

stabletalk

A PUBLICATION OF THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF LAKE CHARLES, INC.



from the editor

TIFFANY HESTER



Welcome! It's so great to be back for a new, close-to-"normal" year of Junior League!

At this time last year, we were recovering from a second major hurricane. Although Mother Nature has dealt us some hard blows we continue to adapt and overcome each new hurdle.

Many of us still have housework remaining, but with balancing of priorities we continue to show up to help others in need in the Lake Charles community. Our battle wounds seem to have only caused our sense of community to grow stronger. Giving us a common understanding and sense of belonging.

Junior League continues to serve the community with fun new activities like S'mores in the Park. Participating in this activity was so good for my soul. To be in-person, seeing fellow League members in real life, and getting to see the children's faces light up. There's so much hope for the days ahead in our community and in our League.

Thank you for taking the time to read; I'm so excited to share with you this edition of Stable Talk detailing the many upcoming activities. I hope you join us in making this one of the most successful League years to date.



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The Junior League of Lake Charles, 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.



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
LAKE CHARLES

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Lake Charles, LA 70601
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president's letter

Welcome to a new League year! A year that I'm hopeful will be one of the best thanks to all of you. Choosing to stay invested in our League after the challenges of the past year truly shows our strength. We are a group of passionate and empowered women, and as you've probably heard before, "A woman who is empowered is a woman who can change the world." That is exactly what we will do this year, starting right here in our community. Our "Homegrown" theme reflects upon everything we as a League and a community are doing. We are rebuilding and regrowing together. We are focusing on local businesses as they continue to pick up the pieces and reopen. We are focusing on our local schools and children, our local community members, and local projects to bring SWLA back to a thriving, vibrant community. With so many changes and uncertainties, one thing forever remains the same...the dedication and adaptability of our members. Regardless of what is thrown our way, the Junior League of Lake Charles is always ready and willing. It's this attitude that encourages me in even the most difficult of times. Working beside all of you is sure to be one of my greatest joys this year. Thank you for saying "yes" to our League!

Hillary Green

Hillary Green
2021-2022 President





diversity & inclusion

COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND BELONGING

ERIKA DOSHIER
President Elect

The year 2020 marked a pivotal moment for me as a Junior League member. Our then President, Nealie Hale, highlighted the issue of diversity, equity, and inclusion, and what that means for our League. That same year, the Diversity and Inclusion Committee was formed with the hopes of addressing what we, as a League, need to work on to be a more inclusive and more equitable representation of the community we serve. We began to meet and have strategic conversations on our experiences with stereotypes, taking our livelihood for granted, recognizing our own biases, and also understanding that we are more alike than we think.

Even with the considerable devastation in our community during 2020 and 2021, our current president is focused on developing a more diverse and inclusive League. This year the Program Development Committee is working to research ideas on how we can be more strategic with our community engagement and outreach. We know as a League our community engagement needs to be impactful and equitable for all parts of our community. We also developed a Risk Management Team to assess situations that may arise within the Junior League. The Risk Management Team will work to ensure that the decision-making process is equitable for all members. Our goal is to practice self-awareness and accountability. We recognize that the League is comprised of all types of women, who bring their own internal culture and experiences with them. The Risk Management Team allows for multiple voices to be involved in the decision-making process. Diversity, equity, and inclusion will become an embedded part of the culture of our organization.

Moving forward to 2022, for my year as president, I would like to forge a collaborative approach among the Diversity and Inclusion Committee with the JLLC Management Team and Governance Board. We can work together to understand what it means to be diverse, inclusive, and equitable within our organization. As leaders, we can set the tone for an inclusive culture. I look forward to cultivating a League that enables women to feel a strong sense of belonging by being their authentic selves. We will be strategic in the way we tackle community-based issues, ensuring that we can promote positive outcomes for children and families across Southwest Louisiana. The League will work to make intentional moves to reach out to community partners that can help us maintain and prioritize our goal of achieving diversity, equity, and inclusion through advocacy and community engagement.

rebuilding from disaster

OVERCOMING HURRICANES, FLOODING, AND A PANDEMIC

ELOISE PRUITT
Executive Vice President



Despite the adversities that four federally-declared disasters and a pandemic bring, our community continues to demonstrate resiliency. When faced with the choice to react or overcome, we choose to persevere. As we advocate for resources and federal disaster relief for Southwest Louisiana, we are reminded of the acts of service that we receive along the way; the love and support keep us going despite the obstacles. This stewardship and service mobilizes us to pay it forward and invest in our community ourselves. The League is tasked with rebuilding and nurturing our community; we are reengaged and strategically planning to implement programming and fundraising. We are turning obstacles into opportunities, and we are learning and growing together.

Reenergized and aligned, we are making strides to facilitate the split-board model this League year. Our Governance Board focuses on the long-term, strategic planning; our Management Team focuses on the annual planning needed to facilitate our long-term goals. We are expanding all of our community programs and adding funding to directly and immediately expand our current outreach efforts. We are providing numerous opportunities for member enrichment, community service, and personal development. We are revisiting legacy projects to provide supports, establish new community partnerships, and expand existing partnerships. We are raising awareness regarding variables that directly affect our five-parish region, providing diversity and inclusion education, and creatively executing events and programs. Our League is filled with talented and determined women who, despite facing their own adversities, come together to provide lasting stewardship. Remaining enthusiastic and flexible, we welcome this League year with open arms, turning obstacles into opportunities.

2021-2022 leadership



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Erin Harless
Eloise Pruitt
Ashley Rudd
Lauren Olson



SAVE THE DATE

November 2021

- 09 General Meeting
- 16 Provisional Meeting
- 19-21 Mistletoe & Moss

December 2021

- 07 General Meeting
- 14 Provisional Meeting

January 2022

- 04 General Meeting
- 11 Provisional Meeting

February 2022

- 01 General Meeting
- 08 Provisional Meeting
- 19 Winter Leadership Retreat

March 2022

- 08 General Meeting
- 18 Casino Night

April 2022

- 02 Touch-A-Truck
- 05 General Meeting

May 2022

- 03 General Meeting
- 10 Provisional Meeting





provisional update

TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEAGUE LEADERS

JULIE ESTE-MCDONALD
Admissions Provisionals Chair

Despite COVID and impending hurricanes, our Provisional class has been enduring and thriving! William Barclay said, "Endurance is not just the ability to bear a hard thing, but to turn it into glory." Our committee is striving not just to endure, but to turn barriers into chances to get creative in ways to train our Provisionals. Our Admissions/Provisionals Committee includes Kari Casey (Assistant Chair), Katie Fournet, Monica Fontenot, and Hope Buford. These phenomenal women have not only been inspiring leaders in various capacities themselves, but also have modeled commitment, service, determination, and creativity. We have the benefit of having an outstanding group of Provisionals this year from all backgrounds and walks of life. They have been determined, patient, and flexible as we adjust to ever changing circumstances. They are already embodying what it means to be a leader and a Leaguer! After having a virtual Welcome Reception in the spring, we were able to host a summer kickoff at Crying Eagle. We were fortunate to be able to have our kickoff in person. Our Provisionals, committee, and sponsors were able to spend time together in person, have some great food and drinks, and get to know each other on a personal level. It was a great event! Our Provisional Retreat was postponed due to the impending weather associated with Hurricane Ida, have not been deterred as we are creating an alternative plan for our retreat! During our virtual September meeting, we reviewed the Provisional Binder, the history of The Associated Junior League International, Inc. (AJLI), and broke into small groups to connect our Provisionals with their advisors. We ended the meeting with a Kahoot game and door prize! Some of our advisors have already met with their small groups and there are more small gatherings to come! Our League theme this year is "Homegrown", and with that in mind, we wanted to focus this year on making sure that we plant the seeds to help our Provisionals grow into leaders not only in the League, but also in their personal lives. We want to empower, embolden, and equip our Provisionals to lead in their homes, in their lives, and in the League. Our goal is to make sure that our Provisionals become confident, inspired active members. The Admissions/Provisionals Committee is incredibly excited to walk this journey with these wonderful women and see what they do in the future!

admissions provisionals advisors



KARI CASEY
Assistant Chair



HOPE BUFORD
Advisor



MONICA FONTENOT
Advisor



KATIE FOURNET
Advisor

2021-2022 *provisionals*



HAILEY BARNETT

Hometown: Austin, TX
Career/Occupation: Attorney
Hobbies/Interests: Playing tennis, reading, attending trivia nights, trying new bars and restaurants, travel, and spending time with my fiancé and our cat, Shadow



TIFFANY CEASAR

Hometown: Lake Charles
Career/Occupation: Owner of several daycare centers
Hobbies/Interests: Reading, shopping, and spending time with family



MELLISA BOOTH

Hometown: Jakarta, Indonesia
Career/Occupation: Licensed Professional Counselor
Hobbies/Interests: Traveling, shopping, cooking, and making cute clothes for my kids (embroidery)



AMANDA CROSBY

Hometown: DeRidder
Career/Occupation: Accountant
Hobbies/Interests: Painting, swimming, Peloton HIIT and strength training, and traveling



DANIKA BROUSSARD

Hometown: Sulphur
Career/Occupation: Senior Market Manager for Capital One
Hobbies/Interests: I love to travel and all things Disney. I love taking Disney trips with my wife of 17 years, Leah.



KAYLA FONTENOT

Hometown: Lake Charles
Career/Occupation: University Courses Coordinator at McNeese State University
Hobbies/Interests: Family outings, shopping, taking day trips, spending time with friends, eating out, learning new crafts and never finishing the projects, and napping



CELESTE BROWN

Hometown: Lake Charles
Career/Occupation: Urology Nurse Practitioner
Hobbies/Interests: Cycling on my Peloton bike, attending LSU football games, and fishing with my husband and three boys!



ASHLEY FREEMAN

Hometown: Lake Charles
Career/Occupation: Attorney
Hobbies/Interests: Reading, hanging out with friends and family, traveling, and cooking



ARYCA BUSSELL

Hometown: Bridge City, TX
Career/Occupation: Master Stylist at Bauhaus Salon
Hobbies/Interests: As a family we enjoy riding in our Jeep, taking golf cart rides through our neighborhood, and gardening at our community garden.



MADISON HARLOW

Hometown: Lake Charles
Career/Occupation: Occupational Therapist
Hobbies/Interests: Reading, shopping, scrapbooking, cuddling with my fur baby, and spending time with family/friends

2021-2022 *provisionals*



KIMBERLY KNEPPER

Hometown: Lake Charles
Career/Occupation: Owner of Curious Creators LLC
Hobbies/Interests: Spending time with my family and friends



JORDANA MOTT

Hometown: Iowa
Career/Occupation: Nurse, Social Services
Hobbies/Interests: Mom of three, painting, video games, and yoga



SARAH KNEPPER

Hometown: Monroe
Career/Occupation: Higher Education Enrollment Specialist at SOWELA Technical College
Hobbies/Interests: Shopping, spending time with husband and baby girl, and serving in preschool ministry at church



SASHA PHARR

Hometown: Sulphur
Career/Occupation: Stay at home mom
Hobbies/Interests: Design and decorating; I love a good book!



LAURA TARVER LAVERGNE

Hometown: Grand Lake
Career/Occupation: Diabetes Care Specialist
Hobbies/Interests: Remodeling our new home, road trips, and playing at the park with my daughter, Delta



CHANTE RANKINS

Hometown: Lake Charles
Career/Occupation: Educator/ Head Volleyball Coach
Hobbies/Interests: Giving back to my community, shopping, watching football, planning community service events, traveling, and spending time with friends and family!



AIMEE LEMOINE

Hometown: Lake Charles
Career/Occupation: Teacher Aide at OLQH
Hobbies/Interests: Reading, fishing, working in my flower beds, spending time on or near the water, and spending time with my family



DAYNA REED

Hometown: Westlake
Career/Occupation: Chemical Engineer
Hobbies/Interests: Running, reading, travel, spending time with family and friends, learning new things, and spreadsheets



JESSICA MILLER

Hometown: Gretna, LA
Career/Occupation: Art Teacher
Hobbies/Interests: Photography and travel



NIKITA SIMON

Hometown: Lake Charles
Career/Occupation: Environmental Compliance Specialist with LaDOTD
Hobbies/Interests: Shopping, reading, eating (I'm such a foodie), spending time with family and friends

2021-2022 *provisionals*



IVELYNN SOILEAU

Hometown: Lake Charles
Career/Occupation: Field Clerk at Phillips 66
Hobbies/Interests: Photography, football, and spending time with friends and family



SARAH WHITE

Hometown: Midland, Michigan
Career/Occupation: Disaster Program Specialist at American Red Cross
Hobbies/Interests: Volunteering, hiking, swimming, and visiting family



CALLIE THOMAS

Hometown: Lake Charles
Career/Occupation: VP of Operations and Marketing at At Home Compassionate Care
Hobbies/Interests: Peloton, traveling, and photography



JORDAN WOODARD

Hometown: Lake Charles
Career/Occupation: Interior Design
Hobbies/Interests: Peloton, reading, and hanging with my babies



LEIGHANNA WEIR

Hometown: Paragould, AR
Career/Occupation: Mental Health Therapist, Life Coach, Color Street Stylist
Hobbies/Interests: Tending to my houseplants, playing with my dogs, snuggles with my cat, and traveling with my husband



grants & scholarships

EMPOWERING EDUCATORS AND FACILITATING GROWTH IN SWLA LEARNING

OVER THE LAST
10 YEARS
JLLC HAS AWARDED

OVER
\$177,000

IN GRANTS
AND
SCHOLARSHIPS



BRANCH
OUT AND
GROW
GRANT

The Junior League of Lake Charles (JLLC) *Branch Out and Grow Grant* is again available to educators in the **five-parish area (Calcasieu, Cameron, Jefferson Davis, Beauregard, and Allen.)** For several years, this program has supported the enhancement of student experiences by awarding monetary grants ranging from \$500 to \$2,500 and by contributing the time of League members with volunteer hours as requested by applicants. Our last funded year awarded **over \$17,000** to educators around our area! Applications for the Branch Out and Grow grant program are available to all school-based professionals.



TEACH
Taking Education and Children Higher
GRANT

In addition, JLLC is pleased to offer the *Taking Education and Children Higher (TEACH)* award. It will award **\$5,000** to one individual educator!

All grants awarded shall be used for projects that benefit students and should fit within the JLLC's vision of supporting a more confident, healthy, and educated community. It is through these grant awards that the League continues to support educators who empower and engage children, as well as promote healthy and thriving families in our community.

The Junior League of Lake Charles will also award several **\$750 scholarships** to community and goal-oriented young women that may be used for any accredited college, university, or technical trade school.

2021-2022 GRANT AND SCHOLARSHIP DETAILS

All grants and scholarships have requirements, separate applications, and deadlines. Please carefully review these details at jllc.net. Please contact Melissa Cox, Grants and Scholarships Committee Chair, at 337.794.9321 or grants_scholarships@jllc.net with any questions.

2021-2022 DEADLINES

TEACH GRANT - OCT. 29

BRANCH OUT AND GROW GRANT - NOV. 12

SCHOLARSHIP - APRIL 1

2021 BRANCH OUT & GROW SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Congratulations!

Lydia LeJeune
Oakdale High School

Anna Fitkin
Grand Lake High School

Marlee Fontenot
South Beauregard High School

Morgan Futch
Jennings High School

Ashlynn Elliot
Lacassine High School

Alyssa Vining
Sulphur High School

Allison Hull
Sam Houston High School

Emireka Moore
Washington-Marion High School

Kennadi Stills
Barbe High School

Alina Dau
Barbe High School

Asainey Edwards
Lake Charles College Prep



fund development training

DEVELOPING THE POTENTIAL OF WOMEN THROUGH DONOR RECRUITMENT AND STEWARDSHIP EDUCATION

LAUREN OLSEN
Fund Development Director

In August, the Junior League of Lake Charles (JLLC) hosted a fund development training for JLLC members. Keynote speaker, **Nicole Rasco**, Director of Philanthropic Programs with The Foundation-Lake Charles Memorial Health System, shared her expertise and trained volunteers to generate funds for nonprofit organizations. Guest speakers and trainers were local female philanthropists and leaders in the community: **Sara Judson** with the Community Foundation; **Willie Mount**, former mayor of Lake Charles; **Kay Barnett**, CFRE, former Executive Director of Development for the CHRISTUS Ochsner Southwestern Louisiana Foundation; and **Terra Jones**, Senior Coordinator for Family & Youth.

In the past, the JLLC partnered with the Community Foundation of SWLA to host a 5-part series virtual fund development training hosted by Beverly Brooks Thompson. Other nonprofits from the 5-parish region were invited to this training as part of our vision to build a better community. If the pandemic allows, in 2022, JLLC plans to expand this training and invite other SWLA nonprofits.



NICOLE RASCO

Nicole's nonprofit fundraising experience includes work at the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Muscular Dystrophy Association, St. Francis Episcopal School, Fort Bend Christian Academy, and currently The Foundation at Lake Charles Memorial Systems. She is a member of the Association of Healthcare Philanthropy (AHP), Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP), Member & SWLA Chapter, SWLA Economic Alliance, Quality of Life Committee, SWLA PROs, and Community Foundation of SWLA. Nicole is a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE).



SARA JUDSON

A fourth-generation resident of Lake Charles, she enjoys continuing the family tradition of being an active member of the community. She volunteers with Junior League of Lake Charles, where she was named the 2013 Sustainer of the Year, and as a second-grade reading tutor at Oak Park Elementary School. With her husband, Mark, and 18-year-old daughter, Rachel, Sara enjoys participating in their church, First Presbyterian, and many community projects.



WILLIE MOUNT

A Lake Charles native, Willie Landry Mount is proud to call Southwest Louisiana home. After a successful real estate career, Willie was elected the first female mayor of Lake Charles in 1993. After serving over six years as Mayor, Willie became the first woman elected as a Louisiana State Senator from District 27 in 1999. She served three terms in the Senate, where she held a variety of leadership roles. Willie's community involvement is vast, including President of the Library Board of Control for the Calcasieu Parish Public Library, McNeese State University Foundation Board of Directors, Community Foundation of SWLA, and a former President of the Junior League of Lake Charles.



KAY BARNETT

Kay started her career with commercial real estate work and radio advertising sales in Baton Rouge. It was her work at the McNeese Foundation in Lake Charles where she developed an extensive resume, covering a swath of leadership and support positions in the private, public, and non-profit sectors. She retired as the Executive Director of Development for the Christus St. Patrick Hospital Foundation, a position she has held since the foundation's inception in 2005. Kay is also a former President of the Junior League of Lake Charles.



TERRA JONES

Terra is a SWLA native and a graduate of McNeese State University where she earned her management and marketing degree. She is currently Senior Coordinator at Family & Youth Counseling Agency. Terra has been honored as a Thirteen Thriving Thirty Somethings Class of 2017 and an Up & Coming Business Woman Award 2014. She is a sustaining member of the Junior League of Lake Charles and past Fund Development Council Director.



LIVE OAK SOCIETY
JUNIOR LEAGUE OF LAKE CHARLES

CURRENT MEMBERS

Jane Flynt | 1933 CIRCLE
Courtney & Robert Dampf
Tara DeMarie
Amy Dufrene
Shellie Shetler Eskew
Keri Forbes-McCorquodale
Prissy Gayle
Dr. & Mrs. Brett Goodwin
Hannah Grogan
Ryan Brumby Hooks
Kelly Henderson Hurt
Christina Malivuk
Alicia Mhire
Willie Mount
In Memory of Jeannette "Dena" Christ Nodier
Lauren Olsen
Lauren Schiffman
Sage Thibodeaux
Katie Chol Thompson
K Wall

live oak society

ENSURING A LEGACY OF COMMUNITY RENEWAL, CHANGE, AND IMPROVEMENT

The Junior League of Lake Charles (JLLC) is unique in that it pairs direct funding with thousands of volunteer hours to double our impact, resulting in an even greater outcome than money alone can provide. In 2020, the JLLC created a new individual giving program, the Live Oak Society, to allow sustainers, actives, and other civic-minded individuals to continue to support the critical programs JLLC serves. In addition to the Live Oak Society, the 1933 Circle was founded. Anyone who chooses to generously donate \$1,933 will be given special recognition, including their name on a new 1933 Circle plaque hung at JLLC Headquarters. All donations to both the Live Oak Society and 1933 Circle are tax deductible. Our first year had great community support and received \$8,000 in donations. This year, Live Oak Society solicitation letters will be sent out in October. All donors to the Live Oak Society will be invited to a cocktail reception in the spring. Please join us as we celebrate the significant community impact and shared commitment to engage, inspire, and lead for many years to come. We are excited to see the impact of this year. Please reach out to Jenna Timpa or Ashley Chishom at donor_relations@jllc.net if you have any questions.

shop for a cause

SUPPORT THE JLLC WHILE MAKING EVERY DAY PURCHASES



1 Get the app

Download or update to the latest version of the Amazon Shopping app on your phone.

2 Join AmazonSmile

Sign up at smile.amazon.com and select JLLC to start generating donations, at no cost to you.

3 Turn on AmazonSmile

Open the app and find 'Settings' in the main menu (☰). Tap on 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to turn on AmazonSmile on your phone.

4 Keep it on!

Renewals are required twice a year to keep generating donations when you shop in the app.



1 Shop at www.minted.com.

2 You get 20% off card and gift orders when you use promo code: **FUNDRAISEJLLAKECHARLES**.

Minted donates 15% of each order amount back to JLLC.



1 Go to www.kroger.com/account/communityrewards

2 Sign-in to your Kroger Account. Search "Junior League of Lake Charles" or **NN544** to register your Kroger card.

3 Enroll your Kroger Card to begin fundraising for JLLC!

Kroger donates annually to participating organizations based on your percentage of spending as it relates to the total spending associated with all participating Kroger Community Rewards organizations.



snack sacks

ADDRESSING FOOD INSECURITY DURING SCHOOL BREAKS

JENNIFER PUGH
Community Outreach Chair

Feeding America currently estimates that 13 million children are impacted by food-insecurity. Combating this issue has been one of the Junior League of Lake Charles' top community priorities. Snack Sacks is an innovative program that provides nourishment to elementary children over the Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter breaks. The Community Outreach Committee estimates that the Junior League of Lake Charles will shop for, pack, and deliver over 19,000 food items to Combre-Fondel, Clifton, Ralph Wilson, and Brentwood Elementary Schools.

Each year, we've pushed ourselves to expand, and this year is no exception. We are planning to raise extra funds at the Mistletoe & Moss Holiday Market by offering a "Pack a Snack Sack" event where shoppers can donate money and pack a food bag. These food bags will be distributed to Ralph Wilson Elementary for children to have over Christmas break. In total, we plan to distribute around 1,357 snack sacks to over 700 students in the 2021-2022 school year! This expansion doubles our current efforts, and we plan to expand some more.

We are thrilled to have this opportunity to further ensure that kids in our community are happy and well-nourished during holiday breaks. We're so proud of what we're going to accomplish and we love the impact we're making in our community.

Members should anticipate plenty of Cross-Committee Experiences to help pack and distribute these snack sacks! If you are interested in learning more about how you may contribute to the Snack Sacks program, you can email Jennifer Pugh at healthyfamilies_communityoutreach@jllc.net.



The Junior League of Lake Charles will be re-implementing our Fit Kids program this League year. Due to COVID restrictions, we will have an abbreviated four-week program this fall starting on October 8 at Oak Park Elementary, but anticipate having the full six-week program this spring at College Oaks Elementary. We anticipate serving approximately 100 kids with this program.

fit kids

BUILDING HEALTHY FUTURES

AMANDA KILE
Healthy Families Chair



The focus of this program is on nutrition and the importance of moving your body. This is a fun and educational way to teach children about healthy lifestyle choices. Hands-on lessons will be used to introduce children to the importance of nutrition and healthy food choices. Activities include, nutrition label reading, learning about portion sizes, and discovering how much sugar is contained in their favorite foods. Our goals are to teach healthier snack options and introduce creative and fun ways to enjoy snacks. In addition to hands-on nutritional lessons, professional athletes will work with the kids to emphasize the importance of and practice different forms of exercise.

This program is not only beneficial to the students involved, but also a wonderful volunteer opportunity for our League members. In addition to League volunteers, Jacqueline Richard (CPSB Nutrition Director), Leslie Petross (CPSB Student Wellness Educator), MSU athletes, and Josh Quayhagen, (MMA fighter, current Karate League, Karate Combat Welterweight Champion, and owner of Performance Evolution Training Center) will be volunteering their time to make this program a success.

s'mores in the park

STEM LEARNING AND A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CITY OF LAKE CHARLES

CAMEO GREEN
Program Development



On July 22, the Junior League of Lake Charles sponsored and hosted S'mores in the Park in partnership with the City of Lake Charles' Partners in Parks. This was a free community event to encourage STEM learning and a bit of outdoor fun! Participants got to enjoy a tasty treat while learning how to harness the power of the sun by building a DIY solar oven.



port wonder

INVESTING IN THE JLLC PAST AND FUTURE LEGACY

MALLORY BEASLEY
BEST Publications Member

Over the summer, Junior League of Lake Charles leaders joined Governor John Bel Edwards and Mayor Nic Hunter for the groundbreaking of Port Wonder, a unique educational and entertainment venue that will house the Children's Museum of Lake Charles and a Science and Nature Center administered by Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

The League has committed \$100,000 to the project over the next several years. The League founded the Children's Museum of Lake Charles in 1987. It has been many years since the League has had a "signature project." Rather than embark on a new project, League leadership at the time chose to revisit and recommit to the already extensive list of legacy projects. While planning is ongoing, the League's contribution will be recognized as part of the Children's Museum's presence in the venue.

The same year the city announced Port Wonder, the League reacquired the property that housed the Volunteer Center, another legacy project. JLLC's leadership believed the best and highest use of the proceeds from the sale of that property was to reinvest in other legacy projects to help ensure their survival.

When it was announced that the museum would become a part of Port Wonder, it made sense to shift that investment to this new endeavor, which would also continue to protect one of our signature legacy projects.

This investment fulfills the commitment of the League to serve, strengthen, and sustain our community. Port Wonder will become a pillar of educational and cultural experience in our community for generations to come.





read for the record

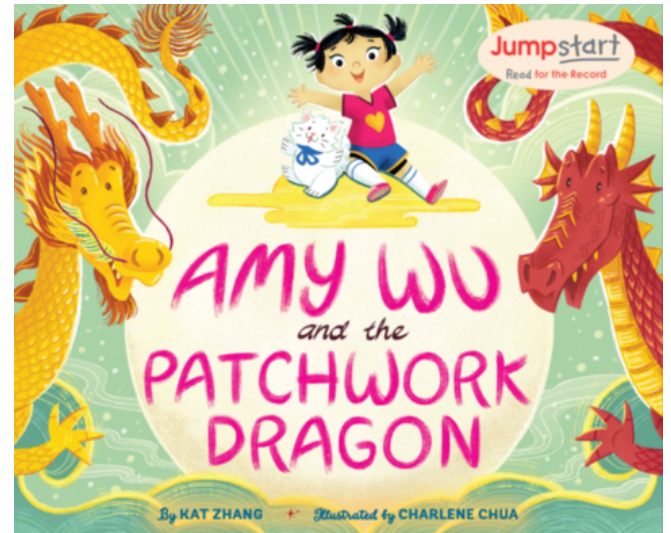
INCREASING AWARENESS ABOUT THE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE AND IMPACT OF EARLY LITERACY

MARCELL GARY
Literacy Chair

The Junior League of Lake Charles is proud to participate in the annual Read for the Record event on October 28. This program was started by Jumpstart; the goal is to promote early literacy by having children from around the world read the same book on the same day.

This year's book is *Amy Wu and the Patchwork Dragon* by Kat Zhan. Amy loves craft time at school, but when her teacher asks everyone to make their own dragon, Amy feels stuck. After school, a story from Grandma sparks new inspiration and, together with her family, Amy finally makes a dragon that feels right for her.

This year the Junior League of Lake Charles will host a virtual and in-person Read for the Record! Volunteers can either video themselves or a local celebrity reading the book to send to area schools or those that work in schools may read to a classroom in person!



READ FOR THE RECORD LIVE!

THURSDAY OCTOBER 28

5:30PM-7PM

MAYOR NIC HUNTER READING AT 5:45PM

CIVIC CENTER AMPHITHEATER

In an effort to expand our reach, we are hosting a new event, "Read for the Record LIVE!" Children and their families within our community are invited to participate in National Read for the Record Day after school. This event is sponsored by Lake Area Dentistry with special guest reader Mayor Nic Hunter. Families are encouraged to enjoy the story "picnic-style" by bringing their own food or partaking in food offered by one of several local food trucks. After enjoying the story, children will be able to make a book-themed craft.



*Pictures of past Read for the Record events prior to Covid-19



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
LAKE CHARLES

mistletoe & moss HOLIDAY MARKET



PRESENTED BY
THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF LAKE CHARLES &
NAVARRE AUTO GROUP

NOVEMBER 19-21

GENERAL ADMISSION | \$12

(Children 8 and under free)

Friday, Nov. 19 | 11AM - 9PM

Saturday, Nov. 20 | 10AM - 8PM

Sunday, Nov. 21 | 10AM - 4PM

PREMIER SHOPPING | \$25

Includes a complimentary glass of champagne
Friday, Nov. 19 | 9AM - 11AM

SIP & SHOP | \$30

Friday, Nov. 19 | 6PM - 9PM

SUSTAINER SOCIAL | \$20

Friday, Nov. 19 | 4PM - 6PM

SANTA'S WORKSHOP | \$5

\$5 per child 2 years and older

Saturday, Nov. 20 | 10AM | 11AM | 12PM

COOKIES WITH SANTA | \$25

(Children under 2 free)

Sunday, Nov. 21 | 10:30AM | 12:30PM | 2:30PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT JLLC.NET

foster care bags

PROVIDING COMFORT DURING TRANSITIONS

SAVANNAH STEVENS

Healthy Families - Community Outreach



One of the projects that falls under the Healthy Families - Community Outreach Committee is the packing and delivery of Foster Care Bags. These bags are assembled with items and organized by age ranges: infant-2 years, 3-6 years, 7-10 years, and 11+. It is common for children to be brought into the foster care system with very short notice. It can be a scramble for the children and the foster families to gather basic necessities, which often leads to their belongings being collected in black, plastic trash bags. The Foster Care Bags maintained by the JLLC's Community Outreach Committee include basic items such as blankets, sippy cups, stuffed animals, journals, toothbrush/toothpaste, soap/face wash, and age-appropriate books and toys all packaged in a nice duffel bag to give the children something to call their own.

The Community Outreach Committee stays in contact with Family & Youth and DCFS to be sure that they always have a steady supply of Foster Care Bags on hand. It has been an absolute joy to participate in this project. Because of my busy schedule this year with a lot going on in my home and work life, I was worried that the time I had to give wouldn't be enough, but JLLC truly has a space for everyone to give back no matter how big or small. Picking up bags from the storage unit and dropping them off to Family & Youth takes all of 30 minutes, and it is easily the best 30 minutes of my week. Knowing that I am part of an organization that plays some small part in making a scary and stressful situation for these children a bit more comforting is worth every second.



mistletoe & moss

28 YEARS OF BRINGING HOLIDAY JOY TO SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA

KRISTI SATTERLA
Mistletoe & Moss Chair

Since 1993, the Junior League of Lake Charles has kicked off the holiday season with its annual Mistletoe & Moss Holiday Market. Each year over 6,000 people shop the market for gifts, goodies, and that little something special for themselves. It's a highly anticipated event that has become a Southwest Louisiana tradition. In its 28-year history, the market has been cancelled twice. In 2005, the Civic Center experienced devastating damage due to Hurricane Rita. Fifteen years later, the market was again cancelled, but this time due to the combined devastation of two major hurricanes and a pandemic preventing large gatherings and travel. The Junior League of Lake Charles eagerly anticipates the return of Mistletoe & Moss this November. Merchants will again gather at the Lake Charles Civic Center to help deck the halls and herald in the 2021 holidays.

This year the Junior League of Lake Charles will share recipes from around the country! SWLA loves Pirate's Pantry and Marshes to Mansions, but you can now add other Junior League cookbooks to your shelf. The tradition of best regional recipes makes for a unique and beloved addition under the tree. Be sure to look for the Junior League of Lake Charles Cookbook Booth.

The JLLC also invites Mistletoe & Moss guests to take part in a community project. The JLLC Community Outreach committee will have a Snack Sack assembly booth. Market shoppers are invited to "Pack a Snack Sack" for a small donation to help fund this and other programs. These food bags will be distributed to Ralph Wilson Elementary for children to have over Christmas break. Be sure to pack a sack and help feed food insecure children this holiday season.

Tickets are available for both general admission and special events at jllc.net. Advance purchase is required, and only digital ticketing is available. CDC and state Covid-19 protocols will be followed. Please help the JLLC fight the spread of Covid-19 and have a safe holiday season.



A
♠

Save the Date

Casino Night

03 • 18 • 22

♠

The Pioneer Club

6:00pm – 12:00am

presented by

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
LAKE CHARLES

CENTER FOR
ORTHOPAEDICS

Contact casinonight@jllc.net for information
on available VIP tables.

SPONSORSHIPS AND VIP TABLES

Seating is extremely limited at this action-packed event! Grab your VIP table before they sell out!

Information regarding tables and sponsorships is available at casinonight@jllc.net.



PARTICIPANTS AND SPONSORS

SEEKING ALL THINGS THAT GO AND BEEP!

Be a part of this unique family event!

Contact touchatruck@jllc.net for more information.



TOUCH A TRUCK

SAVE THE DATE

**Touch-A-Truck
is Gearing Up!**

April 2, 2022

Burton Coliseum

PRESENTED BY



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
LAKE CHARLES

around town

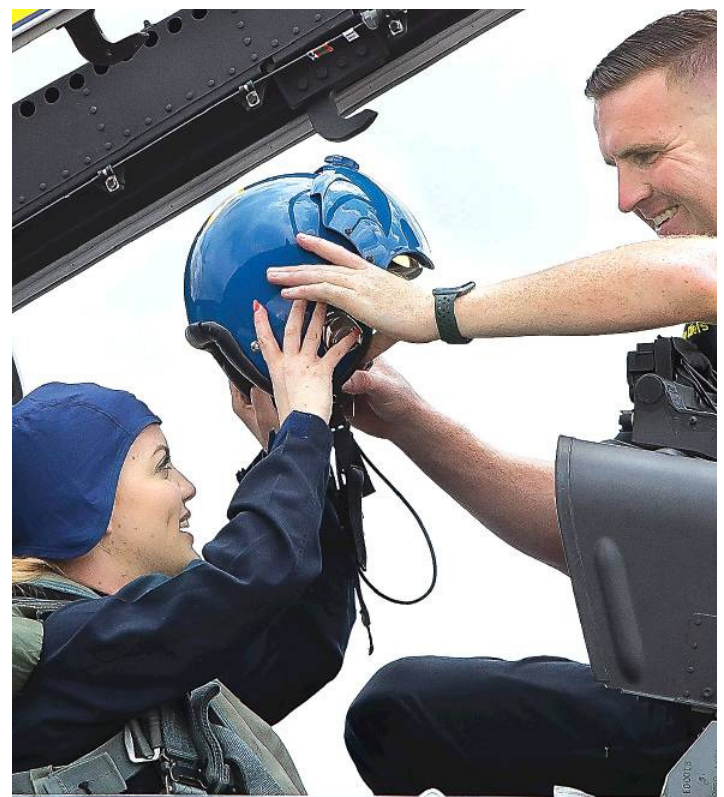
LEAGUE MEMBERS LEADING SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA



Chante Rankins
Organized Lake Charles' first Juneteenth Parade



Thrive's 13 Thriving 30-Somethings for 2020 and 2021:
Erika Doshier, Ashley Williams, Krickett Racca
Kellery Barton, Jessica Stewart, Tabitha Nicholas



Katlin Forster

2021 Calcasieu Parish Teacher of the Year, Lauren LeBato, flying with the Blue Angels at the Chennault International Airshow



Organized the 2021 Chennault International Airshow
Mary Jo Bayles, Mallory Beasley, and Molly LeCronier



2021 Cowboy Country Fest - Hurricane Relief Concert
Kimberly Griffin (title sponsor) and Clerc Bertrand (organizer)



Eloise Pruitt
Appointed to the LDOE's Steering Committee for revising social studies standards for K-12



Julie Este-McDonald
Spotlighted by the Louisiana Public Health Institute for their first Equity Learning Lab member spotlight



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
LAKE CHARLES

1019 Lakeshore Drive
Lake Charles, LA 70601

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PERMIT No. 92

around town

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NONPROFIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS



NATALIE BURCKEL
ABC Pregnancy Center



Krickett Racca
Arts & Humanities Council



DR. DANIELLE ROBINSON
*Bishop Noland
Episcopal Day School*



KARI CASEY
Children's Museum



**MARLISE
MCCARTHY-CEZAIR**
Children's Museum



RACHEL GARNER
*Educational Treatment
Council (ETC)*



JESSICA STEWART
*CHRISTUS LiveWell
Women's Network*



CHELSI BARFIELD
*McNeese Alumni
Association*



ASHLEY RUDD
*McNeese Alumni
Association*



CAMEO GREEN
*Washington Marion HS
Alumni Association*