THE SANDSPUR Fall 2022

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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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*denotes non-voting member

OFFICE STAFF

Marysue Mathews, Office Administrator Chelsie Krencik, Accounting Associate Leslie White, Communications and Member Administrator

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The Sandspur Magazine Designed by: Sensory 5







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a note from the editor

As we kick-off the 2022-2023 League year, it's a privilege to serve as Editor for *The Sandspur*. The role is uniquely positioned to see, celebrate, and amplify member contributions spread across the organization, from sold-out fundraising galas to afternoon Love Bundle packing shifts. Our team feels especially fortunate to witness and share all the hard work invested, both the big wins and the small steps.

This issue's theme, Shine Forward, is a nod to the future-facing strategy and everevolving nature of the League and our members. In this issue, we elevate rising business leaders, like our incredible Young Entrepreneurship Program winner, Monet Izquierdo. Through a collection of Day in the Life profiles, we share a glimpse into our members' everyday impact through community-facing careers and their continued dedication to a stronger, healthier Tampa. And finally, in League News, we cover not one but two pilot community initiatives, the Diaper Bowl family service event, and the extension of the League's Alliance for Period Supplies dispenser program.

I'm excited for you to read more about the League's bright future. Thank you so much for the opportunity to share.

Kinta Johnitz Thelps

Kirsten Schmitz Phelps *The Sandspur*, Editor-In-Chief 2022-2023

GET IN TOUCH

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Meet the SANDSPUR EDITORIAL STAFF



Kirsten Schmitz Phelps, Editor-In-Chief

Kirsten is a second-year Active member of the JLT. She is the Director of Florida Student Success Initiatives at Helios Education Foundation, where she leads early learning and K-12 grantmaking initiatives that uplift first-generation, low-income, and underserved students to ensure they not only access, but also complete a postsecondary degree. She enjoys running, reading, and traveling.



Nancy Warner, Assistant Editor-In-Chief

Nancy is a seventh-year Active member and relocated back home to Tampa in 2020. Founder and CEO of Potlicker Kitchen, a food manufacturing company, Nancy's award winning products have been featured in magazines, sold out on QVC, and exported around the world. Her volunteer work and public speaking is focused on the food-insecure and local food systems. She spends her time with her two young girls adventuring around town, practicing yoga, and reading.



Casey Barile, Copy Editor and Contributing Writer

Casey is an Active JLT member who has enjoyed volunteering her time in the League in various positions within the PR and Communications committees and Toastmasters. She works as a Franchise Business Director for a global pizza brand. When she isn't working or volunteering she enjoys running, entertaining, spending time on our beautiful Florida beaches or fishing in the Bay with her husband, Logan and daughter, Zoe or cuddling on the couch with her beagle, Pickles.



Lila Gross, Features Editor

Lila is a fourth-year Active member of the JLT. She has been creating content featuring local businesses and highlighting the best spots in Tampa Bay for over five years. When she's not exploring local hotspots you can find her volunteering with Autism Speaks, putting on a chef hat to whip up a mean meal, or playing with her mini Aussie, Piper.



Lauren Kerr, Features Editor

Lauren joined the JLT in 2017. In addition to volunteering with JLT, Lauren is a committee member to the Board of Directors for the Pinellas County Chapter of the Florida Association for Women Lawyers. Outside of her profession as a construction litigation attorney, she enjoys spending time exploring Europe, where she and her husband are currently stationed due to active-duty military service.



Amber Lewis, Advertising Coordinator

Amber is a realtor with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices and is the principal Realtor of the Amber Lewis Group. She has been a member of JLT since 2015 and enjoys staying actively involved in the community. Amber is married with a four-year-old son and two mastiff dogs.

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a note from the president

Looking ahead and strategizing about the future is a familiar concept for me at work and home. I spend a lot of energy looking at what's in front of me and imagining what's possible, what comes next, and what improvements can be made. How will our league grow? How can I raise my daughter to be a kind, responsible, and compassionate young woman? How can we **make shift happen**?

When I thought about what we could accomplish at the League over the next year, I started where we began nearly one hundred years ago, when 22 visionary women in Tampa gathered together and committed to a legacy of service. They have been making shift happen since the start, which is one of the reasons I chose #MakeShiftHappen as the theme for the year.

The Junior League of Tampa members are volunteering, advocating for community change, working together and building each other up, all while they balance careers, relationships, and obligations. When we talk about our achievements as an organization, it is the achievements of our members. In this issue, you will meet a few members, read about our annual Holiday Gift Market (November 10-13th) and Diaper Bowl (December 3rd), and meet our incredible leaders.

The single defining characteristic of The Junior League is its membership structure. It makes us unique and unlike other nonprofit organizations in how we conduct our business and build our legacy. No one else can recruit and train volunteers the way we do. By becoming a member of JLT, you're not just serving your community, you're ensuring that others will follow in your footsteps. **That means our efforts grow exponentially in their impact.**

The real power of the League for me — the reason I can find 100+ extra hours a month for this work — is because of the way it makes me feel, not just as a member and a neighbor, but as a mother, as a professional, and as a peer. Each of our members will have their own story of why they became a member of JLT and their unique way of channeling their strengths for the benefit of others. JLT gives us more than an opportunity to give back to the community. It IS a community. And it's a community that fills my cup.

Thank you for your continued support of the League. Join us in making shift happen!

Caroline Vostrejs President, 2022-2023







Candy Olson *President*

Kate Caldarelli President-Elect

Nancy Mynard Executive Board Sustainer At Large

Lynette Russell Management Council Sustainer Liaison

Janet Mendez Corresponding Secretary

Regina Birrenkott Master Calendar

Susan Baldwin Back to the League

Terrie Dodson-Caldevilla HGM Luncheon

Joanne Sullivan Spring Luncheon

Gigi Rechel & Erin Jones *Cocktail Party*

Cindy Coney & Barbara Stubbs Art

Pat van Dyke Day at the Races

Mary Gamble Book Talks

Kimberly James & Brigid Futch Pop Up Happy Hours

Jenny Schroeder Community Service

Nadyne Hines & Barby Landers Transfers

Sarah Walters Sustainer Liaison

Brittany Stahl & Courtney Bilyeu (actives) Sustainer Chairs

a note from the sustainer president

Welcome to 2022-2023! I am honored to be your Sustainer president and am looking forward to our time together. I am a long-time Tampa resident who enjoyed my time as an Active and then stepped back a bit, as Sustainers often do, and I am now re-engaged to give back a bit to the League that has given me so much.

As I reflect on the past few years, I know we have experienced so much change — not just in our families, our health, the weather and our favorite sports teams, but also in how and where we do things. Many of us enjoy restaurants outside rather than in. So much communication is done by email rather than on paper. Sustainers may experience the League differently; some of us will want to be more involved with Actives and can offer time and talent, mentorship and support. We are strong women who adapt to those changes, as we have adapted to so much else during our lives.

To respect the old and work with the new, your Sustainers will offer a variety of opportunities. I welcome your ideas for activities and locations for things like pop-up gatherings, and invite you to join us in

- social events like our art experiences and pop-ups,
- community service opportunities with special Sustainer shifts for League projects and activities, and
- a new League effort to offer affinity groups, in which Provisionals, Actives, and Sustainers delve into areas of mutual interest ranging from international dining to League lawyers to E&I issues.

Information about all of these experiences, and more, will come to you in many ways: via *The Sandspur*, in email via the *Sustainer Sandblast*, and on Facebook on The Junior League of Tampa: Sustainers Only page.

In addition, the League has a new member portal and a modernized app that includes a directory and calendar of events. Watch your email for an "Invitation to Join the Junior League Member Portal" from donotreply@jl.org and follow the directions. It's easy and convenient.

For many of us, this time of year brings a fresh start. It's coming home from vacation, going back to school, watching football, enjoying cool weather (well, soon I hope!) - and coming back to the League. After the past couple of years, it's time, don't you think?

Cardy Olson

Candy Olson Sustainer President, 2022-2023

SUSTAINERS CALENDAR

*calendar as of 9/12/22

ON GOING

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10 HGM Preview Night

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11 Sustainer Fall Meeting and Luncheon at HGM

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF TAMPA

- TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15 Pop Up Happy Hour, Bocelli's
- TUESDAY, **DECEMBER 6** Art Event, Roost Vintage Jewelry

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22 Art Event — Concert at UT

Community service opportunities available, check email and Facebook!

Jac







Hi! I'm Dani and I'm a Tampa-based lifestyle photographer. I can't think of anything sweeter than being included in your most *timeless moments*.

DaniEllisePhotography.com

A DAY INTE

The Junior League of Tampa members are an active community of leaders, both in and out of the League. See the diverse roles and contributions a few of our members take on in their jobs across the bay in these A Day in the Life profiles. Whether a Provisional, Active, or Sustainer, League women make a difference.

AVRIL STINSON SENIOR DIRECTOR, MINORITY BUSINESS ACCELERATOR & economic inclusion, tampa bay chamber

JLT SUSTAINER



PLEASE SHARE MORE ABOUT YOUR ROLE AT THE TAMPA BAY CHAMBER.

As the Senior Director for Minority Business Accelerator (MBA)and Economic Inclusion for the Chamber, I lead an initiative that is a program of the Tampa Bay Chamber Foundation designed to aid and prepare Black and Hispanic businesses for growth. The MBA helps these businesses identify and overcome barriers, which often include limited access to capital, key decision makers, and information. By providing practical tools for change, program participants are positioned to increase capacity, create jobs, and build wealth.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE BEST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

The most rewarding part of my job is connecting business leaders with education, contacts, and opportunities to help them grow successfully. Success is different for each individual CEO/Founder and being a part of their entrepreneurial journey is an honor.

WHAT IS SOMETHING THAT SURPRISES PEOPLE ABOUT YOUR JOB?

I don't lead the sessions, and I have a wonderful network of Chamber members and Community leaders I engage with constantly to meet the needs of the businesses I serve.

WHY DID YOU JOIN JLT?

When I first moved to Tampa 20 years ago, I had many friends that recommended JLT as a way to meet new people and give back to the community I newly called home.

HOW HAS YOUR JLT MEMBERSHIP IMPACTED YOU?



My membership came at an impactful transitional time in my life, and it was perfect timing. I had delayed applying until the "timing was right," and my provisional year was incredible and exactly what I needed. I was able to give back, while in a time of need I myself needed the connection and network of dedicated female leaders in our community for mentorship, friendship, as well as personal and professional development.



GINA EVANS DIRECTOR GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS, TAMPA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

JLT SUSTAINER



PLEASE SHARE MORE ABOUT YOUR ROLE AT TAMPA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

I am responsible for representing all four of our airports at the federal, state and local level as well overseeing our community outreach. During this time, I have secured over \$500 million in federal and state grants and have had impact over many key pieces of legislation. I spend quite a bit of time building relationships and educating key decisions makers on the "why" so that when we have an ask, it is easy for them to hopefully say "yes."

WHAT DO YOU LIKE BEST ABOUT THIS WORK?

Our team- we have the best team in the industry and we all work together. We find new innovative ways of doing things and celebrate those wins collectively.

WHAT IS SOMETHING THAT SURPRISES PEOPLE ABOUT YOUR WORK?

Aside from not flying for free, I would say that while every issue seems so polarizing, elected officials truly do want to work together and agree on more than is portrayed. We are fortunate in Tampa to have leaders who work across the aisle for the good of our community.

WHY DID YOU JOIN JLT?

I joined JLT to work along side other women to improve our community and make change.

HOW HAS YOUR JLT MEMBERSHIP IMPACTED YOU?

The League is a wonderful place to try new things, meet amazing women and gain the skills to serve on other boards. Without the lessons from JLT, I would not be as connected to other organizations in our community.





LINDSAY SEEL OWNER & DESIGNER, VIVANT EVENT RENTALS

JLT ACTIVE



PLEASE SHARE MORE ABOUT VIVANT EVENT RENTALS. WHAT DROVE YOU TO GET STARTED? DESCRIBE YOUR TYPICAL DAY.

I always wanted to work in events but coming out of college during a recession wasn't the best time. I took a great job with Nestlé and was with them for seven years before taking a sabbatical and traveling with my husband, Brian. We returned to Northern California and I worked for two incredible event companies. This helped me to narrow down my passion to rentals. When we had our first daughter, we knew we would head home to Florida. This is what ultimately led to starting Vivant in November of 2018. The market here was really missing higher end rentals and custom event design.

A typical day for me is taking my two oldest daughters to school, getting caught up on administrative work over a cup of coffee, and then heading to our warehouse to meet with our team to review upcoming events and preparations.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE BEST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

I love being a part of celebrations and seeing designs come to life. We do so much behind the scenes, but knowing a client and their guests had a spectacular event filled with joy never gets old. We say that we make dreams come true - because we do.

WHAT IS SOMETHING THAT SURPRISES PEOPLE ABOUT YOUR JOB?

That we are essentially a furniture moving company! We prep and pack furniture, deliver and set up, and then break it all down again six hours later. A job in the events world is far more labor intensive than most people think. There are no martinis on a dance floor - we are working.

WHY DID YOU JOIN JLT?

I value impacting our community in a variety of different ways. There are so many projects that care for different facets of our community and I get to do that with women who share that love.

HOW HAS YOUR JLT MEMBERSHIP IMPACTED YOU?

Immeasurably. I work with so many women because of JLT - even my insurance agent is a Sustainer! Some of my very best friends are because of the projects I was placed on. I love that JLT pushes me out of my comfort zone a lot. I've been asked to do many things that I wouldn't have thought to focus on. I also love that JLT meets me at my season of life.

Headshot by Brittany Elise Photography Images by Rad Red Creative Photography



MARYBEL DUARTE-ARCENTALES ASSISTANT PROJECT MANAGER, BECK

JLT ACTIVE



PLEASE SHARE MORE ABOUT YOUR ROLE AT BECK.

I am an assistant Project Manager at Beck. I work with a team to manage a construction site and coordinate the work with the owner, architects and trade contractors.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE BEST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

Managing a construction site is very challenging; we are problem solvers. We coordinate different trade contractors, schedulers, estimators, and purchasers of the work.

WHAT IS SOMETHING THAT SURPRISES PEOPLE ABOUT YOUR JOB?

People are usually surprised because I am a woman in a male-dominated industry.

WHY DID YOU JOIN JLT?

I joined JLT to make a difference in the Tampa community, create new friendships, and networking.

HOW HAS YOUR JLT MEMBERSHIP IMPACTED YOU?

It has helped me come out of my comfort zone and meet women in different industries.





TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF YOUR PROVISIONAL YEAR, TRY AND KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THOSE WHO JOINED IN WITH YOU. PROMOTE JLT TO OTHERS WHOM YOU THINK ARE A GOOD FIT AND DO YOUR RESEARCH ON ALL THE INITIATIVES THE LEAGUE HAS TO OFFER. LASTLY, TRY DIFFERENT COMMITTEES AS THE YEARS PROGRESS TO FIND YOUR NICHE.



GABRIELLE HOWARD MARKETING AND SALES DIRECTOR, ENVISION-CS

JLT PROVISIONAL



PLEASE SHARE MORE ABOUT YOUR ROLE AT ENVISION.

I currently work at Envision as our Marketing and Sales Director. Envision is a small construction management company based out of Tampa, where we have a large commercial flooring division as well. Since we are a small business, I do find myself wearing many hats outside of just marketing and sales; I also help facilitate our growing diversity initiatives on our construction management projects as well as spearhead our internal company culture initiatives.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE BEST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

Long story short - I love Envision. I found that my beliefs are in alignment with Envision and everything that we're doing day-to-day and within our community, which makes it extremely rewarding to lead our marketing initiatives as I simply get the chance to tell others about how great Envision is and all the things we are up to, as well as connect our team members to the heart of Envision through our culture initiatives. I am also very entrepreneurial, so as a leader in a

small business that has the desire to grow, it has given me a space where I can help build our initiatives and play a part in further developing certain areas of the business.

WHAT IS SOMETHING THAT SURPRISES PEOPLE ABOUT YOUR JOB?

I actually started at Envision four years ago working part-time to help enhance our social media. People who see me in the role that I'm in today as a leader are almost shocked when they find that out. Envision at the time was not looking for me, there was no job ad or anything out, simply a friend of a friend kept recommending me to the marketing lead at the time. Finally a month or two later, I was hired to start working with the company part-time. I believed in what Envision was building so much that I was okay with starting part-time, as long as I could work with them. Four years later, it's amazing to see everything that I've had the privilege to be part of.

WHY DID YOU JOIN JLT?

Working in the construction industry as a young leader (under 30) still trying to learn my way most days, there are not a lot of women leaders that I have that I can look up — I know maybe four in total. It was extremely important for me to get around other professional women, but in a more casual setting that would allow me to build friendships, work together in the Tampa community, and most importantly be developed as a women. I admired how close the women in The Junior League of Tampa seemed to one another, and how active the chapter was. I was excited as it seemed like everything I was looking for and more.



HOW HAS YOUR JLT MEMBERSHIP IMPACTED YOU?

I am a Provisional so I am still new to everything, however, with the meetings we've had so far, I'm already being exposed to how other women lead in those meetings. I am an observer and a sponge, so I learn a lot by observing others. I am already gaining nuggets that I can begin to implement in how I lead meetings and group discussions. I also have already helped volunteer at one of the Love Bundles shifts. I personally had no idea that an initiative such as Love Bundles existed, or that the need was so apparent. I am looking forward to learning more about our community through our volunteer initiatives.

AMANDA COOK DIRECTOR, MAJOR GIFTS, ZOOTAMPA AT LOWRY PARK

JLT PROVISIONAL



PLEASE SHARE MORE ABOUT YOUR ROLE AT ZOOTAMPA.

ZooTampa is a nonprofit organization with a vision to motivate people in joining us in taking action to protect and preserve our natural wildlife. I work for our administrative team in our fundraising department, and every single day here is different from the last. I am honored to spend most of my days interacting with our zoo supporters who help make our mission possible.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE BEST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

Every day I'm surrounded by over 1,100 species in our care. It just so happens that a majority of them are some of the world's most threatened species. Some of which if you haven't been to their native ranges, like Africa and Asia, you might not ever get to see them. It's inspiring to walk throughout the Zoo and know my role

is part of a larger mission to help some of the world's most iconic species from going extinct.

WHAT'S SOMETHING THAT SURPRISES PEOPLE ABOUT YOUR JOB?

Fundraising can be a tough gig but when you find a place to work that has similar values matched with a sense of family (half of them being animals) you can't help but stick around. This is why I celebrated my 10th year this past April at ZooTampa. My job rocks, and I always dreamed of a job that would help change the world...and I found it!

WHY DID YOU JOIN JLT?

I am surrounded and inspired by our community leaders who give back through their time, talent and treasure at the Zoo. So it's my turn to invest in my community and I chose The Junior League of Tampa.

CC THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH GENERATION IS NOT TO PLEASE THEIR PREDECESSORS, IT'S TOO IMPROVE THE WORLD FOR THE NEXT. FIND YOUR PASSION, INVEST YOUR TIME AND RESOURCES IN ONE THING, AND BE PART OF THE CHANGE!





Come join us for lunch

Exceptional Professionals is a group of Junior League women who gather monthly over lunch to share ideas and support one another as we navigate work, family, and life in general. We look forward to meeting in person for lunch, to discuss a variety of topics and speakers. Please join us.

Contact Krista Allred, 813.766.3313 and we will send you more details.

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2022-2023 MEETING CALENDAR

11:00a - 1:00p

Friday, Oct 14th Friday, Nov 18th Friday, Jan 13th Friday, Feb 10th Friday, Mar 10th

Jenny Spencer **Coldwell Banker Realtor** Jenny.Spencer@floridamoves.com "Here to help you with your Commercial & Residential Needs" 408.234.6049

Ashley Zohar Law Office of Ashley Zohar, PLLC Wills, Trusts, Probate, Property, and Small business Law Counsel Ashley@AshleyZoharLaw.com 813.992.5290

Amy Tamargo Tamargo Consulting, LLC. Your College Admissions Expert President at@tamargocollegeconsulting.com 813.690.8229

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mittee,



by LAUREN KERR

The JLT Transfer Committee welcomes incoming women from other leagues the opportunity to get to know both The Junior League of Tampa and the Tampa area. JLT is proud that this committee focuses on inclusivity for these members in what may otherwise be a transitional period of time. Melissa Horvath, Chair of the Committee, shares more:

CAN YOU TELL US MORE ABOUT THE TRANSFER PROCESS?

First, a member contacts their League membership coordinator or secretary to initiate the process. Then, the member will begin the formal transfer process and the incoming League (JLT) will receive the transfer member's information. Upon arrival, the transfer member is introduced to the Transfer Chair and Committee to immediately get them involved.

HOW MANY TRANSFERS DOES JLT HAVE THIS YEAR, AND FROM WHERE DO THEY COME?

We are thrilled to welcome 12 transfer members so far this year! However, transferring leagues can occur on a rolling basis and we always look forward to gaining more members. Our 12 transfer members hail from near and far: St. Petersburg, Palm Beaches, Orlando, Sarasota, Atlanta, Charlotte, Chicago, Pittsburgh, and Nashville.

WHAT UNIQUE PERSPECTIVES AND EXPERIENCES DO TRANSFERS BRING TO JLT?

Leagues come in many different sizes, and each League has its own unique operations. For example, League fundraisers, causes, and events differ widely across the nation. We are grateful to have the opportunity to learn from other League experiences! This allows the JLT to integrate new ideas or improve on current processes.

WHAT SHOULD JLT MEMBERS KNOW ABOUT THE TRANSFER COMMITTEE?

One purpose of the Committee is education. We spend time educating the transfer members on the JLT history, mission, and community outreach projects, much like in Provisional Education. Another main component of the Committee is being social and having fun in the transfer member's new city! Each transfer member is assigned an Active Member Mentor who helps answer any League questions and introduces them to Tampa. Some Transfers have never been to Tampa before relocating, so we plan socials and outings around Tampa to introduce them to this amazing city.

Above is a photo of recent outing to Shuffle in Seminole Heights. Thank you to the Transfer Committee for their hard work, and WELCOME to our new transfer members!



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF TAMPA HOLIDAY **GIFT MARKET** PRESENTED BY PUblix.

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Friday: 9 am - 4 pm Nov. 11

Saturday: 9 am - 6 pm Nov. 12

Sunday: 9 am - 4 pm Nov. 13

Special event ticket for Preview Night on Thursday, Nov. 10 Doors open at 6pm, special ticket purchase required



Shopping for a Cause, Makes You a Star

by CASEY BARILE

Throw on your favorite party outfit, add a little bling, and get ready for the paparazzi because this year's Holiday Gift Market is transforming Tampa into Tinseltown. I had the opportunity to catch up with the HGM Chairs to get a sneak peek into what we are in store for this year before hitting the red carpet.

The Junior League of Tampa is proud to present the 19th Annual Holiday Gift Market (HGM), presented by Publix, at the Florida State Fairgrounds on November 10-13, 2022. This year's Tinseltown theme is sure to bring all the glitz and glamour of old Hollywood. Not only will the market showcase our star-studded merchants, but it is also an opportunity to highlight JLT's Oscar-worthy mission of promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving our community through effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. In the past 19 years, the Holiday Gift Market has raised well over a million dollars, funding and furthering the League's impact in the Tampa Bay area.

Speaking of impact, I asked HGM Chair-Elect Lauren Rice why the HGM is so important to the mission of the League. "Have you ever packed a Love Bundle? Distributed books at a MILO event? Volunteered with the Diaper Bank committee? Holiday Gift Market is the reason the League is able to fund these projects. When you shop at Holiday Gift Market you are not just supporting a small business, you are also reinvesting into the mission of the League to build better communities through projects, advocacy efforts, and grant programs."

In traditional fashion, the HGM will kickoff with our Preview Night on Thursday evening. When the doors open for VIP ticket holders on November 10th at 6 pm, they will be greeted with a champagne wall, themed photo booths, and live entertainment! Tickets are \$75 and include a selection of hors d'oeuvres, two drink tickets, and a fabulous VIP gift. Guests are encouraged to embrace the "Old Hollywood" theme for the evening.

The VIP party will be followed up by an updated "Preview Night," which will allow shoppers into the Market on Thursday from 7 pm to 10 pm to beat the weekend crowds and get first dibs on all the market has to offer. For \$25, shoppers will enjoy live music and interactive photo booths. Sip and shop for a cause as food and beverages will be available for purchase. New this year, we are featuring a silent auction at Preview Night with some amazing items and event tickets up for grabs!













Danielle Tinsley and Rachel Moskovitz, 2022 Holiday Gift Market Chairs. Photo by @imanilee.creative

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When you shop at Holiday Gift Market, you are not just supporting a small business, you are also reinvesting into the mission of the League to build better communities through projects, advocacy efforts, and grant programs."

- Lauren Rice, HGM Chair-Elect

This year's HGM will be bring back many favorite special events as well as offer new fun events and shows.

"We are excited to announce a new event this year, Princesses on Ice!" shared HGM Co-Chair Rachel Moskovitz. "This will be a free event showcasing ice skating performances throughout the weekend for our shoppers to enjoy! A limited amount of seating will be available for each performance on a first come first serve basis. Keep an eye out on our social media for performance times."

Expect many fan-favorite events to come back including Santa Snaps on Sunday November 13th from 11 am to 2:30 pm. Tickets are available on Eventbrite for \$15 and include digital images and a 4x6 print. Throughout the weekend, JLT will also host performances from local school's music and dance groups.

The much loved "Game of Giving" will be back again this year. With a \$30 donation, guests can draw a random number and win a prize valued at \$30 or more. You don't want to miss out on the awesome prizes donated by our generous merchants and local Tampa businesses for this year's event.

This year's Market also has two brand new features sure to become fan favorites; the Bargain Bangle and the Walk of Fame. The Bargain Bangle is an optional upgrade, allowing shoppers to access a 10% discount at all merchant booths. The more you shop the more you save, making this the go to accessory at HGM. The new Walk of Fame will feature stars commemorating love ones, advertising local businesses, and celebrating what makes our community shine. All shoppers will have a chance to walk along the stars.

We hope to see you at the 2022 Holiday Gift Market, where shopping for a cause, makes you a star. I love being on the HGM committee because of the relationships. Since joining the HGM committee, I've made friends and community connections that I would otherwise not have found. Serving on the HGM committee also gives me a sense of pride and ownership within the League. I love that the event is not just about shopping – it's about holiday traditions, funding the League's projects and programs, and offering small businesses a platform. Hosting the Holiday Gift Market is a huge undertaking that I don't think you can fully grasp until you are part of the committee."





Shopping for a Cause, Makes You a Star

To learn more information about the **2022 Holiday Gift Market**, please visit **HolidayGiftMarket.org**

Photo by @imanilee.creative

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INTRODUCING OUR PROVISIONAL CLASS 2022-2023

Our newest JLT members have kicked off the 2022-2023 League year. Emily Boucher, Provisional Education Chair, shares more about the Provisional class composition, her excitement for their impact, and the events in store for them this year.



HOW IS THIS YEAR'S CLASS GOING?

This year has been amazing! I truly cannot believe how incredible the women are and how eager everyone is to volunteer and give back to the League. It's definitely been a busy year, and I absolutely would not be able to do this without the leadership on my team. The coordinators and mentors are irreplaceable and keep everything running smoothly. Because of them, we were able to get our year started a month sooner than in years past, and the Provisionals were able to start volunteering almost immediately.

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT YOUR ROLE?

My favorite part about this placement is being able to inspire the future of the League. The enormity of this role is not lost on me, and I take great pride in making sure our new members are as successful as possible.

WHAT ADVICE DO YOU HAVE FOR WOMEN INTERESTED IN JOINING NEXT YEAR'S PROVISIONAL CLASS?

Be organized! Our most successful members are those who put all the dates down in their calendars so then they know what is coming and what to expect. The Provisional year can seem very intimidating, but with proper planning, it is very doable.

BY THE NUMBERS

134 MEMBERS





7.6%



Anderson, J

PROVISIONAL CLASS

2022-2023

Aihe, Michelle

Anderson, Jaimie Ayers, Lauren Baker, Kathryn Baldor, Cristina Barker. Samantha Bernal-Silva, Diana Betti, Allie Black, Morgan Blevins, Alicia Botti, Kayla Bowlby, Ali Bragg, Julie Brahms, Morgan Brooker, Jacqueline Brooks, Carolyn Brown, Taylor Buchanan, Deborah Bull, Haley Burroughs, Courtney Caines, Melessa Capitano, Ashley Carroll. Robin Carter. Caroline Cebert, Shelby Coen, Sara Coggin, Alexandra Cook, Amanda Cooper, Christy Allyson Curry, Abby Dapolito, Brooke Dellegatto, Rachel Derby, Kadi Desrosiers, Nicole Deuel-Jones, Rebekah Donovan, Stephanie Dunn, Allyson Eby, Elizabeth Ejankowski, Chelsea Ellzey, Danielle Elowsky, Cassidi Emembolu. Adaora Emerson, Diana Falato. Kimberlv Falconi, Kathryn Feenaughty, Caitlyn

Fernandez, Ashley Ferrell, Lindsey Forbes, Casey Foster, Olivia Gilbaugh, Katie Graham. Katherine Griffin, Rachel Grimes. Marisa Guerra, Megan Hjaerpe, Alexandra Hoke, Carolyn Hosman, Kady Howard, Gabrielle Hubbard, Kristin Hudgins, Victoria Hurley, Shannon Izmaylova, Eugenia Jobe, Victoria Johnson, Beryl Jones. Jennifer Joseph, Phoebe Juez, Cynthia Juez, Xeniaju Keplinger, Emily Kleber, Tiffany Kota. Katherine Landers, Krista Langley, Kaitlin Lennon, Samantha Litschgi, Victoria Louzon, Ashley Martin, Kimber Mason, Mary Matthews, Courtney Matthews, LaLencia McGuire. Mackenzie McKay, Stephanie McKenzie, Martine Menendez, Erika Mercer, Alexis Meulener, Sylvia Miller, Emily Muhammad, Aliyah Mundra, Nina Newman, Hattie Norman, Samantha

Oestreich, Rachel Oseland, Andria Papaeconomou, Olga Anna Petrarca, Elaine Phillips, Kayla Procopio, Lindsay Pryor, Devan Rau, Molly Renke, Hannah Rilev. Katresha Rmaidi, Mounia (Mina) Rutz, Katie Saavedra, Carolina Saffran. Katherine Sanchez, Nicole Sastry, Mekhala Schenk, April Scott, Danielle Setteducato. Alexis Shaak, Jessica Sheehy, Brittany Simms, Lakeisha Simons, Melissa Simpler, Kendall Small, Jocelyn Smith, Rebecca Sowell, Ava Speziale, Samantha Suarez, Amanda Suggs, Shana Suling Sanford, Samantha Taylor, Casey Thompson, Anique Towarnicky, Monica Underwood, ShanTorrian Vargas, Alexandra Vilela. Ruthann Walser, Amanda Wicks. Christi Woodfin, Alexandra Young, Autumn Yunker, Makena











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MEET THE NEW LEADERSHIP

Founded in 1926, The Junior League of Tampa is committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Each of our members leads by example, and the women who make up our Executive Board and Management Council exemplify the JLT values of inclusion, vision, empowerment, collaboration, and integrity. Get to know the newest class of JLT leaders.

Headshots by Dani Ellise Photography unless noted with asterisk.

resident

CAROLINE VOSTREJS Executive Board

Caroline Vostrejs is the Director of Business Development for The Beck Group, an international design/build firm, where she oversees Beck's business development and marketing efforts for the Florida office.

She has been a member of The Junior League of Tampa for 15 years and has served on Management Council or the Executive Board for 8 years leading operations, finance, and membership initiatives. Caroline also serves on the Board of Directors for the Tampa Downtown Partnership, USF LIFT member, The University of Tampa Board of Fellows, Circle of Red Member for the American Heart Association, and is a graduate of Leadership Tampa Bay and Leadership Tampa.

She has a degree in Business Administration from the University of Florida and is a Florida Blue Key member. Caroline lives in Tampa with her husband Ryan, daughter Anna, and two golden retrievers.

FUN FACT: I am a night owl and sleep about 5 to 6 hours a night. My mother, Diane Rottensteiner, and sister, Andrea Webb, are also JLT members.

MOST USED PHONE APP: Miro, Evernote, Waze

MEG SEVERINO Executive Board

President-Elec

Meg Severino joined the League in 2010 and began her League career as a Provisional Mentor. Meg's favorite placement was Holiday Gift Market Co-Chair in 2014, it gave her an opportunity to lead our largest fundraising event and without JLT, she wouldn't have gained the experience. She is a wife to Tampa native, Anthony and a mother to two boys, Michael and JT. She works in the Business Innovation Office at Pfizer. Meg is also passionate about assisting collegiate women and has served in an advisory role at the University of South Florida since 2009.

Meg is originally from Denver and enjoys traveling home to visit family. She is looking forward to celebrating our Centennial year in 2026!

FUN FACT: I was a Department of Defense Contractor upon graduating college and traveled to Kabul, Kandahar and Bagram for my work.

MOST USED PHONE APP: I love the "notes" app to keep all of my tasks and reminders.



lanaging ()irector

NICKI MOHR HALL Management Council, Executive Board

Nicki Mohr Hall is the Chief of County Court at the Hillsborough County State Attorney's office. She is a lifelong Tampa resident, diehard Gator fan, FSU Law alumni, rap enthusiast, wine lover, travel addict, wife to Jason, and mom to son Wyatt Charles and fur baby Hank.

FUN FACT: Even after 12 years of being a litigator, trying dozens of

Community ()irector

homicides and violent crimes in front of juries, I still get butterflies when I have to stand up to speak in front of my peers at JLT meetings.

MOST USED PHONE APP: iCal! If it's not on my calendar it doesn't exist in my brain!

LYNDSEY SIARA

Executive Board

This is Lyndsey Siara's 11th year in JLT and first year on the Executive Board. She has a big heart for our community projects and is immensely grateful to serve in the role of Community Director. This year, her hope is that our members find fulfillment in our community projects and that JLT continues to leave a lasting positive impact on Tampa Bay. By day, Lyndsey is general counsel for the Sixth Judicial Circuit. She is mom to Sydney (Age 8) and Savannah (Age 4), as well as fur baby Indy (a.k.a. Indy Bud), and wife to Joe.

FUN FACT: We have 6 backyard chickens lovingly named Sprinkle, Sparkle, Shimmer, Shine, Sunny, and Jewel-fresh eggs daily!

MOST USED PHONE APP: iCal! With lots of activities and obligations, keeping a calendar with reminder notes is my key to organization and sanity.

inance ()irector MOLLY MALLOY* Executive Board

Molly Malloy is the Senior Manager of Corporate Treasury at TriNet Inc. She has a BS in Accounting from University of South Florida and a BS in Industrial Engineering and an MBA from Drexel University. She has been a member of The Junior League of Tampa for 8 years, starting off in community roles with MILO and Food 4 Kids and has since risen to leadership positions. She is happily married to her life partner, Tyrone Houston.

FUN FACT: I was a long-distance runner since high school and ran two marathons before hanging up my running shoes and dancing ballet for seven years.

MOST USED PHONE APP: Audible

JESSICA EDWARDS Executive Board

Jessica Edwards recently transferred from the Nashville League and is honored to be serving on the Executive Board this year. After living in Nashville for almost 15 years, she and her husband, both born and raised in Florida, decided to move to Tampa to be closer to their families. For the last 11 years, Jessica has been a consultant and top leader with Rodan + Fields. When she isn't coaching and mentoring other consultants or helping customers with their skincare needs, she is a busy wife and mom to her four-year-old son and one-year-old daughter.

FUN FACT: At 8 years old, I was in the Superbowl XXV Halftime show that was in Tampa! It was an all-kids halftime show that Disney put on and I was a backup dancer with New Kids on the Block.

MOST USED PHONE APP: Instagram and using the audio text message option.

JESSICA HORNOF

ESSICA HORNOF Leadership Director

Jessica Hornof has been an Active member of The Junior League of Tampa since 2006 and is proud to serve on the Executive Board as Leadership Director. She feels a deep, personal commitment to developing the potential of her fellow League members and her colleagues at work. As EVP, Chief Deposit Officer at First Citrus Bank, Jessica leads the bank's deposit division, where she manages strategic deposit growth, leads and supports the branch teams, works to design the client experience, and guides associate development. For over 21 years, Jessica has been helping individuals, businesses, and families in Tampa Bay become financially secure and economically successful. In addition to serving on the League's board, Jessica is the Treasurer of The Judeo-Christian Health Clinic. Inc. She lives in Carrollwood Village with her husband, Jason, and children, Julia (Age 7) and Justin (Age 5).

Membership Director

FUN FACT: One of my favorite vacation destinations is the bottom of the Grand Canyon.

MOST USED PHONE APP: Outlook — it has my calendar (which I live by) and my email.

MIRANDA HENDERSON* Strategic Directo

Miranda Henderson is Principal Business Process Analyst for SAIC, building customer relationships and connecting business IQ to IT process solutions across 32 programs globally. Her expertise in policy governance, military intelligence and IT solutions has impacted national security efforts in areas such as Kuwait, Afghanistan, and Iraq. She also serves in the community as a representative on the Hillsborough County Diversity Board, Glazer Children's Museum Advisory Committee and Co-Lead of SAIC Multicultural Group. She is a Tampa Bay Business Journal 2021 40 under 40 honoree. Most of all, she loves to travel with her husband Isaac, New Orleans Saints football and is welcoming her first child due late January 2023.

FUN FACT: Closet foodie! I love doing food tours in each new place that I visit.

MOST USED PHONE APP: Zoom and Teams for work meetings and collaboration.

ecretary KRISTEN BRADY* Executive Board



Kristen Brady is Director, Global Operations, responsible for MetLife's Income Annuities & Structured Settlements operations. The teams are a part of Retirement & Income Solutions, the company's institutional retirement business, which historically has been responsible for over 20 percent of MetLife's operating earnings.

Brady, who joined MetLife in 2007, leads multiple teams responsible for operations and administration of contracts for MetLife's Institutional Income Annuities & Structured Settlements groups.

Brady earned a Bachelor of Arts in Communication from the University of South Florida. She actively volunteers in the Tampa community with The Junior League of Tampa.

FUN FACT: I am not a fan of heights even though I will ride rollercoasters.

MOST USED PHONE APP: Canva, Chrome, and Starbucks apps

Sustainer At Large

NANCY MYNARD Executive Board

Nancy Mynard has been a member of JLT for 37 years, serving as President in 2002-2003. She and her husband Clay have been married for 32 years. Their daughter Allison Taylor and her husband Andrew live in Dallas, where she is a member of JLD. They also have twin sons. Charles lives in Dallas and Cameron lives in Tampa and is engaged to JLT member, Seanna Riley. Nancy is a member of: Moffitt Merit Society; Circle 7 Bible Study and Baptismal Guild at Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church; Henry B. Plant Museum Society; Azalea Garden Club; Tri Delta Alumnae and a monthly book club.

FUN FACT: I was a realtor at Smith and Associates.

MOST USED PHONE APP: Instagram

anaging ()irector-Elect

KATIE CROWE Management Council

As a transplant to Tampa from Lake Forest, IL Katie Crowe loves to help people find the feeling of "home" in our incredible community. She has served her friends and clients in her career as a Realtor with Smith & Associates for nearly 10 years. She lives with her husband and their fur baby, Boomer on Davis Islands.

FUN FACT: I've lived in four different states and Tampa is now the longest I have ever lived anywhere! It has truly become my adopted hometown.

MOST USED PHONE APP: I have really enjoyed learning Miro this year!



KARA SCHAFER Management Council

Kara Schafer has been a Junior League member since 2017 and has previously been on our Provisional Education and Holiday Gift Market Committees. She is a two-time graduate of Florida State University and works at ConnectWise as Senior Communications Manager. She

lives in Tampa with her husband, Kurt, and their Australian Shepherd, Brekky. Kara is a member of the Krewe of Queen Anne's Revenge and loves cheering for the Bolts and Bucs!

FUN FACT: I love to scuba dive with sharks.

MOST USED PHONE APP: Spotify and Evernote

Communications Manager

ALESSANDRA CACCIATORE Management Council

Alessandra Cacciatore has been in the League since 2017, where she has served as the Communications Coordinator, PR Chair-Elect, PR Chair and now as the Communications Manager. Outside of The Junior League of Tampa, Alessandra further serves her community as the Marketing Manager for Opera Tampa, the resident opera company of The Straz Center for the Performing Arts. In her role at The Straz, the fourth largest performing arts venue in the country, Alessandra oversees national and local advertising for Opera Tampa and their full season of offerings, produces two major publications a year and is called upon to co-host several Opera Tampa events, including stage speeches welcoming audiences to performances.

FUN FACT: I am a certified Therapeutic Art Coach.

MOST USED PHONE APP: I use Wrike daily to submit and review artwork and publications.

?ommunity Assistance Manager

MEAZA MORRISON* Management Council

Dr. Meaza Morrison is a wife, mom, and consultant with over 15 years of experience in education and organizational development focusing on process implementation/improvement. As a community volunteer she serves on The Junior League Tampa's Management Council as Community Assistance Manager, Hillsborough County's Transportation Planning Citizens Advisory Committee as County Commissioner Cohen's appointee, Stageworks Theatre board as Education/Outreach Chair, and her local PTA board as Treasurer. She is a member of USF's Women in Leadership and Philanthropy, Crisis Center Women in Action, Champions for Children Community Council, and is a Trusted Messenger for Talk, Read, Sing Tampa Bay.

FUN FACT: I've been to 15 countries and almost every state.

MOST USED PHONE APP: Spotify for music and podcasts
Community Child KRISTEN ANTONELLO

Management Council

A native Floridian, Kristen Antonello was born and raised in Fort Lauderdale and moved to south Tampa in 2010 after grad school. She joined The Junior League of Tampa in 2015 and has held Willingness to Lead and Committee Chair positions since then. Kristen has worked for Cigna in Sales Retention for the past nine years and is fortunate to have a fun and close knit "work family" she adores. In her spare time, she enjoys taking her loveable Golden Retriever, Brody, on walks, takes spin and Pilates classes at CAMP, serves as a board member for the Centre for Women, loves a fun beach or pool day, and enjoys going out to eat or shopping with her friends.

FUN FACT: My brother is an actor on a network TV show!

MOST USED PHONE APP: Instagram in my personal life and OneNote in my professional life.

ommunity Education Manag

COURTNEY RYALS Management Council

Courtney Ryals joined The Junior League of Tampa in 2017. This year, she is serving as the Community Education Manager, overseeing Food 4 Kids, Family Health Day and MILO. When she is not at JLT, Courtney is the Senior Growth Marketing Manager at Fetch by The Dodo, the Dodo's pet insurance company. She oversees their partnerships with every vet clinic and hospital in the U.S. and Canada. If Courtney is not in Tampa, she is most likely in NYC working at the Fetch office. Courtney is dog mom to Harvey, a nine-year-old Wire Fox Terrier rescue. She was also a YMKG maid and a Merrymakers sponsor. Her favorite team is her alma mater, UF Gators!



FUN FACT: I am a wedding officiant!

MOST USED PHONE APP: Slack, LinkedIn, Instagram, TikTok

und Development Manager LAUREN WATTS Management Council

Lauren Watts is currently in her 5th year in JLT. She has served in various roles within Fund Development throughout her League career and helping to secure funding to drive our mission fills her cup! In her professional life, Lauren manages an IT team for a local healthcare system. She has her PMP certification and gets weirdly excited about strategic planning. Her heart belongs to two little ones, Layla and Mia, her best friend/ husband, Michael and two pups- Emma and Wyatt. They love to travel, love the beach and enjoy camping (really anything outdoors). Their favorite song is, "if you're happy and you know it"- her toddler does an awesome job leading and her littlest thinks her sister's singing is the greatest thing in the world. If

you ever need a good belly laugh, her door is always open.

FUN FACT: I am a Tampa Native, born and raised (with a brief, four year stint in Gainesville. Go Gators!).

MOST USED PHONE APP: I would say it's a tie between Outlook and Facebook.

Intraleague Development Manager



Management Council

Kelley McCarthy is a registered nurse specializing in pediatric hematology and oncology at St. Joseph Children's Hospital. She is a proud Seminole fan, holding multiple degrees from Florida State University. Kelley joined the League in 2016 and has held a variety of leadership positions, most recently Community Child Welfare Manager and Community Assistance Manager. Outside of the League, Kelley is an active volunteer in the Tampa community serving the Arthritis Foundation, Make a Wish, The Sunshine Kids, and Camp Boggy Creek. Kelley is married to William and lives in North Tampa.

FUN FACT: I will never say no to a dance party!

MOST USED PHONE APP: Instagram

Membership Manage

MONICA KIRKLAND Management Council

Monica Kirkland is a CPA, holds a BBA in Accounting from Valdosta State University and an MBA from Mercer University. Monica joined the League in 2013, and transferred to the Gainesville League shortly after her first year of membership. Following her return to Tampa, Monica has served in a variety of leadership roles including Family Literacy Night Chair, Assistant Treasurer, Treasurer, and Community Education Manager. Monica loves spending time with her friends and family.

FUN FACT: I love football! I was born and raised in South Georgia where high football is huge. On a Friday night, you will find me tuned into my high school team back home, the Valdosta High Wildcats, one of the winningest high school football teams in the country.

MOST USED PHONE APP: Duolingo

Operations Manager

HANNAH PARKER MCCABE Management Council

In addition to being the Operations Manager for the League, Hannah Parker McCabe is the Regional Marketing Specialist for USI Insurance Services in Tampa. She also serves as Vice President of the Ole Miss Tampa Bay Alumni Club where she spends most of her football Saturday's cheering on her Rebels! Hannah resides at the beach with her husband Chris, son Connor (one), and two dogs — Reb and Milo.



FUN FACT: I was raised mostly by a single dad.

MOST USED PHONE APP: Probably my email apps, a close second is Facebook, and the Marco Polo app for my fantasy football league.



Graining Manager

Lindsey Dewey relocated to Tampa in 2009 to begin building community at Congregation Schaarai Zedek first as the Youth Director and now serving as the Director of Congregational Engagement and Outreach. Lindsey, her husband Chris and their son Lawton love living in Tampa and giving back to the greater Tampa Bay community.

FUN FACT: In high school, I attained the rank of Jr. Olympic American Archer.

MOST USED PHONE APP: Spotify, Google Drive, and Candy Crush

reasurer

MOLLY DUFFEY Management Council

Molly Duffey moved to Tampa 5.5 years ago and quickly fell in love with the city. She joined JLT for an opportunity to impact the community while growing both personally and professionally. She is excited to serve as Treasurer this year and considers herself a big Excel nerd. She is an avid sports fan and her day job consists of crunching numbers for the Tampa Bay Lightning and Amalie Arena. She graduated from Florida State University (Go Noles!) and created a "House Divided" when she married her husband Patrick who is a UF grad. Molly and Patrick are new parents to 6-month-old daughter Lily.

FUN FACT: I was a member of the FSU Golden Girls Dance Team.

MOST USED PHONE APP: Baby Connect - Haha first time mom over here

KAMI LUCAS Management Council

Assistant Treasurer

Kami Lucas transferred to Tampa in late 2020 from The Junior League of Indianapolis, which she joined in 2016. She served on committees touching all areas of the league including Fundraising, Done In A Day, External Communications, and Community Impact Project, and also served as co-chair of an HGM subcommittee in Indy. She grew up in Sacramento and lived almost two decades in Indianapolis. She and her husband, Paul, are thrilled to be living in Tampa and enjoy the great weather, theme parks, beaches, pro sports, and local dining scene.

FUN FACT: I got married at Walt Disney World.

MOST USED PHONE APP: Instagram



Management Council

LYNETTE RUSSELL Sustainer Adviso

Lynette Russell has been a League member for 21 years and has held countless roles including President in 2014-2015. She is a Tampa native and loves serving the community. Lynette is married to Rick and they have three children, Cole, Quinlan and Camden. She works in communications for a recruitment firm that focuses on placing women in various positions around the country. Lynette is happiest with her toes in the sand surrounded by friends and family.

FUN FACT: I love watching stand up comedy.

MOST USED PHONE APP: Libby to read books



DESIRÉ NELSON Management Council

Desiré Nelson is excited to serve on Management Council for the first time. She has been a member of The Junior League of Tampa since 2017, serving as a leader on committees such as Volunteers at Large, Community Action, and Enabling Fund. After graduating from Florida State University, she moved to Tampa Bay where she met her husband working as an auditor in public accounting. Desiré now works as an executive recruiting manager within the finance and accounting industries specializing in permanent placement, consulting, and interim CFO services throughout Tampa Bay and Sarasota. Desiré and her husband Grant are new foster parents, active members of their church, and looking forward to football and traveling this fall season!

FUN FACT: My husband and I are new foster parents. I've also been a vegetarian for almost 15 years.

MOST USED PHONE APP: Target

Management Council

MARYSUE MATHEWS Office Administrato

As Office Administrator for The Junior League of Tampa, Marysue Mathews manages JLT's headquarters building and all that happens within. She was hired in March of 2008 as the Office Administrator, though her responsibilities have changed significantly over the past 14 years. Marysue enjoys assisting our members in their League positions, and watching them grow and learn every year. She enjoys all types of crafts, particularly sewing — and owns seven sewing machines! She loves to travel and spend time with her four children and four grandchildren.

FUN FACT: I love working with power tools, and building things like furniture and shelving.

MOST USED PHONE APP: Gmail at work, text messaging at home



* Molly Malloy's headshot by Marissa Moss Photography. Miranda Henderson and Kristen Brady's headshots by Brittany Elise Photography. Meaza Morrison's headshot is by JCPenney.





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THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF TAMPA Diaper B A N K

by SANDSPUR STAFF

The Junior League of Tampa is always evolving. We caught up with Community Director Lyndsey Siara to learn more about two exciting initiatives.

TELL US MORE ABOUT THE UPCOMING DIAPER BOWL EVENT!

JLT's inaugural Diaper Bowl is set to kick off on Saturday, December 3, 2022 from 9 am to noon. Football, fun, family, friends, and philanthropy — those are the words that describe this family-friendly, fun morning filled with friendly competitions, activities for the kids, and a hands-on philanthropic experience. Our members and their friends and family, as well as community stakeholders, will enjoy some football-and-diaper-themed competitive games, more leisurely lawn games, face painting, food, and more. Additionally, with the assistance of our game-day referees (JLT volunteers), attendees can make a positive impact on families in our community by donating and packing diapers. Come share in JLT's 96-year history of making a positive difference in Tampa Bay.

In partnership with Metropolitan Ministries, the event will be located at their holiday Hope Tent on Rome Avenue. The goal of this event is twofold: first, to have fun with family and friends while sharing how JLT makes a positive impact on our community and second, tto raise awareness of diaper need and collect donations to benefit our diaper bank and ultimately, families in need in our community. Let's team up to tackle diaper need!

WHAT CAN JLT MEMBERS INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED IN THE DIAPER BOWL DO TO ENGAGE?

JLT members can recruit their team and mark their calendars for this family-friendly, fun-filled morning! Kids, significant others, friends, and valued community partners are all invited to join us for this fun event with a philanthropic hands-on opportunity. For those who want to simply watch, limited spectator tickets will be available. For those who want to compete, members can encourage their companies or other groups to form an official team for a friendly competition to benefit the community. That team will collect diaper donations and compete in friendly game-day competitions to vie for the coveted Diaper Bowl trophy!

Learn more at JLTampa.org/DiaperBowl.



















THERE'S ANOTHER PILOT PROJECT LAUNCHING THIS YEAR. CAN YOU SHARE MORE ABOUT THE ALLIANCE FOR PERIOD SUPPLIES (APS) DISPENSERS?

This year, JLT is piloting an exciting extension of our APS project! We are installing 12 wall-mounted dispensers at partner agency facilities to provide free period products to individuals in need. This pilot will involve working with several of JLT's existing community partners to identify the best physical space in their facilities for these dispensers. For example, Academy Prep—an existing APS partner who receives a monthly order of period products from JLT—will be installing a JLT APS dispenser in one of its restrooms. By working with existing community partners, JLT can ensure that it receives trusted and valuable feedback throughout the pilot.

To assess the successes, challenges, and opportunities of this pilot project, the Project Development and Evaluation Committee (PDEC) will undertake a year-long review and observation plan. By implementing data gathering measures, and by soliciting feedback from JLT's APS leadership and the pilot partners, PDEC will evaluate the pilot and make recommendations regarding the future of APS dispensers.

WHAT INSPIRED THIS PROJECT?

The idea behind this pilot is that all individuals deserve to live a life of dignity, which includes having the basic needs items necessary to live healthy and hygienically, and that no one should miss out on school, work, or life because they lack access to these supplies. By offering period products in places where individuals can simply get what they need—without the added burden of asking someone for it—JLT hopes to continue its efforts to reduce the negative impact of period poverty in our community.

These free product dispensers were purchased from a company called Aunt Flow, a woman-owned business with a philanthropic focus. We were intentional in selecting this supplier, as their values and mission align with JLT. Their products are made of 100% organic cotton, and for every ten period products sold, Aunt Flow donates one to non-profit organizations.



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WHAT CAN JLT MEMBERS INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED IN THE ALLIANCE FOR PERIOD SUPPLIES WORK DO TO ENGAGE?

Education and product drives are the two main ways members can support JLT's Alliance for Period Supplies.

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF TAMPA

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ALLIANCE FOR PERIOD SUPPLIES

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Education is key. Although period poverty has finally gained critical media attention, there is still much to do in educating the community about the one in three low-income women who miss out on school, work, and life events because of a lack of access to period products. Sharing our social media posts to reach a broader audience is always helpful in educating the community and spreading the message of how JLT is combatting period poverty. Members can learn more about period poverty on JLT's website and by visiting the national Alliance for Period Supplies website.

The other tangible way members can support our efforts is by hosting a product drive. JLT members, engaged community members, and organizations or groups can host a period product drive, collecting tampons and pads to donate to APS. Those critical products are then packaged with care by our JLT members. To host a product drive, individuals should visit our website to fill out an interest form. There is also a very helpful drive kit that individuals can review for an easy, seamless drive experience.



JLT members can also sign up for period packing shifts throughout the year. During these shifts, period products are packaged into kits consisting of ten like items (for example, ten regular pads) in a JLT branded zippered bag. This hands-on packing experience is another wonderful opportunity to engage in JLT's efforts to combat period poverty in our community.



Prane Nancy

JLT SUSTAINERS CONTINUE A LEGACY OF SERVICE

by KIRSTEN SCHMITZ PHELPS_____

Sustainers Nancy Crane and Nicole Hubbard first met when Nicole was JLT president and Nancy the Executive Board's Sustainer Advisor. Their friendship has continued to grow over the past six years and includes their common passion for community service. Here, they reflect on their shared experiences as volunteers with medical humanitarian organization, Operation Walk Florida.

I never expected that volunteering with Operation Walk Florida in Antigua, Guatemala would fill my soul and open my heart. I witnessed the gift of mobility and hope for so many men and women of all ages who were experiencing great pain.

The incredible medical team, led by Dr. Kenneth Gustke, replaced 49 joints in 47 patients during a four-day period in August, 2022. Nicole Hubbard and a devoted group of medical personnel from Tampa General Hospital and Florida Orthopedic Institute were in surgery and caring for patients from dawn to dusk each day.

I sat with patients after their surgeries and learned about the long journey (many traveled from four to six hours) to the hospital in Antigua. They never complained, just cried tears of joy as they expressed their gratitude to so many who donated their time and resources to make this trip possible.

I hope to return next year with a bit more ability to communicate in Spanish and carry on the Junior League way of tackling issues that impact a community! I understand that 4,000 more Guatemalans are awaiting joint replacements."



I.F



Nicole Hubbard

[Prior to my role as JLT President,] I didn't personally know Nancy, but had always heard what a legend she was and certainly a powerhouse in Tampa. I was beyond thrilled to learn from her and boy did I learn a ton that year! We became friends in 2016 and six years later ended up volunteering for Operation Walk Florida together on a medical mission trip to Guatemala.

I provided anesthesia for complex total knee and hip replacements and Nancy was an "angel" volunteer. Nancy and I are helping with fundraising for Operation Walk Florida and using many of our talents and skills learned in JLT. I love being able to spend time with Nancy and am forever grateful to JLT for introducing me to not only an amazing mentor, but a great friend.

Volunteering on an Operation Walk Florida medical mission trip was an experience I will treasure forever! It was incredible to see some of the worst osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis that severely limited the Guatemalan patients' daily activities be forever changed and their mobility restored after surgery. Their faces lit up with joy when they discovered their newfound mobility, and their gratitude was humbling.

With the past few years being filled with worry and fear around the Covid pandemic compounded with quarantines, restrictions in the medical community, feelings of isolation and depression, and political conflicts, this humbling experience was everything our entire medical team needed. I traveled to Guatemala to help the people in great need, but in turn, the heartfelt, kind, gracious people of Guatemalan helped me the most."







SCHOOL-YEAR CLASSES DANCE

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Thank you for your gift of diapers and baby wipes to transform the lives of hurting families in the Tampa Bay area. Together, we support our neighbors in need of a hot meal and safe shelter. Families with no place to turn come to Metropolitan Ministries for help and hope, but because of you, they will have a fresh start this spring and beyond. You make the difference for families facing challenging circumstances, often with little or no income and very few options. Tim Marks, President/CEO,

Metropolitan Ministries

Thank you for your kind and generous donation of \$1,225.00. Your gift and support of Clothes To Kids means so much to us and ultimately, the kids we serve. You help ensure that kids have the essentials so they can attend school feeling confident and able to succeed in school. Jennifer Jacobs, Executive Director, Clothes To Kids

Thank you so much for your gift of \$1,225.00. Your donation helps us provide a safe, warm, and welcoming environment in our Ronald McDonald House of Tampa Bay so families with sick children can stay together and be near the medial care they need. Your support gives families a place to rest, recharge and be steps away from their child's bedside - a place to call "home" while they are away from their own. Lisa Suprenand, Executive Director, Ronald McDonald House Charities of Tampa Bay

We would like to thank The Junior League of Tampa for their generous donation of \$1,225.00. With your donation, we were able, with the assistance of members of The Junior League of Tampa, to spruce up our first floor waiting area and create a more inviting trauma-informed space. Over 30,000 children have been served at Mary Lee's House. These children, who come into Mary Lee's House with uncertainty leave knowing that they matter, and your donation help provides a sense of hope and encouragement for their future. Jennifer Kuhn, Executive Director, Mary Lee's House

Thank you for helping to strengthen public education in Hillsborough County! The Junior League of Tampa's generous gift of \$1,225.00 to support a School and Classroom Enrichment grant for Palm River Elementary School provides an engaging educational opportunity that promotes better academic results for our students. Mike McCollum, Chief Advancement Officer, Hillsborough Education Foundation

We are grateful for your past and present support of Tampa General Hospital. Your gift to TGH does more than provide critical dollars for hospital programs and unpredicted needs; it also meaningfully recognizes our world-class teams and clinical leaders. Lia Ferretti, Director, Annual Giving & Special Programs, TGH Foundation

On behalf of Starting Right Now, thank you so much for the generous grant. Our kids house looks beautiful because of the time you spent painting. I am so grateful for this incredible support. Thank you so much! Vicki Sokolik, Founder, Starting Right Now

INTRODUCING THE 2022 HGM YEP WINNER MONET IZQUIERDO

PLANTE

NTE LAVIE

TELL US ABOUT YOUR BUSINESS! HOW DID YOU GET STARTED, AND WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH?

Hi, my name is Monet and I am one of the co-founders of Plante La Vie, a mobile plant shop. My partner and I wanted to start a plant business but we knew we had to be creative and do something completely different. The inspiration was on a van trip in California where we decided to make our business completely mobile. In September of 2020 we made the vision come to life and from there we found a 1967 Shasta camper and turned her into who she is today, Flora, a Mobile Greenhouse!

Our goal is to eventually have a larger greenhouse where we can continue to grow all of our favorite plants along with new species that come out every single year. We also hope to expand our business and grow our interior plant design business where we focus on residential and commercial spaces for our clients.

WHAT HAS BEEN THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE OF BEING A BUSINESS OWNER?

I would say one of the biggest challenges in being a business owner that no one tells you is that you have to continue to believe in yourself and your brand and continue to innovate with trending times. It can be overwhelming sometimes to run the marketing, social, product and networking side of the business, but one thing I have learned is that it is alright to reach out to our community and ask for help.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR BIGGEST SUCCESS OR EARLY WIN?

Where do I start! In the beginning I remember our first sale was a friend of ours that needed 20 pots and plants as a holiday order, and BOY was that so exciting! Every opportunity that comes our way, or when we get accepted into awesome markets or we get approved for a larger design project we get so excited!

WHAT ADVICE DO YOU HAVE FOR OTHER WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS?

Just do it, be kind to other women and ask for support when you feel you need it. Take the idea and make it happen even if you have to pivot along the way. Building a brand and a business is slow and steady, so every single day that you are working towards your dreams is another day that you are building the foundation for your success.

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR WIN! HOW WILL YEP RECOGNITION SUPPORT YOUR CONTINUED SUCCESS?

I am just overwhelmed with joy! Having this recognition from YEP means to me that people SEE what we are doing and believe in us, and for that amount of confidence I am so grateful!



HGM ENTREPRENEUR ON THE RISE AWARDEES

by LAUREN KERR

The Junior League of Tampa's Young Entrepreneurship Program (YEP) presented by Valley Bank aims to grow the potential, leadership, and influence of female business owners. Launched in 2014, the program offers a unique and valuable opportunity for local entrepreneurs to showcase their brands, products, and mission to all of Tampa Bay.

In addition to the YEP winner, runners up may be awarded, based on outstanding applications. These honorees receive benefits of participation at the Holiday Gift Market provided by the Dorothea Adell Tinsley Family Foundation. This year, we have two Entrepreneur on the Rise awardees! Get to know Emily Montanez Bates and Angelina Spampinato.





THE PRETZEL PANTRY

Emily Montanez Bates runs The Pretzel Pantry, where she makes gourmet hand-dipped chocolate pretzels. Emily is a Polk State College graduate and has been in business for five years. She says she started making and selling chocolatecovered pretzels to raise money for mission trips, as she has always had a heart for serving others. One of her favorite places to volunteer is Top Buttons, an organization geared toward empowering young women and helping them build their selfworth. Emily sells through private orders and at local markets, and can be found on Facebook (@thepretzelpantrylkld) and Instagram (@thepretzelpantry).



Angelina BAKES

ANGELINA BAKES

Angelina Spampinato runs Angelina Bakes, a home bakery where she handmakes cookies, cakes, blondies and cupcakes. Angelina is based in Tampa and graduated from St. John Fisher University. Facing severe burnout, Angelina took the leap to leave her nursing job and pursue baking at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, allowing her the opportunity to raise her son while working from home, a decision she calls the best she's ever made. Committed to giving back, Angelina chooses a charitable organization to donate to twice a year as well as volunteering her time at local hospice facilities. Angelina can be found on Facebook (@Angelina Bakes) and Instagram (@angelinaxbakes).





2022-2023 DONORS



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

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Donations to The Junior League of Tampa support our projects and programs in Hillsborough County. Our donors are individuals, foundations, and businesses, whose contributions help us further our Mission.

This includes all 2022-2023 donations received through 9-30-2022.

To make a gift, visit jltampa.org/give. For questions about giving, contact funddevelopmentmanager@jltampa.org.

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CAVIAR PIE PRESENTED BY PUBLIX.

54 | Fall 2022

photos and article by NANCY WARNER

This show stopping appetizer is a glamours classic Tampa recipe from *The Gasparilla Cookbook* first printed in 1961. Standing the test of time, this recipe was brought back for the *Tampa Treasures Cookbook* in 1992.

The original recipe serves 50, but we have scaled this one down making it more approachable and affordable. If you are a novice caviar aficionado, expect the taste to be salty and rich with a texture not unlike mustard seeds. Splurge for the best caviar in your budget. The onion is left "to taste." Instead, try 1 tablespoon of minced onion. Once combined into the cream cheese and rested, the onion flavor will grow. Serve immediately after icing the pie with caviar and egg or, for a firmer pie and less crumbly service, chill pie for at least one hour (up to 24 hours).

Present with flair by paring with smoked salmon & champagne. Serve over water crackers, halved miniature potatoes, or toast points.

Enjoy a toast to you; you are a star.

CAVIAR PIE

THE GASPARILLA COOKBOOK & TAMPA TREASURES COOKBOOK

INGREDIENTS

- 8 ounces Publix cream cheese, softened
- Chopped white onion to taste
- Enough cream to moisten cheese
- Lemon juice to taste
- 1 (3 1/2 ounce) jar domestic black caviar
- 3 hard-boiled eggs
- 8-inch round piece of card board

INSTRUCTIONS

Early in day: In large bowl mix cream cheese and onion; add enough cream to mold mixture by hand. Cover 8-inch cardboard with aluminum foil. Place cheese mixture on cardboard; mold about 1-2 inches high to edge of board. Refrigerate.

When ready to serve: Add lemon juice to caviar, then drain; frost cheese mold with caviar. Place mold on foil covered 12-inch round or larger platter. Grate egg yolks and whites separately. Place egg yolks around cheese mold; place egg whites around outer edge. Serve on large platter with water biscuits. Do not serve on sliver as eggs will stain silver.

Serves 12



OUT & ABOUT

JLT members making a difference in the community.



OUT & ABOUT

Celebrating at **Back to the League** Photos by Joe Photo Submitted by Brittany McGlothin



LATEST LOGOS LAUNCHED



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Support our community projects. **jltampa.org/give**





DISCOVER STATEMENT-MAKING GIFTS THAT INSPIRE





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