



THE LARIAT

Junior League of Fort Worth



Lisa and Burch Waldron at Presbyterian Night Shelter

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JUNIOR LEAGUE FORT WORTH

Mission

The Junior League of Fort Worth, Inc. is an organization of women whose Mission is to advance women's leadership for meaningful community impact through volunteer action, collaboration, and training. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

Vision

The Junior League of Fort Worth, Inc. will strive to improve our community by directing our resources to positively impact the well-being of children and families by providing a legacy of trained volunteers.

Impact Areas

Arts and Culture | Basic Human Needs Education | Physical & Mental Health Supports Fort Worth

Our Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion

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

Today, the JLFW comprises approximately 2,000 Members and is part of The Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. (AJLI) which constitutes one of the largest, most effective volunteer organizations in the world. For more information, visit www.juniorleaguefw.org.

The Lariat is published three times a year by the Junior League of Fort Worth, Inc.

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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Welcome to the 95th year of the Junior League of Fort Worth!

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Members of the Junior League of Fort Worth (JLFW), I am excited to share the first issue of *The Lariat* for our 2024-2025 year with you.

For 95 years, our dedicated Members have been at the forefront of advancing women's leadership through volunteer action, collaboration, and training. With nearly 2,000 women, we are one of the 10 largest Leagues in the world. This year, our theme embodies our commitment to forging new paths and creating positive change in many ways.

- **We train women.** Through targeted education and leadership development opportunities, we cultivate strong leaders and volunteers to serve agencies throughout our community.
- **We fundraise.** With these funds, we're able to distribute over \$1 million this year to carefully selected projects and community initiatives that improve the lives of women, children, and families in our community.
- **We volunteer.** We multiply the funds raised with volunteer hours to maximize the impact of our contributions.

Over the summer, JLFW leaders worked tirelessly to plan an exciting fall agenda. Our community placement volunteers logged over **2,000 hours**, supporting events like Mayfest, managing ticket sales at the Charles Schwab Challenge at Colonial, assisting teachers during camps at the Fort Worth Zoo, and volunteering with the Fort Worth Drowning Prevention Coalition. Meanwhile, our *Christmas in Cowtown* committee held countless planning meetings to bring Fort Worth a merry and bright holiday shopping experience.

In September, we kicked off the year with our International Find the Good Day celebration at our first General Membership Meeting, where we heard from JLFW Member **Tammy Bohanon**, a trailblazer who has spent her life in service, including her time as a New York City Police Officer during September 11, 2001.

As JLFW celebrates 95 years of serving Fort Worth, we also celebrate the women who move our Mission forward. In this issue, you'll meet some of the inspiring women who serve on our Board of Directors and learn how JLFW Diaper Bank at Tarrant Area Food Bank (Diaper Bank) Co-Chairs **Claire Hicks** and **Julie Wilkinson** are leading efforts to address diaper needs in Tarrant County. You'll also read about two remarkable women, **Kelly Ray** and **Erica Pifer**, whose hard work and leadership have been instrumental in ensuring the success of our 18th annual *Christmas in Cowtown Holiday Market*.

The dynamic women in the League today are trained, ready, and willing to work for good across our community. As you read this edition, I hope you share the same sense of pride that I do in the incredible work we are accomplishing together. The women in the Junior League of Fort Worth are truly making an immeasurable impact in our community.

To the continued impact and legacy of trailblazers,

Sarah Washington
2024-2025 President

JLFW

SNAPSHOTS





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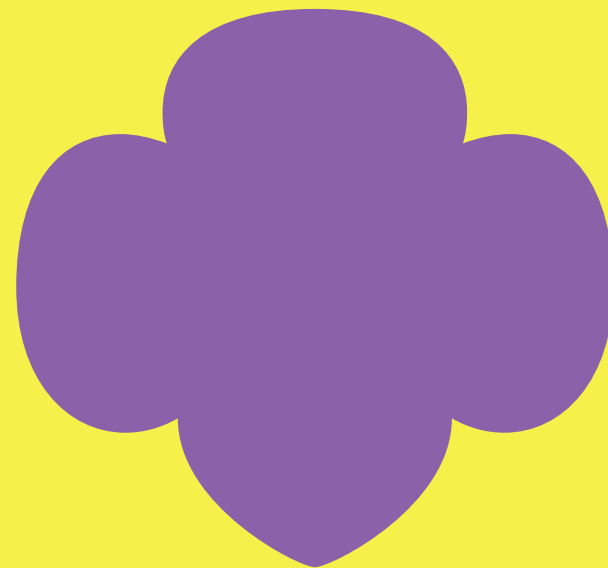
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JLFW GOES WILD FOR LEARNING AT THE FORT WORTH ZOO

BY MADELINE HUNT

The Junior League of Fort Worth, Inc. (JLFW) was thrilled to celebrate the unveiling of the Fort Worth Zoo's new Exploration & Learning Center (ELC), a state-of-the-art facility that represents a significant milestone in the Zoo's commitment to education and conservation. We are proud to have been a part of this transformative project, providing a grant that helped bring the ELC to life.

The ELC, the Zoo's second on-site education facility, was designed to inspire the next generation of conservationists. With flexible classrooms and outdoor learning spaces, this 11,000-square-foot center will double the capacity of the Zoo's summer camps and introduce middle and high school students to exciting career opportunities in animal sciences. The expansion addresses the growing demand for educational programs at the Zoo, which has seen a 45% increase in Summer Camp enrollment since 2018 and a 30% growth in Zoo Preschool over the last six years.

JLFW was honored to be represented at the ribbon-cutting ceremony on May 30, 2024, ahead of the ELC's first day of summer camp. This year marks the first time the Zoo has been a JLFW placement, and we are proud of the six dedicated women serving in educational and event support roles. Our volunteers engaged in supporting summer zoo camps, including three overnight camps, and will assist with large events such as Boo at the Zoo and the Zoo Run. JLFW is delighted with the lasting impact our support has had on the Fort Worth Zoo and the broader community. The ELC is not just a building; it is a gateway to a future where young minds are inspired to explore, learn, and ultimately, protect our planet's wildlife.

VOLUNTEERS WALK ALONGSIDE FAMILIES ON THEIR JOURNEY HOME

BY MADELINE HUNT

The Junior League of Fort Worth, Inc. (JLFW) is excited to partner with the Presbyterian Night Shelter (PNS), specifically working with tenants in their Journey Home Housing development. These are families who have successfully transitioned out of homelessness and are now paying rent and maintaining stable incomes, all while continuing to receive support from PNS.

JLFW kicked off our involvement in June with a lively pizza party at the Journey Home Community Center. It was a wonderful opportunity for tenants to meet our dedicated volunteers and for everyone to get to know each other in a relaxed, welcoming environment. We were joined by notable figures like **Allison Davis**, JLFW Project Development Chair Advisor; **Brenda Rios**, PNS Chief Philanthropy Officer; **Curtis Rhodes**, PNS Director of Communications; and **Judi Glover**, PNS Volunteer Coordinator, who all shared insights into the program and the exciting year ahead.

In July, our volunteers had a productive brainstorming session with the Journey Home Housing Case Managers, discussing topics that would be beneficial to the tenants. This collaborative effort set the stage for our bi-weekly meetings with the tenants, where each volunteer is paired with a mentee to provide personalized support. The first official meeting focused on budgeting, led by volunteer Alejandro Pichardo, a banker who shared invaluable tips on savings accounts and financial planning. The tenants contributed their experiences, and we discussed various tools like budgeting apps and tips for maximizing SNAP benefits. The enthusiasm and engagement in these sessions highlight the strength of this partnership.

In addition to our hands-on involvement, JLFW is proud to have made a \$100,000 donation to PNS, to furnish and equip a second Journey Home Housing development. This contribution underscores our commitment to supporting families on their journey to stability and independence.



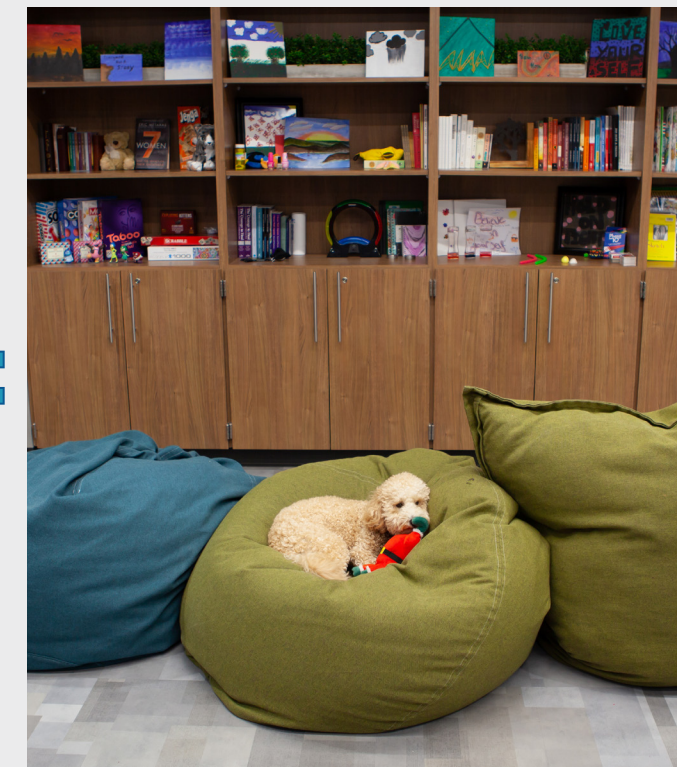
A PATH TO HOPE: JLFW SUPPORTS UNBOUND NOW NORTH TEXAS

BY LAUREN NIXON

Each year, the Junior League of Fort Worth, Inc. (JLFW) selects organizations to receive project development funds in addition to volunteer placements. For 2024-2025, Unbound Now North Texas received \$100,000 in project funding and a placement of five volunteers. While this is a new project and collaboration for JLFW, the organization has been serving Fort Worth and beyond for more than 10 years.

“Unbound Now serves survivors of human trafficking and provides resources communities to fight human trafficking,” shared Paola Chavez, Outreach and Training Director for Unbound Now North Texas. “JLFW volunteers will play a critical role by supporting The Underground, our 24/7 drop-in center for youth, ages 10-22, and our Survivor Advocacy program,” she continued. “Collaborating with JLFW allows us to demonstrate to youth and adult survivors of human trafficking that there is a community rooting for them in their journey to restoration.”

According to the Department of Homeland Security, “Human trafficking involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to obtain some type



of labor or commercial sex act.” **Cassidy Riehl** serves as the JLFW Project Development Chair for Unbound Now North Texas, and she shared that JLFW volunteers have completed many hours of training and multiple layers of background checks in preparation for working with such a vulnerable population.

All of the necessary steps will be worth it, as volunteers begin their work at the administrative center, in community outreach events, and at The Underground day shelter, where they will work directly with clients. While there, Riehl shared that JLFW volunteers will, “Interact with the youth, play games with them, make meals, help with laundry, and help keep bathroom areas clean and prepped to help maintain The Underground as a safe place for youth to go in a time of need.” While the youth can receive physical rest and restoration at the shelter, the staff work on referrals for services and next steps. “The youth can stay for up to 24 hours,” Riehl explained, “and in those 24 hours the staff comes up with a game plan that fits the needs of the individual.” We are looking forward to what the rest of the League year brings partnering with this new agency.



TWO MILLION DIAPERS AND COUNTING

BY LAUREN NIXON

A 2023 survey by the National Diaper Bank Network (NDBN) found that nearly half of families reported experiencing diaper need, a public health issue resulting from a lack of sufficient supply of diapers to keep a person clean, dry, and healthy. In the same survey, 28% of families reported skipping meals to afford diapers. Diapers support education and economic mobility by meeting an essential need required for children to go to daycare and as a result, for parents to go to work.

After two years of research and development, in May of 2020, the Junior League of Fort Worth, Inc. (JLFW) launched the Junior League of Fort Worth Diaper Bank at Tarrant Area Food Bank (Diaper Bank), becoming the only NDBN location in Tarrant County. By February 2024, more than two million diapers have been distributed to more than 100 partner agencies. The Tarrant Area Food Bank (TAFB) serves as a critical partner in storing and moving inventory of the Diaper Bank.

Co-Chairs **Julie Wilkinson** and **Claire Hicks** lead a committee who gathers monthly at the TAFB to complete diaper builds. Agencies place orders based on their needs, and the committee's dedicated JLFW Treasurer, **Kye King**, manages purchases and creates the build sheets. The committee then assembles the pallets for an

average of 50 agencies a month.

For agencies to receive diapers from the Diaper Bank, they must have 501(c)(3) nonprofit status, serve residents of Tarrant County, distribute the diapers for free, and not receive any funds in exchange for them. Hicks shared that, "For these nonprofits, we are capacity building by alleviating their diaper supply bottom line. They get to go spend those funds on other things that create more impact."

Wilkinson shared the story of one community partner who "Got emotional speaking about the funds that the Diaper Bank freed up in her budget. She was now able to do more with her after school programs and provide snacks for the students. It was incredible to hear her talk about how we've directly, positively impacted her and her ability to provide for her residents."

Questions about how you can contribute or any of the above?

Visit juniorleaguefw.org/diaperbank/ or contact the committee at diaperbank@juniorleaguefw.org.



CHRISTMAS IN COWTOWN A LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP

BY STEPHANIE DEROSA

In 2006 the Junior League of Fort Worth, Inc. (JLFW) needed a substantial new fundraiser, and decided on a gift market. **Sandra Tuomey** was appointed chair of the inaugural gift market, named *Christmas in Cowtown (CIC)*. She roped **Paige Pate** into becoming her co-chair for what would be a year of research, learning, and luck, developing one of the best holiday gift markets in Texas.

In September of 2006, the first CIC meeting was held with a twelve-member Steering Committee. **Clare Lorimer**, an original 2006-2007 *CIC* Committee Member, previously worked with the annual White House Easter Egg Roll. Lorimer had the idea for the *CIC* logo to be designed by a local artist a tradition that lasts to this day.

In 2007, sustaining advisor **Jean Roach** was Tuomey and Pate's greatest asset. "[Jean] is the reason *CIC* is successful. Jean had presence and a lot of respect in the community. We couldn't have done it without her opening doors and sharing her vast knowledge of the city of Fort Worth. She taught us how to be good leaders." When asked about the best advice Tuomey and Pate received from Roach, they shared that the advice given back then is the same advice they share to this day, "You can't do everything the first year. Concentrate on what you know is

going to work, then let the years ahead build on that."

Advertising for the first *CIC* Market was a completely different task as technology was not what it is today. Fax was the main means of communication. Marketing was through direct mail, and advertising was through the local newspaper. *CIC* did not even have a website. The first *CIC* Marketing Committee also used yard signs and street banners to advertise, which are still used today. "Getting sponsorships was just convincing people to take a chance on us," Tuomey and Pate remember. They secured a \$10,000 sponsorship from Bank of America and Clarice Tinsley of Fox 4 as a media sponsor. Today, many sponsors request to be part of the annual event.

Tuomey and Pate needed to create a set budget. They would tell each other, "I mean, I think we will spend X amount on printing tickets?", ultimately, they had to make educated guesses and budgeted to net \$50,000 profit, with their fingers crossed. They knew they had to sell a certain number of sponsorships and merchant spots to meet that goal. Tuomey remembers counting the numbers after the event and thinking, "There has to be a mistake!" In 2007, the inaugural *CIC* made a shocking \$235,000 net profit.

The current *CIC* Co-Chairs, **Kelly Ray** and **Erica Pifer**, led the full *CIC* Committee of nearly 100 Members. The 2024 Merry & Bright design was inspired by traditional elements, like the Spode Christmas Tree pattern. They added pinks, blues, and greens with scalloped edges and bows to give it their own touch. “We both love a traditional feel, but we wanted to add a little more color and modern flare,” Pifer explained while Ray added, “We wanted this year’s *Market* to feel nostalgic, colorful, and happy, but also fun and modern.”

Sustainers are an everlasting asset to current JLFW Members. “We specifically asked our two sustaining advisors, **Mindy Hegi** and **Amy Patyk**, to help guide us this year because they were both *CIC* Co-Chairs in years past,” Pifer remarked, referring to how helpful Sustainers have been throughout the planning process.

While Ray and Pifer led the powerhouse committee through another *CIC* season, you may have spotted Tuomey and Pate sitting on a bench in the middle of *CIC*’s Annual Preview Party. “We always find a place to sit and admire it. We are so happy with how it has progressed and how it has grown,” Pate shares with nostalgia in her voice. Tuomey adds, “The public may not realize how many volunteers and how many volunteer hours it takes to put it on. JLFW is about promoting volunteerism and women’s leadership, both of which are integral to the success of *CIC*.”

Tuomey and Pate are trailblazers proving there is no idea too small - the results can be immense. Since 2007, JLFW has raised nearly \$8.5 million for the community. Today, the *CIC* Committee has grown to almost 100 Members, 47 of whom are on the Steering Committee, and has over 500 volunteers per *Market*. As one of the largest Leagues in the world, we are grateful to our members and community for making the 2024 *Market* a success!





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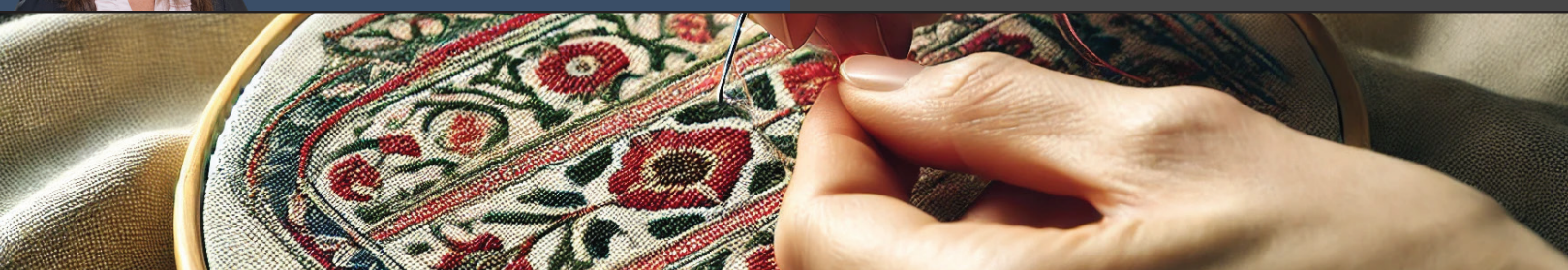
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In March 2025, Historic Fort Worth, Inc. will feature an exhibit showcasing the artistry of needlepoint, cross stitch, and hand embroidery, which provide avenues for self-expression akin to painting with a needle. What makes this show unique is that there is no entry fee, the pieces are not juried, and you don't need to be invited to participate. The exhibit will be held March 6 - 9, 2025 at the historic 1899 Ball-Eddleman-McFarland House, Fort Worth's second historic landmark, located at 1110 Penn Street, 76102.

For information on tickets or becoming an exhibitor



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JUNIOR MINTS GOES BACK TO SCHOOL

BY MADELINE HUNT

The Junior MINTS (MINTS) committee is thrilled to report that the MINTS program is off to an incredible start! In August, our dedicated volunteers completed over 250 hours of service across our nine campuses. This early success is a testament to the commitment and enthusiasm of our amazing Provisionals.

Our recent MINTS Orientation was a resounding success, equipping our volunteers with the tools and knowledge they need to make a meaningful impact. The training was comprehensive, ensuring that everyone felt confident and prepared as they embarked on this rewarding journey.

The energy and passion from our volunteers are already making waves. We've heard stories of standout volunteers who have gone above and beyond—working double shifts, staying late, and bringing a cheerful attitude to every task. Their dedication has not only impressed the staff but also inspired their fellow volunteers.

In August, back-to-school bashes took place, and we are looking forward to the many fall festivities planned for September and October. These events will offer even more opportunities for our volunteers to shine and further our Mission of making a positive impact in our community.

The Junior League of Fort Worth, Inc. is proud of what we've accomplished so far, and we can't wait to provide additional support to the dedicated teachers in the classrooms, the students through mentoring, the families by facilitating educational nights, and supplementing much needed supplies.

FORT WORTH JUNIOR LEAGUE NEWS BULLETIN

Vol. XI OCTOBER, 1940 No. 1

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

There will be a regular meeting of the Fort Worth Junior League on Friday, October 4th, at 10:30 A. M. at the Fort Worth Club.
 There will be a Board meeting Wednesday, October 2nd, 10:00 A. M. at the Junior League office.
 The Friday Morning Coffees will start October 11th at 10:30 at Mrs. Harry Logan's, and another coffee will be held October 25th at Mrs. Ed Hyde's.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our first thought is to welcome you all back from your various summer excursions, hoping they were all exceedingly gay and lighthearted, and hoping also that we may each carry over into this year's work some of that spontaneous good will induced by summer sunshine.

More than ever before in the League's history, we look forward to uncertain events, not knowing what to expect. We can be sure that in any emergency the Junior League will be called on to contribute its services. We can be just as sure that the Junior League members will respond whole-heartedly. Because of the Junior League training and experience in volunteer service, the League members should be able to lead in new fields of work. Our first duty is to our own community, and our own particular job. When that is done League members will undoubtedly give much time and service in other voluntary ways.

During the coming times of stress, with the radio, magazines and newspapers

full of such horrible accounts of world news, when hysterical thought and action would be so easy, the League must lead others in calm, deliberate, unconfused thinking and speech. It is our duty; it is our responsibility.

May we wish for each one of you a year of interesting work with challenging opportunities, new friendships gained through working together, and last, but by no means least, a lot of good fun.

LOUISE LOGAN.

ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Remember to be on the look out for the ballot. If the ballot isn't received by Monday, October 7th call 6-2545. Remember all classes of members are urged to vote. Membership cards and letters will be on file Monday, October 7th through Friday, October 11th from 10:00 A. M. to 4 P. M. in the Junior League office in the Fort Worth Club Building. You are invited to examine these cards to clear up any questions concerning the

FROM THE ARCHIVES

BY LAUREN NIXON

As the Junior League of Fort Worth, Inc. (JLFW) enters its 95th year, there is much to reflect on throughout the near century of service our Members have brought to the community. In the archives project, an extensive collection of publications, artifacts, photos, and more are the stories of our great League. Much like how we gathered for our September General Membership Meeting where we all returned from our summer experiences ready to dive into our League year, in October of 1940, Members gathered together for their first meeting. President **Louise Logan** struck a balance between what was happening in the world and how the League should respond. Seven decades later and former President Logan's words still hold weight.

As Members of the League, we will all experience our own valleys and mountains in life, just as the women who came before us. We juggle life and League responsibilities. The best reminder when looking at the past is remembering we are not alone. The projects and impact made in 1940 have rippling effects to where we are today. This legacy paved the way for us to collaborate with 40 community agencies, raise over \$1 million through our fundraisers and develop the leadership skills of almost 2,000 Members today. May we do it all with former President Logan's words echoing in our ears, "the League must lead others in calm, deliberate, unconfused thinking and speech. It is not only our duty, but also our responsibility."

BUILDING A RESPECTFUL ENVIRONMENT

The **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB)** committee is excited to share information on the concepts of multicultural competence, cultural humility, and multicultural responsiveness to expand our awareness and foster an inclusive and respectful environment in the League and beyond.

Multicultural Competence is primarily knowledge-based. It involves understanding and respecting that cultural differences and similarities exist without assigning them value. It's about considering and responding appropriately to these differences within the context you're working in. Often, cultural competence is viewed as a checkbox— "Do you have this skill or not?"—but it's much more than that. It requires an ongoing commitment to learning and adaptation.

Cultural Humility is a state of being. It starts with self-evaluation, understanding your own culture, beliefs, and identities. From there, it extends to learning about the cultures, beliefs, and values of others, with an open mind, genuine curiosity, and a willingness to learn. Cultural humility is about acknowledging that you don't have all the answers and being open to continuous learning and growth.

Multicultural Responsiveness is an action. It's about taking the knowledge gained through multicultural competence and applying it with the mindset of cultural humility. Multicultural responsiveness involves actively working to relate respectfully to the heritages, traditions, and experiences of others. It's the work of creating spaces of true belonging.

To effectively fulfill our Mission, we must all practice multicultural responsiveness, both among each other and when engaging with the communities we serve. This approach ensures that we build environments where everyone feels valued and respected.



WELCOMING THE 2024-2025 PROVISIONAL CLASS

BY LIBBY MANESS

Each May, a new group of Provisionals are welcomed into the Junior League of Fort Worth, Inc. (JLFW). These women submitted applications, met with sponsors, and anxiously awaited their official letter welcoming them to the League. Now that they've joined, it's officially time for them to begin serving in their JLFW placements. This year's provisional class consists of 150 women, ages 22 to 56, who bring a unique blend of life experiences and perspectives.

Since the start of summer, these Provisionals hit the ground running. They have been actively involved in various activities including training sessions and volunteering with schools across Fort Worth through Junior MINTS (MINTS). This summer alone, they have impressively contributed more than 400 service hours. They also attended the first provisional event at Maple Branch where they had an impressive guest list with 75 attendees.

"We are confident that this year's class of Provisionals will make a significant impact on the Fort Worth community and The Junior League as a whole," said Provisional Co-Chairs, **Danielle Hoefeld** and **Laura Kirspel**. "Their dedication and enthusiasm is inspiring and we are excited to see what they will accomplish in years to come."

Both Hoefeld and Kirspel emphasized that the provisional class was off to a strong start and expressed their anticipation to watch the group thrive as the year continues. "We believe this experience will pave the way for them to engage and make a difference for many years to come."

"We're excited for you to rock your Provisional year! Dive in and get to know your advisor group—they're awesome! Don't miss out on the Provisional Class Socials; they're a blast and a great way to connect. Rally your group to volunteer together and celebrate your successes along the way. Take a leap and try something new—step out of your comfort zone and embrace the adventure. Say 'yes' to finding joy in every moment with JLFW. Jump in, have fun, and fall head over heels for all the amazing things we have to offer and the ways we impact our community!"

LIFE IN THE LEAGUE



**LIFE AS A PROVISIONAL:
JESSICA CORN**
BY STEPHANIE DEROSA

Jessica Corn states, "I joined JLFW to connect with like-minded women who share my intentions, and to contribute positively to the community I call home." She enjoys provisional meetings and getting to know everyone in her provisional group. Corn, an apartment property manager, looks forward to her future in JLFW she hopes to build more connections with women in the League and she is excited to witness the positive impact JLFW makes in the Fort Worth community. Corn has quickly learned that there are many community members who genuinely appreciate the impact of a JLFW volunteer. In her free time, Corn can be found enjoying a walk with Theo, her dog, and going out and about with Hunter, her fiancé, in search of Fort Worth's best BBQ.



**LIFE AS AN ACTIVE:
EFI EYAMBE**
BY STEPHANIE DEROSA

Efi Eyambe was initially enticed to join the League by the Mission. She became familiar with JLFW at a young age when volunteering with her friends' mothers who were Members. Her knowledge in volunteerism is directly reflected in her current placement as the *Christmas in Cowtown (CIC)* Volunteer Chair. Eyambe is enjoying learning the logistics of what it takes to run a large event, while building connections with other *CIC* volunteers. Eyambe reflects on her provisional experience and how that time prepared her for the next level, stating, "We did our best to socialize outside of mandatory events and build friendships." True to her love of the arts, Eyambe is happy to share her favorite JLFW event and placement so far has been the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. Eyambe, loves to relax away from her career in healthcare by attending local plays, concerts, escaping into a good book or traveling with loved ones. She finds her happy place with her husband, Gino, and their dog, Apollo.



**LIFE AS A SUSTAINER:
MARY KATHRYN KLEUSER ANDERSON**
BY STEPHANIE DEROSA

In previous decades, joining the League was through invitation only and **Mary Kathryn Kleuser Anderson** was surprised by her invitation. Anderson began her provisional year in 1984 after thinking she would be too busy to join. "I was so surprised when I received the invitation, I almost turned it down," Anderson recalls. "I did not think that I would have time but did not want to hurt my friend's feelings, so I decided that I had to give it a try. I immediately loved getting to know the other Provisionals and some of the Actives. I loved learning more about the city of Fort Worth and the many organizations that we had here. Even though I had grown up in Fort Worth, I realized that I did not know as much about our city as I should have." Anderson is proud to be an engaged JLFW Sustainer of 30 years and is still involved in a number of her former placements. Alongside Sustainer **Kathy Spicer**, Anderson began the Epicurean Group many years ago and is in charge again this year. You can also find Anderson giving tours at the Kimbell Art Museum, one of her previous JLFW placements, where she has been a docent for over 20 years.

LIFE IN THE LEAGUE

LITTLEST LEAGUERS



Adaora C. Johnson

Onyinye Akujuo Johnson welcomed daughter, Adaora C. Johnson, on March 20, 2024.



Patrick Grant Murphy

Alicia Murphy welcomed son, Patrick Grant Murphy, on May 13, 2024.



Brynn Leigh Williams

Brittney and Todd Williams welcomed daughter, Brynn Leigh, on May 27, 2024

CONGRATULATIONS



Jessica Ariaga and Bo Seay, engaged on July 20, 2024.



Micaela Mead and Josh Johnson, engaged on July 27, 2024.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

TRANSFER IN

Virginia Baker S | *JL Arlington*
Karen Dunne S | *JL Little Rock, AR*
Kirsten Fredlund A | *JL Corpus Christi*
Callyn Maxwell A | *JL Dallas*
Kenitra Newsom A | *JL Dallas*
Nicole Novroski A | *JL Toronto*
Julia Sebesta A | *JL Houston*
Andi Wallace A | *JL Charlotte*

TRANSFER OUT

Clayton Sue Benson A | *JL Houston*
Brenna Jefferies NRA | *JL Washington D.C.*
Beka Levy A | *JL El Paso*
Sterett Scofield A | *JL San Antonio*

CONDOLENCE

Kay Clinkscale S | *Loss of husband*
Connie Davis S | *Loss of mother*
Stephanie Gaska A | *Loss of mother*
Sherry Key S | *Loss of mother*
Kimberly Ramon S | *Loss of mother*
Dana Wix S | *Loss of mother*

IN MEMORY

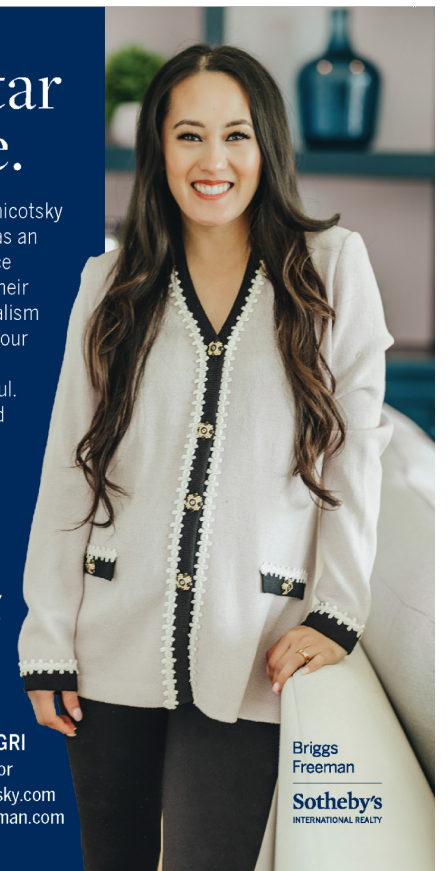
Linda Barker, *Sustainer*

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GITTINGS SPOTLIGHT

SARAH WASHINGTON | 2024-2025 PRESIDENT

With more than a decade of experience **Sarah Washington** has stepped into the role of President with the enthusiasm, expertise, passion, and leadership needed to make this year a success. While attending Texas Christian University, she met her husband, Patrick and together they have two children, Zibby and Will. She is dedicated to her professional career as a CPA and has a steadfast commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of others in our community. Throughout her time in JLFW, she has been actively involved in various initiatives. "I believe serving in the League alongside other amazingly talented women is the best possible training for those interested in growing leadership and volunteer skills." Washington said. "I have always been passionate about paying it forward and empowering others - so I am excited for the opportunity to serve Members the same way past presidents and leaders have encouraged and supported me." Washington aims to build upon the legacy and oversee the implementation of year two of the strategic plan developed by Members. While her primary goal is to ensure the success of the strategic plan, she is equally committed to fostering the potential of women and future leaders of Junior League of Fort Worth.

JANIE LATIMER | 2024-2025 COMMUNICATIONS VICE PRESIDENT

Janie Latimer recently made a bold career change with the skills and experience gained from her decade-long involvement with the League. "Here I have learned how to be adaptable, build best practices, and lead with intention." Being a strong communicator and public speaker, Latimer holds degrees in Communication. Her graduate degree was completed at the University of Illinois. She and her husband, Jared, have been married for 15 years. Together they have two children, Jensen and Jackson, who passed eight years ago, and their newest addition Jarvis, the puppy.

In her current role as Communications Vice President, Latimer finds fulfillment in mentoring and developing Members. She strives to create an empowering and collaborative environment. Her advice: "Find a woman whose leadership qualities resonate with you. Follow and learn from her example." She envisions the Communications Council as a vibrant hub where innovative ideas can flourish, visions become reality and action leads to progress. To ensure long-term success, she has set ambitious goals focused on creating a comprehensive pipeline for all Members. By equipping Members with essential skills and knowledge to become not only effective communicators but passionate ambassadors for Junior League Fort Worth, it creates a full circle of giving in Latimer's journey.

DR. TARA REED | 2024-2025 EDUCATION VICE PRESIDENT

Dr. Tara Reed, a seasoned educator and community advocate, has brought her passion and expertise to the role of Education Vice President. With a rich background in academia, entrepreneurship and as a former president of the Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Fort Worth Alumnae Chapter, Dr. Reed is committed to fostering personal and professional growth among Members. Inspired by her own transformative experiences, Dr. Reed has dedicated her time to creating meaningful learning opportunities, believing education is a powerful tool for empowerment. She aims to equip Members with the skills and knowledge to succeed. "My goal is to propel our League forward by creating growth opportunities in leadership and development. I want to help our Members prepare for leadership roles both within and outside the League. I'm excited to be a trailblazer and work with other trailblazers to make this happen."

Dr. Reed plans to foster a culture of relevant and engaging learning so that JLFW can strengthen its impact and position itself for continual success. Dr. Reed said. "The three words I'd use to describe this year are: elevate, educate and empower!"



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