipped her for success when founding Links Financial twelve years ago. "The Junior League of Tampa teaches members to approach issues and projects methodically. By doing this, each member understands that they are integral to the League's success. This skill is transferable to any volunteer organization or business."

A Sustainer since 2001, Parks has gone on to leadership positions in many other professional and volunteer organizations in the Tampa Bay community. Parks says that The Junior League of Tampa is unique in that, "not only does the League accomplish important work, it finds organizations and partners in the community who need their help to bolster the work they are doing. The League provides volunteers, funding, assistance and advice to eventually ensure that these projects become self-sustaining. The League provides the tools these organizations need to ensure success on their own."

To those recent Sustainers and members soon becoming Sustainers, Parks lends the following advice: "There are so many worthwhile causes to lend your time to. If you join an organization, get involved and be engaged."

STEPHANIE HAAS

Stephanie Haas is JLT's Communications Manager. She lives in New Tampa with her husband, John, and her two very stubborn french bulldogs, Wrigley and Mattingly. An avid music and sport fan, if you can't find her at headquarters, you can find her cheering on the Gators and Bucs, or at a concert somewhere in the world.

## THE HISTORY OF HEADQUARTERS

#### by CAMERON HUNT MCNABB

The Junior League of Tampa has recently undertaken exciting renovations and changes to its Headquarters building, which has served as the home base for the League since 1964. Equally exciting, however, is the inspiring history of our Headquarters and the women of JLT who made it a reality.

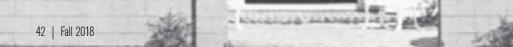
The land on which our Headquarters sits was originally part of Marjorie Park, owned by the City of Tampa. In 1958, under Mayor Nick Nuccio, the City leased the land to the League for \$1,000 per year. A year later, under Mayor Julian Lane, it was deeded to the League permanently. "The City was so helpful," Sustainer Pat Daley remembers. The ground-breaking ceremony was held on March 14, 1963, with both mayors present. It is undoubtedly fitting that Tampa invested in the League so that the League could better invest in Tampa.

The iconic grand oak tree in the front was purchased through the Headquarters fund, from the sale of

bonds and a raise in membership dues in 1960. The April 1963 issue of *The Sandspur* notes that bond pledges were scarce after the stock market dropped in the spring of 1962, but the bonds eventually came through and the beautiful, large tree was planted.

The rest of the oak trees surrounding the JLT building are from Mrs. Daley's own backyard. "There were no trees," Mrs. Daley laments as she describes the early history of Headquarters. "My yardman and I planted them ourselves," she recalls, adding that the transplanted oaks were quite big even at that time.

The original furnishings for Headquarters were arranged by Mildred Gallagher, who donated her services from her own decorating shop. According to reports in archived issues of *The Sandspur*, Mary Sue Frank oversaw the laying of every brick and the placement of every piece of furniture. Many other women whose names appear repeatedly in the Headquarters records—Carroll Cozart, Martha



Ferman, Pat Daley, among others—all graciously contributed their time and talents to dedicate the building to "long and useful service."

The building itself was designed by architect and JLT husband, Harry McEwen, five years after the first "housing fund" was set up by the League. His plans were approved by a 5-1 vote in 1960. Construction of the building, however, was temporarily delayed when in 1961, money

was lent from the fund to publish the Gasparilla cookbook, and then in 1962, when the infamous Cuban Missile Crisis put everything on hold as the nation waited out the related uncertainties. As noted in the April 1963 issue of *The Sandspur*, "our thoughts turned to simple survival." Finally, in 1963, the League had secured a contract with Logan Construction Company for \$42,027.00 (with no record as to the peculiar extra \$27.00). The formal dedication ceremony took place on March 8, 1964, almost one year to the day of the ground-breaking.

In an endearing peek into the lives of the League's Members at the time, JLT's then-President, DeeDee Gray, humorously remarked that, "after 35 years of hiding League records under beds and in closets, we now have a place to keep them safe from little hands and irate husbands." The long-awaited Headquarters had finally become a reality.

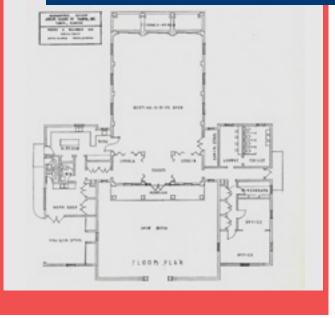
These historical records provide only part of the legacy of our Headquarters. We are fortunate to learn even more from within the "walls" of our building and many of our longest-serving Members who helped create the legacy itself!

Gerry Hunt, a Sustainer Member who has served the League for more than 60 years, does not recall where JLT membership congregated before Headquarters was built—though she does remember that it was always the first Tuesday of the month—some things never change! Mrs. Daley, too, cannot recall where Members typically met before the building's construction, which of course speaks volumes to Headquarters' central role in the function of the League.

Sustainer Barbara Davidson transferred to Tampa just as Headquarters was built, and she recalls that "it was a great place to meet everyone." As she attends meetings and luncheons today as a Sustainer, Mrs. Hunt fondly remembers years of bridge club and Gasparilla parties for children. For more than fifty years, Headquarters has served as a home for not only the Members of JLT, but for its legacy in our community.







In recording the dedication ceremony in 1964, The Sandspur remarked, "We hope that in years ahead the League will look back on this day as one which marked the beginning of even more outstanding accomplishments in service to the community made possible through our feeling of greater unity." In the decades since, there is no doubt that JLT Headquarters has continued to provide a home and conduit for the League's continued, inspiring service to the community.

CAMERON HUNT MCNABB Cameron Hunt McNabb has been a member of The Junior League of Tampa since 2016 and is part of the third generation in her family to serve in JLT. She works as an English professor and enjoys running and traveling in her spare time. Cameron looks forward to raising her daughter to serve in the League as well!

#### SUSTAINERS **THROUGH THE DECADES** by LESLIE JENNEWEIN & MADELINE MORRIS

In celebration of The Junior League of Tampa's inspiring history, we are honored to introduce some of the League's earliest founding members and leaders, each of whom has helped guide the League through its many decades of service and growth.

#### **1920s Members**



#### **MARION HARVEY** PARTRICK

Marion Harvey Patrick is a Charter member and was The Junior League of Tampa's first President (1926-1927), as

well as the first Sustainer President (1942-1943).



#### MARY BAIRD SHACKLEFORD

Mary Baird Shackleford joined The Junior League of Tampa in 1926 and served as President for the 1930-1931 League year. She also served as the JLT Editor of the Tampa Bay Times from 1929-1930. Her daughter, Mary

Shackleford Wolfe, followed in her footsteps and served as JLT's President for the 1954-1955 League year.



#### LERA FINLEY FARRIOR

Lera Finley Farrior is a Charter member and served as The Junior League of Tampa's President for the 1933-1934 League year. She also served on the inaugural Board of Directors as Chair of Volunteer Works, overseeing all JLT community projects, and she subsequently served as the League's 1946-1947 Sustainer President.



#### LOUISE LYKES FERGUSON

Louise Lykes Ferguson served as Sustainer President for the 1956-1957 League year, and

she was also honored as the 1974 Sustainer of the Year. Her active service in the League included her roles as Chair of the Library, Ways and Means, and Placement Committees, and she was a founding member of The Chiselers. In 2005, she received The Junior League of Tampa's Lifetime Commitment award. Her daughter, Stella Thayer, served as JLT's 1978-1979 President. Louise Lykes Ferguson passed away in 2016, leaving behind a truly inspiring legacy for The Junior League of Tampa.



#### **1930s Members**

#### **GEORGIA CORNELIUS MACDONALD**

Georgia Cornelius MacDonald served as JLT's President for the 1941-1942 League year, and as JLT's Sustainer President for the 1955-1956 League year. She received The Junior League of Tampa's 1971 Sustainer of the Year award. She and her husband Clifford founded the MacDonald Training Center (originally the Drew Park School), which also began as a JLT project.



#### **EVELYN FARRIOR POLK**

Evelyn Farrior Polk served as The Junior League of Tampa's President (1944-1945) and as Sustainer President (1957-1958).

### Georgia MacDonald ..... Sustainer of the Year!



No. The Jos

#### Lera Finley Farrior, Quite a Lady!

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#### OUR SPECIAL GUESTS: Founder of the Junior Se Largue of Tampa 1926





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A special thank you to LESLIE JENNEWEIN and MADELINE MORRIS for their work researching JLT yearbooks and photos to recognize the women who founded The Junior League of Tampa.

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#### THE LUMINARIES Preserving the Past. Inspiring the Future.

#### by BRIDGET ABBAS

Each spring, The Junior League of Tampa proudly honors outstanding individuals in the community through its annual awards program, The Luminaries. Honorees are exemplars of leadership, empowerment, advocacy and distinction within their respective areas of service.

In partnership with WEDU PBS, JLT hosted a luncheon on May 11<sup>th</sup> at the Bryan Glazer Family JCC to recognize The 2018 Luminaries: Mary Lynn Ulrey, Rosemary Henderson, and T. Terrell Sessums. WEDU PBS documented and shared the honorees' inspirational stories through a special prime time broadcast. The broadcast is also now part of a permanent collection of digital biographies on display at the Tampa Bay History Center. The 2018 Luminaries WEDU Special may be viewed online at jltampa.org/luminaries. For each year's program, the League invites community-wide nominations of exemplary individuals in the Tampa Bay area who have made a lasting impact through all types of service, dedication, and efforts. With more than 90 years of history and a membership of 2000 women, The Junior League of Tampa is uniquely positioned and honored to identify and celebrate leaders who are making a tangible difference in the community.

Nominations for The 2019 Luminaries program were accepted through October 1, 2018, and the awards event will take place on May 10, 2019, at the Glazer Family JCC.

For more information about the program, the nomination process, and event updates, please visit jltampa.org/luminaries or contact Allison Smedley at luminaries@jltampa.org.

BRIDGET ABBAS

Congratulations to the 2018 Luminaries Honorees: Rosemary Henderson, T. Terrell Sessums and Mary Lynn Ulrey.



Bridget is a fifth-year Active member of JLT and a veteran educator. She is passionate about teaching her middle school students to read, write and think critically about the world around them. When not teaching, Bridget also serves on the boards of several nonprofit educational organizations.

A gift to the Commemorative Fund is a way to recognize a significant event in a Junior League of Tampa member's life – joining in her celebration or thinking of her in a time of sorrow.

Any occasion may be commemorated; below are a few ideas:

- Celebrate birthdays, engagements, marriages, anniversaries, births, new jobs or promotions.
- Honor someone's service to JLT.
- Offer condolences to a member who has lost a loved one.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO

#### Gina Evans,

on her acceptance into

- Leadership Tampa
- Melanie Brown
- Maggie McCleland
- Isabel Dewey
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft
- Caroline Vostrejs
- Meghan McGuire

#### Laura Lenhart,

on her acceptance into

- Leadership Tampa
- Melanie Brown
- Maggie McCleland
- Isabel Dewey
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft
- Caroline Vostrejs

#### Laurel Moynihan,

- on her new job
- Isabel Dewey
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft
- Maggie McCleland
- Courtney Bilyeu
- Rebecca Towner
- Emily Read
- Kitty Forenza
- Katie Selman
- Lindsey Parks

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Rachel Jackson

- Caroline Vostrejs
- Leslie Hodz
- Meghan McGuire
- Ashley Watters

#### Kristen Brady,

on her promotion to

- Operations Director
- Courtney Bilyeu
- Lindsey Parks
- Kitty Forenza
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft
- Brittany Stahl
- Brandy Waltzer
- Taylor Jones
- Leslie Hodz
- Meghan McGuire
- Isabel Dewey

#### Lindsey Parks,

- on her new job
- Courtney Bilyeu
- Brittany Stahl
- Katie Selman
- Brandy Waltzer
- Rebecca Towner
- Emily Read
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft
- Caroline Vostrejs
- Meghan McGuire
- Isabel Dewey

#### Brandy Waltzer,

on her new job

- Rebecca Towner
- Courtney Bilyeu
- Lindsey Parks
- Caroline Vostrejs
- Meghan McGuire
- Isabel Dewey
- Rachel Jackson
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft
- Kitty Forenza
- Emily Read
- Laurel Moynihan
- Katie Selman
- Brittany Stahl
- ....
- Michele Hintson, on her acceptance into Leadership Tampa
- Isabel Dewey
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft

#### Elena Ketchum,

on her acceptance into

- Leadership Tampa
- Isabel Dewey
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft

#### Samantha McCan,

- on her promotion
- Kendra Lyman

**Terri Parnell Longphee,** on her acceptance into Leadership Tampa

Isabel Dewey

#### Shelley Sharp,

on her acceptance into Leadership Tampa

- Isabel Dewey
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft

#### Angel Wynn,

Isabel Dewey

on her acceptance into

Melissa Knight Nodhturft

Melissa Knight Nodhturft

Shannon Tompkins,

on her new home

Courtney Bilyeu

Lauren Vagnoni,

on her new job

Kendra Lyman

Isabel Dewey

Leadership Tampa



To make a commemorative gift, simply fill out an envelope and place your donation inside (cash or check only) or scan the QR code to be taken directly to our online donation site (credit or debit card). All commemorative gifts support JLT's endowment.

To learn more or to make a gift, visit jltampa.org/commemorative-gifts. For questions, contact funddevelopmentmanager@jltampa.org.

This includes a cumulative listing of commemorative gifts received June 6, 2018 through September 16, 2018

#### CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF

#### Clara Grace,

daughter of Katie Peluso Courtney Bilyeu

#### Harper,

#### daughter of Marsha Leventry

Sarah and Samuel Heller

#### Anderson.

- son of Carlee Bowdoin
- Sarah and Samuel Heller
- Courtney Bilyeu
- Brandy Waltzer
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft
- Caroline Vostrejs
- Isabel Dewey

#### Riley,

daughter of Kristen Wells Sarah and Samuel Heller

#### Mackenzie,

- daughter of Kelly Miller Ashley Rector
- Brandy Waltzer

#### Adeline,

- daughter of Emily Boucher
- Courtney Bilyeu
- Kristen Brady
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft

#### Ty Emerson,

son of Carrie Cross Rebecca Towner

#### Cameron Makena,

daughter of Anne Bloomquist Rebecca Towner

Melissa Knight Nodhturft

#### James Preston,

son of Jessica Rybicki

- Courtney Bilyeu
- Maggie McCleland
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft
- Leslie Hodz

#### Andrew.

- son of Jenna Milavickas
- Emily Read
- Caroline Vostrejs
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft

#### Amelia,

daughter of Carrie Minerva Stephanie Haas

#### Cameron Michael,

son of Mary Bolen Mary Bolen

- Ashley Watters
- Isabel Dewey
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft

#### Ava Joy,

daughter of Mia Cizmarik

- Ashley Watters
- Isabel Dewey
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft

#### IN MEMORY OF

#### Steven Tyler Everitt, Laura Everitt's brother

#### Jessica Hornof

- Lindsay Dorrance
- Courtney Bilyeu
- Laurel Moynihan
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft
- Caroline Vostrejs
- Meghan McGuire
- Isabel Dewey

#### Ashley Rushing's Mother

- Laura Everitt
- Taylor Jones
- Meghan McGuire
- Isabel Dewey
- Melissa Knight Nodturft

#### Dali Uresti's Grandmother

Laura Everitt

#### Clark Webb. Andrea Webb's Father-In-Law

 Caroline Vostrejs Courtney Bilyeu

#### Jen Carlstedt's Step-Father

- Ashley Watters
- Isabel Dewey
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft

#### Ellen Boczarski's Aunt

Jenny Schroeder

#### **Denise Schultz's Father**

- Laura Everitt
- Isabel Dewey
- Melissa Knight Nodhturft

#### The Junior League of Tampa Endowment Fund

Leaving a Legacy ... Sustaining Our Service

The Endowment Fund was established in 2006 in partnership with The Community Foundation of Tampa Bay. The fund ensures fiscal stability for The Junior League of Tampa, allowing members to focus on the League's mission independent of the state of the economy or the size of membership. A strong endowment fund will ensure a revenue stream that will augment, but not replace, annual fundraising revenue generated through individuals, events, grants, corporate sponsorships and membership dues. This provides the opportunity to pursue new opportunities or deal with unforeseen circumstances without creating an additional financial hardship for JLT or its members. Commemorative gifts support the Endowment Fund.

#### 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Endowment Donors

#### 90<sup>TH</sup> LEGACY FOUNDER

Don and Campbell Burton Betsy and Drew Graham

#### 90<sup>TH</sup> SUSTAINING FOUNDER

Suzanne and Evan Brownstein Stacy Carlson Solon F. O'Neal, Jr., *in memory of Sherrill Bell O'Neal* 

#### 90<sup>™</sup> FOUNDER

The Dutkowsky Charitable Foundation Laura Everitt Dr. Michael and Ginny Garcia Mark and Suzy Mendelson

#### 90<sup>TH</sup> SPONSOR

The Ambersley Family Foundation/The Kamm Family The Beck Group Kate Caldarelli Katie and Ryan Cappy Tara and Whalen Clark Cindy and Tony Coney Marie Hebbler Nicole and Matt Hubbard Melissa and Phil Nodhturft Dada Pittman Jenny and Peter Spencer 2015-2016 Inaugural Management Council 2015-2016 Leadership Council, *in honor of Stacy Carlson* 

#### 90<sup>TH</sup> CONTRIBUTOR

Fran Dupuis Tom and Andrea Layne Marysue and Jim Mathews Gianni O'Connor Ginny Veit Caroline Vostrejs

#### 90<sup>TH</sup> SUPPORTER

Mildred Lewis, *in honor of Alden Lewis Sollner, Lisl Unterholzner, Gloria Johnston Sparkman, and Anne Wilson King* Selena Ward 2015-2016 Endowment Committee

#### The Founder's Circle Endowment Donors

#### LEGACY FOUNDERS

The Junior League of Tampa Campbell and Don Burton The Community Foundation of Tampa Bay

#### **SUSTAINING FOUNDERS**

Betsy and Drew Graham Drs. Lance and Georgia Kane, *in memory of Kenneth Charles Kane* 

#### FOUNDERS

Heather and Bennett Barrow Allison and Adam Burden, in memory of Sandee Simpson Barnes and Jennifer Kay Barnes Laurie Ann Burton Stacy Carlson Pat and Calvin Carter Mrs. George D. Curtis, Jr. Pamela C. and Brett D. Divers First Citrus Bank, in honor of Jessica Kendall Sally and Lewis H. Hill, III Jenay and Kevin lurato Helen Kerr Ann Sells and David Miller Jennifer S. Moyer and M. Lance Tavana Terri D. Parnell Mary, David and Abigail Persky Stephanie and Stephen Rumbley Lavinia Witt Touchton, in memory of Willie Carter Witt Blake

Donor List as of September 16, 2018. Donations less than \$250 are recognized through the Commemorative Fund.

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

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

VEX VEX VEX VEX 1926 Cloning

The program allows you to leave your legacy in our community by supporting the future of the League and its members.



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NOW ACCEPTING



Honored to support The Junior League of Tampa and its commitment to helping break the cycle of poverty for our most disadvantaged children and families.

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## WHO'S WHO IN THE LEAGUE

by KENDRA LYMAN

Get to know a few of our inspiring members who have shared with us their passion for JLT, as well as their exciting lives and accomplishments outside of the League!

#### MOLLY MOLLOY CATLETT

Raised in Louisiana and a graduate of The University of Alabama, Molly Molloy moved to Tampa in 2014. She joined The Junior League of Tampa in 2015 in an effort to get to know the community, make friends and grow professionally. She considers herself very fortunate to have met great friends in the League through her active involvement.

As a Provisional member, Molly Molloy demonstrated her leadership abilities and eagerly undertook a Willingness to Lead position through Kids in the Kitchen at Metropolitan Ministries. She enjoyed her Provisional experience so much that she became a Provisional Mentor the following year! This past year, Molly Molloy served as the Fundraising Sponsorship Liaison Coordinator for The Tampa Bay International Dragon Boat Races, enjoying the opportunity to utilize and expand on her leadership and fundraising skills.

Outside of the League, Molly Molloy works at Colliers International, a commercial real estate firm, providing market knowledge, transaction support, space identification, property tours and financial analysis services for her clients on behalf of Tampa's high-volume Healthcare Services team and Office Occupier Services team. She also is an active team member of the Colliers Centers of Excellence.

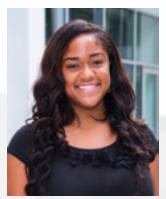
Molly Molloy and her husband, Kyle, live in South Tampa with their dog Bourè. She enjoys traveling to new destinations, cheering on the Tide, biking and checking out Tampa's fabulous restaurant scene.



#### JAYDE STEWART

Jayde V. Stewart is a 2018 Provisional member committed to serving the Tampa Bay community and inspiring change for the benefit of society through her League involvement. JLT's commitment to developing the potential of women and children aligns strongly with her own personal beliefs and values, and Jayde is looking forward to developing new relationships and getting involved in the League's many initiatives and programs.

Jayde is program manager of the Fellows program at the National Academy of Inventors. Jayde earned a bachelor's degree in public health from the University of Pennsylvania, and she is currently pursuing a master's degree in entrepreneurship in applied technologies at the University of South Florida. Jayde is a USF Women in Leadership & Philanthropy Virginia Gregory Endowment in Entrepreneurship Scholar and maintains a 3.9 GPA. In addition to school, her commitments to the League, and a full-time job, Jayde also manages a unique cupcake business, IntoxicakeDC, a company she founded in February 2017 in Washington, D.C., that has since expanded to Tampa. She is passionate about improving the world through innovation and hopes to inspire and encourage the next generation of female entrepreneurs and inventors.



#### MELANIE BROWN

A graduate of The Florida State University, Melanie lived in Tallahassee for 10 years and was a member of The Junior League of Tallahassee. Since transferring to The Junior League of Tampa in 2012, Melanie has served JLT continuously as a critical part of the Public Affairs Committee. As a Co-Chair this year, Melanie is focusing on the state advocacy initiatives and promotion of the League's significant community contributions and involvement to state and local elected officials.

Outside of the League, Melanie works with a boutique firm as a contract lobbyist representing various clients before the Florida Legislature. Melanie has used this experience to assist multiple anti-human trafficking non-profits in the Tampa Bay area advance their respective projects and initiatives to help victims across the state of Florida. Melanie has an identical twin sister, Nicole Garcia, who is also an active member of The Junior League of Tampa - people often do a double take! Melanie is married with two toddlers who keep her on her toes, and is also an active parishioner with Christ the King Catholic Church.



#### KENDRA LYMAN

Kendra has been an Active member of JLT since 2015 and previously served as a contributing writer and as Assistant Editor for *The Sandspur*. She works as a construction law attorney and has lived in Tampa since 2013. In her free time, Kendra enjoys running, attending concerts with her husband Chance, and spending time with friends and family.

# OUT AND ABOUT





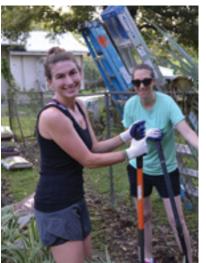


































# OUT AND ABOUT



















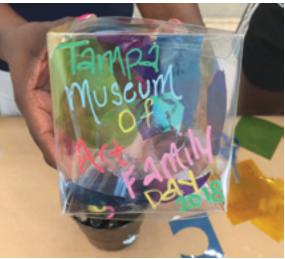












## CONNECT WITH US

This and every 2018-2019 League year edition of *The Sandspur* highlights The Junior League of Tampa's social media channels and web presence. We encourage members to join the conversation by linking up with us on social. Share your favorite League pictures using the hashtag **#myJLTampa.** You can also access the latest *Sandspur* online. We look forward to connecting with you!

Read about our great community projects, interesting membership, fabulous donors and issues affecting the Tampa community. jltampa.org/sandspur

Keep your finger on the pulse of the League. jltampa.org

Learn about our impact in the community. jltampa.org/community

Enjoy some "face time." facebook.com/ TheiuniorLeagueofTampa

Follow us on Instagram. @JuniorLeagueofTampa

Support our community projects. jltampa.org/support

Access cookbooks and other League merchandise. jltampa.org/jlt-culinary-collectioncookbooks

## QUANTIFYING OUR IMPACT

The Junior League of Tampa is committed to helping break the cycle of poverty for our most disadvantaged children and families. Our Community Projects in the areas of child welfare and education aim to directly impact, provide and build a better community for all.



VOLUNTEER HOURS: **50,000+** 



VOLUNTEERS AT LARGE: 1,500+ volunteer hours



HOLIDAY GIFT MARKET: 17,573 shoppers



LOVE BUNDLES: 1,298 backpacks delivered



F00D 4 KIDS: 11,285 bags packed



CHILDREN'S LITERACY PROJECT: 6,061 books donated

**Congratulations to** Morgan Bachrodt & Brett Campbell



Photo courtesy of Del Sol Photography

Venue: The Ocean Club Bahamas, A Four Seasons Resort

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EVENTS

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