

CAUSEWAY

SPRING 2023

Annual
LEAGUE
AWARDS

MEMBER
MILESTONES

MAINSAIL
ART FESTIVAL
2023

SPRING
GALA

BELOVED FUNDRAISER RETURNS:
SOMEWHERE IN SUNSHINE CITY

The James Museum of Western & Wildlife Art



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
ST. PETERSBURG



THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF ST PETERSBURG

MISSION

The Junior League of St. Petersburg is an organization of women whose mission is to advance women's leadership for meaningful community impact through volunteer action, collaboration, and training.

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



Editor's Note

We hope this Spring edition of the Causeway reflects the intentional, revised approach several of our committees took this year as they reimagined how the League year might look, whether that be pausing some events, and revitalizing others. This is our take on echoing that trend and creating a clean, fresh look at the Junior League of St. Petersburg. Enjoy!

Edited by:

Amaya DeVicente Payne, Publications Chair and Jessica Lombardo

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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



This is such a bittersweet “President’s Perspective” to write. Although I am looking forward to taking what I have learned from my past 10 years as a Junior League of St. Petersburg active member, including five years on the Board of Directors, and apply this to my role as a sustaining member and other non-profits in our community, it is also a bit sad for me as well. I know the day-to-day interactions I have had with the remarkable women of our Board of Directors, Management Team and our members will not be as frequent. I mean, I am happy to have my Tuesday nights back, but will miss spending so much time with women I have served with this year, helping to create real impact for our members, our League and our community.

For me, this year has been one of change, consistently trying to perfect the art of “balance” and recognizing the difference (and importance) of the greater good over self. This is not only true for me, but for our members and for our League. Some of the more significant changes this year for our League include the creation of the new Board of Directors position, Strategic Funding and Partnerships Director. We also started exploring our membership model to ensure our League continues to meet our members’ needs. One of the biggest changes, was the update to our Mission Statement to adopt the required language by the Association of Junior Leagues International: The Junior League of St. Petersburg is an organization of women whose mission is to advance women’s leadership for meaningful community impact through volunteer action, collaboration, and training. Although this is an adjustment (as I think I finally just memorized our prior Mission Statement), it does not impact who we are or what we do.

Thank you for allowing me to be the temporary steward of our Board. It has been an absolute honor and have learned so much from this experience. A quote that keeps resurfacing when I reflect on this year is from Maya Angelou, “People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.” I hope that I have helped our journey in ensuring all our members feel that they belong. We are nothing without you, so thank you for all that you do. The small things and the big things - they all matter. Thank you for your support this year and for making it a great year. It has been an experience I will never forget. I’ll end with sharing how forward I am looking to what’s to come this next year. I pass the gavel to you, Lesa. You are going to be an amazing President and can not think of anyone better to represent our League next year.

Erin Hawkins Gladysz
2022 - 2023
President

*"Behind every successful woman
is a tribe of other successful women
who have her back."*



PAST PRESIDENTS' & EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENTS' COFFEE

It was such a wonderful morning at our Past Presidents' and Past Executive Vice Presidents' Coffee in February. We could not have asked for better weather or a more beautiful location as Mary Ann Upham Will's backyard. We were so honored to have 22 of our League's Past Presidents and three of our League's Past Executive Vice Presidents attend. We had our past leaders join us from close by and were fortunate enough to even have two of our Past Presidents travel here from out of state...which goes to show, you can take the woman out of St. Petersburg, but you can't take the St. Petersburg out of her! We all had such a nice time catching up, hearing what each other has been up to, what is going on in our community, and really just enjoy the fellowship and friendship of one another.

After we had our fill of delicious food and coffee (and mimosas!), our 2022 - 2023 Board of Directors was able to give an update to our past leadership all that we have been busy with this year and how these activities align with our values. We were proud to share how our League has been volunteering, empowering, educating, advocating, and serving this year. We were also excited to be able to share who would be continuing to lead in our 2023 - 2024 year. To be able to present to this group of women who continue to be servant leaders in our community was so inspiring. Their contributions to our League, our members and the children of St. Petersburg is immeasurable. They serve with love, and they have fun while doing it.

A very big thank you to all who were able to attend and to all those worked tirelessly to make it such a wonderful day, including our Board of Directors, Management Team, our office manager, Jacqueline Eden and, of course, our amazing "hostess with the mostest", Mary Ann Upham Will. Your house and yard are so lovely. Thank you for opening your doors to us for this great event!



EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT



League Members,

I cannot believe that we are wrapping up another League year! It has been the greatest honor to serve as your Executive Vice President. This year has been filled with so much joy, hard work serving our community, and friendship. As I reflect on all that we were able to accomplish in the 2022 - 2023 league year I am filled with gratitude for our members and our community partners. As we move into a new league year I'd love to highlight all that we were able to accomplish this past year.

Community

Our annual Care Fair distributed 1,100 backpacks, administered 158 school physicals and 86 dental screenings and 26 haircuts. We had over 60 opportunities to volunteer with local nonprofits! We added new partnerships with Feeding Tampa Bay, expanded our work with Girls on the Run and continued to foster our lifelong partnership with Clothes to Kids, St. Pete Snow Fest, Mainsail and Ronald McDonald House Charities. Our Literacy Committee distributed 2,500 books to local children and partners.

Membership

Our programming team successfully planned a variety of clusters for our members to enjoy! From Friendsgiving, afternoon tea and working on our fitness at Pure Barre there were activities for everyone! We are welcoming over 30 provisional members into 'active' status. I am so excited to watch their leadership grow as they embark on their league journey! Our Membership council planned wonderful GMM's and most recently hosted a community panel that was enlightening and inspiring for the future of our service in St. Petersburg.

FUNdraising

Our events team hosted the Junior League gala, "Somewhere in Sunshine City", at the James Museum! This event was a record-breaking fundraising event for our league and the first time back in person together for a gala since 2019. Our Fund Development team is always hard at work writing grants to support our programs in the league.

I am truly blown away by the women of the Junior League of St. Petersburg every single day and I am SO PROUD to have a group of friends who are in it for all the right reasons - having fun while serving our beautiful community. Thank you for making the past two years some of my very best yet.

Amanda Griffin
2022 - 2023
Executive Vice President





SUSTAINERS

The Sustainer group has been busy meeting every month and enjoying an activity or social event. We had a great turnout with over 55 members attending our Holiday Brunch at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club. This event was chaired by Lisa Johni and Candy Scherer, and we were entertained by local singers Linda Hines Holloway and Chris Holloway. The beautiful centerpieces, which were pre-sold to members, came from Wonderland Floral art and Gift Loft. In January we were lucky to get a private tour of the James Museum from our friend Elaine. It was very enlightening to hear about selected pieces in depth. We enjoyed lunch afterwards at Red Mesa Cantina. In February and March, we met at Try Wine and worked on supporting the active members with the gala and planning the Sustainer-Provisional Social.

A number of us attended the beautiful "Somewhere in Sunshine City" gala, held at the James Museum. It was a stunning setting!

The season was capped off by the Sustainer-hosted party at Bayfront Tower to welcome the Provisionals to Active membership. The remarkable views and refreshments were enjoyed by all. This event was chaired by Mary Reed and Gentry Blackwood, hosted by Catherine McGarry and beautifully decorated by Kristin Connell. Committee members also included Joann Barger, Mardi Bessolo, Lizzie Fitzgerald, Christine Gould, Lisa Johni, Caroline Kiesel, and Mary Ann Upham Will.

By: Christine Gould, Sustainer Director



MILESTONES

5 YEARS

Jane Bonick
Gabrielle Bouyea
Mary "Cassie" Hice
Aimee Jopling
Christina Mamone
Kelsey Nolan
Erin Nolan
Lacy Scherer
Marisa Schuldinger
Carolyn Secor

10 YEARS

Hailey Beauchesne
Erin Gladysz
Erin Lohmiller
Shannon Love
Theresa Messina
Sarah Morrow
Abigail Saba

15 YEARS

Lee Ann Biafora
Tuesdi Dyer
Stacy Gerardo
Gail Razook

20 YEARS

Lisa Abraham Charest
Erin Connors
Michelle Curtis
Amanda Houston
Carrie Johnson
Mary Reed
Holly Walker

25 YEARS

Kitty D'Agostino
Genevieve "Gigi" Fleming
Karen Hajek

30 YEARS

Cathleen Gramling
Jennie Jordan
Georgia Mattern
Glenn Mosby
Erin O'Toole

40 YEARS

Joann Barger
Jane Ferguson
Chris Hilton
Margaret McQueen
Dona Mullaney
Carol Russell
Constance Smith
Elithia Stanfield
Rebecca Stewart
Kathryn Whittemore

50 YEARS

Margaret Amley

60 YEARS

Caroline Fenderson

70 YEARS

Lois Sullivan

NEWLY SUSTAINING

2023 - 2024

Erin Gladysz
Margaret Dominguez
Natavia Middleton
Stephanie Chill
Morgan Nelson
Kelly Moore
Katie Fernald
Sasha Segundo
Rachael Stanger
Charline Burgess
Lauren Bendix



PROVISIONALS

This has been such a wonderful year with our amazing Provisional Development Committee. We started the year with our Provisional Bus Tour and Care Fair and ended with our end of the year meeting hosted by our Sustainers.

This year we kept in place our tradition for the 2nd annual provisional retreat at Ft. DeSoto Park where we spent our time team building with many activities. For the Provisional project we kept the structure of the point system where you 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 or lunch. Needless to say the ladies went above and beyond their requirements with their involvement.

The ladies in this class embody so much of what the Junior League stands for. Several Provisional members demonstrated their leadership, by jumping into Chair Elect roles for your first active year to serve our local community. One example, several of our Provisionals, spearheaded by Liz Shuman, found out that the children at Banyan Pediatric Care Center would not get their annual holiday party so they took it upon themselves to throw that party on their own. Nothing formally sanctioned by the League, just women working together to fill a need in our community.

Finally, I want to thank the ladies in our Provisional class. You all dove in with so much passion and enthusiasm right from the beginning. You've joined book clubs, brunch clubs, clusters, and ad hoc committees. You've taken on extra volunteer shifts. Some of you (Carley) have not only completed your shifts but brought a literal team of Armed Forces to help lighten the load. You all are a very special group of compassionate ladies that are ready to lead this community and league. It has been an honor to serve next to you all and can't wait to see the amazing things you will do next year!

Your Co-Chairs,
Sara Powell &
Rosemary Shanahan



Thank You **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:

Jennifer Ferguson
Katie Grabowski
Amanda Hurm

Kristen Lefkimiotis
Yarissa Matos-Soto
Rebecca Raj Swofford

and Paige DePagter, Chair Elect!



CARE FAIR

BRAIN BUSTERS

As we bid farewell to another League year, we are thrilled to celebrate the resounding success of the Care Fair and its' committee!

In July, a total of 1,100 backpacks were distributed at the fair. Each was stuffed with zippered pencil bags, water bottles, dry erase markers, fidget toys, index cards, protractors, colored pencils, construction paper, washable markers, rulers, and more!

Our partner, Evara Health, was also able to provide 158 school physicals and 86 dental exams for area schoolchildren. The successful event garnered more than 2,000 attendees!

We also were blessed this year with more than \$10,000 in grants! Most notably from the Berset Family whose generosity will support the Care Fair for years to come. We debuted the newly minted “Linda Berset Family Backpack Room” at this year’s fair in honor of their kind and generous gift.

In another first, we held a trivia night fundraiser in support of the 2023 fair. “Back-to-School Brainsbusters” was held at Pee-Pa’s Garage Craft Brewery in March and was an absolute blast.

Over the course of a school-themed evening, our “cafeteria lady” and “hall monitors” cheered guests on as they tried their best to beat DJ Trivia’s hardest trivia questions. More than \$2,000 was raised through the sale of admission, “after school snacks,” PB&J ale, and opportunity drawing tickets. We were really pleased with the turnout and can’t wait to top it next year.

This past year has been nothing short of incredible and we are so proud of all we’ve accomplished. The support and enthusiasm of our community has been a driving force behind our success, and we are deeply grateful for every contribution made. Together, we will strive to make the coming year even more extraordinary and impactful.

By: Cassie Hice, Care Fair Chair



OUR PARTNERS

**THANK YOU TO OUR MANY COMMUNITY PARTNERS
AND SPONSORS. WE ARE SO APPRECIATIVE OF
YOUR SUPPORT THIS YEAR!**

Adoption Related Services of Pinellas - Family Enrichment

Amuni Financial

Arts Conservatory for Teens

Bay Area Legal Services

BBA Consulting

Boys and Girls Clubs of the Suncoast

Central Station Barbershop

Children's Orthopedic & Scoliosis Surgery Associates, LLP

Clothes to Kids

Crosscountry Mortgage

Crown Automotive Charities (Hawkins Family Foundation)

DJ Nick Potts

Drumline PAL

Early Learning Coalition of Pinellas

Evara Health

Expert Messenger

Faith Community Nursing

Family Resources Inc.

Fit4AllKids

Florida Dept. of Transportation

Frameworks of Tampa Bay

Girls on the Run Tampa Bay

Great Explorations

Greco & Wozniak

Gulf Coast Legal Services

JLSP Kids Create Committee

JLSP Kids in the Kitchen Committee

JLSP Library Puppets Committee

JLSP Literacy Committee

Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital

Kinship Children's Home Network

Kona Ice

League of Women Voters, St Petersburg

MorganFranklin Consulting

Operation PAR, Inc

Pec-Pa's Garage Craft Brewery

Pinellas County Affordable Care Act

Pinellas Support Team

Protiviti Global Business Consulting

R'Club / Pinellas County HIPPY Program

Rough Riders

Safe Kids - Government and Community Affairs

SailFuture Academy

Smith & Associates Real Estate

St. Anthony's Hospital - BayCare

St. Pete Parks and Recreation

St. Pete Run Fest

St. Petersburg College

St. Petersburg Fire Department / Touch-A-Truck

St. Petersburg Police Department K-9

Suncoast Center, Inc.

Tampa Bay Next Program

Tampa Bay Rays

Tampa Bay Rowdies

Thaise Educational and Exposure Tours

The Resiman Family

The Switzer Family

Vein Institute of Pinellas

Wannemacher Jensen Architects, Inc.

Your Kid's Urgent Care

Thank You



**JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
ST. PETERSBURG**

MAINSAIL ART FESTIVAL



Mainsail Art Festival is an amazing event in our community. Every year it is such a joy to head out to volunteer while making different craft creations with kiddos. Mainsail was held this year on April 22nd and 23rd with an abundant number of smiling faces ready to make fish prints!



The Kids Create Committee offered four different crafts, each craft paired with a children's book. Our traditional Fish Print paired with the book Pout Pout Fish. The kids loved using the different fish and paint and watching their fish transfer to a print. Many parents talked about creating this in their youth themselves!

Since the festival occurred on Earth Day, we created an Earth Day craft where children could decorate a compostable pot and use soil to plant their very own wildflower seed. We connected this craft to the book Earth: My First 4.54 Billion Years!



Of course, we had to have a craft that connected with the Very Hungry Caterpillar. Children could make their very own caterpillar using cupcake tins and googly eyes. Our last craft was probably almost as exciting as the fish prints, and that was bubble wands! The bubble wands were connected to the book An Epic Bath Adventure.

The volunteers really enjoyed the shifts and working with the young artists. Over the six shifts we had 42 volunteers, including family members and sustainers. Kids Create was very happy to continue to work at Mainsail Art Festival and we are looking forward to next year!

Mainsail Art Festival 2023
Featured Poster Artists
Rosa Chavez and Leon F. Ruiz

2022 - 2023 VOLUNTEER SHIFTS BY THE NUMBERS

17

Clothes to Kids

16

Girls on the Run

7

Community Fitness

4

Feeding Tampa Bay

4

Ronald McDonald House

2

St. Pete Free Clinic

1

Kind Mouse

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

- Margaret Mead



Clothes to Kids:

Assisting store operations by sorting and tagging clothes, restocking the store, help with shopping services.

Girls on the Run:

Support coach training and race seasons through organizing supplies, hand out packets, direct parking, course Marshall, cheer section.

Community Fitness:

Support Run Fest and Meek & Mighty Triathlon which includes medal unwrapping & wrapping, stuffing packets, packet pick up, check-in, food tents.

Feeding Tampa Bay:

Serving guests a nutritious three-course meal which includes the preparation of meals, hosting and serving, bussing and resetting tables, and maintaining the overall cleanliness of the facility.

Ronald McDonald House Charities:

Prepare and serve dinner to the residents of RMHC and their families (ranging from 50 - 80 people).

St Pete Free Clinic:

Partnering with the National Association of Letter Carriers at their annual nationwide food drive. Sorting and loading donations into SPFC trucks for transport to Jared’s Food Bank.

Kind Mouse:

Sorting and dating food donations.

SOMEWHERE IN SUNSHINE CITY

After a three-year hiatus, the beloved Junior League of St. Petersburg gala made its return during the 2022 - 2023 League year in no small way. Emily St. Clair, Events Chair Elect, was kind enough to give Jessica Lombardo of the Publications Committee, a behind-the-scenes look at bringing "Somewhere in Sunshine City" to life at The James Museum.

We haven't had a gala for several years. I would imagine that would lead to some feelings of pressure surrounding the event. How did the team overcome that during the planning phase?

"Re-instating the gala was no small feat and took many, many, MANY hours. However, a goal of the events chairs was to not only reinstate the gala, but to do so sustainably. We wanted to make it easier for future Events Chairs to plan and create a successful event. We created numerous excel workbooks containing donation contacts, vendor contacts, potential venues for future galas, sample budgets, sample motions, etc. It will continue to be an effort in the 2023 - 2024 league year to organize and refine this "templated approach", but I think it will truly help and make future planning of the gala a million times easier (and as the new Development Vice President I can help to oversee this and provide guidance). Basically, we are in a rebuilding phase of the gala. Although this year was a massive success, there's still a lot of work to be done and improvements to be made to create a truly sustainable, AND FUN, gala-planning process."



Can you give us a little insight into the theme "Somewhere in Sunshine City"? What was the inspiration?

"The "Sunshine City" is an unofficial nickname of St. Petersburg. So, the theme was inspired by our beautiful city! One of our goals with the gala was to involve the community more, and what better way to do that than theme the gala directly back to our city and its community?"





There were some incredible donations at the event, in fact there was a 147% increase in year over year silent auction items! What were the hot ticket items of the night that seemed to get the most buzz in the room?

"The Tampa Bay Lightning play-off ticket package donated by the Board of Directors was a huge hit! So was the Chris Stapleton signed guitar (thanks Kara Bond!), the "Oyster 101" class at Sea Salt, and the Private Plane Ride. We are so thankful to everyone who donated to this event. It was amazing seeing everything come together!"



This is the first year the Events Committee has secured a presenting donor in League history. What went into achieving that feat, and how did it impact the gala itself?

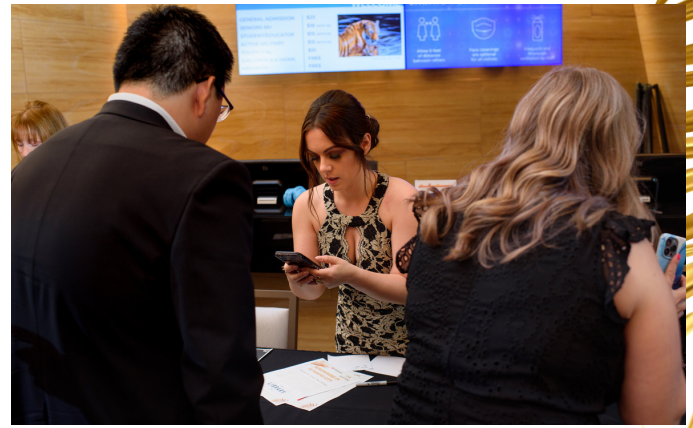
"We had two goals for the gala: 1. To be sustainable and 2. To be more community focused. Having a presenter sponsor helps us achieve both goals. This year's presenter sponsor, Crown Automotive, was on board with both goals and emphasized the impact the Junior League has on the community and wishes to support our ongoing community projects and increase our impact.

To be honest, the sponsorship goals set by the Events Committee was high, but we had a lot of positive feedback and assistance from the Management Team and Board of Directors. It put us all on the court with a number to reach, and we were all game to work together to achieve it.



I'm sure the lead up to the event, especially the day itself, was an absolute whirlwind. How did you feel when the night actually arrived? What was the event like for you?

"I honestly don't remember much of the night! It went by so quickly. We had a group of volunteers there with us about three hours before the gala started placing donations on the display tables, filling the picture frames with item descriptions, finalizing table numbers...we were so grateful for everyone who came in to help us in those final hours! We couldn't have done it all without our volunteers. The James Museum staff were helpful as well. I'm glad there are pictures because I don't remember it all!"



Emily St Clair, Events Chair Elect

Looking back, were there any other behind-the-scenes moments that stand out to you?

"A big stand out was how willing guests of the event were to help out in a pinch. There were numerous examples that come to mind: the Board of Directors helping to direct guests to their seats, the ladies from each table who stood up and acted as a moderator for the live auction and give from the heart. A few members who stuck around to help clean up, these were members who were not on the Events Committee and just there to enjoy the night. The fact that they were willing to sacrifice 10 minutes of their night to help us out was appreciated beyond words or measure."

Overall, what are you most proud of, or what was your biggest take away from the gala this year?

"That the event actually happened and was a success. There were far too many moments of 'is this just not going to work?' But then, the universe twisted just enough for the path to success to be replaced and begin moving forward again. I'm proud of the hard work and commitment from the Events Committee. For the help and encouragement from Board of Directors and Management Team. I'm thankful for other members of the League who were willing to roll up their sleeves and help in whatever way they could."



Gala Statistics

Over \$30,000 raised

Over 150 attendees

Of those 150: 16 Sustainers, 94 Active, 16 Provisionals, and 106 community members

Vendors

Florist: Wonderland Floral Art and Gift Loft
(Cassie Osterloth)

Photographer: Jeremey Scott Photography

Catering: DRG - Datz Hospitality Group (Laura Storey)

Emcee: Allison Godlove

Theme & Branding: Maria Sweezy



 JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
ST. PETERSBURG

SOMEWHERE IN SUNSHINE CITY

PRESENTED BY: CROWN AUTOMOTIVE

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:

Presenting Sponsor



LEADER SPONSORS



PATRON SPONSORS



SUPPORTER SPONSORS



The Reisman Family

The Switzer Family

ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF ST. PETERSBURG GALA BENEFIT OUR SIGNATURE COMMUNITY PROGRAMS, IMPACTING AT-RISK CHILDREN IN THE ST. PETERSBURG AREA CONTRIBUTING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF PHILANTHROPIC SERVICE INITIATIVES THAT PROMOTE THE MISSION OF THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF ST. PETERSBURG.

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

By: Summer Jensen, CAC Director

The JLSP Community Advisory Council convened two times in the past year to discuss specific topics regarding the strategic direction of the League. We met in the fall to look at how we can enhance our community partnerships and deepen impact by utilizing resources differently or expanding existing programs. In the Spring, we discussed the financial status of the league and investment opportunities to ensure the longevity of our organization. This group of community and business leaders gave valuable advice based on their areas of expertise as well as supporting our fundraisers and community programs with their time, talent, and treasure. The inaugural group of CAC members served for a 2-year term, however, moving forward, the CAC will be a single year commitment with the option to renew. This ensures that the composition of our CAC will be the most relevant to the current issues needing council for the year ahead. On that note; we would like to extend a warm welcome our incoming Community Advisory Council Director, Aja Vaughn, and wish her and the group all the best in the upcoming year. Please stay tuned for the list of new CAC members to be announced in the Summer.

The JLSP appreciates the wisdom and guidance given by our outgoing 2022 - 2023 CAC members.

Brian Auld

Tampa Bay Rays, President

Major Shannon Halstead

SPPD, Training Division Commander

Al Ruechel

Bay News 9, Former News Anchor

Stacey Baier

Pinellas Education Foundation, CEO

Beth Houghton

Juvenile Welfare Board, CEO

Craig Sher

The Sember Company, Executive Chairman

The Honorable Rick Baker

Coast Autonomous, Consultant

Jason Jensen

St. Petersburg Chamber

Nathan Stonecipher

Green Bench Brewing

Jillian Doyle

Doyle Wealth Management, CFO

Dr. Beth Magro

Dr. Elizabeth Magro, PsyD

Nancy Westphal

Annex 400 Beach

Caprice Edmond

Public Education

The Honorable Ed Montonari

City Council, Chairman

Laura Zuppo

University of South Florida
St. Petersburg Campus

Lauren Feaster

JLSP 2021 - 2022 President

Rev. Louis Murphy

Mt. Zion Progressive Missionary Baptist Church,
Pastor

James Flynn, Jr.

The Flynn Law Firm P.A., Owner

Jim Myers

Crown Automotive Group, President & COO

Corey Givens

Job Corps



**JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
ST. PETERSBURG**

20,469
Facebook
Reach
↓ 14.3%

4,299
Instagram
Reach
↑ 23.9%

2,795
Facebook
Page Visits
↑ 55.6%

3,280
Instagram
Page Visits
↑ 6.4%

By: Lane Feaster, Communications Vice President

I am so proud of what the Communications Council has accomplished this year - including, but not limited to THIS amazing Causeway from our Publications Committee! We spent time early on in the league year with a refresher of what it means to be a part of JLSP, what our goals are, and why we serve. It was an awesome time spent sharing about what drives us and how we, together, can better the community and various spheres of influence that we have.

We have been able to streamline our website requests through the intake form and had a successful change in Chair Leadership due to our Website Chair going on maternity leave with her first baby! Our Social Media team has done a great job of preserving our brand while communicating and showcasing the work we are doing in the community, fundraisers, and the fun that we have as a League.

The Publications Committee was small, but mighty, and they did an incredible job of enhancing our biannual publication and pulling together the story of what the Junior League of St. Petersburg is. This, in addition to our expanded social media presence, has supported our ever-growing visibility in the community.

Finally, our Merchandise Committee has continued to make big moves this year! The relationship with urshirtingme.com is growing and we recently launched new JLSP products onto the site with a hat, pullovers, and new t-shirt designs!

I am sad that my two years as Communications Vice President is coming to an end, but so excited to see what Brit Johnson, the new Communications Vice President, will do to develop our JLSP Communications!



Penny,
(Un)official Mascot of
2022 - 2023 Communications Council

PRODUCTION

By: Brittany Greco, Production Committee

We had an exciting year for our General Membership Meetings!

In October we mixed it up and created GMM House Parties where some of the league members hosted the meetings from their house to allow members to meet others within the league.

We also had some amazing speakers and events during the GMMs.

Some of the Speakers Included:

- Jovan Glasgow: Leadership coach and author that discussed powerful ways that you can turn your greatest adversity into the catalyst for your greatest act and how to ignite your potential and become a conduit of change
- League of Women Voters, Voting 101
- How to Keep the Fun in Fund Development by Sarah Terry, Development Vice President
- Community Speaker Panel: Juvenile Welfare Board, The Kind Mouse, Evara Health, Boys and Girls Club, Caprice Edmunds of Pinellas County School Board and Gina Driscoll of City Council District 6

A few other notable items:

- Literacy Committee offered a book distribution opportunity for league members to pick up a bundle of books at the November GMM that they would deliver to the Little Free Libraries throughout St Petersburg.
- Membership Headshots: Our February GMM offered league members the opportunity to update their headshots during the meeting; the photographer was @capturedbychristen.



GMM house meeting



GMM speaker Jovan Glasgow

FINANCE

The Finance Committee was lead by our Treasurer: Stephanie Guckenberger, Finance Vice President: Nikki Brame, and Finance Delegates: Alex Landry (Development), Emily Knighton (Community), Paige DePagter (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 (Fall events, Gala and Grants), Membership (Clusters and Egg-A-House), Annual Giving and Endowment.

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

By: Nikki Brame, Finance Vice President

SOMEWHERE IN SUNSHINE CITY, OUR FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEES WERE PROCESSING SOME INCREDIBLE GALA NUMBERS...

54% increase in year-over-year event sales

127% increase in year-over-year silent auction items

First time presenting gala sponsor (\$10,000) in the history of League

Highest number of sponsors for gala in the history of the League (10)

Highest number of community member gala attendance (over 100)

minted.com



Our 2022 Minted Giveback was so successful, we are doing it again but this time, ALL YEAR LONG! Graduation Cards? 4th of July Invitations? YES! The Junior League of St. Petersburg is partnering with Minted for a giveback to the League AND a discount on your order. Go online and use the discount code: FUNDRAISEJLSTP when ordering from www.minted.com for 20% off all Minted.com items excluding fine art prints. 15% of the net sales will be donated back to JLSP at the end of the year!

EVENTS COMMITTEE

The Events Committee was back in full swing this year, hosting three successful events focused on community engagement. The first event was our spooky Pop-Up Movie Night held on October 12, 2022, at Green Bench Brewing Company. Guests enjoyed a beautiful night on the green where they had the chance to mingle, eat fresh popcorn, and watch the feature film, *Hocus Pocus*. Green Bench generously donated a percentage of that night's sales back to the Junior League of St. Petersburg, which added \$150 to our total raised. The event also featured an opportunity drawing with items donated from 20 local businesses, which brought in \$1,200.

Wasting no time, our second event was a Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Contest held on October 22, 2022, at Yard of Ale. Members of the community showed up in full force, with fur babies in tow, to model their finest Halloween threads. The event raised more than \$800 and featured an opportunity drawing with items donated from 30 local vendors, food from Ford's Garage, and the cutest catwalk to ever grace the city of St. Petersburg. Twelve dogs entered the contest and thanks to our esteemed judges, three walked away with top honors - but we know they were all winners!

After a few years off we were thrilled to bring back the Spring Gala, which was held on March 31, 2023, at The James Museum of Western & Wildlife Art. In keeping with our focus on community, we aptly named the event "Somewhere in Sunshine City," in honor of beautiful St. Petersburg. Guests were dressed to the nines and enjoyed an evening full of food, drinks, dancing, and a live and silent auction that featured more than 40 exciting items from local supporters including American Stage, Sea Salt, RockShop Fine Gems and Jewelry, YogaSix, the Tampa Bay Rays, Lightning and Buccaneers! With nearly 150 people in attendance, we were excited to expand our reach and introduce more people to the wonderful work the Junior League of St. Petersburg does for the community. We are grateful for all of the event sponsors, including our Premier Sponsor Crown Auto, as well as for all of the businesses that donated goods and services and made the evening one to remember.

Thank you to all of the League members who donated their time and talents and helped bring these events to life!

By: Elizabeth Reisman, Events Chair



NOMINATING | Annual League Awards



Well known for her dedication and fresh energy, **NIKKI TRAJANOWSKI** recognized with **2022 - 2023 Spirit of the League Award**.

This award was established in 2019 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.

LIZ SHUMAN named **2022 - 2023 Junior League of St. Petersburg's Tomorrow's Leader**.

Since 2013, the Tomorrow's Leader Award has been given annually to recognize an outstanding member of the Junior League of St. Petersburg's Provisional Class. Tomorrow's Leader Award recipients possess outstanding resourcefulness, community involvement, and volunteer hours above and beyond what is expected of her. She is a dedicated member of the Provisional Class and her dedication demonstrates her leadership skills and propensity for taking on leadership roles in the future. The Tomorrow's Leader Award recipient will have a stellar attendance record, outstanding attitude, and is known to her peers, advisors, and other League members for her dedication to the League and greater community.



Annual League Awards



2022 - 2023 Mailande Holland Barton Award Presented to LAUREN FEASTER for her Service to the League and St. Petersburg Community.

The Mailande Holland Barton Award was established to honor the superior volunteer commitment set forth by our founder, Mailande Holland Barton. Since the 1984 - 1985 League Year, this award has recognized League Members who have dedicated themselves to the Junior League of St. Petersburg and the St. Petersburg Community. The Mailande Holland Barton Award recipient must exemplify generous giving of self to our community through Junior League and community involvement. To maintain the high honor and standard of this award, this award may not be given annually, but only in the years that such an exemplary and outstanding woman is nominated. Award recipients have extensive resumes of community service and charitable service, with service to non-profit organizations in the St. Petersburg Community.

JANE FERGUSON (not pictured) recognized for her service to the Community and named 2022 - 2023 Virginia H. Lazzara Award Winner

The Virginia H. Lazzara Award is a community service award that may be given annually to an outstanding League volunteer and recognizes those who have been our greatest resources and mentors, our Sustainers. This award honors a Sustainer's accomplishments as both a League member and as a valuable community involvement servicewoman.



The Annual League Awards took place at April's GMM held at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club. In addition to recognizing and celebrating those nominated, Members were thrilled to watch the traditional passing of the gavel and passing of the hammer to our new President and Executive Vice President, respectively. We thank our outgoing Leadership for an incredible 2022 - 2023 League year and we welcome our incoming Leadership team. The 2023 - 2024 League year is going to be incredible!

LITERACY COMMITTEE

The Literacy Committee had a very successful year, distributing more than 2,500 books to kids in St. Petersburg! We were excited to be able to get back out into the community by participating in a variety of community-oriented festivals and events. The Literacy Committee maintained partnerships with organizations such as the United Way, Barbershop Book Club, and the Police Athletic League while adding new partners such as Reach St. Pete.

We started off the year strong by giving away over 850 books at Care Fair! We focused on purchasing culturally relevant and diverse books to ensure that the Care Fair attendees could see themselves reflected in the books we offered.

In the fall, we involved Junior League members in our book distribution efforts by giving our members packages of used books to place in Little Free Libraries around town. We distributed 350 books this way and it was so much fun to see where members left the books. The books were distributed all the way from Pinellas Point and Roser Park in South St. Petersburg up to Largo and over to Pass-a-Grille, and everywhere in between. Thank you to all the JLSP members who participated in this effort!

In the spring, the Literacy Committee participated in multiple community festivals, such as the first-annual Evara Family Wellness Festival. At these events, we connected with local kids and helped them select the books they would most enjoy. We can report that series such as “Pete the Cat” and “Diary of a Wimpy Kid” remain popular, and graphic novels were flying off the table!

The Literacy Committee is looking forward to building on our current momentum as we head into the new League Year. If you have any suggestions for book distribution events or partnerships, please feel free to reach out to literacy@jlstpete.org.

By: Emily Strider, Literacy Committee Chair



FUND DEVELOPMENT

The Fund Development Committee has had an exciting league year with numerous accomplishments. Over the 2022-2023 league year, the committee exceeded the annual budgeted goal through awarded grant fundings and giveback campaigns.

During the summer, JLSP was awarded its first funding source of the league year by Publix Charities. The \$2,500 grant helped support the Kids in the Kitchen Pack-a-Snack program, providing nearly 1,000 packs for the children at the Boys and Girls Club.

The Fund Development Committee was hard at work through the fall as the focus was building fun and creative partnerships and giveback opportunities with community partners. The 2nd annual ghost tour giveback with St. Peter's Ghosts was a fun, educational, and interactive tour of St. Petersburg history. In addition, this year the committee topped off the fun week with a new partner at Dracula's Wine Bar!

The annual giving campaign during the November GMM was successful. Although shy of previous year results, the committee looks forward to the next year opportunities and continuing to develop ways to encourage and educate on the importance of our annual giving needs.

During the winter months, the League was awarded two additional grant fundings to support the 2023 Care Fair. The City of St. Petersburg Police Forfeiture grant for \$2,500 will provide additional school supplies for the backpacks and the remaining half of the funding is allocated to supporting the child bike safety initiative by providing helmets and fittings for the children in attendance at the event. The MBSK Youth Development grant was awarded for \$8,800. The grant is designed to offer funding to non-profit organizations that 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. We are excited to have the opportunity to work with the City of St. Petersburg and grateful for their continued support.

Most recently, the committee is working to secure funding from multiple community partnership programs. Over \$35,000 in support requests are currently pending determination to provide necessary assistance for the different program initiatives within the League. As the Fund Development Committee looks toward the 2023 - 2024 league year, it is exciting to continue to build upon opportunities and successes achieved this year!

By: Melissa Anderson, Fund Development Chair

Congrats!



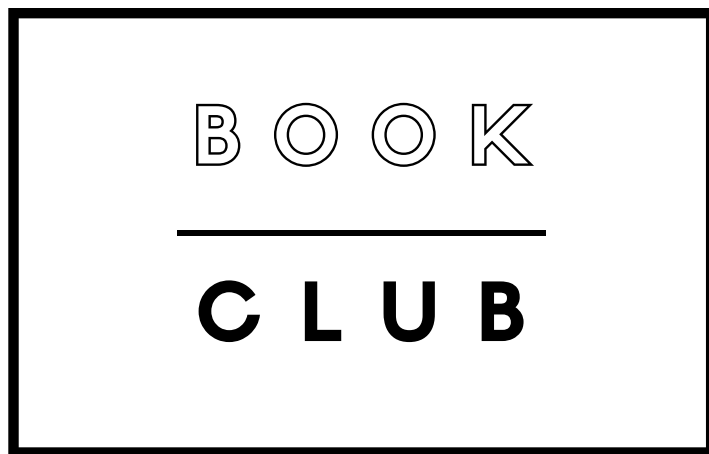
Congratulations to Junior League of St. Petersburg members **Amanda Griffin** and **Aria Garling**! These ladies were selected to be part of the Nonprofit Leadership Center's Certificate in Leadership program. Amanda, Aria and the other 29 individuals selected continuously meet or surpass their performance expectations and are highly valued by their team members. During this 10-week program, these new nonprofit leaders will further develop valuable skills that are crucial to lead with authenticity and impact.

Learn more about the Certificate in Leadership program at: <https://bit.ly/3Non2A9>

The League's Book Club has continued to thrive this year!

We meet on the last Monday of each month to enjoy friendly company and discuss a book we've voted on together from a mix of genres. Book Club is open to all members: actives, provisionals and sustainers! Join our Book Club Facebook Group to stay up-to-date on upcoming books & discussions.

Need recommendations for your summer reading list? Here are a few of our most-loved books that we've read together this year! The House in the Cerulean Sea by TJ Klune
Woman on Fire by Lisa Barr
The Housemaid by Freida McFadden
Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus
Mad Honey by Jodi Picoult & Jennifer Finney Boylan
We Are Not Like Them by Christine Pride & Jo Piazza.



2022-2023 BOOK CLUB SELECTIONS

THE HOUSE IN THE CERULEAN SEA, TJ KLUNE

WOMAN ON FIRE, LISA BARR

THE READING LIST, SARA NISHA ADAMS

THE HOUSEMAID, FREIDA MCFADDEN

WILD GAME: MY MOTHER, HER SECRET, AND ME,

ADRIENNE BRODEUR

THE SOUTHERN BOOK CLUB'S GUIDE TO SLAYING

VAMPIRES, GRADY HENDRIX

DREAMLAND, NICHOLAS SPARKS

LESSONS IN CHEMISTRY, BONNIE GARMUS

MAD HONEY, JODI PICOULT & JENNIFER FINNEY BOYLAN

WE ARE NOT LIKE THEM, CHRISTINE PRIDE & JO PIAZZA

THE LONDON SÉANCE SOCIETY, SARAH PENNER



BRUNCH CLUB



The Brunch Club continues to meet monthly and we've had some amazing brunches during the spring season which include: Tropez St. Pete, Taverna Costale, and 400 Beach Seafood and Taphouse. We'd love to have any of our incredible League members join us. Stay up to date on our next brunch locations using the app and don't forget to sign up! See you there!



QUEEN OF HEARTS

This year, the Junior League of St. Petersburg is pleased to congratulate three of its wonderful members for being nominated to the 2023 Royal Court for the Queen of Hearts Ball. The Queen of Hearts Ball has been a St. Petersburg tradition for many years and recognizes outstanding charitable women in the community. Numerous members of the League have been nominated and chosen to join the Royal Court, serving as both Princesses and Queens.

The Queen of Hearts Ball and Royal Court were founded 64 years ago to honor women of exemplary service and volunteerism in Pinellas County. Each year, a multitude of local charitable and social organizations are invited to nominate one woman whose dedication to their organization and commitment to service is above all others. Out of the dozens of nominees, six women are selected as Princesses to the Queen's Royal Court. While the Queen is selected from a past court. The Queen's Royal Court is presented and honored at the Queen of Hearts Ball, and they reign for a year.

This year, the League was thrilled to support our members Haviland Kebler, Sarah Morrow, and Nancy Stafford Westphal as members of the 2023 Royal Court. The Court was recognized at the 2023 Queen of Hearts Ball in February. Each one of these members has extensive service to the League as well as service in community organizations throughout the community, including some of JLSP's current and past partners and signature projects, such as Girls on the Run, The Kind Mouse, and Great Explorations Children's Museum, among many others.



Each year, The Queen's Court organization, a non-profit with league member, Chloc Firebaugh, serving as President this year, selects two deserving charities to be the recipients of all funds raised by the annual Queen of Hearts Ball. This year the Ball's charitable recipients were SPCA Tampa Bay and Suncoast Voices for Children. This year, league members were an integral part of the planning and execution of the Ball, with Members Donna Mainguth and Stacy Gerardo serving as officers for The Queen's Court, Inc. and Donna Mainguth serving as Ball Co-Chair. Past Queen and Court Members Candy Scherer, Marie Hartney, and Aria Garling were an integral part of hosting and executing the silent auction. With the involvement of so many league members with The Queen's Court, Inc. Non-Profit Organization, it has become a tradition for the JLSP to take one picture at the conclusion of a wonderful evening of fundraising supporting our members for their recognition as members of the Court.

The League is thrilled to support each one of our members who have been recognized for their dedication to the St. Petersburg Community.



Photo Credit: Moorman Photographics

STAR AMONG STARS



Paige DePagter

January 2023

The Star Among Stars Award is an award given monthly to a League member who has gone above and beyond expectations in a service project or program. The Stars are nominated by a league member and recognized during our General Membership Meetings. Congratulations to our Spring 2023 stars!



Taylor Cox

February 2023



new merchandise.

URSHIRTINGME.COM/JUNIORLEAGUESTPETERSBURG/

Anne Register Anderson Memorial Scholarship

Each year, the Junior League of St. Petersburg is honored to have the opportunity to select a recipient of the Anne Register Anderson Memorial Scholarship. The Anne Register Anderson Memorial Scholarship was founded to recognize 1997 - 1998 President of the League, Anne Anderson's community service and The Junior League of St. Petersburg has the honor to annually award this scholarship. This scholarship, whose application process is facilitated by Pinellas Education Foundation, awards an outstanding high school senior with \$1,000 to help that student pursue higher education. This scholarship particularly recognizes a Pinellas County Student whose life has been impacted by being in the foster care system.

The Anne Register Anderson Memorial Scholarship recognizes its namesake's dedication to service and the Junior League of St. Petersburg. Anne R. Anderson passed away in 2006 after spending her life engaged in service to the St. Petersburg Community. She served as the President of the Junior League of St. Petersburg and served on the board of several of the Junior League's partners of projects, including Great Explorations Children's Museum. She was an incredible servant leader and a vibrant, accomplished woman. She understood first-hand the needs of Pinellas County students, having been a teacher with the school system and serving on the Pinellas County Council of PTA's, Vice-President of the Maximo PTA, and member of the Pinellas County School System Busing Task Force.

This year, the Junior League of St. Petersburg has awarded this scholarship to an outstanding student from Northeast High School hoping to pursue higher education in order to serve others in the community by using her personal adverse experiences to help create change for others. She notes that she comes from a difficult family setting and has had to work very hard for her academic and personal accomplishments. According to her, "A dream of mine is to seek higher education while remaining financially independent." and "this scholarship would help me achieve my dreams to earn a college education and ultimately serve others in a meaningful way with an eventual career." The Junior League of St. Petersburg is thrilled to be able to support our Anne Anderson Scholarship recipient in her quest to "beat the odds" and earn a college degree.



THANK YOU
to all the bunnies that
made Egg-A-House a
success this year!

Your dedication to
voluntarism is
eggcellent!



Junior League of St. Petersburg

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St. Petersburg, FL 33705

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WHO WE ARE

We are empowering St. Petersburg women by helping them to develop civic leadership skills, then giving them the tools and opportunities 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! Visit our website for more information on joining. www.stpetesrburg.jl.org