

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF COLUMBUS

CLEARINGHOUSE

WELCOME 2019!

As we kick off 2019, the Junior League of Columbus finds ourselves at an exciting mid-point in our League Year. In fall we closed the doors on our longest-standing project, Bargain Box, and re-focused our resources toward our newly-selected community focus area: foster care. By bringing new volunteer and training opportunities to our members, our foster care initiatives continue to develop and we look forward to building a comprehensive program that supports those aging out of the foster care system.

2019 also marks the 20th anniversary of our beloved Adopt-a-Backpack for Children (ABC) Project. As we approach spring and the start to our "backpack season" we will host two fundraisers and begin building out operational support for our backpack-drive that starts in May. Having donated over 52,000 backpacks over the course of the last 19 years, our League hopes to donate at least 3,000 school-supplies filled backpacks this spring to help students start the next academic year off successfully. We have already collected funds through corporate sponsorships and grants, as well as several individual donations. These efforts combined with the proceeds from our upcoming fundraisers will allow us to achieve our lofty goal!

The Junior League of Columbus continues to support The Kelton House Museum & Garden, who had an exciting fall with the launch of their film "Not On Our Watch, The Oberlin-Wellington Rescue of 1858". The movie commemorates the dramatic events that occurred in Wellington and Oberlin, Ohio in 1858. Its narrative centers on the capture of a runaway by bounty hunters and the action of local anti-slavery students and townspeople who freed the runaway from his jail. The film is a testament to the educational and historic preservation that the Kelton House aims to achieve through its programming and events.

It is a wonderful time to be a member and partner of the Junior League of Columbus. I encourage you to read this newsletter that captures the essence of our remarkable year thus far.

With great pride,
Marisa Nye
2018-19 President
Junior League of Columbus

MISSION STATEMENT

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

VISION STATEMENT

The Junior League of Columbus is the community's leading resource for trained volunteers. Through our programs and the Kelton House Museum and Garden, we educate the community, preserve the past and build for the future of Columbus.

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BARGAIN BOX: CELEBRATING 70 YEARS



The Junior League of Columbus held the 70th and Final Bargain Box on September 29, 2018 at 387 E. Beck Street. Welcoming over 600 shoppers, which was up 200 shoppers from last year's Saturday sale, it truly was a milestone event. A presale was also held the night before with another 100+ in attendance; these shoppers were anxious to get their hands on the treasures first!



The sale was held in a vacant Columbus City School (CCS) facility thanks to an ongoing partnership the League has with CCS. With a unique layout, classrooms held different departments and the large gymnasium held furniture and boutique items, as well as our check-out lines. CCS graciously provided the building for two months so that JLC could use the space as a warehouse and sale location. Prior to this, the League was also graciously gifted space at Fortner Upholstery's warehouse. Both organizations were very generous of their time and resources in helping the Junior League of Columbus have the most successful final sale!

The sale was supported in numerous ways by Junior League members (including our amazing sustainers) and community members. Not only did many volunteer thousands of hours and donate all the items for sale, too we had several department sponsorships from actives, sustainers, and friends of the League. Our largest sponsor, Tailored Management, gifted \$1000 to the event. Additional partners stepped in to help to pull the sale together including Kroger, Goodwill, Dublin Cleaners, Rumpke, Lasting Impressions and E.E. Ward. Volunteers even snacked on items donated from Chuy's and Chipotle during their volunteer shifts.

The League is grateful for the large amount of event publicity given by NBC4's morning show with Monica Day. They ran several spots both prior to the sale and the sale weekend.

Items that were not sold benefited charities in the Columbus area community including Columbus Early Learning Centers, Dress for Success, Fairy Goodmothers, Goodwill, Star House and Westside Free Store.





MERRY MARILEE A GATHERING TO CELEBRATE OUR SUSTAINER HONOREE!

This year the Holiday Soiree was held on November 16th at J Liu of Worthington. The team was excited to welcome guests to kick off the holiday season by celebrating the 2018 JLC Sustainer Honoree, Marilee Chinnici-Zuercher. The evening allowed friends, family and community members to come together to honor all that Marilee has done for Central Ohio. It was a perfect occasion for guests to celebrate, catch up and relax during one of the busiest times of the year!



The event featured a wonderful plated dinner, joyful holiday music, scrumptious Nothing Bundt Cakes and even a chance to take home a charming mini poinsettia! The night also featured a beautifully decorated Christmas tree that was later donated to very appreciative child patients at Nationwide Children's Hospital. They loved all the personalized ornaments that both League members and guests decorated for the charity tree. The JLC signature candle was also a huge hit. Its scent was created by the Holiday Soiree team themselves; and after many sniffs and smells, we think the fragrance is just right!

The evening featured an impressive silent auction and some insightful speeches from amazing women. It was lovely to hear all of great things our guests had to say about Marilee Chinnici-Zuercher. Her son, Brian Zuercher, capped the evening off with delightful dialogue about the impact his mother had on the community; bringing laughs and sounds of admiration from all in attendance. The Soiree team was honored to present Marilee with a tribute book that reflects how much her family, friends and community appreciate her and all her efforts. The evening was one of merriment, celebration and philanthropy; it was a lovely way to start the holiday season!

14 YEARS OF HOLIDAY INSPIRATION

The 14th Annual Holiday Tour of Homes took place on December 1, 2018 in the Tartan Fields neighborhood of Dublin, OH. This year's tour featured five beautiful homes that welcomed nearly 400 guests throughout the day. The homes were impeccably decorated by our homeowners with the help of our very own Autumn Pochiro of Autumn Dawn Inspired Designs. Each house had floral displays and wreaths courtesy of five local florists: Chapel Hill Florists, DeSantis Florists, Petals & Leaves, Red Blossom Flowers & Gifts and Rose Bredl.

Homes on tour were decked top to bottom and featured fun new ideas for holiday decor. With Autumn's help, homeowners were able to develop ways to carry holiday decor to all rooms of their homes. Small wreaths on bathroom mirrors, giant gingerbread cutouts in a basement, and a "bayou" themed sunroom were some of the many ways that the holiday theme was creatively displayed across the neighborhood. Tour attendees spent the afternoon wandering through houses gathering new ideas for their own holiday decor, while enjoying small bites from our restaurant sponsors: A Cake for LeRoy, Buffalo Wild Wings, Mezzo, Napa Kitchen + Bar, Nothing Bundt Cakes and Piada.

This year's event raised over \$18,000 to benefit the programs and missions of the Junior League of Columbus. Thank you to all of our committee members who made this event a huge success. Keep a lookout for details of the 15th Annual Holiday Tour of Homes taking place in Upper Arlington on December 7, 2019!



LEADERSHIP & LATTES: A NIGHT OF FEMALE INSPIRATION



The 4th Annual Leadership & Lattes was held on Thursday, January 31st at The Boathouse Restaurant at Confluence Park. Panel speakers Laura Converse Haines, Marti Post, and Rhonda Talford-Knight all come from different industries and backgrounds, yet share common experiences which they married together for a fantastic panel discussion during the event.

Laura-Converse Haines grew up loving horses and going into the family business was not in her plan. Fast forward years later and she found herself a female in a strongly male-dominated construction industry where she learned to get rid of 'head trash', become a 'wolf' and 'stand seven feet tall' (despite being 5 feet in actual stature). Her focus now is to leave a legacy as she carries her family business into a third generation and employs over seventy people.

Marti Post wanted to change the world coming out of interning in Washington DC and also pushed through moments of shame to be truthful, own mistakes and find solutions. One story she shared while at Gillette brought about positive change and empathy for her future direct reports. Additionally, she discovered a new passion, which she is pursuing in speaking to groups about working motherhood.



Rhonda Talford-Knight shared how she envisioned her career starting out; mostly from what others envisioned and how it unfolded as she discovered her passion in advocacy and communication. Her 'ma' was a prominent mentor through her life in living a life of service. She recommends owning your journey and passing the plate!

The topic of mentorship yielded discussion around having someone different than you (race, age, ethnicity, etc.) and seeking an external mentor. It was suggested that this person should be outside of work for anonymity, leaders who are effective and get results, and someone who will encourage but also challenge you!

The final question on challenges in the next 5-10 years: Marti recommended in this digital age to be mindful of your time as it is a currency. Laura spoke of how women need to enter her industry as there are roles beyond just labor intensive such as analytics that need a woman's innate ability to multitask. Rhonda learned how to say no as she considers her two daughters and recommended we start supporting each other as women, as research indicates a gap.

The eighty plus attendees were captivated by these three female leaders and surely everyone cannot wait for the next Leadership & Lattes. The League was proud that well-over half the room was non-League members, who were drawn to this event that supports JLC's mission to develop the potential of women!

QUICK IMPACT MAKES A MARK WITH FOSTER YOUTH



On January 26th nearly twenty Junior League of Columbus members gathered at the Kelton House to make blankets for our community partner "My Very Own Blanket". The Quick Impact Committee has committed to donating \$1,000 to MVOB this year as well as complete 100 blankets for foster care children.

After sixty blankets were completed just that morning, some of the members went to brunch nearby at Olde Towne Tavern in Olde Towne East. It was a very enjoyable day for all!

COMMUNITY IMPACT & FOCUS: AN UPDATE ON FOSTER CARE



The Community Focus Committee hit the ground running to kick-off League year 2018-19. Having narrowed down the JLC's community focus demographic to Foster Youth in Transition, the team got to work getting to know the individuals we aim to serve. In the fall, the committee partnered with Columbus State Scholar Network to hold a focused discussion with former Foster Youth. JLC members spent the morning learning about the real-life experiences of Foster Youth in our local community. We discussed barriers to success and gaps that needed to be filled in order to develop stable and sustainable futures for the foster youth population. We learned about the foster care to homelessness pipeline and discussed ideas on how JLC could support the population to achieve better outcomes.

After learning from focus group participants that a staggering 5% of Foster Youth in Ohio earn a college degree, we began to develop a plan to revive a College Day experience for Foster Youth nearing high school completion. The JLC worked in partnership with the College of Public Health at OSU to set a date to give transitional age foster youth the opportunity to visit the OSU campus and become educated on navigating a higher education experience. The event will take place April 11, 2019.

Following the Columbus State Focus Group, JLC was invited to attend Thanksgiving dinner hosted by Action Ohio, an advocacy group comprised of former foster youth. They welcomed us into their foster family for the day, allowing us the opportunity to mingle and connect with other groups and organizations working to support Foster Youth in the Columbus area. It was at this event our team made an important connection to an organization called Star House.

Star House is an organization committed to meeting the needs of homeless youth in Columbus, many of whom have experienced the local Foster Care System. In a meeting with their CEO (Ann Bischoff) and Community Partnership Coordinator (Lamar Peoples), the Community Focus Committee developed a plan to bring training opportunities, resources and volunteers to their facility in an effort to meet the needs of transitional youth. Plan to see upcoming volunteer opportunities on the JLC calendar this spring.

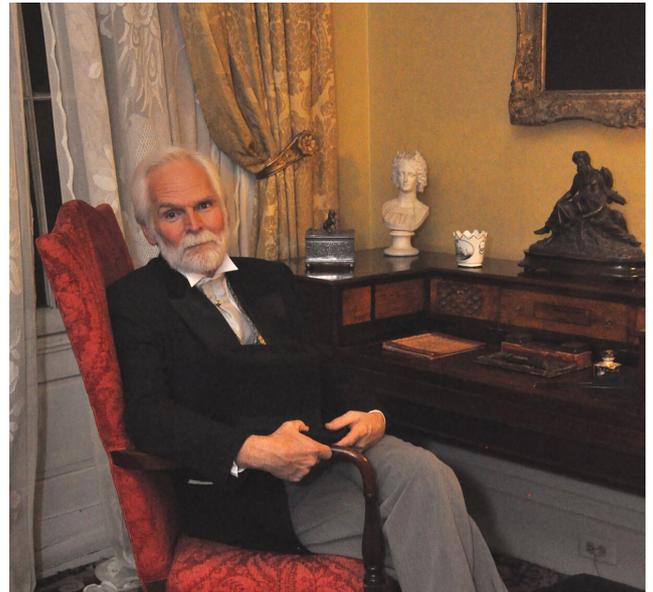
The Community Focus Committee looks forward to keeping members informed and engaged as we continue to grow and develop our program. If you are looking for an opportunity to access our committee and learn more about our focus, consider joining our book club. Each month we will select a new book that relates to our area of focus. We will gather to discuss what we have learned and ideas to stay current in our efforts to support foster youth in transition. Our first meeting is March 12, 2019. We hope to see you there!

WHAT'S NEW AT THE KELTON HOUSE?

Beginning in November 2018, the Kelton House Underground Railroad Community Advisory Committee was integrated into the Kelton House Education Committee. The move will put all the Kelton House education efforts under one mantle. The Underground Railroad Community Advisory Committee members include many historians from the community who cherish the Kelton House and local history.

Plans include programs on women's suffrage, especially the role of Belle Coit Kelton, Frederick Schumacher, philanthropist, art collector, entrepreneur, and a recreation of the wedding of Martha Hartway, who escaped slavery and was sheltered by the Keltons for over 10 years, and Thomas Lawrence in the Kelton parlor.

The committee meets every other month, on the fourth Tuesday. The next meeting is March 26th at 6:00pm. All Junior League of Columbus members are invited to participate.



AJLI 2019 WINTER LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

During the weekend of January 26th, Christin Smith and Kara Newbury represented the Junior League at the Annual AJLI Winter Leadership Conference in New Orleans. At this conference, new League leadership teams (Incoming Presidents, Incoming Presidents-Elect and Incoming Executive Vice Presidents) had the opportunity to work together with counterparts from other Leagues.

"Winter Leadership provided an incredible opportunity for Christin and I to bond more as JLC leaders and get to know each other's leadership styles as we gear up for the 2019-2020 League Year. We were able to attend separate sessions the first day that were more geared toward our upcoming leadership roles and join together the second full day. From gaining insight into how to communicate effectively with League members, to learning how our organization can actively work on diversity and inclusion, the trainings were invaluable. We attended a three-hour workshop on Digital Cheetah, and are committed as League leaders to better leveraging this resource and also ensure our members are aware of the resources available to them through the AJLI website. We left Winter Leadership Conference energized and excited for next year!"

- Kara Newbury, President-Elect

KELTON HOUSE VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

"I look forward to every volunteer opportunity at Kelton House. I get great satisfaction from participating in the various programs and take great pride in representing an entity that has incredible historical significance in being part of the Underground Railroad.

From history buffs to teachers and Girl Scouts and even people just walking by, so many different people find their way to Kelton House. It is always thrilling to meet such diverse groups and learning what brought them to the museum and hearing their thoughts on their museum experience."

-Tamica White

GOAL-SETTING, PLANNING & POINTS OF PRIDE AT THE LEADERSHIP MID-YEAR RETREAT

The Board of Directors and Management Council leaders gathered Sunday, February 3, 2019 for their annual mid-year retreat. Incoming Board of Directors and slated Management Council for the 2019-20 League Year were also invited and many were able to attend. Discussion topics covered were the 2019-20 Strategic Planning Process, an update from AJLI Winter Leadership Conference in New Orleans last month, the updated Placement Tool in Digital Cheetah and Interview Training & Timeline for the new Placement Process. The retreat opened with each leader going around the room and saying what she was most proud of the League for thus far in the League Year. Such a sense of pride was shared with all the leaders on Junior League of Columbus' recent accomplishments and increasing community visibility. Everyone is looking forward to finishing out their term strong and starting the 2019-20 League Year off strong!



SUSTAINER/NEW MEMBER SOCIAL

League members of all ages gathered at the Annual Sustainer/New Member Cocktail Party, hosted once again by sustainers, Julie Smerdel and Mary Oellermann. Mary, who has hosted this event for several years at her gorgeous home, welcomed everyone on Thursday, January 23rd.

It was such a wonderful night networking with friends, new and old, and discussing the highlights of our thriving organization. Sustainer Representatives, Anne DeVoe and Courtney Kramer, led a short discussion on League highlights, and everyone enjoyed tasty wine and yummy food throughout the evening!



FRIENDS OF THE KELTON HOUSE BRUCH



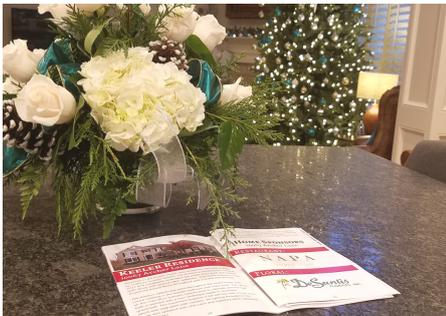
The Annual Friends' of the Kelton House Brunch was held at the Kelton House on Sunday, January 27th. The brunch featured eleven brunch items, all donated by Junior League of Columbus members. Becky West, Executive Director from ColumbusLandmarks.org, presented an Update on Endangered Buildings in Columbus. The volunteers received many compliments regarding the quality of food and Becky's presentation. Interested in attending the brunch in 2020? Help support the Kelton House Museum & Garden by becoming a Friend of the Kelton House at www.keltonhouse.com/support/. Your membership includes attendance at the brunch!

SHOWCASING A PARTNER: BILL SHANTZ OF MINUTEMAN PRESS

Aside from being one of the friendliest and most attentive individuals you will meet, Bill Shantz and his staff at Minuteman Press Lewis Center are nothing short of perfection. They provide both full service printing and marketing design to clients and have donated a substantial amount of printing services to the Junior League of Columbus this year, covering fundraisers, community projects and internal celebrations. We are so grateful for the in-kind service donations that they provide to the League, which has saved us countless dollars that can be reallocated to our programming efforts.



Aside from owning Minuteman Press, Bill volunteers a great deal in the local community. Serving his neighbors and fellow customers is something he is very passionate about and certainly something he has in common with our organization. Similar to Junior League of Columbus, the Dublin-Worthington Rotary Club, to which Bill is a member, is where neighbors, friends, and problem-solvers share ideas, join leaders, and take action to create lasting change. We are honored to work so closely with Bill and his staff and have Minuteman Press as a key partner. If you or your company has marketing and printing needs, we highly recommend Minuteman Press of Lewis Center for all your projects!



MEET OUR NEW TRANSFERS



Emma Piacentini

Years in the League? 10

What League are you transferring from? Orange County, CA

What do you do for a living? Application Development Consultant

Why did you join the Junior League? Philanthropy & Social Connections

What's the best piece of advice you've ever been given? Live life with intention

Anything else you would like to tell us about you, any fun facts? N/A



Arielle Siner

Years in the League? 2

What League are you transferring from? Richmond, VA

What do you do for a living? Event Planner

Why did you join the Junior League? Service and meet new people with like interests.

What's the best piece of advice you've ever been given? "It's just life, don't take it too seriously"

Anything else you would like to tell us about you, any fun facts? I love to travel and have been to 16 countries!



Amy Vickers-Smith Bryan

Years in the League? 3

What League are you transferring from? Knoxville Junior League

What do you do for a living? Buyer for Emery's 5 & 10 in Pigeon Forge, TN

Why did you join the Junior League? To be part of a group that makes a difference in the community

What's the best piece of advice you've ever been given? Everyone makes mistakes. Take responsibility for your mistakes, learn from them, and then let them go.

Anything else you would like to tell us about you, any fun facts? My family includes 3 dogs, 2 cats, 1 sun conure & 4 horses.

UPCOMING EVENTS



C.O.D.E. Day 2019 will be held on Saturday, March 2, 2019 at The Boathouse Restaurant at Confluence Park. Registration starts at 8:30am with a light breakfast provided. The program begins at 9am and is scheduled to end at 3:30pm.

The Junior League of Columbus is excited to bring a packed day of training and networking, including guest speakers Amber Levy of AJLI and Kelley Griesmer of the Women's Fund of Central Ohio.



Bring your BESTIES and join the #1 Tupperware sales lady personality, Dee W. Ivey, for a lively evening of fun benefiting the Junior League of Columbus' Adopt-A-Backpack for Children (ABC) Project.

The project has provided over 52,000 children in Central Ohio with supply-filled backpacks to help them grow and find their love of learning! The event features a multi-round quarter auction.

Bring your extra quarters, as you won't want to miss these auction items! Doors open at 6:30pm with the action beginning promptly at 7:00pm. Enjoy hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Buckeye Window Treatments, City Scene Media Group, Dean Insurance Group - AllState Insurance, Dirty Frank's Hot Dog Palace, Fabtique, Ferguson Bath, Kitchen, and Lighting Gallery, First Commonwealth, Fortner Fine Living, K.A. Menendian Rug Gallery, MinuteMan Press - Lewis Center, Joe and Patty Evans Re/Max Town Center, Brad Beach - Tailored Management, The Cleary Company, The Granite Guy, The Scout Guide Columbus, Tuckerman Home Group, The Wright Group with Re/Max Metro Plus, Angela and Jay Parsons, OCLC

