

# Causeway

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF ST. PETERSBURG





# JUNIOR LEAGUE OF ST. PETERSBURG

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## MISSION

The Junior League of St. Petersburg 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.

## VISION

Training women to transform our community.

## IMPACT

The Junior League of St. Petersburg, Inc. has been a driving force in St. Petersburg since 1931. Our community focus area is School Success and Health, which includes healthcare, nutrition, and literacy. We impact these areas through our community projects, financial support, and hundreds of volunteer hours, in an effort to fulfill our mission of improving the community through effective action and leadership.

## COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY

The Junior League welcomes all women who value our Mission. We are committed to inclusive environments of diverse individuals, organizations and communities.

## VALUES

- Volunteer: The vehicle in which we train and transform our members
- Empower: Training our members to be leaders
- Educate: Promoting our mission through community and league involvement
- Advocate: Together with our partners, support and promote those in need
- Serve: Build better communities



# PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

As I reflect on this past year, I can hardly grasp the fact that it is over. What a year it has been! When I think about this time in the League, years and years from now, I will remember the incredible time I had, the wonderful memories I made, the growth I experienced personally, the members and friendships I made, and all the fun we had!

I am walking away from this year PROUD. I am proud of the hard work we did around the Board table. We “revamped” our Community Advisory Council and brought it back to what Past President, Margaret Bowman, had always envisioned and intended for it to be all those years ago when she first formed it. I am thankful for her insight, wisdom and vision for the League. Our Community Advisory Council is now comprised of a dynamic group of men and women who are established leaders in our community. They are diverse in their work experiences and volunteer efforts. This is a group of true movers and shakers in St. Petersburg and we have benefitted immensely from their service to our League. They not only advised us at our quarterly meetings, but they offered us advice and council outside of our meetings, some even presenting to the Board of Directors.

We took an educated look at our insurance policies and realized a few important policies were missing. Thanks to Aja Hall, our Recording Secretary and insurance expert for walking us through the process and making sure the League is protected for years to come! Also, thank you to Past President and our insurance agent, Linda Berset, for presenting to the BOD this year and getting us set up for success!

Our members and the member experience was a major focus for us this year. We tried to have at least one Board representative at each event in order to make ourselves accessible to our members. Part of getting back to the member and making the member experience better was to make sure in the “post COVID” world that overall we had FUN this year! And we did just that!

We made it a priority to be more transparent with our members about what was happening around the Board table, so you all felt “in the know” and included. Each month I wrote a “Voice of the President” for the eblasts, which included an “Around the Board Table” section so you could hear from me personally about what was going on from my perspective.

Each month, the “Executive Team” had a meet up with our members at various locations and times of day. We implemented this to get to know YOU and for you to have a place to voice your opinion and let your voices be heard. They were all well attended and just as we had hoped, we had a different group each time which really gave us the opportunity to get to know so many of you! We have LOVED getting to know you all this year!



# PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE Cont.

No one could have prepared me for the challenges I faced this year, but more than anything, I walk away from this year thankful. I am thankful to have been surrounded by the most supportive and encouraging Board of Directors. This group is comprised of smart, sharp, and dedicated women who gave their full support to the League and to me this year. I could not have imagined this year without them all by my side. I am thankful for my Sustainer Advisor, Jillian Doyle, for the hours of counsel she gave me and for the sound advice she had at every turn. I am thankful to have had her constant encouragement, praise and support. I am thankful for the circle of Past Presidents of our League who rally around their own like none other. I am thankful for the challenges that pushed me out of my comfort zone, that made me face confrontation head on, that taught me things about myself I didn't know, and grew me in areas that needed growing. Last, but certainly not least, I am thankful for each one of our members! You have made this one amazing year. I am so thankful to have had to opportunity to get to know so many incredible women. It has been one of the biggest honors of my life to serve you all this year as your President. Thank you all for believing in me, trusting me and for making my dreams come true!!

I look forward to stepping into the role of supporter and cheerleader this year as we begin the 2022-2023 League Year. I am excited to watch you all grow in your leadership skills and abilities as you serve the League and our community! LEAD ON friends, and never forget, "Your Voice Matters!"

Yours in Service,

**Lauren Feaster,**  
**President 2021-2022**





# EVP REPORT

## END OF YEAR REFLECTIONS

It's hard to believe we are wrapping up the 2021-2022 League Year. This year has pushed me more than ever before to be a better leader, volunteer and friend. While I was reflecting back on the League Year, I thought of how far I've come personally. When I joined the League 7 years ago, I never thought I'd be in a leadership position yet alone serving as the Executive Vice President. I joined the league because I wanted to give back to the Community. I was a devoted member who attended all committee meetings, fundraisers, and signed up for all the volunteer shifts I could. Eventually I started asking questions: How do we pick the organizations we serve? Why is it done this way? I was curious how everything came together. When asked if I was interested in Leadership the next time, I stepped out of my comfort zone and I said YES!

I spent the last three years around the Management Table and would not change a thing. I have learned so much and grew as a person. I became more confident. My leadership skills I was learning in the league I immediately put in place at my professional job. The challenges and hurdles you are thrown, make you a stronger person and there is always an incredible team helping you out along the way.

I could not be more proud of this year's Management Team. They were incredibly hardworking and very successful. As a reminder, the Management Team is in charge of all the day to day - planning all the events, volunteer shifts, and making everything come together. Each Vice President oversees a council made up of all the committees in the League. They devoted countless hours of their time and poured their hearts into the work they did. Their passion could be seen in everything they executed. They are a phenomenal group of women and it was an absolute honor to serve alongside them.

This year, the Management Teams goals were:

- Continue to enhance member engagement through training's and social experiences
- Continue the creation and development of programs that promote health education and provide healthy food supplies
- Create and develop programs to promote literacy and provide books to children in need



# EVP REPORT Cont.

The Buddy Program was introduced this year revamping the member/mentor relationship. This program was open to any active or sustaining league member with a focus on first year actives and transfers. This program was created so members could receive the experience they specifically wanted to achieve whether it be friendship, networking, volunteer opportunities, or even JLSP league guidance. This year we also expanded our recruiting events and attended two Saturdays at the Saturday Morning Market in Downtown St. Petersburg to promote the Junior League. League members had great discussions with potential new members and we obtained a lengthy contact list that our Membership Council continued to stay in contact with until the New Member Application went live.

At the beginning of the League Year, our Community Council found creative ways for us to continue to volunteer during a pandemic and throughout the year there were over **53** community volunteer opportunities. The Care Fair team led us off by hosting our first in person community event in two years! While it was still scaled back, they successfully executed a fund event distributing **1500** backpacks, **150** medical exams and **60** dental screenings. Kids in the Kitchen Committee distributed over **4,270** snack packs throughout the community and Literacy has handed out over **700** books with **400** currently waiting to be sorted and distributed. Thank you to all the Councils and Committees for their hard work and commitment to our mission.

I hope you take time to reflect on your league year

Yours in Service,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alicia S. McShea".

Alicia S. McShea  
Executive Vice President 2021-2022

# Member Milestones

Let's take some time to celebrate our JSLP Milestones! Thank you for each year, each hour, each minute of service to JSLP and our Community!

## Members Going Sustaining 2022-2023

Jessica Traurig  
Cheryl Sanchez  
Katie Jackson  
Jane Harris  
Lexie Stolen  
Melanie Blanchard  
Katie Blair  
Brynne Johnson  
Jenny Reese  
Brittany Bollinger  
Aimee Jopling  
Erin Lohmiller

## Five Years of Service

Laura Banfield  
Margaret Dominguez  
Erin Dunlop  
Katie Fernald  
Aria Garling  
Katie Grabowski  
Alysse Griffin  
Mary Beth Hargrove  
Elizabeth Hasbrouck  
Rosie Meyer  
Natavia Middleton  
Marisa Norris  
Dana Palombo  
Lisa Pessina  
Katie Ragsdale  
Emily Segui

## 5 Years of Service Cont.

Misha Shamp  
Seeta Spence Banfield  
India Stallings  
Emily Strider  
Jacqueline Vanderbleek  
Melissa Williams

## 10 Years of Service

Melanie Collinson  
Augusta Harvard

## 15 Years of Service

Heather Armstrong  
Liz Bradley  
Christine Casey  
Judith "Judy" Cunniff  
Natalie DeVicente  
Tara Gaffney  
Ashley Gonnelli  
Anne Gramling  
Treena Hoaglan  
Patricia Serbanos  
Joyce Sewell  
Alexis Walker

## 20 Years of Service

Shane Davis  
Brynne Johnson  
Cynthia Kraski  
Maria Rawls  
Sasha Segundo  
Nancy Westphal  
Tiffany Webb

## 25 Years of Service

Tiffany Babb  
Jenny Martin

## 30 Years of Service

Suchi Daniels  
Caryn Rightmyer

## 40 Years of Service

Suzanne Earle  
Paula Gower  
Marilyn Hobbs  
Jean Irwin  
Sue Kickliter  
Ann Silviter  
Loretta Stitt  
Susan Wallace  
Karen Ward  
Lisa Wells

## 60 Years of Service

Barbara Ulrich

## 70 Years of Service

Ruth Thurman

# Buddy Program

The Junior League St. Petersburg's Buddy Program was introduced in the 2022-2023 League Year as an opportunity for different members to meet one another in one on one settings. Members could select what they were looking for in the program whether it was a deeper understanding of the League, a new friend or a professional networking contact. Those who participated, found it as a great way to create personal and deeper relationships with women they may have not otherwise met.

## Nina Haaskivi

### **What did you get out of the buddy program?**

As an introvert, sometimes larger events can feel intimidating or overwhelming. Participating in the buddy program has given me an opportunity to connect with someone on a one on one level in a way that isn't always possible during larger events.

### **Where you are from?**

I'm originally from Cleveland, Ohio and I'm celebrating 10 years in St. Petersburg this December!

### **When did you join the JLSP?**

2016

### **Which Committee did you serve on?**

Events Committee

### **Tell us your favorite part of the JLSP buddy program.**

Aside from having an awesome buddy, my favorite part is the opportunity to get to know someone new and spend time together outside of "official" league events.

## Kathryn Saienni

### **What did you get out of the buddy program?**

As a transfer from Charlotte, the buddy program has been an invaluable resource for me to make connections within the League. It has been so helpful to have someone I can go to for League-related questions. As an added bonus, it's really nice to have someone to meet up with at League events!

### **Where you are from?**

I'm originally from Sarasota, Florida.

### **When did you join the JLSP?**

I joined the Junior League of Charlotte in 2016 and transferred to JLSP in 2021.

### **Which Committee did you serve on?**

I currently serve on the Community Outreach Committee.

### **Tell us your favorite part of the JLSP buddy program.**

My favorite part of the JLSP buddy program has been meeting Emily! We immediately bonded over our love of dogs! We always have fun together, and I consider her a very dear friend!



# Buddy Program

## Emily Lafortune

### What did you get out of the buddy program?

I like the 1-1 aspect vs the larger groups. I can be a liaison with my buddy's questions or concerns about the League and requirements in a safe space. Covid still makes it challenging to have larger gatherings and the buddy program allows for people to feel more comfortable in an outdoor space and in a smaller setting 1-1.

### Where you are from?

Weston, Florida

### When did you join the JLSP?

I joined the JLSP in 2019.

### Which Committee did you serve on?

Member Development Committee

### Tell us your favorite part of the JLSP buddy program.

I have thoroughly enjoyed learning from both women who are in the League. Both Kathryn and Nina are lawyers and it's been fantastic seeing them on their journey of studying for the bar and working tirelessly to pursue their careers. With Kathryn we instantly connected over being dog moms and loving the theatre. With Nina, she and I both have a background in marketing. She has taught me about her Finnish heritage and traditions and I have enjoyed learning about a new culture.



Kathryn & Emily at BBQ Cluster



## Allison Hearne & Tirrah Switzer

Allison joined us from Chicago this year and used the buddy program to learn more about the League and become acquainted with others. Tirrah recently moved to Oregon with her husband but took the opportunity to be a mentor in the buddy program and share more with Allison about JLSP! They did many things during their time together.

"Tirrah is not just a mentor, but a great friend. I'm so sad Tirrah moved to Oregon! Come back!"

Thank you for welcoming me into the League, Tirrah! Best wishes on your new Oregon adventure."

# CLUSTERS FUN!



# PROVISIONAL CLASS RECAP

By: Brit Johnson, Provisional Development Co-Chair

The Provisional Development committee had a lot of fun this year! As the world has slowly been getting back to normal, this year's Provisional Class showed up in so many ways—between going above and beyond in their training and volunteer requirements, they still made time to attend and participate in other League events such as Cocktails & Couture, programming clusters, member interest groups and ad-hoc committees.

Over the last year, we've introduced a few new programs to the Provisional curriculum. In October, we hosted our first annual Provisional Retreat on Anna Maria Island, where Provisionals spent the day connecting and bonding outside of our typical meeting structures. This was one of our favorite events of the year, and we're so excited to see this event continue to evolve in coming years.

We shifted away from the traditional Provisional Project and introduced a points-based project which encouraged Provisionals to get involved with the League all year long while developing skills such as leadership, teamwork, collaboration and volunteerism.

Provisionals could earn points through a variety of community and social activities—such as researching a potential community partner, donating supplies for Care Fair, watching AJLI webinars or simply meeting a fellow member out for coffee.

The advisor group with the highest average points per member was recognized as ~the Major League~ at April's GMM. Congratulations to Katie & Caroline's group for taking home the award! This group earned an average of about 6,000 points per member. For perspective, that's ~25 activities per group member.

Way to go, Group 4!

Whitney Carey    Kelli Casto  
Alex Davis        Emily Knighton  
Jamie Molnar    Emily St. Clair  
Maria Sweezy    Mary Beth Williams



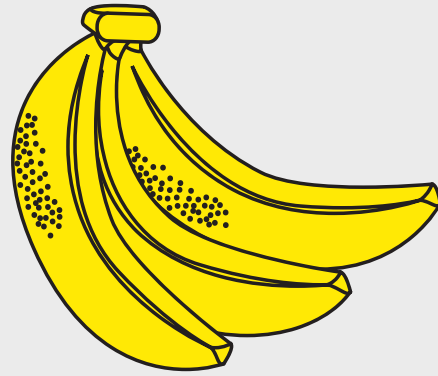
2021- 2022  
Provisional Development Committee



Rebecca & Aria's Advisor Group Outing  
to Axe Throwing



Provisional Retreat in Anna Maria



# THANKS A BUNCH,

## Provisional Advisors!

It's evident that we have amazing women coming into active membership, who are ready to contribute to the League's mission and give back to our community. It's truly been an honor for us to lead this year's class, and we couldn't have done it without our amazing advisors:

**Hailey Beauchesne**  
**Aria Garling**  
**Katie Grabowski**  
**Yarissa Matos-Soto**

**Natavia Middleton**  
**Sara Powell**  
**Rebecca Raj Swafford**  
**Carolyn Secor**

**Thank you all for a great year!**

# MEMBER INTEREST GROUPS

Our Provisional Development Co-Chairs, Brit Johnson and Marisa Schuldinger brought Member Interest Groups to JLSP in the form of Brunch Club and Book Club and they were a HUGE hit with our membership



# PROVISIONALS & SUSTAINERS!



On Tuesday, April 13, 2022 the Sustainers along with the Board of Directors held an end of the year celebration for the 2021-22 Provisional Class. This is an event that is normally hosted by the board, but they joined forces with the Sustainers after the annual Sustainer/Provisional Fall Social was cancelled due to rising COVID-19 cases. We are so thankful to our gracious hostesses, Katherine "Kitty" Safford and her daughter, Nancy Safford Westphal for hosting us at Bayfront Towers.

A special thanks to Sustainers, Heather Perkins and Donna Mainguth who co-chaired the planning committee as well as to their committee for planning a beautiful celebration. We are so excited to welcome this active and engaged group of women into the League as 1st year actives!

# SUSTAINER HOLIDAY BRUNCH!

By: Lisa Johni



The Sustainers gathered on December 7, 2021, for their annual Holiday Brunch, Co-Chaired by Candy Scherer and Lisa Johni. The St. Petersburg Yacht Club's halls were decked with trees elegantly decorated for the season. To honor the JLSP Literacy initiatives, guests were asked to bring donations of children's books to be donated to the Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital "Wonderland" family shopping event.

Brunch guests were welcomed to the Waterfront Room with beautiful table centerpieces designed by Wonderland Floral & Art, which were available for sale. After mixing and mingling time, Sustainer Director Mary Reed welcomed everyone and shared the success of the recent Sustainer events. President Lauren Feaster provided a League update. League member Katie Grabowski, a Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital Child Life Specialist, spoke about the programs her department offers and how our donations will be appreciated. After a delicious Brunch buffet, the Canterbury School of Florida Singers performed an array of classic Holiday music. Thanks to the generosity of our Sustainers, we collected 151 books to be given to pediatric patients. In the spirit of giving, it was the perfect way to kick-off the Holiday Season!

# ★ STAR AMONG STARS ★

By: Amanda Griffin, Executive Vice President Elect

**“A star wants to see herself rise to the top. A leader wants to see those around her become stars.”**

This year our Executive Team carried out the tradition of rewarding League members who have gone above and beyond to serve our St. Petersburg community. Each month, at General Membership Meetings, we presented the Star Among Stars award to the receiving member. Thank you to each of the recipients for shining brightly this year!

Jenna has served at the Junior League of St. Petersburg’s Development VP for the last two years – that deserves an award on its own! Jenna is passionate, a doer, the woman you always want on your team and we are so proud of the way she has executed all JLSP Development tasks. Jenna’s thoughtful nature is a quality that we are all very grateful for. Thank you for putting the FUN in fundraising, Jenna!

*Jenna Garnatz*



## *Social Media*

*Jessica Lombardo, Taylor Cox & Sarah Terry*



They’re witty, they’re smart, they keep us on brand. Our Social Media team is consistently ahead of the game and finish projects before they are even asked. Jessica, Taylor and Sarah are always willing to pivot and adjust to changes thrown their way. Their creativity and organization has helped keep our social media engagements and interactions up and help us stay connected to our community and followers near and far. Not only that, but Chair, Jessica, had her second baby in August! Thank you for all you do and always keeping the hard work fun!



# ★ STAR AMONG STARS ★

Gauri is a hard working mom of two cute boys. She has been a pediatric physician and recently transitioned to a new position that we know she is going to thrive in. While her work and mom duties are incredibly demanding she was still able to pull off one of the most fabulous Care Fairs during a tough year. One of the best things about Gauri is her calm nature under pressure and her ability to see all sides of every situation. Thank you for shining so brightly in July Gauri! We couldn't do this without you.

*Gauri Sunkersett*



*Rosemary Shanahan*



Rosemary is So. Incredibly. Positive. She was so resourceful securing donations during this year's Care Fair, both monetary and in-kind. Her sweet disposition, willingness to get the job done, and commitment to the success of the Junior League has been something so amazing to watch. That's why she was our August Star Among Stars. Thank you, Rosemary!

*Provisional Development  
Brit Johnson & Marisa Schuldinger*



We have a dynamic duo as our September and October Star Among Stars! These two incredible women are EVERYWHERE! They go above and beyond to educate our Provisionals, bring member satisfaction, make every outing FUN and are always warm and welcoming to everyone who crosses their paths. Brit Johnson and Marisa Schuldinger we are so lucky you have found your home in St. Petersburg and the JLSP. There's no better fit for the Star Among Stars award!

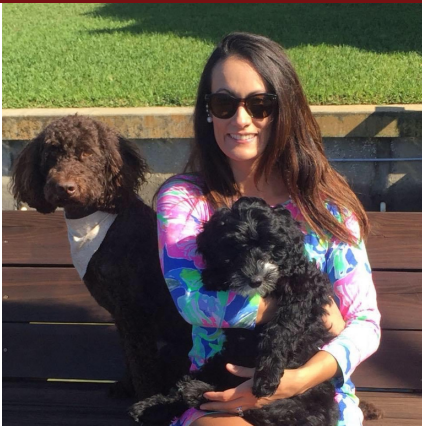
# ★ STAR AMONG STARS ★

These two women truly define what it means to be servant leaders. They have a YES attitude and navigated a very difficult situation with grace and humility. Morgan Reid and Donna Mainguth were our November and December Star Among Stars. You both are loyal, dedicated and put your heart and soul into all you do. We are so lucky you choose to serve our community. Thank you for all you do!

*Morgan Reid & Donna Mainguth*



*Rose Rhoades*



Rose Rhoades is our 2021 – 2022 Community Outreach Committee Chair. Rose and her committee have done incredible things this year! After a couple of years that left us all wanting a stronger connection to our community, she has delivered that and more! Her dedication and perseverance has led to new community partnerships and volunteer opportunities. Rose has been so dedicated to our League, making magic happen while also taking on a big new work role. She has the most positive attitude and is such a breath of fresh air! We could not be more proud of Rose and the love that she so clearly has for changing lives.

Natasha has gone above and beyond to plan out and lead the planning for the Programming Committee. She is detail oriented, thinking through logistics and the member experiences, while she carries out the planning of each event. Natasha proactively plans ahead, wrapping up one item while already strategizing the next. Egg-a-House would be a great example of this. Natasha was talking about the committee's strategy for this Easter fundraiser in December!! The volunteer shifts have filled up faster than ever before and orders flew in which is clearly evidence of success and the enthusiasm of the League. Thank you so much Natasha for being someone the League can depend on and for providing opportunities for League members to spend quality time together!

*Natasha Williams*



# ★ STAR AMONG STARS ★

*Natavia Middleton*



Natavia is an exemplary member of the Junior League! Natavia chose to double place this year as a Finance Delegate and a Provisional Advisor! Natavia always goes above and beyond to support grant writing and budget management.

**We are so thankful for each and every one of our “Star Among Stars” for the hard work they continually put into our League to ensure its success!**

**It’s because of members like them and members like you that we are able to serve our community in a meaningful way!**

# ANNUAL DINNER MEETING



*Outgoing President Lauren Feaster, Incoming President Erin Gladysz, Incoming EVP Amanda Griffin, Outgoing EVP Alicia McShea at the Annual Dinner Meeting.*



*Incoming President Erin Gladysz with Past Presidents after the Passing of the Gavel at the Annual Dinner Meeting.*

# NOMINATING

At the close of the 2021-2022 League Year, Nominating had the distinct honor of presenting the League's Annual Awards to four outstanding Members. Each Awardee was nominated by a fellow League Member and chosen by the Nominating Committee to receive the award. These Annual Awards are the highest honors bestowed on League Members each year and the Nominating Committee was thrilled to have the opportunity to present each with their award at the April Dinner Meeting.

## Virginia H. Lazarra Sustainer of the Year Award



The Virginia H. Lazarra Sustainer of the Year Award recognizes a Sustainer who exemplifies the spirit of Virginia Lazarra.

Virginia H. Lazarra was a member of the Junior League of St. Petersburg until her untimely death in 1986. Virginia worked tirelessly in our League and in our community. The JLSP has recognized her contributions with an award named in her honor since 1987. This award honors a Sustaining member's accomplishments as both a League member and as a valuable community involved servicewoman.

Past award recipient Chloe Firebaugh and  
Sustainer of the Year Stacy Gerardo

Stacy Gerardo's credentials are extensive, but they do not do justice to the underlying personal commitment she exhibits in her voluntarism and service to St. Petersburg. She is a humble leader who works tirelessly to advance the organizations for which she serves. She has volunteered and served on boards of numerous organizations in our community, including Daughters of the American Revolution at a local, state and national level, Children of the American Revolution local and state level, Queen's Court, Inc, Friends of Raymond James, St. Paul's Catholic School and Home Association, Mainsail Art Festival, Clothes to Kids, Make-A-Wish Foundation, Children's Dream Fund, numerous cancer foundations, All Children's Hospital Guild, numerous board/chairman/ad hocs/committee service work for the Junior League of St. Petersburg and founded the Fairy Dust Project.

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She is a quiet leader - preferring to work behind the scenes and not be in the limelight. She is diligent and hardworking and gives her all to any organization with which she volunteers. She gives of her time and talent and embraces the JLSP's mission. She strives to do her best at any job she is given and takes the time to effectively lead and nurture the potential of those around her. She leads by example and when thanked for a job well done, graciously gives credit to the whole committee.

Stacy is a proven volunteer and leader and a great asset to the Junior League and our community. She embodies the passion and drive that Virginia Lazarra had for service.

## Mailande Holland Barton Award



Award winner Sarah Morrow

The Mailande Holland Barton Award was established to honor the superior volunteer commitment set forth by our founder and first JLSP president, Mailande Holland Barton. The Award recipient must exemplify generous giving of self to our community through Junior League and community involvement.

If you have ever had the privilege of serving with Sarah Morrow on one of her many League commitments over the past years such as Membership VP (twice and soon to be third time), Provisional Advisor, Recording Secretary and Fall into Fashion, you would see that she is a thoughtful and caring individual who has a passion for the JLSP, its members, and our community.

Sarah has been a dedicated League member and is even more so a dedicated member of the St. Petersburg Community. She is the first one to recognize a need and to work to connect people or to jump in and work to solve it, bringing along a team of women (and men) that she had gathered just through her palpable energy for community service. She is a true leader for her community and has taken all that she had learned in the League to start and continue other programs throughout St. Petersburg. She embodies both the spirit of Mailande Holland Barton and the mission of the Junior League of St. Petersburg. Her experience and volunteer commitment are both tremendous assets to the JLSP. She is a well-respected and empowering leader, and we are truly fortunate to have her as an active member of the Junior League of St. Petersburg.

## Spirit of the League Award



Past winner, Marie Hartney with award winner, Stephanie Guckenberger

The Spirit of the League Award was established to recognize an active member who, throughout the year, has embodied the Junior League of St. Petersburg's mission through her outstanding service to the League and demonstrated leadership, dedication, voluntarism, and exemplary League achievements.

Stephanie Guckenberger has been a staple on both the Board and Management Team for many years. She is a steadfast person who sees the importance of serving roles that round out a team. She served as the Corresponding Secretary and this year stepped up to serve as the Finance VP. Without substantial background in Finance, she gladly and gratefully took on this role to serve the League. She did this all with a very new little one, balancing service and life amazingly well. Stephanie is a dedicated league member who served this year in a challenging role that is in substantial transition. Sometimes those members that just help things run smoothly are hard to identify and recognize. She is one of those quiet leaders. When you don't hear too much about the Finance position as a general League member that means that someone is working very hard in the background. We are thankful for the time and talent this member has given to the Junior League of St. Petersburg.

## Tomorrow's Leader Award



Award winner Brianna Ray

The Tomorrow's Leader Award is given annually to recognize an outstanding member of the Junior League of St. Petersburg's Provisional class. Our Tomorrow's Leader Award recipient possesses outstanding resourcefulness, community involvement and volunteer hours above and beyond what is expected of her.

We are excited to present this year's award to Brianna Ray!

Brianna demonstrates the League's mission day in and day out. She's had outstanding involvement in both League activities and volunteer hours with stellar attendance all year long. She's gone above and beyond in her requirements, such as extra community shifts, group project participation, book club and optional provisional events.

As a native of St. Pete and a Pinellas County educator, her community is a large part of who she is. Brianna is passionate about helping students achieve their goals, creating opportunities for personal and professional growth and progressing the field of education.

Brianna is excited about the League, eager to get involved and has already snagged a Chair Elect position for next year. Her passion and commitment for bettering the community, paired with her contagious positive attitude will continue to be extremely valuable to the League.

Congratulations, Brianna! Thank you for your dedication to JLSP and the St. Pete community.

# Thanks

TO THE 2021-2022  
NOMINATING COMMITTEE

**Bryne Johnson  
Keri Fabiano  
Alexis Carlon  
Marie Hartney  
Becky Launius  
Dana Palombo  
Morgan Reid  
Rachael Stanger**



# Queen of Hearts

Membership selected several names for the 2022 Queen's Court and the Nominating Committee selected two princesses and one queen candidate from those nominated. We selected Candy Scherer for Queen and Marie Hartney & Aria Garling for princess. They applied and all were selected for the 2022 Queens Court. The BOD sponsored a table and several members of the committee/leadership attended the Queen of Hearts Ball to support them.



Queen, Candy Scherer and Princesses, Marie Hartney and Aria Garling surrounded by their JLSP supporters

# COMMUNITY COUNCIL

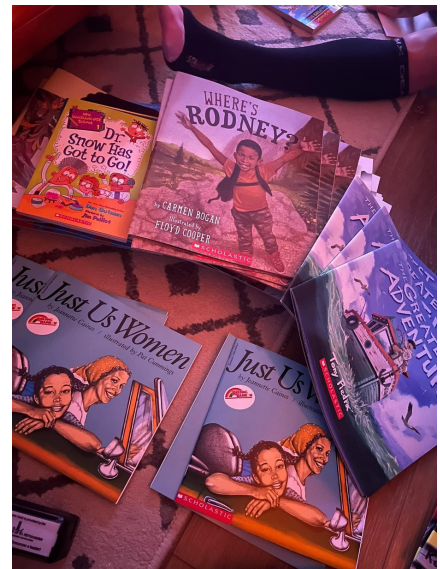
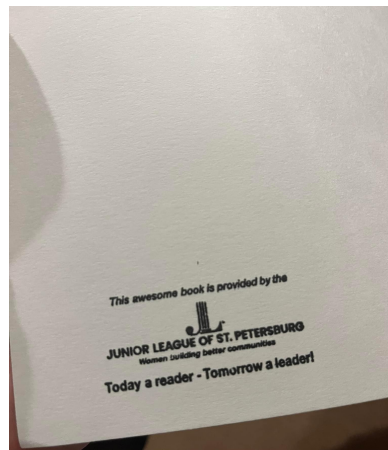
## LITERACY COMMITTEE

By: Alysse Griffin, Chair

It's been a productive year for Literacy and we've got a lot of fun in store for the upcoming League Year! During 2021-2022 we were able to donate over 700 culturally relevant books suited for a wide array of age ranges that sure brought smiles to many faces.

In addition to providing books at Care Fair, we were able to supply Barbershop Book Club, United Way, and the Police Athletic League (PAL) with a wealth of reading material for the kiddos. Of note, United Way and PAL were both new partnerships that will provide additional volunteer opportunities in the very near future. Both organizations have a passion for supporting our underserved youth. United Way is currently partnering with Campbell Park Elementary and Melrose Elementary. PAL has an after-school program with approximately 65 kids, and during their summer program, they serve 90 kids. Literacy is a huge focus for both organizations, with PAL even having an on site library where the kiddos are encouraged to read for twenty minutes a day.

To everyone that supported us, a tremendous thank you!



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

By: Rose Rhoades, Chair

## 4 Gibbs High School shifts

supporting the organization of their food pantry. We have assisted with sorting and packing non perishable goods. Our partnership is ongoing with upcoming shifts in November, December, March and May.

## 5 Girls on the Run shifts

supporting their Fall coaches season. We have sorted through and organized approximately 120 bins of supplies and t-shirts for their fall season.

## 3 Clothes to Kids shifts

supporting store operations. This includes sorting, tagging and organizing clothing items to support a fun shopping experience.



# EGG-A-HOUSE

By: Natalie Toellner, Programming Co-Chair



This year's Egg-A-House was a huge success! The League tradition continued for 2022 with the fun opportunity to have friends, neighbors, or even our own house 'egged' with colorful Easter eggs filled with small toys and candies. A team of 50 volunteers, or League bunnies, stuffed approximately 6,000 eggs and delivered them to 100 homes and local charities around St Pete. This was a 1,000 egg increase from last year! Collectively we raised a \$3,000 profit for our league, mission and community projects. Eggcellent job JLSP!

New this year was a virtual egging option and a donation-based egging option, Egg-A-Center. Donations from Junior League members, friends, and the community went toward the 'egging' of a local Boys & Girls Club center to bring smiles, laughter and a fun egg hunt to young children and teens. Approximately 1,000 eggs were stuffed by League bunnies and then hidden both inside and outside of the Boys & Girls Club of Pinellas Park. It was a blast for everyone involved!



# PUBLIC AFFAIRS

By: Veronica Hickey, Public Affairs Chair

Our League's Public Affairs Committee works closely and participates with the Junior Leagues of Florida State Public Affairs Committee ("JLFLSPAC" or "SPAC") who monitors legislation and advocates for issues of importance to its members. Our Public Affairs Committee was unable to attend in person conferences again this past year due to COVID-19. However, on the bright side, SPAC did a great job hosting online conferences for a second year which opened the possibility of attendance to more of our members. Registration for the online conferences was sometimes one fee for unlimited league attendees, or even free. Conferences this year centered around issues of political importance, and how to be a leader in advocacy.

Issues of political importance to the JLFLSPAC include Health and Hunger/Education and At-Risk Youth/Community Safety. The SPAC closely watched the 2022 Legislative Session up in Tallahassee, especially the bills close to Junior Leagues across the state. Topics on the bills closely watched this year included diaper tax, human trafficking, milk banks, lactation spaces, and financial literacy in schools, among others. Looking forward, the SPAC hopes to get together, in person, this year with our fellow Leagues across Florida but will likely keep several of the conferences virtual to increase accessibility for members.

To stay up to date, follow the "Junior League of Florida State Public Affairs Committee" on Facebook, and subscribe to their newsletter.



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# KIDS IN THE KITCHEN

By: Lexie Stolen, Kids in the Kitchen Chair

Kids in the Kitchen (KITK) is a childhood obesity and nutrition initiative from the Association of Junior Leagues International designed to help our local communities address the urgent issues surrounding childhood hunger and poor nutrition. Partnering with Suncoast Boys and Girls Club, KITK provided monthly snack packs and fresh produce to 360 kids. Junior League volunteers shop, pack and arrange for delivery of these packs. During the 2021-2022 year we have been able to donate 4,270 snack packs. One thousand of these were provided at Care Fair and the rest were provided to Boys and Girls Club.



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# KIDS CREATE- MAINSAIL ARTS FESTIVAL

By: Sarah Murphy, Kids Create

Mainsail Art Festival was held on April 16 & 17th this year and Kids Create was back after two years of cancellations due to COVID. We were back as strong as ever and so many people commented on how happy they were that we were back!

This year we went with five different crafts, each craft went along with a kids book. Our traditional Fish Print, with the book Pout Pout Fish, was very successful. The kids loved painting the fish different colors and seeing how they would show up on the paper. There were many people who commented on how they remembered this craft from when they were kids. Since the festival was on Easter weekend, we had an Easter themed craft as well, Handprint Chicks, with the book Little Chick. This was another popular craft, the kids loved tracing their hands and watching their chicks “come to life.” The last three crafts were tied to Spring, we had Tissue Paper Art, Bubble Wands, and a Cupcake Liner Butterfly. The Tissue Paper Art was linked to the book Chrysanthemum and the kids were able to decorate a flower using tissue paper. Bubble Wands were connected to the book An Epic Bath Adventure and the kids used beads to decorate a wand and then could dip it in bubbles. Lastly, the Cupcake Liner Butterfly went with the book The Very Hungry Caterpillar, the kids used cupcake liners to create a colorful butterfly.

The volunteers really enjoyed the shifts and working with the kids. Over the four shifts we had 43 volunteers, including family members and sustainers. Kids Create was very happy to be back at Mainsail Art Festival and we are looking forward to next year!



# CARE FAIR

By: Gauri Sunkersett, Care Fair Co-Chair

This Care Fair year is one for the books. Coming from a previous year full of challenges and obstacles, we were able to come back in the community and serve, while creating more opportunities that impact our purpose and mission.

In July, we donated 1,500 backpacks and 50,000 + school supplies that included: composition notebooks, colored pencils, crayons, scissors, pens, glue sticks and folders. With over 1,000 snack packs and hundreds of age /culturally appropriate reading books. With the help of Community Health Centers of Pinellas, we supplied more than 50 medical exams, 60 Dental screenings and some COVID 19 vaccines. We were thrilled with the presence of the community in their support with our over 20+ street fair vendors and the Junior league community council with providing us resources from Literacy, Kids Create, Library Puppets and Kids in the Kitchen. All of this and more gave us the leverage of being able to serve our community one kid at a time.

This year we had many generous donations between grants equaling around \$8,000. Care Fair will be off to a great start next year with the surplus of funds that will give us another wonderful opportunity to give back by a restock. In January we purchased and donated 150 age-appropriate hygiene kits, 300 earbuds, school supplies and hand sanitizer pumps for the classrooms. These supplies were distributed between John Hopkins middle school and Woodlawn Elementary.

Our last fundraiser for Care fair was Brews for Backpacks, which was held at Grand Central Brewing in St. Petersburg titled "To Be a Kid Again." It was a lovely event that celebrated the elements and fun of being a kid but also raising over \$2,500 between tickets, financial obligations and from our opportunity basket ticket sales. It was a tremendous success with a major turnout.

This year has been amazing and humbling especially with the support and dedication of the community. It was an uplifting and empowering experience. The efforts of our community and the Junior League has emphasized our positive vision to continue to progress for the future.

We wanted to thank everyone who has supported us this year and a BIGGEST, HUGEST shout out to Expert Messenger who not only stores our supplies and backpacks but also delivers them.

*"There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about."*

- Margaret J. Wheatley



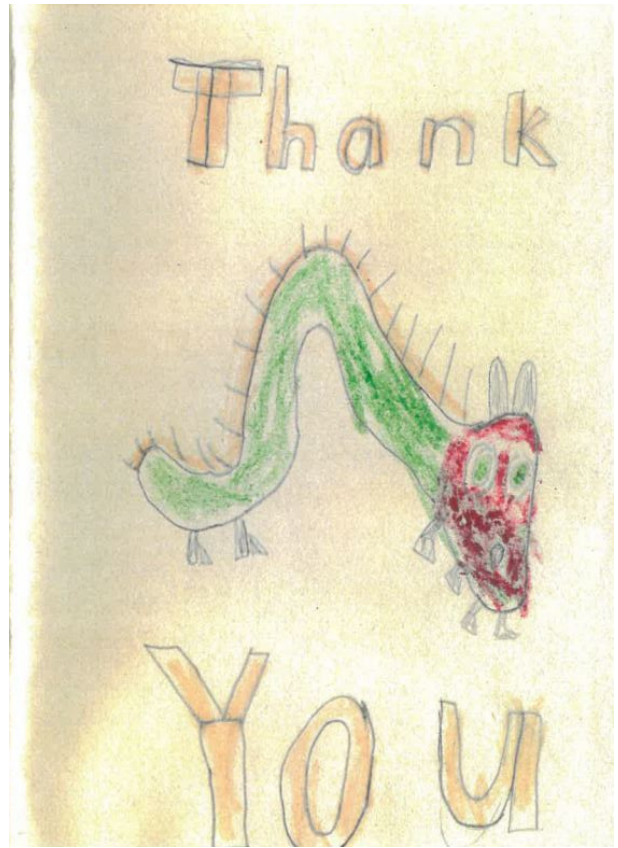
# CARE FAIR



# LIBRARY PUPPETS

Big THANK YOU from the 1st grade kids at St. Paul's Catholic School to our Library Puppets Committee

Dear Danielle, Rachel, + the entire amazing Jr. League Puppet Show Troop,  
I can't thank you enough for taking both your valuable time + effort to produce a puppet show for St. Paul's First Grade. My 20-year record of attendance is in fact! I appreciate you and what you continue to do for our community!  
God Bless, Shannon Carmona  
1<sup>st</sup> Grade teacher



Dear Friend,  
Thank you for making the puppet show happen. I loved it. It was awesome.  
I liked how you guys moved the puppet.  
God bless you.  
Love,  
Kate

Dear Friend,  
Thank you for making puppets come alive and I loved the way they were so realistic. It seemed impossible to make the puppets look exactly like in the book! God bless you  
Love, Edie

# ENABLING GRANTS

## BARBERSHOP BOOK CLUB

Meet Antonio, Master Barber and Executive Director of Barbershop Book Club. The Barbershop Book Club provides youth between the ages of 1 and 18 with free culturally relevant books during their visit to the barbershop, if they read to the barber while in the chair. The Barbershop Book Club defines their core values as the three E's: Encouraging, Edifying, and Excelling in order to foster a lifelong love of literacy. Antonio's passion and mission have been spread to reach multiple local barbershops as well as our annual CareFair event. We are honored to be awarding The Barbershop Book Club with our enabling grant to support their mission. Barbershop Book Club, thank you for the opportunity to serve the community. We appreciate all that you do for the community!



## SENIORS IN SERVICE

Meet the Seniors in Service Crew, one of our 2021-2022 Enabling Grant Recipients. This dedicated group of volunteers provides an incredibly valuable service to the children of St Petersburg. Seniors in Service provides a foster grandparent system focused on Social Emotional Learning (SEL) enhancement, which provides underserved children with essential literacy and social/emotional skills necessary to succeed in life. They provide tutoring and mentorship to children in Pre-K through the 3rd grade. Through their work, they've been able to improve academic performance with a 95% success rate. Seniors in Service prides themselves on their ability to meet the children "where they are" to ensure that as many children have access to their services. We could not be more proud to support such and incredible organization.



# ENABLING GRANTS

## RYAN NECE FOUNDATION

Founded in 2006, The Ryan Nece Foundation has aspired to empower youth in both Pinellas and Hillsborough County to become leaders and to find ways to impact their community. The Ryan Nece Foundation hosts a yearly "Power of Thanksgiving Pinellas Celebration," where families are able to have a warm Thanksgiving meal. They also leave with a box of food and books. In 2021 they were able to partner with Evara Health where they serve 1500+ families. It's no secret that food insecurity goes hand in hand with school success. We are humbled to be presenting this organization with funds needed to provide these meals while also providing the opportunity for our youth to give back.



## FLORIDA PRESS EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

We are so very thrilled to be supporting Florida Press Educational Services (FPES) once again by way of our Enabling Grant. For years, FPES has remained dedicated to getting newspapers into the hands of our youth and thereby improving literacy with their Newspapers in Education (NIE) program. This year's Enabling Grant will allow them to provide classroom newspapers to five struggling South St. Petersburg elementary schools. Their goal is to improve reading skills/comprehension, foster an interest in learning, and to improve student knowledge of and engagement with community issues.

# DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

By: Jenna Garnatz, Development VP

## FUND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Over the 2021-2022 league year, the Fund Development Committee completed a total of 11 grant applications, which is an increase from the prior year.

To set the tone for the year, in August the Fund Development Committee received notification from the City of St. Petersburg that the League was approved for over \$8,100 of funding from the MBSK Youth Development grant to be used towards 2021 Care Fair. The grant is designed to offer funding to non-profit organizations which have developed specific projects/programs to address children entering school ready to learn, reading at grade level by third grade, and participating in enrichment that address the health and well-being of the child, all of which closely align with the JLSP's mission. The Fund Development Committee is very excited to have the opportunity to work with the City of St. Petersburg and is hopeful to continue the partnership throughout 2022 and beyond.

In addition, the League was a first time beneficiary of Grand Central Brew's Brew Good program, where 15% of sales for one select beer were donated back to the Junior League of St. Petersburg for the entire month of December. Throughout the month, Grand Central donated over \$1,000 back to the Junior League of St. Petersburg. The League is incredibly thankful for the partnership and looks forward to growing the relationship with Grand Central Brew in the future!

Most recently, the Fund Development Committee secured funding from the Wawa Foundation Grant in support of the Kids in the Kitchen Pack-a-Snack program. Funding will be used to expand the services currently provided to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Pinellas by distributing donated packs to food insecure children as evening and weekend food resources throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

Outside of the grant application process, the Fund Development Committee again partnered with Chief's Creole Café for a League wide giveback in support of book donations for Care Fair. And, new this year, the Committee also coordinated a Fall themed Ghost Tour giveback with St. Peter's Ghosts. Lastly, the Committee worked with Minted on a Holiday giveback for 15% of any purchases made using code FUNDRAISEJLSTP throughout the entire year to be donated back to the League. League members were excited to bring back our giveback with Chief's Creole Café and establish new relationships with Minted and St. Peter's Ghosts, which we look forward to continuing for years to come!

Lastly, the Fund Development Committee worked hard to push the Annual Giving Campaign at both our November and April GMM, which brought in an additional \$4,000 in funding. The Fund Development Committee again exceeded budget expectations by bringing in approximately \$16,000 in grant, giveback, and Annual Giving funding for the League's projects and programs. The committee is very excited about the progress made and looks forward to continuing the positive momentum into the 2022-2023 League year.

While engagement and participation for Development related activities was down across the board, the Events, LBDI, and Fund Development Chairs and Chair-Elects persevered and continued to not only meet but exceed expectations. Over the past year, the Development Council was excited to create new relationships with local businesses, while building upon existing partnerships, and are excited for the Development Council to continue progressing in the future!

# DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

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## EVENTS

Although we again started off the year with a great deal of uncertainty regarding our ability to host in person events, in late August the Council received the green light to host our first fundraising event since 2019. The Events Committee wasted no time in planning and, with very short turnaround time, defied all odds by coordinating and executing an incredibly successful Cocktails & Couture Fall Fashion Show which took place both in person, at the Museum of Fine Arts, and virtually on September 25th, 2021.


The fashion show featured stylings from a number of local boutiques, including returning favorites Canvas Fashion Gallery, Boater's Republic, and The Shop St. Pete, as well as new arrival Sip Shop Hooray. The event also featured an in person and virtual silent auction and chance drawing with packages donated by over 30 local businesses, which brought in over \$5,200 plus an additional \$2,600 in sponsorships. As an added bonus, the Junior League of St. Petersburg partnered with Kendra Scott for an online and in-person giveback which resulted in a total of \$350 coming back to the League.

In addition to our VIP and General Admission ticket options, the Junior League of St. Petersburg was pleased to offer a virtual package for members who preferred to enjoy the event from home. For the first time ever, we partnered with Lolita's Catering & Events to offer guests a wine and charcuterie package of their choice, plus access to the exclusive live stream, virtual silent auction, and Kendra Scott online giveback. Lolita's generously agreed to donate a percentage of package sales back to the Junior League of St. Petersburg and brought in nearly \$300 to support the League's projects and programs. We were very excited to expand our reach in light of the current social climate and look forward to offering this option to members for years to come.

After another spike in COVID cases at the beginning of 2022, the Events Committee opted to bring back our Virtual 5k as a way to generate funds and reinforce our mission of health and nutrition, while ensuring the safety of all members and participants.

The Virtual 5k took place the week of April 25th through 29th, with a kick-off at 3 Daughter's Brewing on Saturday, April 23rd. New this year participants received a swag bag with donations contributed by Fit2Run and Bolay. During race week, participants selected their own route, ran or walked a 5k, and shared photos on social media using #IRunForJLSP! Along with the 5k, the Events Committee partnered with Bolay for a giveback event for the full week of the Virtual 5k.

With a total of 58 participants, the Virtual 5k and giveback brought in over \$1,600 in registrations and sponsorships. Thank you to our participants and generous sponsors, including Pilot Bank, 3 Daughter's, and Bolay!



# DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

## EVENTS



# Little Black Dress: Another Successful Year!

By: Jenna Garnatz, Development VP



In October, the LBDI Committee executed another successful Little Black Dress Initiative campaign, raising over \$13,000. The campaign, designed to raise awareness and fundraising to fight food insecurity in St. Petersburg, ran from Monday October 18th through Friday October 22th. Over 40 members served as LBDI Champions – educating their networks and collecting monetary donations through social media to be used for projects and services which directly address the heart of the League’s community outreach focus.

LBDI 2021 kicked off the week of World Food Day (October 16, 2021), reminding us that we are just one piece of a much larger puzzle. World Food Day 2021 was marked during a very exceptional time with many countries dealing with the widespread effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Child hunger is a global issue, and the JLSP is proud to spark change and address it in our own community, working towards statewide, national, and even international change for the better.

This year, the Junior League of St. Petersburg teamed up with LBDI sponsor, 4th Street Chipotle, who supported the campaign with a giveback the evening of October 20th, donating 33% of proceeds back to the Junior League of St. Petersburg. The event had a great turnout and raised nearly \$150 for the League’s projects and programs. The Junior League of St. Petersburg is thankful for committed partners like Chipotle.

Thanks to the LBDI Committee’s hard work and dedication we hosted an incredibly successful campaign, continuing to provide the much needed support to our community during another unprecedented year.





# PAST PRESIDENTS COFFEE

By: Lauren Feaster, President



On Friday, February 4, 2022 Past Presidents and Past Executive Vice Presidents gathered at the beautiful home of Mrs. Kally Harvard for the annual Past President's Coffee. This year, the Board of Directors made the decision to also extend the invitation to our past Executive Vice Presidents to join us, so that we could honor them and their service to our League as well. This morning is about catching up with friends new and old, celebrating the League and an opportunity for current leadership to give the Past Presidents and EVPs an update on League business. The backyard of our gracious hostess was the perfect setting for our celebratory morning as many of us saw each other in person for the first time in two years. A special thank you to Kally's daughter, Maria Rawls, who helped coordinate the morning with President, Lauren Feaster.

Pictured above are our Past Presidents and EVPs, listed left to right:

Back row: Chloe Firebaugh, Georgia Mattern, Murray Beairsto, Colleen Russo, Lauren Feaster, Alicia McShea, Lisa Johni, Lesa Shouse, Donna Mainguth, Megan Roach Michalski  
Front row: Jillian Doyle, Erin Whittemore Lohmiller, Ginny Sexton, Mary Wyatt Allen, Elithia Stanfield, Susan McLean, Summer Jensen, Linda Berset

# COMMUNICATIONS

## COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

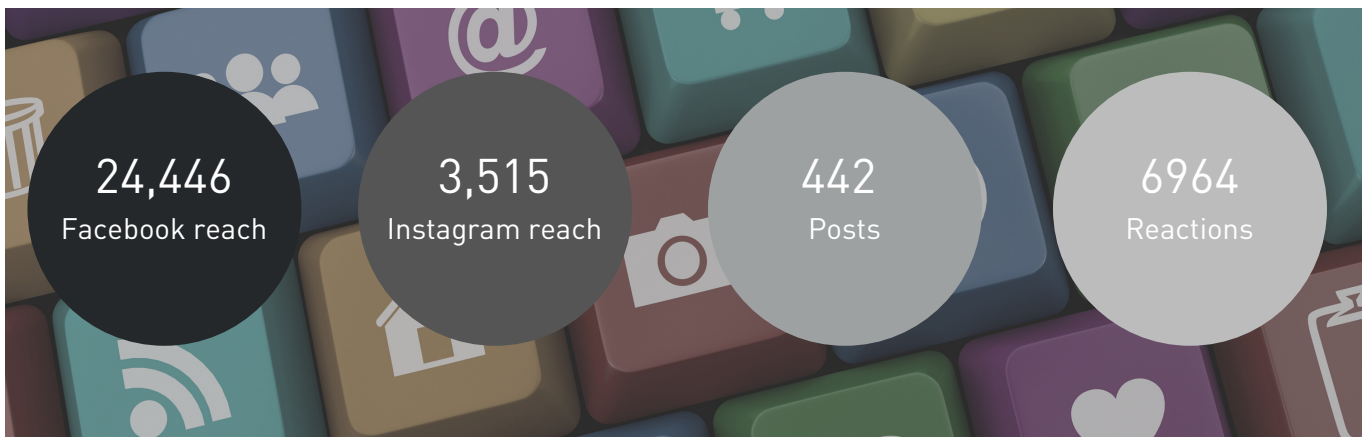
By: Lane Feaster, Communications VP

The Communications Council had an amazing year and I am so proud of the work that these ladies accomplished!

Last year, the website committee rolled out a new member management system, Member Essentials, and a new app for our membership connected to the Member Portal. Members have fully embraced the new technology, which has allowed event sign up, self-check-in and other features right on their mobile devices. Our increased social media use and eblasts have served to increase communication within our League. Our e-blast read rate averaged over 60% (5% increase over 2020-2021) with a 6% click-through rate.

This year we were able to distribute the Causeway digitally via e-blast and on our website. We also mailed printed copies to our sustainers, community partners, and sponsors. This, in addition to our expanded social media presence, has supported a growing presence in the community. Our active Facebook and Instagram accounts have shown increased interaction and expanded reach year over year. Huge thank you to our internal Facebook group members (303 active members!) for your commitment to sharing the successes of our League.

Finally, our merchandise team has been hard at work. The relationship with [urshirtingme.com](http://urshirtingme.com) is growing and we are excited for the opportunities to bring in new item to the store with a 20% giveback to the League with each purchase. This partnership brought in \$162 this year, so there's a lot of opportunity for growth with messaging, promotion and new items. This is the perfect combination of shopping and supporting the League at the same time!



# FINANCE

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## FINANCE COMMITTEE

By: Stephanie Guckenberger, Finance VP

The Finance Committee is lead by our Treasurer Aimee Jopling, Finance VP Stephanie Guckenberger and Finance Delegates Nikki Trojanowski (Development), Natavia Middleton (Provisional) and Erin Dunlop (Membership).

The Finance Committee is responsible for reviewing all financial transactions, banking, money market, endowment, CD's and sponsorships. In addition, we are responsible for all financial transactions, assisting JLSP members with balancing their budgets and providing financial oversight and guidance to community, development, and membership projects/fundraisers while supporting the mission of JLSP.

Throughout the year, we worked with various committees to support and exceed their goals; Community (Care Fair, Kids in the Kitchen and Kids Create), Development (Cocktails & Couture, 5k Fundraiser, LBDI and Grants), Membership (August Clusters, Boutiques & Bubbles and Egg-A-House), Annual Giving and Endowment.

We look forward to our continued partnership with our Board, Management Team and all Committees to look for ways to be proficient, cost effective and further build relationships within our community.



# PINELLAS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

By: Lauren Feaster, President



In December 2021, the Board of Directors voted to gift the Pinellas Education Foundation \$15,000 upon the approval of the general membership. The Take Stock in Children program under the PEF umbrella was one of our initial beneficiaries from money to be raised at the Mayoral Ball. After the event was cancelled, the BOD decided the honorable thing to do, was to still make good on our promise to the PEF and gift them the money. The motion was brought to our general membership, voted on and was passed at our February GMM. In March we were able to award the Pinellas Education Foundation the money and presented them with the check at our March GMM. Julie Perrelli, Vice President of Advancement for PEF was there on behalf of PEF to receive the check as well as to present to our membership about the foundation and educate us on the programs our money is going to support. The Junior League of St. Petersburg and the Pinellas Education Foundation has a long standing relationship and each year the JL President sits on the PEF Board of Directors. Stacy Baier, the CEO of PEF is currently a member of our Community Advisory Board. We are thankful for all the work the PEF is doing in Pinellas County to advance education.

# DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

By: Whitney Greene and Sara Powell

Did you know that many of America's greatest Black artists performed at the Manhattan Casino right here in St. Petersburg? Famous names include Ella Fitzgerald, Count Basie, James Brown, B.B. King, Ray Charles, Etta James, Otis Redding, Dinah Washington, Sam Cooke, and Sister Rosetta Tharpe. The Manhattan, a 6,000 square foot dance hall, was a pivotal cultural center in the historically Black neighborhood The Deuces. In addition to hosting famous performers, the Manhattan hosted church socials, school proms, and beauty pageants. The space is now home to 22nd South Food Hall. Learn more about the Manhattan Casino here: <https://stpetecatalyst.com/vintage-st-pete-making-musical-history-at-the-manhattan-casino/>



# DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

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2021 was a record year for Tampa area sports, not only for the Super Bowl and Stanley Cup championships that the Buccaneers and the Lightning brought home, but for the historical achievements of Black athletes and coaches on both teams.

On May 10, 2021, Lightning players, Daniel Walcott, Mathieu Joseph, and Gemel Smith, made NHL history as the first all-Black starting forward line. Mathieu Joseph said it was “a step in the right direction,” and Daniel Walcott called it “a whirlwind of emotion, a long time coming.”

Earlier that year, the Buccaneers upended the tradition of primarily white men coaching football. Their Super Bowl winning team was the first to reach the title game with Black coaches at all four coordinator positions (OC Byron Leftwich, DC Todd Bowles, ST Keith Armstrong, and Asst HC Harold Goodwin). They had the most diverse staff in NFL history and were the only team with two women in full-time coaching positions (Def Line Coach Lori Locust and S&C Coordinator Maral Javadifar).

NFL Analyst and former player, Nate Burleson, had this to say of the importance of Head Coach Bruce Arians' approach to diversity and inclusion: “Shout out to Bruce Arians because he is showing that diversity is not something that you have to do, it's something you should do if you want to be successful.”



# COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

By: Summer Jensen, CAC Director

The JLSP Community Advisory Council met 4 times in the past year discussing various topics regarding the strategic direction of the League. This group of community and business leaders gave valuable advice on the current and future challenges our League faces. One of the things that made this group such an asset was the diversity of experience and depth of knowledge about our community brought to each meeting. Throughout the year the CAC advised us to continue to move forward in our Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity efforts, embrace old and new partnerships to enhance our impact in St. Petersburg, and focus on equipping and training our members to share our mission effectively. We want to sincerely share our thanks and gratitude for the time and energy spent by our CAC members supporting the JLSP. We look forward to the year ahead and are excited to use the wisdom of our CAC in shaping the future!

**Brian Auld**

Tampa Bay Rays, President

**James Flynn, Jr.**

The Flynn Law Firm P.A., Owner

**Jim Myers**

Crown Automotive Group, President & COO

**Stacey Baier**

Pinellas Education Foundation, CEO

**Matt Frey**

Frey Masterson Investment Advisors, Partner

**Al Ruechel**

Bay News 9, Former News Anchor

**The Honorable Rick Baker**

Coast Autonomous, Consultant

**Corey Givens**

Job Corps

**Craig Sher**

The Sembler Company, Executive Chairman

**Terry Brett**

Brett Funeral Homes, Owner

**Major Shannon Halstead**

St. Pete Police Department, Training Division Commander

**Nathan Stonecipher**

Green Bench Brewing

**Jillian Doyle**

Doyle Wealth Management, CFO

**Beth Houghton**

Juvenile Welfare Board, CEO

**Bonnie Strickland**

Coldwell Banker Commercial, Realtor

**Caprice Edmond**

Public Education

**Dr. Beth Magro**

Dr. Elizabeth Magro, PsyD

**Doug Waechter**

Douglass Elliman, Realtor

**Forrest Eleazer**

Park & Eleazer Construction, Managing Partner

**The Honorable Ed Montonari**

City Council, Chairman

**Nancy Westphal**

Annex 400 Beach

**David Feaster**

Republic Bank, Board of Directors

**Rev. Louis Murphy**

Mt. Zion Progressive Missionary Baptist Church, Pastor



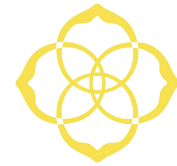
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### Who we are

We are empowering St. Petersburg women by helping them develop civic leadership skills, then giving them the tools to put their unique talents to work in our community!

### What we do

The Junior League of St. Petersburg is creating real change in St. Petersburg by advancing social activism-focused projects that directly benefit our local community! We make a positive impact through effective action and leadership

### Join us

Becoming a civic leader begins with understanding that local efforts can have a global reach! If you're interested in collaborating with like-minded women on impactful local projects, you're in the right place!