

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF OKLAHOMA CITY, INC.

LeagueLINK

Changing Lives Through Literacy

MARCH/APRIL 2011

Community Treasures



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
OKLAHOMA CITY

President’s Letter



Jill Greene

Dear Friends,

Spring is around the corner and I think we are all ready for the many wonderful spring events in the League. I want to start off by congratulating the sustainers that have been announced as this year’s award recipients. Barbara Thompson has been awarded the Mary Baker Rumsey Award winner. Marnie Taylor, an amazing talent has been named the Sustainer of the Year. Pam Newby inspires all of us with her dedication has been named the second recipient ever of the Spirit of Commitment Award. These women have all spent their time giving back to Oklahoma City and beyond. Thank you for sharing your gifts with our League ladies – and congratulations! What a wonderful celebration luncheon it will be!

I want to encourage each of you to participate in our “m.pact lives” campaign. Every bit makes a difference. This money allows us to give back financially to our community when there are needs that need to be met. Youth Services for Oklahoma County recently put out a call for help for their Family Junction Emergency Youth Shelter and JLOC was able to jump in and give them \$750! That is the kind of impact we need to be able to give back to our partnering agencies when they have immediate needs. We can only do that through the generosity of our members.

JLOC again is spearheading the Blood Drive, which will be held on April 15. This annual event is a partnership between JLOC, Women of the South and Edmond Women’s Club and is a wonderful example to our community the power that women working together can have on Oklahoma City. We will look forward to great participation and the satisfaction of knowing our participation actually saved a life.

Kids in the Kitchen is a wonderful event which we are excited to be developing into a full blown project from our years of working on this event. This gives children the opportunity to read recipes, understand the importance of a healthy lifestyle and have fun doing it. Jump in and help on March 10th!

Our April General meeting will be unforgettable as the “Hip Hop Doctor”; Dr. Rani Whitfield brings us his message of the importance of literacy and a healthy lifestyle. JLOC will also be bringing Dr. Whitfield to partnering agency, Boys and Girls Clubs of Oklahoma County.

I look forward to the opportunity to see JLOC make a huge impact in the lives of one of our partnering agencies this year through a grant we will give with the blessing of the membership so please be there to vote as well. You will be given the information ahead of time, so look for it – we have a wonderful opportunity to leave a lasting impression impacting children in Oklahoma City with our literacy focus. I am so thankful for the time each of you give back to our community through your work in the Junior League of Oklahoma City. I am in awe of the amazing women and things we accomplish together every day!

Be Great!

Jill Greene

Jill Greene
President 2010-2011

MISSION

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

VISION

The Junior League of Oklahoma City, Inc. will empower volunteers to impact our community and enrich lives.

FOCUS

Changing Lives Through Literacy



LeagueLINK

MARCH/APRIL 2011

LINK VISION

To inform members and increase awareness of Junior League of Oklahoma City projects and events.

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COMMUNITY PROJECTS/PROJECT MANAGERS

A SOLDIERS STORY Joie Reineke

BACK TO SCHOOL Laurel Hall

LIFE 101 Christian Szlichta

BOYS & GIRLS CHILD LITERACY Lorna Swinney

CULTURAL LITERACY Arlena Hamby

FAMILY FUN IN THE ZONE Kingsley Burke

FAMILY READING NIGHTS Kelli Packnett

HEALTH LITERACY Lathonya Shivers

IMPACT Sara Crooks

JETS AFTER SCHOOL READING Lauren Rieken

JLOC BOOK DRIVE Jennifer Harrison

KIPP (KNOWLEDGE IS POWER PROGRAM) Ragan Raff

PAULINE MAYER LITERACY FOR ALL Amy King

SOMEONE’S GRANDMA Janet Daugherty

VARIETY PACK Katie Moore

WILD TUESDAY STORY TIME SAFARI Susannah Bebee

YWCA FINANCIAL LITERACY Wendi Shipp

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FUNDRAISERS

Financial Development
Mistletoe Market
Remarkable Shop
3208 N. May, Oklahoma City, OK 73102
(405) 236 - 5078

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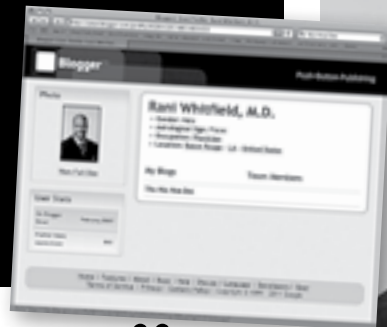
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ON THE COVER:
Marnie Taylor,
Barbara Thompson
and Pam Newby.
Photo by Amy
McDougall

Scene

[events]



Rani G. Whitfield, M.D.

“Tha Hip Hop Doc” Coming to the April GMM



By Jill Greene

Rani G. Whitfield, M.D., a board certified family physician with a Certificate of Added

Qualification in sports medicine, has become known as “Tha Hip Hop Doc” or “H₂D” to many of the young adults in his hometown of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Dr. Whitfield is an impassioned advocate for increasing the awareness of health-related issues, including HIV/AIDS, obesity, cardiovascular disease, and substance abuse. His mission is to improve social conditions and health care services by combining hip-hop culture and health messages. Dr. Whit-

field empowers individuals to change unhealthy lifestyles. He is creating a solution to the health and social challenges young urban communities face by offering a forum and a voice for our youth to discover alternative solutions. He is the founder of the “Hip-Hop Medical Moment,” a one-minute audio series on pertinent medical topics. This highly sought after lecturer delivers dynamic presentations on preventative medicine, teen pregnancy, physical fitness, drugs of sexual assault, HIV/AIDS, discrepancies in health care, and diabetes. Dr. Whitfield received a medical degree with honors from

Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee. Thereafter, he completed an internship and residency in family medicine at St Elizabeth’s Medical Center in Dayton, Ohio in 1999 and a sports medicine fellowship at Ohio State University in 2000. He earned a bachelor of science degree with honors from Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in 1992, after one year at North Florida Junior College on basketball and vocal music scholarships.

Don’t miss this inspiring, exciting speaker – you might consider wearing your dancing shoes!

Transfer committee rings in the New Year in Grand style

BY HEATHER DAVEY

Members of the transfer committee helped ring in the Chinese New Year early this year by getting together on January 18th at the Grand House. About 30 members enjoyed dinner and drinks while new transfers to the league gained insight about the Oklahoma City Junior League. The transfer committee is a great way for current league members to help integrate new members into the league and answer any questions they might have. The transfer committee meets for dinner once a month at a restaurant in Oklahoma City. If you are interested in joining the transfer team please contact co-chairs Beth Prykryl or Tamara Hermen.



“Transferred-In” JLOC members Cecile Pfluger and Randis Galloway.

INTRODUCING 2011-2012 PROJECT MANAGERS



Back to School.....	Maci Craven Liles
Book Drive	Lisa McConnell
Boys & Girls Club	Macy Panach
Cultural Literacy	Kingsley Burke
Family Reading Nights.....	Angie Gaines
Health Literacy	Laurel Hall
JETS	Kathy Swift
KIPP	Adrienne Nobles
Life 101	Angie Martin
Soldier’s Story	Tiffany Little
Prime Time.....	Tiffany Sill
The Zone	Marianne Sharpe
Variety Pack	Catherine Ratliff
Wild Tuesdays	Rebecca Holmboe
YWCA/Financial Literacy ..	Jaclyn Christensen
Kids in the Kitchen.....	Rachel Bell
Uniquely Me!	Ellen Pogemiller

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Community Fair Photo Gallery

An approaching snow storm didn't keep that many away from the February General Membership Meeting on February 8, 2011. The community fair was held an hour before the meeting and was a great success. Project managers did a great job on their display boards and were eager to answer any questions about their projects. Guest speaker, Mr. David Thompson, spoke about our the Oklahoma city community and how we are making a difference.

► Katie Moore chats about her current project Variety Pack.

▼ Mr. David Thompson was the guest speaker at the February GMM. He spoke on the importance of making a difference in of our community.



▲ Nazette Zuhdi, Mary Delafield, Margaret Brooks, Pam Gutel and Shelly Soliz enjoy the community fair.



▲ Ellen Pogemiller stands beside two new project boards, Kids in the Kitchen and Uniquely Me!



▲ Passport to the community at the February General Membership Meeting.



THE NUMBERS ARE IN!



Congratulations to the Mistletoe Market Board for a fabulous year!

FOR MISTLETOE MARKET

- Preview Party had over 500 attendees;
- 118 Vendors;
- 11,000 Shoppers;
- \$163K turnover to the JLOC to help fund community projects; Congratulations Mistletoe Market Board on a wonderful job!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR MISTLETOE MARKET 2011! NOTE THE NEW LOCATION!

Mistletoe Market 2011 will be held October 14-16, 2011 at the Cox Convention Center in downtown OKC. Preview Party will be Thursday, October 13.

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Reading With Enthusiasm

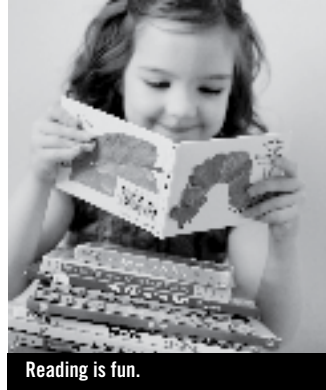
IF YOU MISSED THE READING WITH ENTHUSIASM TRAINING ON JANUARY 12, HERE ARE SOME SIMPLE TIPS TO REMEMBER. THANK YOU TO DEBORAH MCAULIFFE-SENNER AND LESLEY ST. JOHN FOR ORGANIZING THIS TRAINING.

RELAX: Have fun while reading with your child - be silly, use different voices. Remember how creative and silly you used to be as a child and tap into that resource.

ENVIRONMENT: Create an environment that sets the mood. Maybe the same chair every day or lay a blanket on floor and have the kids sit there. Dim the lights. Play soft music. Turn off the TV!!! Wear a silly hat and blink the lights to let the kids know reading time will be now.

ADAPT: If you have a hyper child/children, chose a book where they can jump up and down along w/characters in the book (5 monkeys jumping on the bed). Ask questions about the story. Is the girl in the story happy or mad? Why? Encourage interaction w/your child....helps w/reading comprehension. Have then turn pages of the book. Let them state the last word of a repeated sentence in the story. I.e. "The little old lady was not afraid of... (Child will state) anything!!

DAILY: Read at least 20 minutes WITH your children - not at or to them but with them - just showing up and reading w/them is the most important thing.



2010-2011 General Membership Meetings

DATE	TIME
April 12*	7:00 p.m. only
May 10	7:00 p.m. only

*Denotes Voting meeting: We need everyone there!

DON'T FORGET TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

This year, our night general meetings will be held at the Quail Creek Golf and Country Club, located at 3501 Quail Creek Road. Come each month and catch up with fellow Leaguers and hear the latest club business. A cash bar along with Hors D'oeuvres will be provided during social hour from 6-7 p.m. The meetings will begin at 7 p.m. Daytime meetings will be at JLOC Headquarters and will begin promptly at 11:30 a.m. We hope to see each and every one of you there!

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Middle School Transition Night

For Parents of Fall 2011 Sixth Graders
Tuesday, February 1 • 7 p.m.
Middle School Building • 600 NW 44 Street

Primary Information Night

For Parents of Prospective
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Thursday, February 3 • 7 p.m.
Primary Building • 612 NW 44 Street

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Profile

[people]

Introducing

THE 2010-2011 RECIPIENTS OF THE MARY BAKER RUMSEY LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD AND SUSTAINER OF THE YEAR



By Lisa McConnell

For the past 20 years, the JLOC has recognized and honored selected Sustaining Members for their contributions and achievements in volunteer service to the community. Plan to attend the 20th Annual Membership Luncheon on Wednesday, April 20, 2011 at Quail Creek Country Club.

Sustainer of the Year award

MARNIE TAYLOR is this year's recipient of the Sustainer of the Year award, which is based upon the recipient's achievements within the past three years in volunteer service to the community and applying her Junior League training, skills and leadership to her volunteer service. Marnie believes that the training and experiences she received in the League have directly impacted the opportunities she has found since becoming a Sustaining member of the League in 1997. Since that time, she has been a board member of 32 non-profits organizations, and currently sits on 13 non-profit boards!

"Almost every single contact and opportunity I have had in the community can be traced back to my Junior League experience."

—Marnie Taylor

Organizations she has been involved with include: American Red Cross; CASA of OK County; Citizens for Juvenile Justice; Oklahoma Outreach Program; Sunbeam Family Services. Her board experience with non-profits was a perfect preparation for her new position as President of the Oklahoma Center for Non-profits.

"Almost every single contact and opportunity I have had in the community can be traced back to my Junior League experience. Not only the opportunities



Lil Ross, Barbara Thompson with her family as she received the news of her award.

I was given within the League to grow, learn and lead, but also outside on other Boards and with other organizations. I truly don't know if my life would be anything like it is today if I had not had the wonderful foundation and experience our League provided."

Mary Baker Rumsey Lifetime Achievement Award

Based upon the recipient's significant volunteer achievement/commitment to the community throughout her lifetime. This year's recipient is **BARBARA THOMPSON**, who became a Sustaining member of the League in 1979 and has continued to use the knowledge and training she gained while a JLOC member. During her lifetime, Barbara has been involved with dozens of non-profit organizations throughout Oklahoma. But the bulk of her volunteer experience has fallen into two main areas: Oklahoma Historical Society and Education, particularly French education. She is currently the Appointed Honorary

Consul of France for Oklahoma by the Republic of France, and represents the country of France for the state of Oklahoma in all diplomatic functions. In 2006, she received the Legion of Honor, France's highest honor for civilian service, conferred by President Jacques Chirac.

Barbara explains her experience and love of volunteering best:

"The training and the experiences that

"My Junior League training and the experience have given me many openings into board rooms, and even the skills with which to work with the French government."

—Barbara Thompson

the Junior League offered me have translated to, and benefited me, in the workplace, as well as giving me many openings into board rooms, organizations, and even building blocks and skills with which to work with the French government.

As an educator I am passionately committed to the improvement of educational opportunities for our children and volunteerism has been a part of putting that to work."



Barbara Thompson



Marnie Taylor



Pam Newby, Barbara Thompson and Marnie Taylor

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Spirit of Commitment Award winner Pam Newby

BY LISA MCCONNELL

For only the second time in JLOC history, the SPIRIT OF COMMITMENT AWARD is being granted. This award is based upon the recipient's significant volunteer achievement/commitment to the community throughout her lifetime. They shall be a recognized community leader and have created real change in the local community.

PAM NEWBY's volunteer experience is vast, her resume extensive, and the awards and recognitions that she's received are too numerous to mention in this limited space. She is a past-President of both JLOC and AJLI, and has assumed leadership roles with dozens of non-profits boards throughout our community. In addition, she is the co-founder of Special Care to include children and families who have enormous, overwhelming challenges to face but who also deserve the same

opportunities as typically developing children and their families. Special Care continues to be the only inclusive program of its kind in the Oklahoma City metropolitan area.

"There isn't a part of my life that the Junior League hasn't influenced (by the Junior League). It is because of the league that I have been Executive Director of Special Care for 26 years, it is because of the league that I have been asked to serve on a number of non-profit boards, the League was there to welcome my two youngest children when I adopted them in 2001, the league has given me so many opportunities to not only become a better volunteer, better non-profit leader but a better person as well. I have been given many opportunities to serve locally, nationally, and internationally, and I owe it all to the JLOC!



Pam Newby

I am deeply and profoundly honored. I truly cannot think of an award that compares to this one for me. To be honored for what small impact I may have had on our community, is an honor beyond compare, especially when it comes from an organization that means so very much to me. —Pam Newby



MEMBERSHIP

Report

LOA

Rebekah Wheeler (A)
Jessica Sigmon (A)
Necia Hakim (A)

TRANSFER OUT

Janet Bates (S) to Austin, TX
Simone Taylor (P) to Dallas, TX
Christian Whitney (A) to Honolulu, HI
Ashlee Nichelson (A) to Greater Orlando
Beth Schnell (A) to Phoenix, AZ
Michelle Cohlma (S) to Kansas City, MO

RESIGNATIONS

Lauren Corbyn (A)

REINSTATEMENT

Ashlee Nichelson (A)
Beth Schnell (A)
Michelle Cohlma (S)

NRS

Carla Tourtellotte (NRS) returns from Santa Fe, NM to Sustainer status

CARE & CONCERN

Jessica Sigmon (A) passing of Father-in-law
Megan Hann(S) passing of Mother
Tara Ward (A) passing of Father
Family of Frances Tedesco Lathrop (S) on her passing.

GET WELL

Sarah Frank (A) surgery
Congratulations
Blair Bradley (A) graduation from UCO with M.Ed.
Laura Roach(A) birth of son, Carter Jack Roach
Christi Woodworth(A) birth of daughter, Hanna Marie
Chandler Walters (A) birth of son, Jay William Walters
Stacy White (A) birth of daughter, Ashlyn Elizabeth White
Whitney Moss (A) new job

JOIN US
FOR THE ANNUAL
MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON!

Please join us in honoring
these amazing women
at the 20th Annual
Membership Luncheon on
Wednesday, April 20, 2011
at Quail Creek Country
Club. Order your tickets
online at JLOC or by mail.

ABC award winners are...

LESLIE COALE-MOSSMAN & MARGARET BROOKS

Above and beyond the call for members in appointed positions. December winner is Leslie Coale-Mossman. She is the true definition or example of what the Junior League needs. She genuinely cares about the consignment room/ Remarkable Shop! If you call her to ask questions about a particular consignment order she always calls back

to help in any way. She has finished her hours (and then some) and yet still came to the work day this past Sunday. January winner is Financial Development Chair Margaret Brooks. She came up with the idea for the Mpat Club for donors of \$300 dollars or more. She also developed the slogan "Mpat Lives, Give \$25." She is also responsible for the Serving Up Literacy chili campaign.

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Today I ignite their curiosity.

Jeff Bush,
3rd Grade, Science & Social Studies Teacher

John Robertson,
Casady Student, Class of 2015

Tomorrow my curiosity seeks solutions.

Casady faculty members encourage every child to find his or her passion. At Casady for nearly two decades, Jeff Bush teaches third grade science and social studies. John Robertson, Class of 2015, fondly remembers his time in Mr. Bush's classroom. He credits his teacher for igniting an interest in science and for helping satisfy his insatiable hunger for information. John now aspires to become a scientist in part because Mr. Bush gave him the freedom to explore.

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Preparing for Weather

WITH PROVISIONAL/METEOROLOGIST DANIELLE VOLLMAR



Danielle Vollmar

Where did you grow up? Lansdale, PA. A suburb of Philly

When did you decide you wanted to be a meteorologist? I have always loved the weather, but it wasn't until eighth grade at my career day that a local meteorologist Glenn Schwartz was the guest speaker and us about his job and that's when I knew I wanted to do that .

Where did you go to school? Cornell University

What was the hardest part of becoming a meteorologist? The courses in college- lots of calculus, physics, thermodynamics and lots of numbers.

How did you end up here and where do you work now? I work at FOX-25 as the weekend meteorologist and AM feature reporter, I worked in Maryland before and had all kinds of weather except

tornadoes. I wanted to experience those so I came here.

For those who may not know, when does tornado/serve weather season start? There is no official start as we have tornadoes here every month of the year, but we usually have them from March-June.

Have you ever seen a tornado in person? Yes

If so, when, if not, do you want to? I did a special story last April about stormchasing. On our chase we saw 5 tornados.

What do you hope to achieve by being a Junior League Member? I want to be able to give back to the community and in the process meet some girls that hopefully will become life long friends... I already have.

Does your career in broadcasting help you be a better Junior League Member? It is definitely helpful because I can publicize when we are doing good things the community on TV where lots of people can see.

What is your funniest on-air moment? I have lots especially in the morning.

At the Remarkable Shop where is the best place to be if the tornado siren sounds while you are working your shift? Probably the consignment area in the back or in Kelly's office. They are small rooms with no windows.

Where is the best place to go if you are at headquarters if the tornado siren sounds? Probably in the closet between the large conference room and board meeting room.

Danielle's Severe Weather Tips

1. If you are at a placement or other League event and there is a threat of severe weather, it's a good idea to identify your safe place when you arrive. Know where you would go if you hear the sirens.
2. Get to lowest level center of the room.
3. If you have a basement, storm shelter, or safe room go there. If not a center room with no windows like a bathroom or closet.
4. If you are in a car don't try to outrun the tornado get out and in a ditch and get low. Overpasses are not safe!
5. Get low to ground and Cover your head and neck. You can use a pillow, blanket, or mattress to protect yourself.
6. Know the difference between a Tornado Watch and Tornado Warning. A tornado watch is issued when weather conditions are favorable for severe
7. Have an emergency plan at home and practice with your family. Also have a
8. Finally if you can see the tornado you are too close. Stop watching it and get to a safe spot.

thunderstorms to produce tornados and close to the watch area. A tornado warning is an alert issued by government weather services to warn that tornados may be imminent. It can be issued after a tornado has been spotted by eye, or if there are radar indications of tornado formation.

weather radio with fresh batteries and turn it on during storm days. That way if the power goes out and you can't the TV you can listen to radio. Of course on severe weather days stay tuned to Fox25 and you can watch us live on your mobile phone by texting KOKH to 91217.

WHAT A STAR AWARD WINNERS!

DECEMBER & JANUARY

SPECIAL THANKS AND RECOGNITION for members in non-appointed positions.

December STAR winner is **Lauren Quick** for her ability to pull together our market decor theme complete with supplies, materials and work schedule. We needed boxes to wrap for faux presents throughout the building. Lauen's family owns a box supply company and immediately volunteered to obtain all sizes, shapes of cardboard boxes for our project. Besides getting the boxes, she alone transported more than 100+ to JLOC headquarters on a Sunday afternoon.

January STAR winner is **Kelli Hayward**. Kelly's placement is Family Fun in the Zone project. But her impact is felt throughout the League. She spoke at the Fall Provisional meeting and recently at the Remarkable Shop to provide support and leadership to our Provisionals. She shared her experiences and offered tips on how to stay on top of those shift hours. In addition, she is helping the Training and Leadership Development committee and has taken charge of several upcoming events and training.



Kelli Hayward was recognized for being a STAR at the February GMM.

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GIRLS ON THE BLOCK



Kristen Ferate

ACTIVE

March usually marks the start of spring in Oklahoma – what do you most look forward to seeing or doing when spring arrives?

I love planting flowers and playing in the garden. When we lived in Virginia I enjoyed going to Mt. Vernon's Upper Garden and seeing the heirloom seedlings of flowers such as Larkspur and Foxglove. Now that we are in Oklahoma I can't wait to get my hands back in the red dirt.

What was your most memorable Spring Break?

In college I did a bit of rowing and in the Spring of 97 the crew went to Natchitoches, Louisiana for Spring Training. We rowed all day and had so much fun in the evenings. Natchitoches is where the movie Steel Magnolias was filmed and it was just full of Southern charm and hospitality. It was there that I developed a love for Cajun and Creole Cuisine.

After March comes April and April Fool's Day – share your favorite April Fool's Day prank. Were you the pranker or the prantee?

I am not much of a prankster now but when I was little I was known to call relatives and ask if their refrigerator was running... and then I would inform them they needed to go catch it.

When you are craving something that's really not good for you – what is it? How far would you go to feed your craving?

When I want to throw caution to the wind I reach for a good red wine and a dark chocolate. Most days I am happy with a 05 Rombauer Zinfandel and a bit of Ghiradelli but when extravagant I lean towards an 83 Mouton Rothschild and Neuhaus. I have had difficulty finding many grand cru here in Okc so I will admit that I have ordered vintages from Winebid.com and had them sent to a friend in Dallas.

Do you participate in any college basketball brackets? Who's your pick to win it all this year?

No basketball for me. In college the rowing crew had to clean the KU Field House after games and I still hold a grudge.

What are you currently reading and would you recommend it others?

I am from Kansas and around Ks Day each year I get a little

homesick, hence my current choices. The Worst Hard Time by Timothy Egan and At Ease: Stories I Tell to Friends by Dwight D. Eisenhower.

How did you get involved in the Junior League and what keeps you involved?

As a child I always knew that I was league bound. I grew up on JL cookbooks and lore.

If you're relatively new to JLOC, what are your goals in terms of your future community involvement? If you are a "veteran" member of JLOC, tell us what you have done with your JLOC training in terms of service to the community?

I am still reacquainting myself with OKC JLOC and I think that the best is yet to come.

Amy McDougall

BOARD MEMBER

March usually marks the start of spring in Oklahoma – what do you most look forward to seeing or doing when spring arrives?

Definitely warmer weather! I love watching all the bulbs in our yard grow a little each day. Even though it makes me sneeze just thinking about it, there's nothing like spring grass between barefoot toes.

After March comes April and April Fool's Day – share your favorite April Fool's Day prank.

The best (and only successful) prank I ever pulled off was in junior high. There was a boy I liked, but alas (*sigh*) he was dating someone else. So, of course, the best recourse is to prank him (ahh, young love!) I had some left over Valentine candy that I had saved, burrowed

out a hole in the bottom of one, and buried a jalapeno pepper inside each one. I then remelted the bottoms and rewrapped them up in the box like new. My friend and I left it in his desk with a little love note from his then girlfriend and waited like hawks for him to eat one. He waited until after lunch before he finally ate one, but it was so worth it to see his face when he bit into it.

When you are craving something that's really not good for you – what is it? How far would you go to feed your craving??

Anything made from sugar is my weakness. And there seems to be all these new cupcake places popping up around town! Unfortunately, having three kids, it's an easy addiction to feed. They are always willing participants.

What are you currently reading and would you recommend it others?

I've been so busy lately that about all I have time to read is books to my kids each night. One of our favorite ones lately is "The Dot." It's about being brave enough to try to make your own mark and that everything you create is beautiful because it comes from you. Great message! We also just picked up "Aliens Love Underpants." No deep philosophical message, just good old stinking funny.

How did you get involved in the Junior League and what keeps you involved?

I got involved in JL after my first daughter was born. I was not working, was home with a toddler all day and felt like Barney and Elmo were not challenging enough for my brain. I had met another mom who was a JL member and she recruited me. I was attracted to JL right away and excited about meeting new people, expanding my horizons, and volunteering. I love being a mom, but what I do at JL is something that I can accomplish outside of that. I hope my girls grow up to see value in volunteering and serving others. JL keeps me involved by always challenging me to do new things. I love the friends I have made in JL. They keep me sane when things get crazy!

If you're relatively new to JLOC, what are your goals in terms of your future community involvement?

I'm not necessarily a newbie, but I still have things I would like to learn and do in JLOC. JL had been a great place to make connections within the community and learn about what opportunities are out there. I'm looking forward to the day when I have the time to get more involved in some of the great community agencies JL has had history with such as Boys and Girls Club, Girl Scouts of Western Oklahoma, Citizens Caring for Children, Special Care-the list is endless!





Gayle Semtner

SUSTAINER

March usually marks the start of spring in Oklahoma – what do you most look forward to seeing or doing when spring arrives?

The Festival of the Arts sponsored by the Arts Council of Oklahoma City in late April. I have been a Festival volunteer since 1977. My husband, brother, sister and I have all served as Festival Co-chairman over the years. Our spring focuses

on the Festival of the Arts and all that goes into volunteering for a great spring week.

What was your most memorable Spring Break? Outside college!

I can think of 2 memorable spring breaks. The first was a trip to Disney World and tour of Florida. Barney and I took all three of our children and yes we had fun at

Disney World, but we experienced Red Tide. One of the children started coughing and while having dinner the waitress explained about Red Tide. It was strange to realize many in the restaurant were coughing. Our children have written papers about the Red Tide. A personal science experiment!

The other is a trip to Paris, Belgium and Normandy Beach. My niece and her family lived in Belgium; her husband was stationed at NATO so we began our visit with them. While on this trip we had sun, rain, sleet and snow in one day! We rented a car and the GPS was in French. Driving Paris was real adventure.

After March comes April and April Fool's Day – share your favorite April Fool's Day prank.

My Festival Co-chairman, Dennis, and I had a communication delivered that told the Festival director that the festival permit was not approved by the city for that year. We thought it was hilarious, but the first year Festival Director, Peter Dolese, did not find it quite as funny as we did.

When you are craving something that's really not good for you – what is it? How far would you go to feed your craving??

A Johnnies # 3 and onion rings.

Or dark chocolate, when we travel I always try the dark chocolate. Belgium chocolate is outstanding!

What are you currently reading and would you recommend it others?

I am reading grant RFPs. Not sure anyone wants to read them, but I am willing to share.

How did you get involved in the Junior League and what keeps you involved?

My sister, Susie Nelson, was my lead sponsor. In 1977, it was still secret admissions and I was thrilled to be asked to join. I am committed to the work of the League. It is a great organization to learn leadership skills, experience various community projects and meet other committed women. I truly enjoy watching the league evolve and share the commitment of the members.

As a "veteran" member of JLOC, tell us what you have done with your JLOC training in terms of service to the community?

I have had the opportunity to meet so many wonderful volunteers through my experiences with the JL. My experience with bylaws has assisted a number of non profits revise their governing documents. Learning meeting management and facilitation skills, always

used by the League, has given me the opportunity to refine my skills. I enjoy facilitating meetings for community agencies and assisting to bring about change. The JL also afforded me the opportunity to fund raise. What I learned from my active years in the JL has served me well. Serving as a sustaining advisor, I am still learning from the League.



Ashley Hackler

PROVISIONAL

March usually marks the start of spring in Oklahoma – what do you most look forward to seeing or doing when spring arrives?

My favorite thing in spring used

to be my birthday but with every year that goes by I find that less and less favorable so I would have to say the weather. I hate wearing a coat.

What was your most memorable Spring Break?

Staying home and doing nothing!

After March comes April and April Fool's Day – share your favorite April Fool's Day prank.

Maybe not my favorite but definitely my most memorable was when I was in high school and me and my boyfriend at the time told his parents that I was pregnant...they didn't think it was very funny.

When you are craving something that's really not good for you – what is it? How far would you go to feed your craving??

Wine! I would do almost anything.

Do you participate in any college basketball brackets? Who's your pick to win it all this year?

No time or interest...so no

What are you currently reading and would you recommend it others?

The 33 Strategies of War. This isn't a light, easy read but will teach you strategies that you can use in the workplace, personal life, really anywhere. The author, Robert Greene, uses historical characters to show examples of these strategies. He also has several other great books that are worth reading.

How did you get involved in the Junior League and what keeps you involved?

Encouragement from work got me involved. What keeps me involved? A number of thin: knowing that what we are doing is creating an impact, being an advocate for other young women to get involved, the opportunity to use my knowledge and strengths in combination with the knowledge and strengths of so many sharp, business-minded women.

What are your goals in terms of your future community involvement

I am a Provisional this year and am looking forward to becoming more involved with the League as I learn and grow in the coming years.

LITTLE LEAGUERS

"It is the nature of babies to be in bliss." –Deepak Chopra



Violet Isabel Bleu Hernandez
Born April 3, 2010
Parents are Alex & Rachel Hernandez



Ava Rose O'Reilly
Born May 10, 2010
Parents are Conor & Jennifer O'Reilly



Lilah Grace Gungoll
Born August 6, 2010
Parents are Wade & Bri Gungoll



Harper Grace Havron
Born October 28, 2010
Parent are William & Michelle Havron



Landry Alane Cramer
Born November 5, 2010
Parents are Brian & Denise Cramer



Hanna Marie Woodworth
Born December 1, 2010
Parents are Eric & Christi Woodworth



HEY MOMS!

Send your photo and/or moment to Cyoneharris@cox.net. In the subject line please put MOM MOMENT.

In the May League Link we would like to have a mom focus but need your help. We want to see our League members as Moms. If you would like to share a photo of you and your children to be featured in the May issue please send the digital photo to Cyone Harris.

We would also like to hear some of your fun mom moments. Please Keep them short so we can feature as many as possible.

Focus

[projects]

READ on track for success!



By Candice Rennels

our fellow League members serving on this year's Research Education and Development (READ) Committee have been busy. The purpose of the READ Committee is to request, review and develop potential projects that best serve our members and the community, while further supporting JLOC's mission, vision and focus. The committee started meeting in July to review project proposals and once that process was complete we conducted a survey to find out which project you, our members, would like to become placement choices. We are very excited about the new placement opportunities

for 2011-2012, including two new traditional projects, Uniquely Me! and Kids in the Kitchen plus three new Variety Pack projects.

Uniquely Me! will partner with the Girls Scouts of Western Oklahoma to promote positive self-esteem through mentoring young girls between the ages of 8-17 who are enrolled in the Girl Scout program. Using pre-developed Girl Scout curriculum, various mass media tools, and journaling, the girls will learn about positive self esteem, setting and achieving goals and the importance of education and literacy as a means of success. This project is set for weekday evening sessions throughout the school year.



Candice Rennels and Cindy Heckman from West Nichols Hills Elementary School. They are one of our new Variety Pack project partners, Family Literacy Night.



JLOC welcomes Kids in the Kitchen as a new project partnering with the Boys and Girls Club of Oklahoma County. READ Chair Candice Rennels with A Jaye Johnson of the Boys and Girls Club of Oklahoma County.

Kids in the Kitchen now has a permanent home at the Boys and Girls Club of Oklahoma County! This project seeks to help empower kids to make healthy dietary choices for lifetime good health. This monthly, weekday evening placement will involve a combination of planning meetings and activity sessions with the children at the Boys and Girls Club of Oklahoma County.

The new Variety Pack projects are Holiday Story Time at CityScape with OK CityScape, Reading and Weather with

"A goal of Family Reading Night is to model to the families how to read as a family and the importance of reading to each other."

West Nichols Hills Elementary and Girls on the Run Oklahoma County held at Horace Mann Elementary School.

We hope each of you enjoy being a part of these projects and working with our wonderful new community partners. Additionally, the READ Committee members thank everyone for their participation in our survey, as this is a key component used in developing new projects. If you have any questions about READ, the new projects or have ideas for new projects, please feel free to contact any member of the committee: Leslie Buford, Liza Cryder, Mary Delafield, Nicole Dobbins, Allison Gresham, Cyone Harris, Kelli Hayward, Becky Howell (Vice-Chair), Amy McDougall, Lisa Perry, Raniyah Ramadan, Candice Rennels (Chair) and Sara Sweet.

Spotlight on Community Council

WHO'S ON IT AND WHAT DO THEY DO.



Community Council Members. Not pictured: Becky Howell, Candice Rennels, Macey Panach, and Gayle Semtner

Community Council Q&A answered by Community VP, Amy McDougall

Who is on the Community Council? The Community Council consists of: READ Chair and READ Vice Chair (Candice Rennels and Becky Howell), Community Coordinator (Leslie Buford), PACE chair (Toni Parks-Payne), the LARC chair (Mary Delafield), a sustaining advisor (Gayle Semtner) and 2-4 Members at Large (Macey Panach, Amy King, and Paula Ward) all chaired by the Community VP (Amy McDougall).

What does the Community Council do? The Community Council oversees anything related to our community projects, our partner agencies, and our literacy focus. Community can be a little confusing in that it is kind of the land of the acronyms. We have several committees who live under the community umbrella, each with a different acronym, and then we also house all of the community projects.

All of our community projects and volunteers are overseen by an individual project manager who sits on the Project Management Team (PMT). The project manager for each project is responsible for scheduling and managing the volunteers, coordinating needs with the agency representatives, budgeting, etc. Even though they don't sit on Council, they are still under the Community umbrella and are overseen by the Community Coordina-

tor. The PMT is responsible for training the Project Managers on everything they need to know for a successful year. The PMT also collaborates and coordinates with other areas in the league to gather and share information regarding the projects, plan major community events such as the Community Reception and Community Placement Fair at the February general meeting, and generally puts out fires that arise during the year.

PACE (Project and Committee Evaluation) is the group that reviews all projects and committees within the league on a rotating schedule, or as issues arise throughout the year. Throughout the year, PACE will ask the project manager, agency representative, and/or committee chair to come to an assigned meeting and talk about how things are going and brainstorm ways to improve if necessary. They then make recommendations to the board regarding policy and procedure changes, conclusion or extension of projects or committees, personnel changes to a committee, etc. This committee lives under Community because a large bulk of their year is dedicated to the community projects.

LARC (Literacy Awareness and Review Committee) is responsible for evaluating all the output and outcome measurements from our projects and assessing the effectiveness of our projects in terms of the literacy focus. They also prepare

a "big picture" report based upon those measurements as well as determining where our efforts are still needed.

READ (Research, Education, and Development) is the group who is responsible for researching the needs within our community, finding potential partner agencies, and developing new projects for our volunteers. They base all their potential project proposals upon the needs of not only the community, but the membership as well. They are also responsible for assuring that the new projects are well developed and ready for volunteers.

Why is the Community Council such an important component of JLOC? Community Council is important because it is at the heart of what JLOC is all about. Without our community projects and our great volunteers who make those successful, there would be no JLOC.

How do members become a part of the Community Council? There are several ways to become more active within the Community Council. First of all, apply for a Member at Large position (MAL position). There are at large positions available on Community Council or PACE. These are appointed positions open to all actives (provisional members can apply now!) You can also sign up at the May general meeting as a committee member for READ or LARC.

HELP SUPPORT JLOC'S FIGHT AGAINST ILLITERACY!

IF JUST 75 MEMBERS PLEDGED ONLY \$25 A MONTH, IT WOULD TOTAL \$112,500 OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS. THAT AMOUNT WOULD ALLOW JLOC TO GIVE UP TO 750 BOOKS MONTHLY TO AT-RISK CHILDREN; 9000 BOOKS YEARLY; AND 45,000 BOOKS INTO THE HANDS OF AT-RISK CHILDREN OVER THE NEXT 5 YEARS! MAKE AN IMPACT! GIVE TO THE M.PACT CAMPAIGN TODAY!



The students at KIPP are so happy to learn.



Bruce Rinehart talks during career days at KIPP.



JLOC loves KIPP!

KIPP

BY REGAN RAFF

There is truly no better feeling than giving back, and my heart is filled with enthusiasm and joy each time we work with the 8th graders at KIPP Reach! Simply put, I adore these kids! They are the most well-behaved, eager, charming, sweet, delightful children.

KIPP Reach Oklahoma City is one of several national KIPP charter schools in the United States. KIPP Reach Oklahoma City is a middle school, teaching 5th grade through 8th grade. Their main focus is to prepare students in underserved communities for success in high school, college, and life. Students attend school Monday thru Friday, 7:30 am – 4:30 pm, and often attend school on Saturdays. It is extremely refreshing to experience their eagerness to learn!

We started the year in September with Career Days. We were thrilled to have Mr. Bruce Rinehart, chef and restaurant owner (Rococco); Dr. Jeff Reeves, veterinarian; Mr. Scott Hines, KFOR news anchor and Mrs. Alyssa Stinnett, RN. In November, our lesson was Jazz and Music history. We were thrilled to have Ms. Anita Arnold speak to the KIPP students about the history of jazz,

specifically the influence of Oklahoma in jazz history. After Ms. Arnold, we were thrilled to welcome Mr. Boris Connelly and a quartet from the UCO Jazz Studies program. They performed several jazz pieces, and KIPP students, staff, and JLOC volunteers all enjoyed the performances!!

In December, Rejeana Allgood led a terrific lesson on Smart Shopping and Working on a Budget. We were also able to incorporate a lesson on giving back. We welcomed Mrs. Debbie Forshee, President and CEO of Youth Services for Oklahoma County (www.ysoc.org). She explained non-profits, the importance of community giving,

“They are the most well-behaved, eager, charming, sweet, delightful children.”

and what her organization does for the children of Oklahoma City. The children were very attentive, and asked some great questions! Then, as if that part of the lesson wasn't terrific in itself, we then took the kids down to the cafeteria, where our volunteers had worked to create the most wonderful mini-market you've ever seen! We had several tables set up with holiday goodies for the kids. The only requirements: They had to shop at each booth, and they had to

stay within their \$100 budget – play money, of course! The kids shopped and carefully selected gifts from the various booths. We then had a gift wrapping station where they could have their gifts beautifully wrapped to take home to their families for the holidays.

In January, Kelley McGuire led a terrific lesson on Etiquette. She taught the importance of a strong handshake, how both a lady and a gentleman should behave in a social setting, how to handle a plate and beverage where refreshments are served, as well as different tricks of a table setting. She also taught a great trick on writing thank you notes: 4-3-2-1 (<http://carey-suevega.com>)! She did a terrific job!

We will finish out the year in March, followed by a field trip in May. We are working on a follow up etiquette lesson and catered luncheon in March and are still fine tuning lesson plans for May. We are thinking about a rowing lesson on the river!

One would think that we are there to teach them, but I have found that they are the ones from whom true lessons are learned. These children are overcoming adversity, they are learning the importance of making a difference, and they are eager to learn new things. It has been such a pleasure to spend time with the students and staff at KIPP. We are truly making a difference for these kids, one Saturday at a time! Please visit www.kippreach.org for more information on KIPP Reach!

Join YWCA for Money Mania!

The YWCA OKC is joining with the Junior League of Oklahoma City to present MoneyMania. MoneyMania is a fun-filled, family oriented carnival-style event Saturday, April 23, 2011 to kick off Jump\$tart Your Money Week. It will be held at the YWCA McFarland Branch at 1701 N. Martin Luther King Ave, Oklahoma City. Jump\$tart Your Money Week is a creation of the Oklahoma Jump\$tart Coalition, a non-profit coalition created to help Oklahomans of all ages improve their level of financial literacy. It's a public awareness initiative aimed at building financial knowledge so people can deal with their own money more quickly, confidently and shrewdly.



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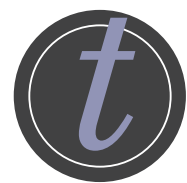
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Et Cetera

[various]

New and Improved Audited Financial Statements



By Ginny Raymer, 2010-2011 Financial Vice-President

his year, for the first time in over a decade, we received an unqualified ("clean") audit opinion and have audited financial statements that we can be proud to share with the public! We include all of the necessary information in a concise and easy to understand format. The numbers are accurately presented for the CPAs while the headings and footnotes are written in such a way that members of the general public can understand as well. Most important, it truly highlights the impact and benefit that the Junior League of Oklahoma City brings to its members and the community!

For more information about how we did this, please check out the "New and Improved Audited Financial Statements" link on our website at www.jloc.org.



Finance VP Ginny Raymer

Nominating Committee Selected

2011-2012

BLAIR BRADLEY	KATE LINDLEY	TYFANNA JOHNSON
MANDY ELLIS	DENISE CRAMER	KIM RILEY
JILL FARRAND	ERIN ENGELKE	CHRISTI WOODWORTH

Congratulations ladies. Have a wonderful year!

Children's Clothes Needed!



The Remarkable Shop needs children's clothes donated for our Spring Project with Tapestry, a nonprofit providing housing for single mothers. Please help our League impact our community and improve the lives of these women and children. Bring the clothes to the Remarkable Shop today!

MR. HENDERSON Reception

ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, A RECEPTION WAS HELD AT JLOC HEADQUARTERS TO HONOR MR. HENDERSON'S 30 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF OKLAHOMA CITY. THANK YOU MR. HENDERSON. YOU ARE APPRECIATED!



Mr. Henderson cutting the cake.



The Paramour Sectional by Norwalk Furniture

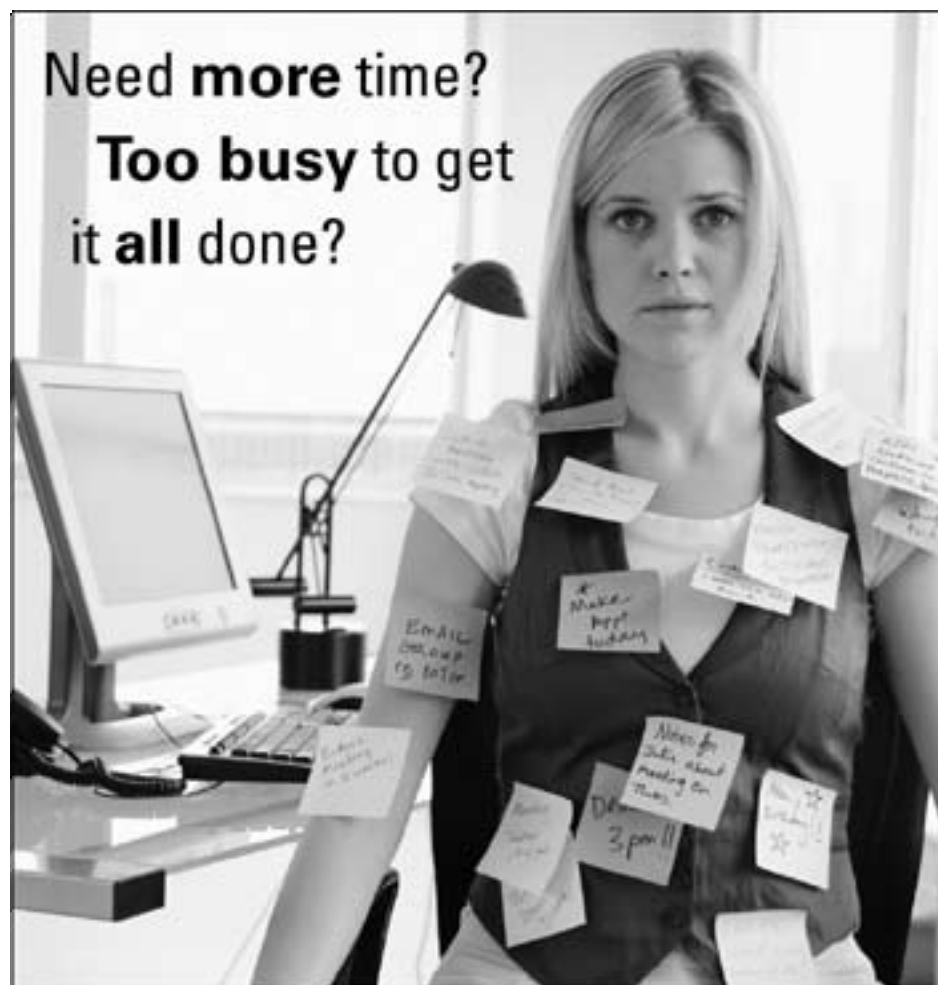


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Ask Rita!

Q: My baby was featured in a previous issue of the League Link and my dog ate my copy. Are there extra copies available? If so, who do I need to contact to get one?

A: YES! There are always extra copies available and we'd love for you to have some! Next time you are at HQ, either ask Linda Straily to help you (she sometimes has extras at her desk), or go to the Communications Council Room, where extra and back copies are stored. If you are ever in doubt, call the League Link editor and she can assist you. Congratulations on your new baby!!

EDITOR'S NOTE: We're pleased to introduce a new feature for JLOC members: Ask Rita! Ms. Booke is here to answer your most probing questions about JLOC – she's been around and is naturally nosey, so we trust her to know the answers or find them for you! Send your questions to her at this email address: RitaBooke@jloc.org, or drop hand-written questions addressed to her in the League Link mailbox

Rita Wants to Hear From You.

Send your questions to her at: ritabooke@jloc.org, or drop hand-written questions addressed to her in the league link mailbox!

Newly-weds



Mr. and Mrs. Don Dillingham.
married November 24, 2010

A special section in every League Link newsletter sponsored by

Brides of Oklahoma
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To announce your engagement or wedding in the League Link, go to the Members Only portion of the jloc.org website and submit your requested information. The NearlyWed/Newly Wed form is located under the Forms/References tab. If you would like to submit a photo, please send it to Cyone Harris at cyoneharris@cox.net.

To announce your engagement or wedding in Brides of Oklahoma Magazine, contact us at 405-607-2902 or visit www.thebridesofoklahoma.com

Junior Leaguers receive \$100 off your announcement in Brides of Oklahoma Magazine



Changing Lives Through Literacy

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF OKLAHOMA CITY

MISSION

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

VISION

The Junior League of Oklahoma City, Inc. will empower volunteers to impact our community and enrich lives.

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Changing Lives Through Literacy



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The circulation is over 2,000 and sent to not only JLOC members and sustainers but also to numerous businesses and community organizations.

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