



THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
PHILADELPHIA

HOTLINE

SPRING
2021

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



As I reflect on the last year, I am filled with immeasurable pride. Twelve months ago, facing what appeared to be insurmountable obstacles associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, members of The Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc. had two options, we could either go into hiatus or spring into action. A collection of intrepid women, action was the only viable alternative. Guided by the tenets of our Strategic Plan, we set about ensuring our continued civic impact, providing training opportunities, ensuring membership engagement, increasing our visibility in the city, advancing our efforts toward establishing a more diverse and inclusive environment, and maintaining a sustainable governance structure, all

while upholding social distancing protocols to protect the health and safety of our membership and community.

This delicate balance, between action and caution, brought out the absolute best in our membership. Mindful that the pandemic upended the lives of many, we redesigned each of our Apple a Day Healthy Living Initiative™ community projects, doubling down on our efforts to combat food insecurity. Resultingly, we were able to offer a virtual afterschool healthy eating program, pack and deliver thousands of pounds of food, aid in vaccination efforts and assist our community partners as they also tried to navigate the everchanging landscape. Circumstances also demanded that we drew upon our creativity to be able to offer our membership valuable training opportunities. Ready to rise to the challenge, our team was able to leverage the flexibility of virtual meeting spaces to invite experts from around the country to cover topics ranging from managing pandemic stress to nonprofit board membership to career development. Options for member engagement were as varied as our community projects, accommodating all levels of social distancing. As the city retreated indoors, we continued to identify opportunities to increase JLP's visibility, including a feature on the local news, installation of signage at two community partner sites and making grants for local agencies.

Amid the tumult endemic to the year, we made significant progress in strengthening our governance structure, extending our review process to include all committees and expanding our leadership team. Concurrent with the upheaval of the pandemic, the last year has also demanded that our nation reckon with demands for social justice. Initiated in 2018, our Diversity & Inclusion committee harnessed its inertia to help JLP progress toward our goals of increased inclusivity and to provide related training to our volunteers. As a result of their efforts, our members report feeling better informed on related topics, our leadership team reflects a boarder set of identities and initiatives have been put in place to make membership more accessible.

Success in the virtual environment has not been limited to the goings on of our New and Active Members. The last year has also borne witness to the ingenuity of our Sustainers.

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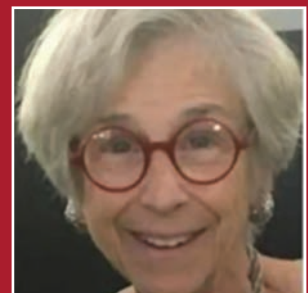
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The Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc. is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE *continued from page 1*


While adjusting to the demands of the pandemic, they were able to log record member participation numbers, reengage the Water Works, a cause dear to the League, and fund the expansion of a Philadelphia Orchard Project (POP) site.

None of the abovementioned accomplishments would have been possible without the assistance of our staff and the success of our fundraisers. As we restructured and revisited the ways in which members could fulfill their requirements, we leaned heavily on the women at headquarters. Ever gracious, they not only adjusted to repeated staffing changes but continued to support our efforts while doing so. Facing complexities of a volatile economy, each of our fundraising committees managed to exceed their stated goals. Similarly, the Thrift Shop, our largest fundraiser and community project, rebounded from unexpected closure, returning to pre-pandemic revenue levels and operating hours. The funds generated across these sources allowed us to operate, uninterrupted, in an environment rife with uncertainty.

At the beginning of my term, I shared two goals with you: that we would be able to strengthen the relationships between our New/Active members and our Sustainers while also bolstering our efforts to become a more inclusive organization. Though they seemed grand in light of the constraints that accompanied the pandemic, in retrospect, these goals were laughably diminutive. I should have realized that when presented with the challenge of what appeared to be untenable circumstances that the brilliant and resourceful women of the League would not just rise to the occasion but

would set a higher bar. Yes, relationships between our membership groups are strengthened and, yes, we are making strides toward being more inclusive. We have not just survived the pandemic, we have flourished—finding new and inventive ways to meet the needs of our membership and community. In a year when few things were as they have been, JLP remained staunchly consistent, doing exactly what we have for the last 109 years, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

In accepting this role, I was keenly aware of the historic implications of my decision and the prospect that the hallmark of my term would be that I was our first Black President. It would be disingenuous to suggest that this distinction is not evident or that I am not proud to have been able to blaze this path. It would be equally disingenuous to ignore the fact that being at the helm during a period of crisis will be what actually distinguishes my time in office. I am honored to have been granted the privilege of serving as your President, flattered by the confidence you placed in my ability to uphold our mission and heartened by support of the team I was fortunate to work alongside. As I bid you a fond farewell, I look forward to the opportunity to continue to serve our mission, further our efforts toward inclusivity, and support the women of Junior League of Philadelphia.



Aronté Bennett
President, 2020-2021
Aronte.Bennett@gmail.com

2020-2021

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Aronté Bennett, President
Kira Bryers, President-Elect
Natalie Kay, Assistant to the President
Vanessa Colley, Secretary
Jen Bravo, Treasurer
Lauren Homel,
Sustainer Leadership Council Chair
Halley Hetrick, Chief Operating Officer
Katharine Koob, Director of Development
Kat Sweeney, Nominating Chair
Becca Nock, Parliamentarian

2020-2021

MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Halley Hetrick, Chief Operating Officer
Kira Bryers, President-Elect
Lauren Zabel, Chief Operating Officer-Elect
Lisa Kreiling, Treasurer-Elect
Jodi Kerr,
Sustainer Leadership Council Chair-Elect
Kimberley Brown, VP of Marketing
& Communications
Stefanie Robinson, VP of Community
Adrienne Taylor, VP of Fundraising
Chloe Diamond, VP of Membership
Development
Kelly Steyn, Assistant to the
Chief Operating Officer
Nancy Ahlum, House Chair
Becca Nock, Parliamentarian
Abby Plesser, Editor-at-Large

Hotline Committee Contact:
hotline@jlphiladelphia.org

Hemma Patel and Jamila Robinson,
Committee Chairs

Office: 610-645-9696

Office Fax: 610-645-0996

www.jlphiladelphia.org

JLP Thrift Shop: 610-896-8828

Limited Shopping Hours:

Monday - Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Donation Hours:

Monday - Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

HOTLINE DEADLINES

Summer Issue: August 25

Please contact the *Hotline* Committee via email at hotline@jlphiladelphia.org with questions or comments.

The *Hotline* is eager to accept your articles and story suggestions. Please feel free to contact us with your articles and proposals to make this newsletter better. To publish the *Hotline* in a timely manner, articles are to be submitted via email at hotline@jlphiladelphia.org. Each article must have a byline and a headline. Remember *Hotline* also accepts advertising: \$25 for classified ads, \$200 for 1/2 page ads (4" x 5"), \$300 for 1/2 page (7.5" x 5") and \$525 for full page ads (7.5" x 10"). Discounts are available for recurring ads.

The Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization.

MAY CELEBRATION!!!!

Submitted By: Aronté Bennett

On May 19, 2021, members gathered for a virtual version of May Celebration. May Celebration typically marks the end of the year and features a changing of the guard. This year it not only served those purposes but also provided members an opportunity to reflect on a whirlwind of a year, acknowledging the myriad of challenges and applauding the unexpected successes we've collectively experienced.

Punctuated by performances from two local musical acts, V. Shayne Frederick and Pristine Raeign, the night's theme was Une Nuit en Rouge: A Cabaret. Embracing the flexibility that has characterized this League year, while wearing red was suggested, attendees were encouraged to come as glamorous or as casual as they felt comfortable.

The night began with a message from the President, Aronté Bennett, and words of wisdom shared by the outgoing Board of Directors and Management Council. The program quickly moved into acknowledgement of member milestones by Vice President of Membership, Chloe Diamond, including five, ten and fifteen years of Active membership and New Members who are now Active, followed by a welcoming of New Sustainers by New Sustainer Chair, Bertina Whytehead.

The night then turned to the awards portion of the program, beginning with Thrift Shop Committee Co-Chair, Allison Hanson, announcing Hanger Awards. As the JLP's largest fundraiser and community project, the Thrift Shop benefits from members' donations of quota. Recognizing the value of their contributions, each year, Golden, Pearl and Platinum Hanger Awards are given. Recipients of Golden Hangers donated more than \$1,000 of quota to the Thrift Shop. Pearl Hanger Recipients donated more than \$2,000 of quota. Our highest Shop honor, the Platinum Hanger, is given to members who donated at least \$3,000 of quota.

Up next, Vanessa Colley, Secretary announced membership awards. Nominations for Volunteer of the Year, Leader of the Year and Committee of the Year were accepted throughout the month of March; members were encouraged to nominate any woman or committee they thought went above and beyond. Nominations were then reviewed by and voted upon by the Board of Directors. Volunteer of the Year went to Laura Bahnck, member of the Thrift Shop Committee, Leader of the Year went to Adrienne Taylor, VP of Fundraising and Committee of the Year went to Done in a Day (DIAD).

Additional awards were then announced by Aronté. The President's Cup, an award given to a woman who has "worked behind the scenes to make JLP magic happen" was given to Abbey Plesser Editor at Large, with honorable mention going to Anne McAndrews, Co-Chair of the Website Committee.. Meanwhile, the Apple A Day Award, recognizing a member whose efforts embody the spirit of Apple a Day, was given to Lauren Woehr, Co-Chair of the Empower Your Health Fair Committee with honorable mention going to Heema (Emma) Patel for her work on the COVID Task Force.. Lastly, the Susan Myers Leadership and Community Activism Award, JLP's highest honor, given to a greater Philadelphia leader who has made a difference in the community over an extended period of time, was given to Sister Elizabeth (Betty) Scanlon, former Executive Director of Community Center at Visitation. Ever gracious, Sister Betty offered brief acceptance remarks.

The evening culminated with the introduction of the new Board and Management Council, an unconventional rendition of the traditional gavel pass, and a welcome speech from incoming President, Kira Bryers.

5 years of Active membership:

Jane Bortz	Rose Cuozzo
Jessica Brackett	Alyssa Davis
Jennifer Bravo	Jen Dever
Emily Brown	Chloe Diamond
Vanessa Colley	Emily Dvorchak
	Stacy Forchetti
	Annie German
	Elizabeth Grauer

Sherrie Hartzell
Kelsey Hawkins
Natalie Kay
Lisa Kreiling
Kristin Lang
Laura Lazewski
Marci Leveillee
Stephanie Lubert

Taranae Mahmoodi
Amanda McBride
Elizabeth Moss
Rebecca Nock
Jessica O'Regan
Pam Phojanakong
Andrea Procton
Ashley Reece

Sonya Reynolds
Kathryn Rubey
Hollie Smith
Kristin Thorkelson
Dana Trump
Kimberly Wagner
Carly Williams
Carsen York

10 years of Active membership:

Aronté Bennett	Brittany Peterson
Kira Bryers	Kelly Steyn
Shauna Itri	Adrienne Taylor
Anne McAndrew	Lauren Zabel
Melissa Peter	

15 years of Active membership:

Meredith Nissen

Gold Hanger Winners:

Molly Albertson	Victoria Rothwell
Laura Bahnck	Olivia Scheyd
Lisa Carosella	Hollie Smith
Rose Cuozzo	Megan Speight
Sara Horowitz	Danielle Verba
Natalie Kay	Desiree Wayne
Stefanie Robinson	

Pearl Hanger Winners:

Olivia Teynor
Lauren Woehr

Platinum Hanger Winners:

Stefan Courtney
Kelly Murphy-Newell

New Sustainers:

Olivia Teynor
Renee Howell
Jessica Maher
Elizabeth Moyer

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW MEMBER CLASS OF 2020-21!

Submitted By: Cara Jo Swetsky & Heather Latons Co-Chairs, *New Member Program 2020-21*



Let's recognize our New Members who joined us in 2020-21 and have completed their first year with the Junior League of Philadelphia – during a global pandemic, nonetheless! Given the virtual setting, this year was certainly a challenge and not what anyone had expected, but your positive attitude and dedication to the League did not go unnoticed. Thank you for your patience, resilience and can-do spirits along the way! We are so proud to officially welcome you as Active members and look forward to seeing you in-person soon!

New Active Members (as of 5/19/2021)

Sarah Armanious
Claire Birkholz
Sandi Brown
Liz Carosco
Rhonda Clinton

Sarah Cunningham
Precious Daniels
Tori Denaro
Courtney Dysart
Fiona Elias
Dawn Glancy
Shakira Hansley
Felecia Harrison

Emily Jay
Meghan Kaiser
Jillian Kukucka
Madeline Leupold
Lynsey Madison
Heather Malandra
Laurel Mangini
Caroline Powell

Bhavya Ravigopal
Kim Reed
Amy Romano
Claire Smith
Lauren Sneed
Lauren Spaulding
Ashley Thomas
Niki Torskiy

Anna Truong
Tara Tsu
Camille M. Urbano
Katie Waltman
Ashley Woodworth
Katie Wooters

AND THE AWARD GOES TO...

Submitted By: Aronté Bennett

The outstanding efforts of our Community Council have been recognized with two recent awards, one national and the other local.

The Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI) acknowledged the incredible performance of our issue-based community impact project, Apple a Day Healthy Living Initiative™. Out of 295 Leagues, the Junior League of Philadelphia Inc. was selected as the recipient of AJLI's Community Impact Award. The Community Impact Award is given in recognition of League projects that concretely illustrate the Junior League tradition of achieving significant community impact through collaboration. Our hard-working community council, committee chairs, and members have guided Apple a Day (AAD) efforts to combat food insecurity in the Philadelphia region



for the past eight years. Working in tandem, the efforts of our Fundraising Council committees have allowed AAD programming and grant making activities to grow at an astonishing

clip. The 2021-22 Board of Directors is already contemplating the most impactful way in which the \$10,000 grant that accompanies the award can be used to support our efforts to improve our community.

After School All-Stars (ASAS), one of our Kids in the Kitchen partner organizations recognized the impact of JLP's work with an "Outstanding Program Partner Award" during their Annual Meeting on June 3. An ASAS program coordinator shared, "We have so enjoyed working with you over the past few years and we are so appreciative of the work you've done to help us be able to offer this program

virtually to our students. The cooking program has grown to be our students' favorite program!" Congratulations to all!

OUT AND ABOUT WITH THE PHILADELPHIA JUNIOR LEAGUE



Food packing at Share



Members serving with Greener Partners



Volunteering at a vaccine event at Face To Face



Women's Day Tea with Thrift Shop



Members at Clark Park with The Food Trust



New Member Book Club



Thrift Shop Committee at Elfreth's Alley Flea Market



A Methodist Services' 3rd Grader assembles a KITK healthy snack.



A Methodist Services 2nd Grade Student shares a "peace" of her KITK apple/peanut butter faces.



A Methodist Services' 4th Grader is all smiles after completing KITK apple activity.

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA PRESENTS GRANT TO SUPPORT THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHARD PROJECT

On May 16th, the JLP presented the final installment of its grant to the Philadelphia Orchard Project (POP) to help fund their new headquarters and infrastructure at The Woodlands. The project at The Woodlands consists of building a learning orchard, an edible plant nursery, a climate battery greenhouse, and high tunnels. This donation from the JLP, in total a sum of \$48,000, makes the JLP the primary sponsor of this project work thus far, and represents one of the largest gifts to POP to date.

The JLP members in attendance were treated to an educational tour of the learning orchard at POP, as well as an overview of the nursery and plans for the upcoming greenhouse and high tunnels, before a ceremonial planting



Photo Credit: Print & Facebook: Marc Steiner · Instagram: @themarcsteiner

of a hazelnut tree in honor of this occasion. The two organizations have had a long history of partnership: the JLP has provided many volunteers to work at POP over the years, cleaning up the grounds, planting, volunteering at community harvest festivals, and assisting in educational efforts. Two JLP members currently serve on POP's board. The funding for this

grant came from The Blossom Fund, a fund that the Sustainer's created, funded, and managed over the many years of hosting the BB&B/BBB&B project, in conjunction with the Philadelphia Flower Show. Thank you to all Sustainer's who played a part in the success of this project, allowing us to support POP at this time with this generous grant.

JUNIOR LEAGUE PAST PRESIDENT'S TEA

Submitted By: The Hotline Staff

On Saturday, April 24, 2021, we celebrated incoming JLP President, Kira Bryers at the JLP Past Presidents' Tea. Congratulations, Kira!



FUNDRAISING SPOTLIGHT

Submitted By: The Hotline Staff

This February, the Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc.'s Focus Fundraising Committee offered an exclusive JLP-branded Yeti mug that was available for \$25.00.

This white Rambler 10 oz. Lowball Yeti with standard lid features the Philadelphia skyline and Junior League of Philadelphia logo. This item is dishwasher safe, vacuum insulated, and made with 18/8 kitchen-grade stainless steel. The sale ran from February 8th – 20th, and the Yeti's were available for pick up in May.

It should also be noted that purchases totaling \$50 to \$99 received one (1) Ways and Means credit. Purchases totaling \$100 or more received two (2) Ways and Means credits.



HAPPENING AT THE THRIFT SHOP!

In March we shuttered the doors of the Thrift Shop; they would remain closed for three months. When we reopened in June, we did so with a skeleton staff and severely limited hours. Neither community donations nor member quota were being accepted; volunteer shifts were suspended. Little by little, day by day, as we regained our footing and found safe ways to resume standard operations, staffing and hours slowly increased, eventually, accepting quota from members and then donations from the community.

Once social distancing protocols were established, member volunteer shifts were reintroduced. As reported in the last edition of the Hotline, in December we welcomed a new Shop manager, Suzanne Farley. Calling upon her extensive retail experience, Suzanne worked with her staff and the Thrift Shop committee to continue to improve the performance of the shop. Still working for fewer hours and with a smaller team than prior to the pandemic, our little Thrift Shop that could continue to chug away.



STATE OF THE LEAGUE

By: Halley Hetrick, Chief Operating Officer

The state of the league is strong because of you! Thank you for all your hard work to date while managing life in a pandemic.

PHILADELPHIA

STATE OF THE LEAGUE JUNE 2020 - APRIL 2021

44 DIADs with 400 seats	3,195 food boxes packed	over 775 items donated to food pantries
over 200 period supply items donated	Kids in the Kitchen: 3,300 snacks provided for 275 students	over 200 vaccines administered at health fair events

COMMUNITY

Won
Best of Ardmore - Thrift Shop Award from Main Line Today

Annual Fund raised over \$30,000

exceeding its goal by 200% with 100% Board participation

Exceeded LBDI fundraising goal by 13% and **donated over \$22k to community partners**

over \$7,800 raised by Focus Fundraising

Reopened Thrift Shop successfully with COVID-19 precautions

FUNDRAISING

23 Member Trainings with 750 seats

97% New Member retention rate

343 Actives

64 New Members

371 Sustainers

778 Total Members

Held 25 Area Meetings

MEMBERSHIP

In March, we received news that would serve as the final push we needed to get to the finish line. With the encouragement of Nancy Scarlato, Sustainer and Executive Director of the Ardmore Initiative, Lisa Krielling, Treasurer 2021-22, spearheaded the process of applying for a COVID-19 relief grant offered by Lower Merion Township. Hoping to be awarded \$5,000, our team was delighted to learn that we would receive \$20,000 in support. In keeping with the guidelines of the grant, the income was used to return the shop to a fully staffed, 7-day a week schedule. A little over a year after a stay at home order left us wondering about its fate, our Thrift Shop is back and better than ever!

Stop by the shop, say hi to the staff and pick up some summer essentials. While you are there, look at the lovely new planter out front, along Lancaster Avenue. Alongside the Sustainer Garden Club, Bobbie Cameron, Past President, worked with the Ardmore Initiative to secure the planters. For a modest fee, the Initiative will maintain them, regularly replacing the plants using overage from the landscaping in Suburban Square. The new addition adds to the curb appeal of our already lovely, historic Headquarters.



Submitted By: Kate Hall, *Spring Market Committee Chair*

Spring Market is poised to become a large League fundraiser, supporting our goal to diversify the JLP's fundraising sources as well as increase our presence in the community.

We sought to highlight women and minority owned businesses, diverse products and varied price points. Depending on the vendor, you were be

able to shop online, by phone, and in person over a two-week time period this year.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY TEA

By: Allison Hanson,
Thrift Shop Co-Chair

International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating women's equality. On March 21, 2021, the Thrift Shop Committee hosted a virtual tea on Zoom to celebrate the achievements of women and our League. The event consisted of an "Introduction to Tea" with Debbie Heth, owner of A Taste of Britain, "Tea and the Women's Suffrage Movement," a talk with Jennifer G. Morgan, JLP Past-President and Sustainer, a fascinator making demonstration with Alexis Ruffino, Thrift Shop Committee member, raffles with Laura Bahnck, Thrift Shop Committee member, and a discussion about tea and our Thrift Shop led by Halley Hetrick, JLP Past-President and current Chief Operating Officer. Prior to the event, JLP ladies and their invitees had the opportunity to purchase afternoon tea boxes from A Taste of Britain in Wayne, PA and a tea cup and saucer set from our JLP Thrift Shop in Ardmore, PA. Please keep a look-out for future Thrift Shop Committee events.

We hope you will visit us soon! Follow us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/jlthrift>, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/JLPTHRIFT>) and Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/jlpthrift/?hl=en>).



JuniorLeaguePhiladelphia



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the-junior-league-of-philadelphia-inc



THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA, INC. AND COMMUNITY CENTER AT VISITATION PARTNER FOR TRAINING ON TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACH TO VOLUNTEERING

Submitted by: Jacqui Rothera

Members of The Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc. (JLP) and staff and volunteers of a JLP community partner, Community Center at Visitation (CCV), joined a virtual training on the evening of Thursday, March 18, 2021 to become more trauma-informed volunteers. The presentations and question-and-answer session provided opportunities for all attendees to approach volunteering with greater sensitivity, compassion, and understanding of how trauma affects individuals physically and emotionally.

This event was created by a partnership between the Education and Volunteer Training (EVT) and the Little Black Dress Initiative (LBDI) Committees of the JLP. CCV is a 2020 JLP LBDI campaign grantee, and, as part of this year's campaign, the LBDI committee worked with the grantees to create opportunities to strengthen the relationship between the two organizations. CCV is located in the Kensington neighborhood of Philadelphia and serves many individuals who have experienced trauma in their lives. Therefore, offering

a trauma-informed training for JLP members seemed like a natural fit and a mutually beneficial opportunity for the two organizations.

The event was well attended by JLP members and was led by Danielle Ivins-Fishman and Teena Weisler-Vega. Danielle is an Alternative Healthcare Provider and Trauma-Informed Coach and Educator. She serves as a volunteer at CCV, and she led the first portion of the training, where she discussed the physical impacts of dealing with trauma, common behaviors during stress, and basic tools for response. She identified the different types of trauma, used accessible examples of how trauma affects the body and brain, and concluded by sharing practical examples of how to support self and others during and after traumatic experiences. The second speaker of the event,

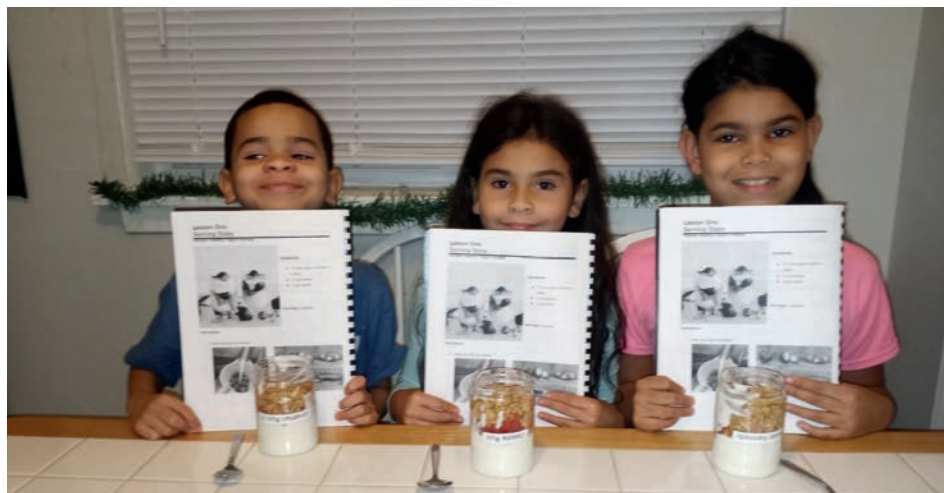
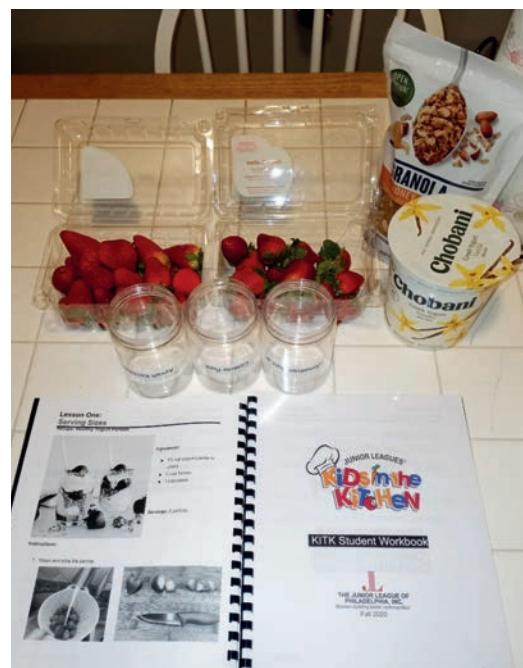
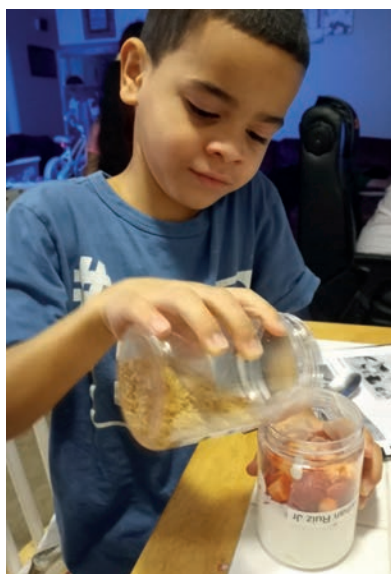
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SPRING PROGRAMS FOR KIDS IN THE KITCHEN™

Submitted by: Martha S. Cook

Following a successful, three-week abbreviated fall program that was adapted to be delivered in a completely virtual format, *Kids in the Kitchen™* (KITK) hosted another round of virtual programming this spring. Each of the KITK three community partners (After School All Stars, Methodist Services, and Mastery Molina Charter School) were thrilled with the fall program and returned in the spring. The four-week program ran from mid-April to mid-May.

The KITK committee members adapted recipes and instruction formats to be compatible with online instruction, as well as continue to work closely with partners to ensure that the students have all the necessary supplies each week. Feedback about the fall program was all positive from instructors, parents, and students. Jessica Soto, an instructor from Methodist Services said that "students thought the lesson was fun and would try the recipe again with their families." KITK hopes to build on this enthusiasm by incorporating new lessons and reaching more students.



AMAZING WOMAN AND TRAILBLAZER! GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

It is with saddened hearts that we announce the passing of Past President Lucinda (Cindy) Sanford Landreth. Cindy departed on the evening of January 31, after a three-and-a-half year battle against pancreatic cancer. She joined JLP in 1972, served as our President in 1985, became a Sustainer in 2007 and a Sustainer Associate in 2013.

Cindy was a JLP trailblazer; as the first full-time professional to serve as JLP President, she opened the door through which so many of us have subsequently passed. Her life was an extraordinary one, filled with professional, civic, and personal accomplishments. Professionally, Cindy crashed through the glass ceilings in the worlds of finance and investment banking. Her civic accomplishments are extensive; among other organizations, she sat on the Boards of The Academy of Vocal Arts, Wilson College (her alma mater), the Presbyterian Medical center, International House of Philadelphia, and Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance. Personally, travel was her passion; along with her husband, she traveled to more than seventy countries.

Cindy is survived by her husband Charles B. Landreth, two step-children and their spouses, and one grandchild, Hartley Landreth.

"I have received an outpouring of love and admiration for Cindy. Thank you. She was a generous, smart, kind, loving, supportive wife, lover and partner in my life. I will miss her greatly but I will remember all that we did together these past thirty-six years and the wonderful life that she had and we had as a team."

Charles Landreth, Husband

"I have known Cindy since we were 18. Cindy was the woman who suggested I join JLP and was my mentor as I navigated my way through the League. The last few years we would have dinner with our husbands and talk about the trips we had taken, and we both enjoyed summers at family cottages. I will miss her greatly

but will cherish the fun times we had together. Rest In Peace, dear friend."

Dorothy (Deedie) O'Donnell,
President, 1988-1989

"Cindy Landreth was the embodiment of the Junior League purpose! She was out there in the community: promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective leadership of trained volunteers."

Cindy was warm, kind, wow smart, and ready for adventure! She was upfront about her disease and made it easy to talk with her about it. She worked on positive relationships with family and friends. She loved opera! She loved traveling the world. A lot of people will miss her! I'm grateful for her friendship."

Helen Weary, President, 1982-1983

"Cindy was a remarkable woman and was courageous throughout her battle with pancreatic cancer."

Marcy Bevan, President, 1983-1984

"I have had the honor of knowing and volunteering with Cindy for almost 40 years. In my early years in the JLP she served as a tremendous role model and mentor for me. I can still remember the Good Friday afternoon in 1984 when she helped me prepare my Budget presentation for the Voting Meeting. Without her encouragement and support I would never have been able to do it! Throughout my League career Cindy remained a great source of inspiration to me. She was kind, smart, generous, gracious, a fighter and a truly wonderful woman who has left us much too soon."

Jane Sagendorph

"Cindy was bright, articulate, dedicated, focused and organized--everything you'd expect in a JLP member. However, what I remember when I think about Cindy is her smile and laugh. I have a vivid memory of Cindy at one of our parties--with her head thrown back, a huge smile and laughing uproariously. She truly enjoyed and was entertained by life."

Mary Hinds



"As the first 'full-time' professional to hold the job of JLP President, she was the model for many of us. So sad to lose a great lady too soon."

Barbara Gasper

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE AND COMMUNITY CENTER AT VISITATION

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Teena, is a social worker and advocate for the underserved communities in Philadelphia. She works at Prevention Point in Kensington and is also a CCV volunteer. She discussed developing an empathetic approach to behavior when working with vulnerable communities and people who have been traumatized. This included create spaces of empathy in volunteer work, tools for processing emotions as a volunteer, and tips on how to speak, approach and engage meaningfully with others.

The training concluded with a vibrant and engaging question-and-answer session focused on being a more effective volunteer by taking a trauma-informed approach. All attendees left being able to consider and understand physical and mental responses to trauma, how to regulate our personal emotions, and how to react more positively in difficult situations. This training proved to offer extremely valuable skills for volunteering, work, and everyday life.

MORE THAN A MISSION CREDIT

Submitted By: Beth Johnson,
Done in A Day Co-Chair

When you attend a Done in A Day Event, you might earn a mission credit, but it means so much more than that to our community. Due to the Pandemic, our Community Partners are in need now more than ever, and with smaller groups, precautions in place and no-contact opportunities, Junior League members continue to make it happen!

So far this year, the Junior League of Philadelphia has been able to support 12 of our Partner Organizations at more than 25 events. We've also held events with 4 new partners and expanded our outreach. Take a look at what we've accomplished so far this year!



The **Wayne Church Food Pantry** over 50 families each week and is the only food pantry in Radnor Township. At Thanksgiving, ladies helped pack over 60 bags full of holiday meal components to ensure these families didn't have to worry about Thanksgiving Dinner.



Junior League members also donated over 300 items to the **Wayne Church Food Pantry** in two separate Food Drives to help stock their shelves.



City Harvest, a program run by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, oversees the distribution of the harvest to food banks around the city. The program distributes 50,000 pounds of produce each year from May 1 to Oct. 1 to about 1,200 families each week. At their location at the Schuylkill River Park, Junior League members helped to clear the ground, and prep for winter.



The POP Learning Orchard at the Woodlands, run by the **Philadelphia Orchard Project**, contains 60 fruit and nut trees, pollinator plants, and berry gardens. POP will use this space to grow annual crops for donation to emergency food services to help alleviate increasing food insecurity during the current pandemic. Junior League members helped to plant 30 new trees in October. Past funding from the JLP has helped make this Orchard possible!



MANNA provides nutritious meals to those with serious illnesses, which might not otherwise have access to proper nourishment. League members volunteers making over 500 pies in support of the "Pie in the Sky" Annual fundraiser.



Share Food Program leads the fight against food insecurity in the Philadelphia region, by serving an expansive, quality partner network of community-based organizations and school districts engaged in food distribution, education and advocacy. Each month the Junior League sends multiple groups of volunteers to help make, label and prep boxes, and pack food. This year, Done in a Day events have packed over 1,200 boxes, and prepped over 750 boxes.



Jewish Relief Agency serves over 6,400 diverse low-income individuals across Greater Philadelphia by relieving hunger, improving lives, and strengthening our community. During JRA's Monthly Food Distribution Program, League members have helped to pack more than 550 boxes of nutritious food and hygiene supplies to individuals in need.

Keep an eye out for:

- *More great events with SHARE, JRA and POP*
- *Events with new Community Partners, including Mitzvah Food Pantry, Caring for Friends and No More Secrets*



Riverbend Environmental Education Center teaches environmental principles to children in the Greater Philadelphia area, including an emphasis on nature as the source for our food, and a focus on "Aquaponics" as a means for expanding agriculture, inspiring respect for our natural world, and action as aware, responsible and caring citizens. In the Fall, Junior League members helped to work on a woodland restoration project, clearing grounds to make way for future growth.

CONGRATULATIONS!

We extend our Congratulations to the following JLP Members on major milestones that have taken place in their lives recently.

Laura Snead Berry on the birth of her son, Rex

Beth McCarthy on the birth of her grandson, Christopher

Elizabeth Brogan on the birth of her son, James.

Jennifer Bravo on the birth of her daughter, Nora

Kira Bryers on her nuptials to Ed Lynes.

Katarina Sweeney on the birth of her new baby, Kieran.

*Celebrating a fabulous member milestone?
New Job* Birth of a Baby*Wedding
Celebration/Anniversary*Awards
We want to celebrate with you! Publish an
announcement in the next Hotline.*

Please email

jlphotonline@jphiladelphia.org

FOOD TO FAMILIES

Submitted By: Kathryn Young Galla

Food to Families had another great year working at Share to feed Philadelphians. The committee packed over 4,000 boxes and over 135,000 pounds of food. Second-year chair Kathryn Young Galla would like to thank her committee members for their flexibility and willingness to adjust to constantly changing circumstances and needs. The committee members included:

Kristin Drouin, Emily Dvorchak, Natalie Finn, Grace Foster, Julia Geier, Chantrelle Harris, Emily Kernan, Sarah Levin, Stephanie Lubert, Monica Manning, Amanda McBride, Emily Means, Stephanie Nickerson, Amanda Peltzman, Katherine Quigg, Christina Robinson, Shenequa Robinson, Megan Speight, Cynthia Thornton-Landis, Stephanie Vegas, Annie Voss, Madeleine Walton, and Carly Williams.

Share Food Program delivers millions of pounds of food to more than 1,000,000 neighbors in need in the Greater Philadelphia area every month—the largest distribution of any hunger relief organization in our region. To meet the continued impact of COVID-19 in some of Philadelphia's most vulnerable communities, Share Food Program has increased its efforts to get life-sustaining foods into the hands of children, families, and seniors.



HAPPY SUMMER TO MY FELLOW SUSTAINERS!

Submitted By: Lauren Homel, *Sustainer Chair 2020-2021*



I always look forward to the summer because life seems to slow down a bit and I am more relaxed. I must admit that although it's been a crazy year, there is a part of me that is sad to see my tenure as Sustainer Chair end. Yes, this year was not exactly how I thought it would go when I signed on for this experience as Sustainer Chair, but it's been an adventure nonetheless and we did manage to get a lot accomplished:

- We learned to use (and maybe like!) zoom
- We held trainings on mental health, financial health and stability, and etiquette for fun.
- We piloted an Adopt-a-New Member program with seven successful Sustainer-New Member pairings
- We closed out the Blossom Fund with the last payment of the grant presented to Philadelphia Orchard Project (POP) in May
- We renewed our focus on preserving the JLP's rich history by gathering and digitizing old photos and recording the first of hopefully many Sustainer interviews
- We rounded out our activities with strong programs from the Garden Club, Bookmarks, New Sustainers, and Evening Sustainers

Beyond all of that, I have learned a lot about myself, about many of you, and have been reminded just how much the JLP is capable of, especially in the face of challenges. I've had the privilege to sit on an amazing Board, with a strong leader and some really sharp women

who all love the League as much as I do. The only regret that I have is the lack of face-to-face interaction, the little sidebar conversations we get to have at physical meetings, and being able to compliment someone on her beautiful dress or ask how the kids or grandkids are doing. This all helps to make connections stronger and more personal. So, I do hope to see you all in person very soon and make up for some lost bonding time.

Thank you for letting me serve as your Chair this year. It's been an honor to represent such an impressive group of Sustainers. I wish you all continued health and an enjoyable summer. May we all get to travel far, spend time with friends and relatives, share hugs, eat indoors at restaurants, attend the theater, and maybe even burn our masks very soon!

Stay safe and be well

Lauren Homel

Sustainer Chair 2020-2021

BOOKMARKS NEWS

Submitted By: Beth Ramsey,
Bookmarks Chair

The Sustainer book club, Bookmarks, had an interesting and fun Spring planned, with all of our meetings being held virtually on Zoom. Our book selections for our February 18, 2021 meeting included: *Dispatches from Pluto: Lost and Found in the Mississippi Delta*, by Richard Grant. On March 18, 2021 we reviewed *The Dutch House* by Anne Patchett. Our book selection for our meeting on April 15, 2021 was, *The Plague*, by Albert Camus. On May 20, 2021 we will discuss *The Lost Girls of Paris*, by Pam Jenoff.

To round out the year, we traditionally have as our final meeting a delicious and festive dinner of salads at a member's home where we select our book choices for the next year. We hope to be able to



do that again this June. We will decide whether or not to meet in person as it gets closer to the meeting date. Bookmarks are open to any interested member of the Junior League of Philadelphia. We welcome new members. This year eight new members joined our book club! The group was started in 1991, which makes this is our 29th year! We read one book a month, and meet on the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 to

discuss what we have read. We read a wide variety of genres throughout the year, including a least one biography, one work of nonfiction, one classic, and one historical novel.

If you would like more information, please contact the Bookmarks Chair, Beth Ramsey. Her telephone number is (484) 380-2952, and her email address is seramsey5@gmail.com

CELEBRATING OUR 2021 SPECIAL SUSTAINERS

At the April sustainer spring membership meeting, we were honored to present our newest Sustainer Emeriti. The following ladies have reached this honorable status in the JLP, along with a smattering of the roles and activities they have participated in over the years:

MARCY BEVAN

- President, Administrative VP, Goodwill Vice Chair, Education Committee, Public Relations, Finance, Placement Advisor, Thrift Shop Committee, Waterworks, Bridge, Nominating, Building, Evening Sustainers, Fundraising

LINDA DUTTON

- Training Committee, Evening Sustainers, Cooking Klatch, Brush-Up Bridge, Sustainer Nominating, BBB&B Co-Chair

JANE GREEN

- First Vice President, Outgrown Shop, Finance Committee, Provisional Chair, Nominating Committee, Reproductive Health and Counseling Center

ELIZABETH GROUT

- Earth Art Committee, Nominating, League Comptroller, Emergency Aid, Wheels Committee, Art Goes to School

DORIS HOPPER

- Project Research, Building Fund, Garden Club

MARY KNAKE

- Council Secretary, Outgrown Shop, Education Committee, Follies, Women's Issues, Nominating, Sustainer Theater Trip

JUDY MONETA

- Free Quake Guides, Sustainer Corresponding Secretary, Sustainer Recording Secretary, Evening Sustainers, Larks, Hospitality

JUDY MURPHY

- Transfer Committee, Fundraising, Communications, Women's Issues, Dental Clinic

SUE LYNN PATTISON

- Horizon House, Outgrown Shop, Placement, Provisional Committee, Cookbook, Powell House Guide, Follies, Waterworks Committee

SCHUYLER WOOD

- Center City Committee, Outgrown Shop, Art Goes to School, Placement, Nominating, Health Education

These 10 women have, on average, 52 years of Junior League service. More than half of them began their League career in Philadelphia and remained with us. It has been the friendships, both new and existing, as well as volunteer opportunities and community contributions through the League and its projects and programs that are the reasons they joined and have stayed in the League. In addition, the League provided them opportunities to gain skills and confidence that led to some of their own career choices and advancement. Some of these women acted as guides for visitors at the Free Quaker Meetinghouse and met many people from all over the world through our occupancy of that building. These ladies also visited schools and spoke with children on many topics, such as health and the arts. And, of course, the Thrift Shop (formerly the Outgrown Shop) was part of their League career.

Throughout their active and sustaining years, these ladies have provided support to the League and in turn, have been supported by the League and their friends in the League. Our members have lived through a tremendous amount of change in the Junior League and the world. We thank them for remaining members and for sustaining our Active members.

SUSTAINER DONE IN A DAY AT KIDS AGAINST HUNGER PHILADELPHIA

Submitted by Jodi Kerr, *Sustainer Leadership Council Chair-Elect*

Oh, what a night! The Sustainers participated in a DIAD working with Kids Against Hunger Philadelphia resulting in packaging over 9,072 meals. Heather Griesser LaPierre and her family started Kids Against Hunger Philadelphia over five years ago. "If a child eats nothing but one of our meals a day for three months it reverses the effects of malnutrition and starvation," Griesser LaPierre says. Working together in an assembly line we filled, weighted, sealed and boxed individual meals. It was extremely satisfying and the sustainers are looking forward to our next DIAD with Kids Against Hunger Philadelphia.





The Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc.
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WHO THOUGHT WORKING OUT FROM HOME COULD BE SO FUN?!?

Submitted By: Emily Schwartz, *Thrift Shop Sustainer Advisor*

On Saturday, February 6, 2021 about a dozen Sustainers participated in a challenging yet customized home boot camp workout thanks to Sargent Nate Griffin. Recommended by Aronté Bennett, Sargent Nate used an innovative computer technology that allowed him to see all participants at the same time yet kept each of us private from the others allowing everyone the freedom to try out new techniques without feeling awkward or apprehensive.

Prior to beginning, he surveyed each Sustainer's abilities and weaknesses to personalize the morning's session. Over the next 45 minutes, we did lots of squats, pushups, lunges, and sit-ups which left at least me a "good sore" the next day. I would highly recommend Sgt Nate for safe at-home exercises that really work. He offers a monthly membership with unlimited classes three times a day at 6:00 am, 12:00 pm and 6:00 pm. definitely reach out to him if you want to learn more. sgtnatefitness@gmail.com

