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SOMMER STILES

The way I see it when confronting the blank page you have three options. Option one: sit staring in a state of paralysis. Option two: drink another cup of coffee until you gain the courage to punch that first key. Or, option three: begin typing. Let the words course through your veins out the tips of your fingers onto the keys. Do not pause for errors or rewrites. Stream of consciousness waits for no man (or woman) You’ll want to edit later.

Given you are reading these words; you can safely assume I chose option three. That being clear, you should know I really do enjoy writing, and, more times than not, consider the blank page a welcoming friend, arms open wide, ready to embrace my ideas in their entirety. In many respects, I have The Junior League of Tampa to thank for that.

In 2010, my first year as an Active, I served as a Contributing Writer for The Sandspur and have continued to write for the publication every year since. With each assignment, I have been provided the opportunity to further explore my interest in writing and hone this skill. This year, I have had the great honor of serving as this column and the Cookbook Cocktails introductions. The experience has allowed me to grow personally and professionally, all the while doing what I love for an organization I believe in.

With this in mind, I could not think of a more fitting theme for this issue than “A Season for Growth.” We take this time to reflect on the seasons past and prepare for those to come. It’s a time for cultivation and prosperity. And, you thought it was a time for beach blankets and barbeques — hal
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ON THE COVER
“A Season for Growth.”
From seed to blooming flower, JLT has a green thumb for success.

Mission
Founded in 1926, The Junior League of Tampa, Inc. is an organization of over 1,800 women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.
At Berkeley, students dive into vast pools of opportunity and get all the blocks they need to build whatever kind of life they choose.

Berkeley | Consider the possibilities
Cultivate Hope

Lee Lowry

Hope. A word that most often gets sandwiched in between faith and love and used as slogan fodder for nonprofit organizations and political campaigns. Although most people would probably say that it is important, it doesn’t come up much in our daily lives. Americans are people who like tangibles. We prefer to deal in black and white whenever possible, and hope is something that requires a vulnerability and uncertainty that we aren’t usually comfortable with.

I’ve come to the conclusion that hope is a basic need.

I began thinking about hope in an unlikely place: at the most recent Annual Conference for our national organization (AJLI), listening to keynote speaker, sociobiologist and author Rebecca Costa. Her recent book, The Watchman’s Rattle, posits the idea that our world is simply moving too fast for our brains to keep up with, that evolution has not moved as quickly as technology. She believes humans are in danger of not being able to solve the problems we have created, from climate change to terrorism to superbugs, because we are just not smart enough yet. Pretty hopeless, right?! But somehow, the book and Ms. Costa are not. She believes that we can figure it all out. She has hope, and that intangible, ephemeral thing turns her book into a warning, a “watchman’s rattle,” not a dire prediction of the inevitable.

I believe that The Junior League of Tampa, like so many worthy nonprofit organizations, is primarily a purveyor of hope. When we bring bags of food to children at the Boys and Girls Clubs around Tampa, we also, and maybe just as importantly, bring hope for the children and their families that the food will positively affect the children’s learning, improve their potential, and by extension, improve our community’s potential. When we present Family Literacy Nights at Renaissance Title I schools around Hillsborough County, we give parents the hope that they will light the fire of learning that will lead to their children’s future success. And our Love Bundles are literally a backpack filled with hope for a scared, lonely child who has just been removed from her home, although it may look like all that is inside is clothing, a cuddly friend and a snack.

Hope is the seed from which change grows, and combined with commitment and action, is unbeatable. May your personal growth and the growth of our community and our world start with the hope and vision we create today.

Lee Lowry
President
Looking at the topic of growth through the Membership lens, it’s easy to focus on the numbers. For each of the last three years, we have had record-breaking Provisional classes, and this past year, 167 women were made Active members. Our total membership is higher than ever, at more than 1800 women — a 23% increase since the year 2000.

As astounding as these numbers are, I prefer to look at growth in the League on a more individual basis. Our leadership structure is designed to create an environment that fosters personal growth and enables members to develop their potential. To achieve this goal, the League has developed a careful process for placement.

Each January, the Nominating Committee slates a new group of women to serve on the Executive Board for the following year. In March, the incoming Executive Board vets more than 250 committee leadership positions through the Willingness to Lead process. Then, in May, the Placement Committee assigns the rest of our members to committees in Community Projects, Fundraising, Membership, or Administrative capacities. Our unique placement process provides every single Active in JLT the opportunity to try something new each and every year.

There are not many organizations, professional or volunteer-based, that experience a yearly change in leadership or that allow their staff to change responsibilities from year to year. In a more static organizational environment it is common for one to feel as if they have hit a ceiling or simply that there are limited, if any, opportunities to develop new skills. Options for succession or internal change, that give way to these opportunities, are often lacking.

This is not the case for women seeking advancement in The Junior League of Tampa. Since JLT changes leadership and committees annually, no one hits a ceiling — there is always an opportunity to explore a new interest or honed a new skill. From one year to the next, a member can go from serving as a mentor to teen girls at Joshua House as part of the Girl Power! project to leading local and state advocacy efforts in the fight against human sex trafficking; and, what she will learn is as diverse as it is unlimited.

The exploratory nature of this structure ultimately empowers members to stretch beyond their comfort zones, without fear of demotion or job loss, to take on new challenges and tap into their otherwise untapped potential. These “stretch roles” lead members to expand their way of thinking and their way of doing. The education they receive spans beyond child welfare and education issues, and includes lessons in relationship building, civic leadership, project management, fundraising, and public affairs, among others.

So, as I reflect on my year as Membership VP, I consider our unique value potential as a League and I encourage each of our members to seize the opportunities our organization has provided. Think about where you can “stretch” and grow as a member. Relish in the limitless and enjoy the freedom to flourish.

Casey Carefoot
Membership Vice President

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A Legacy of Devotion
RUTH GIORDANO

As I look back at my year of serving as The Junior League of Tampa Sustainer President, I am struck by how many things have changed since my years as an Active member. Invitations are now mostly “e-vites,” the Board of Directors is now referred to as the Leadership Council, and Pie is no longer teaching our children how to fish off of the seawall behind Headquarters. What surprises me more is how much things have not changed. We continue to be an amazing organization composed of devoted, effectual women tirelessly giving their time and treasure to improve the lives of others. We, as a League, are uniquely capable of effecting change for good in our community — a constant in our history.

This devotion was witnessed first hand at our Spring Meeting. With great pride, we recognized and honored our 50-year members who inspire us to continue a tradition of faithful support of The Junior League of Tampa. Honorees included Tiffi Bentley, Myra Bishop, Flossie Boushall, Louise Burnett, Mary Louise Cutoio, Joanne Frazier, Lou Hatton, Ruth Tapley, and Bette Walker. Congratulations and our sincerest thanks to these members for living the legacy. At Annual Dinner, it was my privilege to present the award for Sustainer of the Year to Robin Robson Gonzalez. After being a valued leader throughout her years as an Active, Robin has gone on to serve a number of volunteer hours in our community. She has touched the lives of countless children through educational publications developed in partnership with Tampa Preservation, Inc., H.B. Plant Museum Society, More Health, Lighting Foundation, and University Community Hospital. Robin is also the recipient of numerous awards including the Florida Trust for Education Award, Southeastern Museum Conference Award, City of Tampa Tony Pizzo Award, and the Tampa Bay Business Committee for the Arts Individual Business Volunteer Award. Robin has also served on a number of volunteer boards, making her yet another example of a truly devoted member fulfilling the mission of The Junior League of Tampa.

In closing, I would like to take the opportunity to recognize the 2013–2014 committee chairs and event hostesses, Sustainer Liaison Committee, Sustainer Executive Committee and 2012–2013 Sustainer of the Year, Harrison Giddens. These women have amazed me with their unwavering willingness to help and have been a great support to me this year — to them I extend my heartfelt thanks. Best wishes for a wonderful summer. I look forward to seeing these and many more of my fellow Sustainers at our gatherings planned for the fall.

Sincerely,
Ruth Giordano
Sustainer President 2013–2014
Congratulations to our 2013–2014 ProVISIONals and newest Active members

This year, the Captain, officers, and crew of the S.S. ProVISIONal Education have been steered by the Mission to acquaint, inform and motivate our ProVISIONals and to empower our newest members to explore, dream and discover what The Junior League of Tampa offers them and also what they offer the League. The ProVISIONal Education Course curriculum focused on developing a place where women could meet others with common goals and acquire skills they didn’t have before they joined. The innovative presentation of curriculum topics through the use of a ship building metaphor offered women opportunities for connection and growth through interactive training meetings.

We built the hull of governance, made the mast of community impact, hoisted the sails of membership, held the helm of fund development, and sailed the S.S. ProVISIONal Education into Active membership. Remember the ship provides the foundation, but it is the member who must plot their own course. These women have anchored themselves to something special – The Junior League of Tampa – now it is time to let their dreams SET SAIL.

Cheers from the Captain,
Melissa Knight Nodhturft
2013–2014 Provisional Education Chair

Congratulations to our 2013–2014 ProVISIONals and newest Active members
WELCOME NEW ACTIVES

Jillian Sakall
Megan Riherd
Darla Smoak
Monique Turley
Heather Scull
Josie Taylor
Kristin Wells

Johanna Sanchez
Jennifer Rodgers
Christina Sannenetti
Caitlin Schreit
Elen Schnitzen
Jennifer Schulze

Priscilla Saki
Johanna Sanchez
Christina Sannenetti
Caitlin Schreit
Elen Schnitzen
Jennifer Schulze

Angela McDaniel
Samantha McElroy
Lauren McLaughlin
Vera McRae
Dana Masiero
Lindsey McInerney

Katherine Malbani
Allison Moore
Lauren Moore
Brandi Mortensen
Cassidy Murray
Ashley Mcelheere

Sarah Myers
Lauren Natal
Miriam Napolian Burgess
Alexandria O'Brien
Kymes O'neal
Kristina O'neal Hernandez

Maria Papadakos
Angelo Panne
Tina Patel
Shawn Peterson
Molly Raby
Lindsey Rapatola

Jenica Ralph
Ashley Ramos
Keshia Ray
Emily Reen
Victoria Rich
Jessica Richie

The Junior League of Tampa would like to thank Kellie Hero Photography for the Provisional photos.

“It is not the ship so much as the skillful sailing that assures the prosperous voyage.”

~George William Curtis
GROWTH BEYOND THE NUMBERS

by DANIELLE MARONE

When one thinks of growth, the common definition or assumption is an increase in size or numbers, and a positive increase in quantity or quality. In general, the public associates it with learning to do things better or faster than the person before you, and becoming wiser. For The Junior League of Tampa, the definition of growth is quite different. While the League does continue to grow in size, JLT is not resting on an increase in numbers to represent the overall growth. As an organization, we’re under constant evaluation with the goal of self-improvement, and the focus remains on being a learning and training organization. While we must be alert to changes in our membership, we continue to be aware of changes in critical issues in the community. JLT focuses its goal of growth on strategic evolution as volunteers, leaders, and as an overall organization to remain relevant in our community and to our membership.

Membership Growth

Over the last several years, while membership has grown, the face of the League has evolved. Forty percent of League members are now under 30, with 85% of the population working outside the home. JLT leaders have recognized this change, and continue to stay focused on creating the right kind of opportunities and positions for these new members. Mentoring our members, for example, continues to be of critical importance as we want them to remain invested in the League for the long-term.

This year’s Provisional class is the largest to date, and we continue to challenge ourselves to develop new opportunities that keep us relevant in the community, and keep the focus on developing the leadership skills and growth of our members. As quantity increases, so must quality. Changing demographics means the League has to find ways to adapt recruitment, orientation, training, and membership activities to remain competitive as an organization of choice for the civic-minded career woman.

Melissa Knight, 2013–2014 Provisional Education Chair, stated, “The most successful growth I have seen this year has been the progress – both in breadth and maturation – of the Kids in the Kitchen Provisional Project. It needed a bit of remodeling to accommodate its growth potential. Not only did we review the organizational structure, including the project sites, new member Willingness to Lead roles and work practices, and the curriculum, we also considered the wants and needs of our new members, in particular their desire to make an immediate impact.”

While we continue to focus on creating the right opportunities for new members, the League has also identified the need to maximize the potential of current volunteers, and as we launch them into the community as Sustainers, JLT is considering what their impact on the community can be. It is our Sustainers who are the lasting legacy of the work in JLT. Beyond their ongoing financial assistance, which helps sustain the League, Sustainers are a valuable contribution to the community. It is the League’s duty to help them stay connected to JLT while also finding ways for their volunteerism and leadership opportunities to continue to maximize their skills and talents for the greater good.

Deepening Community Impact

The evolution of the League does not stop at membership development. We continue to evaluate our impact in the community, and are constantly working to stay relevant to evolving issues. We must ensure we’re creating the right positions for members to have the strongest community impact.

Betsy Graham is one recent League president who opened the doors to changing the way we view our community impact. During her time as President, she recognized several important opportunities that affected our community outreach. She acknowledged the benefits of having the President and others in key leadership positions focused externally. She believed that partnering with external community leaders would help us better mold our membership positions. By creating these new ways of thinking about community impact, she was able to direct and guide the membership to create outcomes that positioned the League to have a seat at the table in conversation on issues that matter most to JLT.

The direction of the League’s community impact has also evolved through the years. Community impact has most recently been measured by the success of community projects, and while advocacy has always been apparent throughout recent years it has become more of a League focus area. During the 2012 legislative session, The Junior League of Tampa and State Public Affairs Committee (SPAC) identified three priority issues for our advocacy, which were foster care, human trafficking, and family homelessness and hunger. JLT played an integral role in the development of the Abolish Movement, which is a campaign aimed at raising community awareness about human trafficking, and works to empower the community to report suspicious activity, and reach victims who need to know where to go for help.

As we continue to consider the growth and change of the League, it’s important to remember that growth for growth’s sake is not what’s important. Graham commented, “We can have a tremendous community impact even if our member size is static or if we have the same number of community projects, or maintain a constant level of community investment. What is important is continuous improvement and strategically reacting to changes in our internal and external environment. We must be alert to changes in our membership, and the changes in critical issues in the community.”
JLT MEMBERS REACH NEW HEIGHTS  
by BETH EDWARDS

The Junior League of Tampa is proud to share the accomplishments of two of our members — Mary Ellen Collins and Heather Barrow. These women have exceeded their roles as volunteers becoming influential leaders in the community of Tampa Bay and at-large in the State of Florida. Both serve as shining examples of how the League develops women leaders toward building a better community.

Mary Ellen Collins: 2014 Berta Blecke Award

The Junior Leagues of Florida State Public Affairs Committee (SPAC) awards, as identified, a special member with the prestigious Berta Blecke Award for Outstanding Efforts in Legislative Advocacy. Berta Blecke is a member of The Junior League of Miami and has involved herself with advocacy efforts dealing with foster care, free and reduced lunch in schools, and the Guardian Ad Litem program, among others.

This year’s award recipient, Mary Ellen Collins, has exhibited such efforts as JLT Public Affairs Chair and SPAC Board member. When human sex trafficking became a SPAC Priority Issue, Mary Ellen worked with the Tampa Public Affairs Committee to gather a group of experts, organizing an awareness event that included a panel to educate the public on this key issue. She also spear-headed the marketing awareness campaign against human sex trafficking, the Abolish Movement, by working with other organizations to have billboards created and sponsored, and have time and media space donated to the cause.

“I was very honored to receive the Berta Blecke Award from the Junior Leagues of Florida State Public Affairs Committee (SPAC). To be in the company of such accomplished women and activists, such as our own Mary Lee Farrior, is truly humbling and I look forward to continuing my work as an advocate locally and in Tallahassee in the years to come.”

Heather Barrow: 2014 Woman of Promise

The Girl Scouts of West Central Florida selected Heather Barrow as the 2014 Woman of Promise. A part of their annual Women of Distinction recognition, honorees are women whose professional accomplishments make them positive role models who inspire girls to achieve their own goals and dreams. They exemplify the Girl Scout Promise and Law through ethical leadership and a commitment to making a difference in the lives of their fellow citizens through community service.

As founder and Executive Director of High Risk Hope, a nonprofit that provides support, encouragement, information and resources to women and families who are experiencing a high risk pregnancy, Heather leads a team of non-compensated volunteers in reaching more than 1,200 patients annually at St. Joseph’s Women’s Hospital and Tampa General Hospital.

“I was honored when Lee Lowry and Betsy Graham nominated me for the Girl Scouts of West Central Florida Women of Promise award, but did not expect to be selected. Receiving this award alongside the accomplished and philanthropic Women of Distinction, while my family, High Risk Hope board members and JLT buddies cheered me on, was incredible. While the other honorees accepted their award for many years of service to our community, I believe mine was a challenge from the Girl Scouts to ensure HRH reaches its full future potential.”

Sources: The Girl Scouts of West Central Florida, Junior Leagues of Florida.
Tammy Curtis was acutely aware that a child of her own, to whom she could give unconditional love, would fill the void in her heart. She found out at age 29 that she would never have biological children. The news didn’t sit well with her, as it’s a persistent ache, nagging yet relatively unnoticed, until it suddenly pounds for attention.

Sometimes it’s an empty space calling to be filled. Other times it’s the guiding hand of Danielle Post, who had chaired the Kids Connect project the year prior. Post’s enthusiasm for the project peaked Markowski’s interest and led her to volunteer at the match events, and later, request placement on the Kids Connect Committee. Event after event, Markowski left feeling unsettled — how could the wonderful children she met at the events be expected to succeed in this world without the love and support of a family? She threw out a crazy idea to her husband. What would he think about looking into the adoption process? Seeing that she felt so strongly about these children, he agreed to look into it, but they mutually agreed to take it slowly and reevaluate at each step.

At the same time, a sweet, articulate, funny 14-year-old boy, nicknamed “Q,” was navigating the foster care system. Having been in foster care, more or less, since he was three years old, he had been shuffled between 12 different foster placements. He attended The Junior League of Tampa’s Kids Connect events, Camelot’s annual match event, and was on the Children’s Board Heart Gallery. He had watched his three older biological brothers age out of the system without finding forever families and hoped that he wouldn’t meet the same fate.

The Junior League of Tampa helped Curtis and the Markowskis find the completeness they sought — by providing a venue for an introduction, by uncovering a heart’s desire. Through Kids Connect, JL T addresses the often forgotten segment of our community, children in the foster care system. In doing so, the League delves into matters of the heart and plays a small role in bringing the pieces together to create forever families.

Katina Markowski joined the League at the suggestion of a friend in 2010. She had no prior experience with the foster care system or interest in adoption—she just knew she wanted to make an impact in the community. Markowski spent her first year as an Active on the Fundraising Committee, under the guiding hand of Danielle Post, who had chaired the Kids Connect project the year prior. Post’s enthusiasm for the project peaked Markowski’s interest and led her to volunteer at the match events, and later, request placement on the Kids Connect Committee. Event after event, Markowski felt left feeling unsettled — how could the wonderful children she met at the events be expected to succeed in this world without the love and support of a family? She threw out a crazy idea to her husband. What would he think about looking into the adoption process? Seeing that she felt so strongly about these children, he agreed to look into it, but they mutually agreed to take it slowly and reevaluate at each step.

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The Markowskis, now with their eight year old daughter Penny, hesitantly on board with their plans, began looking into the process. Markowski remembers overhearing a conversation between her husband and an acquaintance around this time. The acquaintance said, “I don’t know how you can’t adopt a kid.” Her husband responded, “I don’t know how I can’t.” Markowski ’s experience volunteering for Kids Connect had drawn her attention to the ache in her heart, and now her husband shared that same feeling.

By the time Q started spending weekends and school breaks with the Markowskis, they knew this was going to work out. He fit right into the mix and was a fantastic big brother, while Penny became his biggest supporter. On September 25, 2013, Q’s adoption day, the Markowskis completed their family, surrendering to the persistent ache in their hearts.

The heart has a way of telling one when something is missing. Sometimes it’s an empty space calling to be filled. Other times it’s a persistent ache, nagging yet relatively unnoticed, until it suddenly pounds for attention.

The Junior League of Tampa helps fill the void in Tammy Curtis’s heart by providing a venue for an introduction, by uncovering a heart’s desire. Through Kids Connect, JL T addresses the often forgotten segment of our community, children in the foster care system. In doing so, the League delves into matters of the heart and plays a small role in bringing the pieces together to create forever families.

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- 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

To make a commemorative gift, simply fill out an envelope and place your donation inside (cash or check or scan the QR code to be taken directly to our online donation site or credit card donations). All commemorative gifts support The Junior League of Tampa’s endowment fund.

To learn more or to make a gift, visit http://www.jltampa.org/commemorative-gifts

For questions, contact endowment@jlthq.com.

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To learn more or to make a gift, visit http://www.jltampa.org/commemorative-gifts

For questions, contact endowment@jlthq.com.

Brenda Foust, Marketing Assistant

This includes a cumulative listing of commemorative gifts received March 4, 2014 through May 31, 2014.
The Junior League of Tampa Endowment Fund  
Leaving a Legacy...Sustaining Our Service

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

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

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Leaving a Legacy
Sustaining Our Service

Donor Spotlight: 1926 Society

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The Community Foundation of Tampa Bay

SUSTAINING FOUNDERS
Betsy and Drew Graham
Dr. Lance and Georgia Kane, In memory of Kenneth Charles Kane

FOUNDERS
Heather and Bennett Barrow
Allison and Adam Burden, In memory of Sabine Simpson Barnes and Jennifer Kay Barnes
Laure Ann Burton
Stacy Carlson
Pat and Calvin Carter
Mrs. George D. Curtis, Jr.
Pamela C. and Brett D. Oyars
First Citrus Bank, In honor of Jessica Kendall
Sally and Lewis H. Hill, II
Jeray and Kevin Iurato
Helen Kerr
Arn Sells and David Miller
Jennifer S. Moyer and M. Lance Tavara
Tim D. Parnell
Mary Davi and Abigail Persky
Stephanie and Stephen Rumbley
LaVern Wilf Toucheon, In memory of Willee Carter Wil Blake

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

For questions, contact endowment@jlthq.com.

The Junior League of Tampa considers it an honor to be designated as a beneficiary of an estate or foundation. We highly regard this type of planned giving and recognize donors through membership in the Junior League of Tampa 1926 Society. The 1926 Society enables you to leave your legacy in our community by supporting the future of our League and its members.

The Junior League of Tampa is proud to recognize the newest members of the 1926 Society. Over the course of the 2013–2014 League year, we have welcomed the following new members:

Kim Carswell
Laura Everitt
Shelley Hufnagel
Jackie Medina
Denise Schultz

These women have demonstrated their dedication to JLT by recognizing the League in their wills and/or trusts or by naming the League as a beneficiary for a retirement plan or insurance policy. How one allocates their remaining assets is a big decision. It requires serious thought and consideration as well as the counsel of others. We appreciate their commitment and are grateful they have chosen to recognize the League in this manner.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the 1926 Society, please let us know about your decision to name the League as a beneficiary of your estate. For more information, please contact Sarah Kodadek, Endowment Chair, at Endowment@JLTampa.org or by contacting The Junior League of Tampa office at (813) 254-1734.

1926 SOCIETY COMMITMENT FORM
The Junior League of Tampa

JLT considers it an honor to be designated as a beneficiary in a member’s will. The 1926 Society is JLT’s way of honoring members who have put JLT in their wills. If you have made such a commitment to the League, please complete this form and submit it as instructed. To find out more information, you can complete this form and return it or visit our website (www.jltampa.org/endowment-fund).

Thank you for your support!

The Endowment Committee

Name (printed)___________________________

___________________________ I would like more information about the 1926 Society. Please contact me at (telephone or email)___________________________

___________________________ I have already noted JLT as a beneficiary in the following types of documents (check all that apply).

___________________________ Will/Trust
___________________________ 401(k)/IRA/Other Retirement Fund
___________________________ Life Insurance Policy
___________________________ Other

Signature___________________________ Date___________________________

To the League does not require any “proof” of your commitment. We simply ask that you complete this form.

Thank you for sustaining the League. Please return completed form to the Endowment mailbox in the JLT office, via mail to JLT, 87 Columbia Drive, Tampa, FL 33606, Attn: Endowment Chair, or via email to Endowment@JLTampa.org.

The Endowment Committee welcomes the following new members:

Donor List as of May 31, 2014

In memory of Willie Carter Witt Blake
In memory of In honor of

Jennifer S. Moyer and M. Lance Tavana
Ann Sells and David Miller
Helen Kerr
Pat and Calvin Carter
Heather and Bennett Barrow
Sally and Lewis H. Hill, II
Jeray and Kevin Iurato
The Founders Circle
Endowment Committee 2012—13

Terrell and Joe Clark

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

1 WEEK 1 MONTH 1 YEAR 5 YEARS

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

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

For questions, contact endowment@jlthq.com.

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Fractora Forma uses radiofrequency waves to gently warm your skin, causing it to contract while stimulating new collagen and elastin. Over a few week period, your sagging skin becomes tighter, firmer and skin tone is improved. Forma is totally pain-free – it feels like a warm stone massage and is very relaxing. Forma can be used wherever skin is sagging: along the jawline, cheeks, neck, bra line, upper arms, stomach and above the knees. Unlike a painful laser, Forma can be used on all skin types.

Trust your skin to the dermatology professionals with the latest, inclusive technology.

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Conversations
INTERVIEW WITH MEMBERS OF THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF TAMPA
by TANYA EGGER

Life is full of moments where we learn who we are as a person. We grow through facing adversity, we grow through seeing the beauty in front of us, and we grow by serving others. In helping others, we see the world in a different way. Growth comes out of our own personal transformation.

We spoke with Members representing the different stages of the League career — Provisional, Active, Transfer and Sustainer. These women continue to grow as people, thanks to the work they’ve accomplished and the work that’s still ahead, and they credit their League experience with much of their growth. Meet the four exceptional Members; Courtney Bilyeu, Provisional/2014–2015 Active, Leah Wooten, Active, Kellie Ziemak, Transfer, and Susan Baldwin, Sustainer, who are living illustrations of how The Junior League of Tampa is developing the potential of women and, in doing so, building a better community.

Egger: Tell me what you hope to gain personally through your volunteer work in the League.

Bilyeu: To be honest, I wasn’t that familiar with Tampa, I was completely shocked with all the need in the community less than 10 miles from my house. I am excited to be surrounded by very strong, very smart, very capable women. We all have a common goal and to make our community better than we found it. It’s a great feeling to have positive women all building each other up. I’m more positive now in my outlook on life.

Egger: How do you think the League is able to make such a difference in the community?

Bilyeu: I feel we are more effective as an organization because we have an amazing group of women who are a force in the community. We have so many volunteers and many of us have prior work and leadership experience that serve us in our League positions. We are not afraid to ask questions. This year has helped me strengthen my leadership skills. I’m not afraid to follow up and push through challenges I might face.

Egger: As a Transfer you really threw yourself into the League learning about the projects. Did you see a change in the type of volunteer you became because of your involvement with the Transfer committee?

Ziemak: This year has made me a better volunteer. It has made me more comfortable. I’ve grown into the kind of person who won’t just sit back and wait for someone to tell me what to do. If I see a need, I want to figure out how to tackle it. I am a more active volunteer. My goal is to make sure the people we are helping with our projects are having the best experience. So if I’m getting more out of my time, I know it’ll make their experience great.

Egger: You attended every training event you could this year, Did that allow you to develop your leadership skills?

Ziemak: At the time I was attending the training events, I didn’t think I was putting that much time into it. But I made sure I didn’t do an event just because it was required. I checked out the calendar and was really impressed with the level and quality of training. I thought they were informative. I ended up doing above my shift requirements, because I was really interested in the topics. I enjoyed this year and felt I got a lot out of it.

Egger: Tell me what you hope to gain personally through your volunteer work in the League.

Wooten: The most transformational experience I had in the League was the year I worked on the Salvation Army: Getting Ahead project. I grew so much in terms of understanding poverty and the people who live in poverty. It opened my eyes to these women to put them in this situation. I truly enjoyed helping them transition out of poverty and become successful. This project was more about social consciousness and our role in getting them out of the bad situation.

Egger: The League continues to grow as an organization, year after year. What do you credit with the impact we’ve had on our area?

Wooten: I like the fact this organization is able to conduct projects that have tangible results. I like seeing the heart that goes into fundraising, and our ability to maximize our investment on return. Our fundraising goes straight back into the community.

Egger: How have you grown as a volunteer over your years as an Active?

Baldwin: Intense. I used my volunteer work to channel my energy. Back then Tampa was much smaller so our impact on the community went very deep. I started doing child advocacy through the League. We were involved in Senate hearings, we held press conferences, and we helped write legislation. I saw an avenue to impact the community with the kind of leaders the League had behind you. I was able to use my one small voice and have a huge impact because I had all these women behind me. I could have never accomplished what I did without the League. Who would have listened to me?

Egger: Having been a Sustainer for 20 years, how have you grown as a volunteer beyond your days as an Active?

Baldwin: In the League, we didn’t jump on the bandwagon, we created the bandwagon. We saw there was a need and worked to make sure a project would be sustainable once we were no longer involved. As a Sustainer, I still volunteer, just not at the level I did. But I kept up my work in child advocacy. Careers have been built based on the work in the League. I had a passion for it and in the League I got the leadership training to move forward.

Egger: You joined the League back in 1976. Tell me what kind of volunteer were you when you started.

Army: Getting Ahead project. I grew so much in terms of understanding poverty and the people who live in poverty. It opened my eyes to these women to put them in this situation. I truly enjoyed helping them transition out of poverty and become successful. This project was more about social consciousness and our role in getting them out of the bad situation.

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“Communication is key!” How many times have you heard that saying? Communicating the Mission and Vision of The Junior League of Tampa was a key tenet of this year’s Annual Dinner, held at A La Carte Pavilion on May 14, 2014. Washed in vibrant hues of fuchsia and radiant orchid, sleek lines, and an international cuisine selection, the dinner had a distinctly modern feel. Coupled with a change from a seated, progressive dinner to cabaret-style stations, the Annual Dinner echoed the many changes that have shaped the League during 2013–2014.

The event began with a showing of a compilation of the newly-created JLT Community Impact videos followed by opening remarks from President Lee Lowry. Lowry shared many thanks to all who contributed to this year’s success, along with a special thanks to the Annual Dinner coordinators, Tracie Domino and Aly Zamore. With heartfelt introductions and well deserved standing ovations for the recipients, the presentation of the annual awards ensued.

The first award of the evening, presented by Members at Large Selena Ward and Malloy Lacktman, was Active of the Year, Michelle Repplinger. The award, developed to recognize an Active member who has dedicated herself 100% to the League, was the perfect fit for a woman who devoted herself this year as a facilitator with Getting Ahead. Selected from women previously chosen as Active of the Month, Michelle was described by her peers as a leader who served “with grace and ease,” inspiring others to dedicate themselves to the Mission just as she has done.

Communications Vice President Stacy Carlson followed with a wonderful analogy of the role a car plays in transportation, presenting the Committee of the Year Award to the PR and Marketing Committee as the vehicle for transporting The Junior League of Tampa’s Mission to our community. In speaking to their work, Stacy said “the competence of this committee has touched every aspect of the League this year”, and their “unprecedented use of social media” propelled the JLT in to its most visible spotlight yet.

In a moving speech by Community Vice President Nicole Hubbard, the Inspiring Leader of the Year Award was presented to Jenny Spencer. The accolades for her work with Love Bundles were numerous. Jenny “continuously lives our Mission...has created a family style dynamic...is by far one of the most confident, competent, and courageous leaders within the League.”

Paula Cardoso, last year’s winner of the Martha S. Ferman Spirit Award, next came to the podium to recognize a woman who has dedicated herself tirelessly to the League and is completing her final year of Active service. This year’s recipient of the Martha S. Ferman Spirit Award was Suzanne Brownstein, PR and Marketing Chair. In speaking to her impressive reach within and outside of the League, Paula said of Suzanne, “there is no doubt in my mind that the League would not have received the attention it did without her.”

The final award of the evening was presented to the Sustainer of the Year. An author of multiple children’s books including “Discovering Hyde Park” and “Views from the Vinoy” and winner of the Florida Trust Preservation Award, Robin Robson Gonzalez is a pillar of our educational community. Upon accepting the award, Ms. Gonzalez epitomized the impetus for voluntarism: “Doing for others is the rent you pay for living on this earth.”

The formalities concluded and dance floor opened after a final speech from President Lee Lowry and the first by incoming 2014–2015 President Lynette Russell. In summing up the year and the modern Junior League woman’s approach to her community, advocacy, and the development of women, Lee said it best, “How could I possibly distill a whole year into one speech? I’ve heard time and time again about the image of the Junior League member wearing her pearls and white gloves. Well, we may want to keep our pearls, but the gloves are off!”

Congratulations, JLT, for a year of major accomplishments serving both our members and our community!

Special thanks to the following vendors who helped make our Annual Dinner a success: conceptBAIT, A La Carte Event Pavilion, Phase 5, AVSS, The Bliss Booth, Joe Photo, Invitation Consultants, The Gelato Carte, Sensory 5
THANK YOU AD 2 TAMPA BAY!

We are grateful to have been selected as your 2013—2014 Public Service Client on behalf of the Community Campaign against Human Trafficking to help raise awareness about human trafficking in Tampa Bay! Your creation of the Abolish Movement has been instrumental in moving the needle on this issue, and we appreciate the passion, dedication and professionalism of the Ad 2 team, specifically:

Mandy Eyrich, Public Service Director
Randi Sether, Public Service Strategy Director
Kelsey Farnell, Public Service Creative Director
Seth Chavara, Public Service Creative Director
Taryn Cashmere, Ad 2 President.

After completing a successful year of service, the members of The Junior League of Tampa find themselves in a time of transition — leaders stepping down from their previous roles and transitioning into new roles or perhaps moving on to become a Sustaining member. Members will enjoy a brief “summer break” before General Membership Meetings commence again in September. So how can members take advantage of this time to maximize their League experience?

President Lee Lowry sheds some light on the subject, “although the League slows down during the summer, we are no longer completely quiet during the hottest months. Many committees, from Provisional Education to Holiday Gift Market, continue to work and meet.” For Lowry, this will be a pivotal League summer as she steps down from her role as President and continues on a new path in leadership with roles including a position on the Junior Leagues of Florida’s State Public Affairs Board.

Following Lowry’s lead, members are encouraged to utilize this period of time to pursue further training and growth — apply what you have learned, challenge these new skills, and seek new opportunities for development over the coming year. As Lowry shared, many committees remain highly productive during the summer months, necessitating the early involvement of their placed members as well as those outside their committee. Externally, members can keep their skills sharp by volunteering in the community at large or applying what they have learned in the League to their professional roles. The opportunities are there ripe for taking.

Provisional Education Chair Melissa Knight Nodhurtff draws our attention to a poem by Gwendolyn Brooks as she offers her advice on keeping our summers fruitful:

I put a seed into the ground
And said, “I’ll watch it grow.”
I watered it and cared for it
As well as I could know.
One day I walked in my back yard,
And oh, what did I see?
My seed had popped itself right out,
Without consulting me.

Nodhurtff suggests we can “water” our seed by staying actively involved over the next couple of months. Examples include attending committee meetings and socials to stay engaged and forge new relationships. Further care may come in the form of training, such as the Association of Junior Leagues International Inc. (AJLI) Knowledge Center and Webinar Wednesdays (see www.ajli.org for more), offered to all members of the League. The key to maximizing your experience is to remain active, within and outside the League.
THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF TAMPA’S
TOP TEN
by LEE LOWRY

1. Innovative Community Partnerships.
Designed the new Scholastic Success project with Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Girl Power! Project with Joshua House.

2. Unprecedented Advocacy.
Created the Abolish Movement, in partnership with Ad 2 Tampa Bay and the Community Campaign Against Human Trafficking, to fight the crime of human trafficking.

3. Amplified Branding and PR.
Created four new videos and the first community-facing email newsletter, redesigned The Sandspur magazine as well as fundraising materials, and garnered an unparalleled amount of press on radio, television and in print.

4. Improved Earned Income.
Executed a record-breaking Holiday Gift Market with 13,888 people through the door, sold out the second annual Gasparilla Invasion Party, and self-published an e-Book of the popular JLT cookbook The Life of the Party, becoming the first Junior League in the country to do so.

5. Increased Membership.
Increased number of members to 1,807, and inducted the largest Provisional class in the League’s 88-year history, 167 women.

Expanded two community partnership projects, doubling their budgets and exponentially increasing their scope of work:
• Children’s Literacy increased Family Literacy Nights to three nights at four schools.
• Food 4 Kids fed 384 children each week for 36 weeks, more than doubling distribution for a total of 82,944 meals.

7. Augmented Fund Development.
Exceeded fundraising goals for Annual Campaign, grants and Endowment, raising $30,000 above goal for Annual Campaign alone.

Created the League’s first Family Food Fest, a partnership between three JLT projects and five community agencies and companies including Feeding America, Creating a Healthier Sulphur Springs for Kids, and the Tampa Bay Rays.

Won the “Be More... Humble Award” from WEDU Public Television and became a finalist for the Tampa Bay Business Journal’s Nonprofit of the Year Award.

10. Conscientious Non-Profit Governance.
Initiated a review resulting in a planned redesign of the League’s governance structure to make it more nimble, to help it achieve greater impact and to create greater accountability.
The dog days of summer send us in search of ways to stay cool. Mashed peaches and sugar with whiskey over crushed ice is a confection sweeter than cake. Green tea, iced with grated ginger cools the senses like a dive in the pool. And there is no better way to counter a summer afternoon more fiery than salsa with a margarita that knows how to best combine the bitter with the sweet. The temps outdoors are rising. Remember to pack your sunscreen and the shopping list for this season’s cocktails before heading outdoors.

**Ping’s Special Peach Slush**  
*The Gasparilla Cookbook, pg. 15* | Yield 1 serving (1, 12-14 ounce glass)

- ½ overripe peach
- 1 heaping teaspoon sugar
- 2 jiggers whiskey
- Crushed ice

Mash together peach and sugar, add whiskey and stir well. Fill glass with crushed ice.

**Iced Ginger Tea**  
*Capture the Coast, pg. 33* | Yield 8 servings

- 8 cups water
- ½ cup grated fresh ginger
- ¼ cup fresh lemon juice
- ¼ cup honey
- 4 (single-serving) bags green tea
- 1 ½ cups sugar

Bring the water, ginger, lemon juice and honey to a boil in a saucepan. Reduce heat and simmer for 5 minutes. Remove from heat. Add tea bags, steep for 5 minutes, and discard. Stir in sugar until dissolved. Let stand until cool. Pour through a strainer into a pitcher, discarding the solids. Serve in glass over ice.

**Pink Grapefruit Margarita**  
*EveryDay Feasts, pg. 44* | Yield 6 servings

- 1 ⅓ cups pink grapefruit juice
- 2 jiggers tequila
- ¼ cup Grand Marnier
- Juice from 1 lime
- ½ cup sugar or to taste
- Crushed ice
- Lime or grapefruit slices
- Coarse salt (optional)

Combine grapefruit juice, tequila, Grand Marnier, lime juice and sugar in a pitcher and stir until sugar is fully dissolved (sugar may be substituted with pre-made Simple Syrup). Add crushed ice to fill the pitcher. Moisten the rim of each glass and dip in coarse salt (optional). Strain the margarita into prepared glasses and garnish with a slice of lime or pink grapefruit. Process the mixture with ice in a blender for a frozen drink.
### The Junior League of Tampa Cookbook Order Form

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<td>The Gasparilla Cookbook 50th Anniversary Edition</td>
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- Chayez at Home
- Columbia Restaurant
- Creme de la Creme
- D’Lites
- Datz
- Deborah Kent’s
- Florida Coastline Interiors
- Green Boutique
- HB Plant Museum
- HMS Host
- Hyatt Regency Tampa
- Inkwood Books
- Joan’s Catering
- KT Janes
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- Magnolia
- Magnon Jewelers
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- Marriott Tampa Airport
- Marriott Waterside
- Matilda’s aka Daynart Inc.
- Neville’s Inc.
- Occasions
- Seaside Home Accents & Gifts
- Seedlings Retail
- Tampa Bay & Co./Tampa Bay Visitation Center
- Tampa Bay History Center
- Tampa Museum of Art
- The Fresh Market (Henderson)
- The Gifted Fig
- The Potting Shed
- The Rolling Pin Kitchen Emporium
- The Write Stuff
- Traditions Unlimited
- Truffles and Trifles (Margaret Arthur Interiors)
- Westin Tampa Bay Sundry Shop
- Westshore Pharmacy
- Wright’s Gourmet House
- Ybor City Chamber of Commerce
- Ybor City Museum Society

Whether it’s our commitment to clients, or to our work in the community, involvement lies at the core of everything we do. That’s why we’re proud to support The Junior League of Tampa.
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