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Junior League of Fort Worth





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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.

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.

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Set up for Success:
ACH PLACEMENT HELPS TEENS WORK TOWARD INDEPENDENCE

by Libby Maness

Stepping into a leadership role in the Junior League of Fort Worth can feel intimidating, but for this second-year member, a leadership position meant leaning into growth. Kayla Jackson is this year’s team lead at ACH Child and Family Services. Despite initially feeling anxious, she has stepped into the role and continued JLFW’s longstanding partnership with ACH with grace and determination.

“As volunteers, we completed a trauma-informed care training before we could begin our weekly shifts at the residential treatment facility,” Jackson said.

After completing the training, volunteers begin their shifts during the school year, offering

stability through active, healthy routines, mentorship, emotional support and encouragement.

“Helping these teens foster healthy boundaries and having those future-focused conversations gives them the push they need toward independence,” Jackson said.

Beyond volunteer hours, JLFW continues its commitment by funding security improvements at ACH’s Secure Assessment Facility next year. A CPA in private equity, she credits JLFW with deepening her commitment to service in Fort Worth. 🙌

FORT WORTH YOUTH ORCHESTRA: *Bringing Music and Community Together*

by Julia Sebesta

The Junior League of Fort Worth’s placement with the Fort Worth Youth Orchestra (FWYO) offers members a hands-on way to support young musicians while helping deliver exceptional performances for the community.

With more than 40 performances each year, volunteers play a key role in creating a welcoming and organized concert experience. Members serve as ushers, distribute programs, assist patrons in finding their seats, and support guests with accessibility needs, including those using wheelchairs. They also help uphold FWYO policies to ensure each event runs smoothly.

Behind the scenes, volunteers assist with directing students backstage, supporting performance flow, helping with setup, and lending a hand during weekly rehearsals.

A passion for music and a commitment to community have shaped one Junior League Fort Worth member, **Emily Spaulding’s**, experience in JLFW. After her

provisional year, she selected the Fort Worth Youth Orchestra (FWYO) as her community placement. Three years later, the organization has become a defining part of her JLFW journey. “The FWYO has really become like home for me,” Spaulding said. “Being surrounded

by such talented, respectful, and determined young musicians is incredibly inspiring.”

Through this partnership, League members help foster confidence, creativity, and community—one performance at a time. 🎵



25-26

A Provisional Year to Remember

by Julia Sebesta

For the Junior League of Fort Worth's newest class of provisionals, the past year has been filled with meaningful service, personal growth and the formation of lasting friendships.

When asked to summarize the experience, many provisionals described a year that was both impactful and fun. **Kaylie Reagan** reflected that her year included volunteering with Fort Worth ISD, supporting community initiatives like the Diaper Distribution, and building friendships with women committed to leadership and service. **Andrea Garcia** described the experience as “eye-opening and fun.”

Service opportunities throughout the year left a strong impression on many. Reilly Fox shared

that learning about the many organizations JLFW partners with was inspiring, noting that “even in a single volunteer shift, it felt like we could brighten someone’s day and contribute to something that truly matters.” Others echoed similar sentiments, emphasizing the fulfillment that comes from serving the Fort Worth community alongside fellow members.

Beyond service, the provisional year also fostered meaningful personal connections. Many described forming friendships and building a sense of sisterhood



through shared volunteer work and JLFW activities.

As **Anna Mpinga** put it, “I’ve had such a fun and positive experience and gained life-long relationships.” Morgan Whitlock shared that the experience helped her “grow as both a member of a team and as a leader.”

Provisionals also gained a deeper understanding of JLFW’s impact throughout Fort Worth. “I had no idea how many schools and community programs rely on outside volunteers to support the work they do,” Fox said. “The experience broadened my perspective on the needs within the community.”

As they transition into active membership, provisionals are eager to continue serving. Fox shared her goal of being a “gold star volunteer” in her future placement, focusing on making an impact one shift at a time.

Above all, the provisional year left members with a strong sense of connection. As **Chelsea Patel** summarized, being part of the Junior League of Fort Worth now means “a sisterhood, a place for organized and meaningful volunteer work.” 🤝



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LESLIE FORD, COMMUNITY VICE PRESIDENT

For Leslie Ford, Community Vice President of the Junior League of Fort Worth, service is both a personal passion and a professional calling. A first-generation Fort Worthian, she lives in Woodhaven with her husband, Randall, and their three dogs—Eleanor, Stetson, and Hushi. Professionally, she leads operations at Ofi Chito, a commercial land use and project management firm supporting developers nationwide.

Now in her ninth year as an active member, Leslie oversees relationships with nonprofit partners, ensuring JLFW delivers meaningful volunteer support and funding while upholding high standards of service.

“My time in JLFW has helped me better understand the realities of hunger, poverty, and need in our community,” she shared. “It’s also shaped how I balance career, family, and service.” As the League approaches the close of its 96th year, Leslie remains focused on maximizing impact and encouraging others to lead. Her advice: stay open, embrace every opportunity, and trust that the right moment will come.

KENDALL RIDDELL, FUND DEVELOPMENT CHAIR

A Southern California native, Kendall Riddell came to Fort Worth to attend Texas Christian University, where she met her husband, Adam. The couple made Fort Worth home and will celebrate their 10-year anniversary this summer. They are raising their son, Theo, alongside their rescue dogs, Tobey and Finley, and enjoy cheering on the TCU Horned Frogs each fall.

Since joining the Junior League of Fort Worth in 2017, Kendall has grown into a dedicated leader, including serving as co-chair of Christmas in Cowtown. “Leading nearly 100 women to raise more than \$1 million is hard to top,” she shared.

Now Fund Development Vice President, she oversees key fundraising efforts that support League operations and community impact.

Kendall hopes her service sets an example for her son. “I want Theo to see someone who pours into others, celebrates their successes, and also takes care of her own well-being,” she said.



JORDAN STIMPSON, ADMINISTRATIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Since joining the Junior League in 2015 and transferring to the Junior League of Fort Worth in 2019, Jordan Stimpson has brought a steady, service-minded approach to leadership. She lives in Fort Worth with her husband, local attorney Ty Stimpson, their 4-year-old daughter, Wyatt Frances, and their Goldendoodle, Ro—named after the family favorite, “Row, Row, Row Your Boat.”

As JLFW’s Administrative Vice President, Jordan serves in a role similar to a chief operating officer, supporting strategic planning, governance, events, staff oversight, headquarters management, and leadership transitions. Behind the scenes, she helps ensure the League runs smoothly and sustainably while preserving its legacy.

“This position has allowed me to use my strengths in strategic thinking, collaboration, and decision-making to support the organization in meaningful ways,” she shared.

Through her time in JLFW, Jordan has learned that true leadership is rooted in consistency, accountability, adaptability, and service. Her advice to others is simple: leadership isn’t defined by titles, but by action and a willingness to serve.



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Growing a Legacy AT THE FORT WORTH BOTANIC GARDEN

by Julia Sebesta



The Junior League of Fort Worth is proud to support the Baker Martin Family Garden at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden, a transformational project that will serve children and families for generations to come. As part of this investment, the League has committed \$70,000 and dedicated four volunteers to support the project's development and ongoing impact.

For League member **Marjorie Miller**, serving as Project Development Chair, the placement has been especially meaningful. "Because I know this will be an incredible asset to the community," she shared. Drawn to the League by a desire to intentionally serve the city she calls home, she has valued "being able to serve Fort Worth alongside like-minded women."

Through this placement, volunteers support educational experiences that bring the garden to life. Current efforts include assisting with the library and discovery carts, work that, while often behind the scenes, is laying "the groundwork for impactful experiences that are forthcoming" when the Family Garden opens.

While the impact may not be immediate, the legacy will be lasting. 🌱



Fueling Creativity THROUGH COMMUNITY ACCESS

by Terea Noble

The Junior League of Fort Worth is proud to support The Welman Project's Community Access Project, an initiative that turns surplus into possibility. By redistributing donated materials from local businesses, The Welman Project equips schools and nonprofits with resources

that spark creativity, promote environmental responsibility, and enhance learning experiences across our community.

This year, a \$40,000 League investment will expand that impact in meaningful ways—funding a cargo van for donation pickups, completing "Barb the Bus" as a mobile creative space, and supporting operational needs like insurance and fuel. These enhancements will allow The Welman Project to reach more educators and students, ensuring that valuable materials are not wasted, but reimaged. JLFW volunteers will play an active

role year-round, assisting with inventory organization, supporting teachers, leading workshops, and engaging with the community at events and drives.

"As a volunteer, it's incredible to see how something simple can become a tool for learning and imagination," shared one JLFW member. "We're not just delivering supplies—we're delivering opportunity."

Through this partnership, the League continues its commitment to education, empowering classrooms while championing sustainability and innovation. 🌱





PJS + PROSECCO:

A Night to Unwind, Connect, and Celebrate
by Eva Williams

Silk pajamas, sparkling prosecco, and a whole lot of joy. This year's Member Celebration was one to remember. *PJs & Prosecco* set the stage for an unforgettable evening of pampering, sisterhood, fellowship, and pure FUN.



Paetzold, every detail reflected intentionality and creativity.

Members were welcomed with prosecco and treated to their choice of two spa activations, including chair massages, scalp massages, sculpt demos, face massages, and B12 shots. Additional services like Botox and IV drips elevated the experience into a full spa escape. Guests also enjoyed a delicious buffet from Blue Mesa, a festive candy table, and gourmet popcorn, adding just the right touch of indulgence.



The energy carried onto the dance floor with a lively DJ and plenty of line dancing, while the Board of Directors made a stylish statement by showing up in matching pajamas, fully embracing the spirit of the evening.

More than anything, the night was a celebration of the incredible women who make our League so special. As Mia shared, "We wanted to create a space where our members could relax, connect, and feel celebrated, and seeing that come to life was truly magical." 🥰



Hosted at the beautiful, brand-new Cullen Yards, the night was thoughtfully designed from start to finish. Under the leadership of Chair **Mia Hall**, with support from **Ashley Gridley** and **Megan**



A LEGACY BEGINS:

The Chartering of the Junior League of Fort Worth

by Shay Gipson

On February 5, 1929, ten Fort Worth women came together with a shared vision to serve their community. They organized as the Junior Service League, determined to support those less fortunate and strengthen the fabric of their city.

Their earliest work began humbly but meaningfully, with each member committing three hours a week volunteering at the local Day Nursery—laying the foundation for a lasting tradition of hands-on service.

After completing a required apprenticeship period, the group reached a defining milestone on March 11, 1930, when they were formally admitted into the

Association of Junior Leagues of America, officially chartering the Junior League of Fort Worth. Mrs. Katherine Thompson Carlock was elected as the League's first president.

Early initiatives included supporting the Lighthouse for the Blind and contributing to the opening of the Blackstone Hotel, where members also served as tour guides.

This year, we honored that rich legacy with a special training at the McFarland House, the League's first headquarters. Past Presidents **Marty Leonard**, **Louise Appleman**, and **Jerre Tracy** joined for a panel discussion, moderated by Administrative Vice President **Jordan Stimpson**, offering a powerful historical perspective on leadership and the enduring impact of those who came before us. 📖



MAKING AN IMPACT THROUGH CONVERSATION

by Julia Sebesta

The Junior League of Fort Worth's placement with Presbyterian Night Shelter's Journey Home Housing program offers members a meaningful opportunity to walk alongside families as they build stability and independence.

Through the Seminary Mentor Program, volunteers are matched one-on-one with families or parents, forming supportive relationships through weekly meetings or group-based conversations. These connections are centered on practical, life-changing skills—ranging from money management and budgeting to healthy eating, meal planning on a budget, job interview preparation, and parenting strategies.

This placement is rooted in empowerment. Rather than simply providing resources, volunteers help equip participants with tools that foster long-term success and confidence.

Team Lead, **Jessica Arriaga** shared, "What I love most is that we get to have meaningful conversations and really build relationships," Arriaga said. "It's a chance to truly connect and make an impact."

By investing time, care, and knowledge, League members help create a foundation for lasting change—one relationship, one conversation, and one step forward at a time. 📖

IT'S A CHANCE TO *truly* CONNECT



A YEAR OF BELONGING: *Advancing DEIBA in Action* by Eva Williams

Designed to advance the mission of the Junior League of Fort Worth, All aBoard is a yearlong leadership development program equipping women to serve both within JLFW and in the Fort Worth community. Rooted in the League's commitment to developing the full potential of women, the program offers training in governance, nonprofit finance, advocacy, public speaking, and goal setting.

This year, 20 members were selected by leadership from a pool of 31 applicants to participate in the cohort. The curriculum is thoughtfully handcrafted by the co-chairs to meet the unique needs of the group, and participants complete the program in addition to their League placements and other commitments.

Cohort members also participated in BoardBuild, completing its Governance with Equity course to strengthen diversity, equity, and inclusion practices in board lead-

ership. Sessions featured respected local leaders covering servant leadership, strategic communication, project management, and translating JLFW experience into professional growth.

"All aBoard is a great opportunity to prepare for leadership roles in the League and learn skills that can be used in a professional setting," said co-chairs **Sarah Barrera** and **Danielle Jackman**.

"You also learn so much about your leadership style, strengths, and areas for growth." 🧠

This year, the Junior League of Fort Worth's DEIBA Committee—focused on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging, and Accessibility—proved that impact isn't measured in size, but in intention. Led by Ronnika Williams and Norma Ramirez, alongside Sharai Collins, Efi Eyambe, Kara Besserer, and Carmen Lopez, this small but mighty team centered their work on visibility, education, and engagement—amplifying the stories and experiences of women across diverse walks of life.

Through a renewed focus on high-impact learning, the committee hosted quarterly trainings that deepened understanding and strengthened community partnerships. Highlights included the Poverty Simulation with Intentional Hearts Counseling and Consulting, PLLC (41

participants), Beyond the Myths: A Collaborative Workshop on Human Trafficking with Unbound Now (16 participants), and When Women Lead, featuring former Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price (50 participants). The series will conclude in May 2026 with Whispers Behind Bars. Beyond trainings, DEIBA Advisors made a meaningful impact across councils and committees by listening, offering perspective, and encouraging inclusive decision-making throughout the League. The committee also maintained a strong educational presence through ten monthly eNews Spotlight features and interactive quizzes, creating consistent

opportunities for reflection and engagement. Intentional communications, including regular Facebook updates, expanded outreach and strengthened connection.

DEIBA work is essential to our League because it ensures every member feels seen, valued, and empowered to lead—advancing leadership for meaningful community impact through education, service, and collaboration.

As the chairs shared, "DEIBA is not a moment—it's a mindset. Our goal is to create space for learning, growth, and belonging in everything we do." 🧠



ALL ABOARD IS A GREAT opportunity TO PREPARE FOR LEADERSHIP ROLES IN THE LEAGUE

CULTIVATING CONNECTION:

The PEARLS Project at The Women's Center

by Eva Williams

The Junior League of Fort Worth continues its commitment to community impact through its support of The Women's Center's PEARLS Project, a program dedicated to reducing depression and social isolation among older adult women in Tarrant County. Rooted in connection and care, PEARLS creates meaningful opportunities for participants to build relationships, celebrate traditions, and access critical support services.

A \$15,000 League investment helps sustain monthly PEARLS Connect events, providing supplies, refreshments, and transportation to ensure accessibility for participants. Funding also supports case management efforts, addressing immediate needs and strengthening outreach to women who may benefit from the program.

League volunteers play an integral role in bringing PEARLS to life. From planning engaging events and creating resource newsletters to supporting holiday initiatives and community awareness efforts, their work extends both in-person and virtually. Volunteers also gain deeper insight into the challenges facing clients through educational opportunities like Lunch N' Learns.

"Volunteering with PEARLS has shown me how powerful simple connection can be," shared one League member. "These women remind me that community is not

just built, it's nurtured." Through this partnership, JLFW continues to uplift women at every stage of life, fostering resilience, dignity, and belonging. 📖



"COMMUNITY IS NOT JUST BUILT, IT'S NURTURED."

NAVIGATING *the* UNIMAGINABLE

by Libby Maness

Since opening in 1989, The WARM Place has been a haven for children navigating the grief of losing a loved one. It's a place that emphasizes community and shared experiences, allowing children to express their emotions alongside those who understand.

"When someone you love dies, everyone gets swept up in an overwhelming sea of emotions and often we forget that kids are experiencing the same emotions for the first time," said **Carter Collins**, The WARM Place team lead.

Families also benefit, learning how to support their children while

connecting with others facing similar losses. The **Junior League of Fort Worth** volunteers play a vital role, serving as "houseparents" during group nights.

Volunteers often have personal connections to the center, making their service deeply meaningful. Through these efforts, The WARM

Place continues to help families heal, remember, & find hope together.

"The WARM Place is meaningful to me because it creates a safe, consistent space for children and families to navigate grief," Carter said. "This is something that is both deeply needed and often overlooked." 📖



A Legacy in Motion:

SPRING ADVISORS MEETING + STATE OF THE LEAGUE ADDRESS

by Shay Gipson

Each spring, the Junior League of Fort Worth gathers a trusted circle of advisors, leaders in community, finance, law, and education, to reflect, refine, and reimagine the work ahead.

This year, the tradition evolved into something even more extraordinary. Under the thoughtful leadership of Administrative Vice President Jordan Stimpson, the Spring Advisors Meeting and State of the League Address expanded its reach and resonance.

The program opened with a comprehensive year-in-review, offering a powerful snapshot of the League's impact. There was also an all-woman panel titled The State of Philanthropy, where we heard from President Shay Gipson and Finance Vice President Savannah Petronis, as well as representatives from the North Texas Communities Foundation, Bank of America, the Morris Foundation, and the Rainwater Charitable Foundation.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Board's inaugural Community Impact Awards, a new tradition designed to recognize individuals whose leadership and service embody the very spirit of the League.



THE LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP AWARD

was presented to **Marty Leonard.**

THE A LEAGUE OF HIS OWN AWARD

honored **John Robinson.**

THE TORCH BEARER AWARD

was awarded to **Rachel Navejar Phillips.**

THE LEGACY BUILDER AWARD

was presented to **Dr. Erin Wilson.**

More than a meeting, the Spring Advisors gathering became a celebration of connection, collaboration, and shared purpose. 🍵



AWARD WINNERS

PANALISTS + BOARD MEMBERS



A Legacy of Service:

CELEBRATING SUSTAINERS AND HONORING ANNE PAUP

by Eva Williams

The Junior League of Fort Worth gathered at the beautiful River Crest Country Club for its annual Sustainer Luncheon—a cherished tradition honoring the enduring impact of our Sustainer members. Hosted by an incredible committee of League leaders, the afternoon served as a heartfelt celebration of the women whose service continues to shape our community long after their active years.



This year, the League proudly honored **Anne Paup** as Sustainer of the Year—a woman whose life reflects the very essence of sustained service.

A member of the League for an incredible 47 years, Anne's journey began in Rolling Fork, Mississippi, before making her way to Texas as a Fine Arts student at Southern Methodist University. From there, her impact only continued to grow. While raising her family, Anne became a Certified Etiquette Consultant through The Protocol School of Washington,

teaching everyone from elementary students to boardroom executives—and even Junior League members.

Within the League, Anne exemplifies what it means to remain deeply engaged beyond active membership. As a Sustainer, she has served as a sustaining advisor, led special interest groups, and created meaningful experiences for members, including a memorable tour of the George Bush Library. She continues to support the League both with her time and her generosity.

But Anne's legacy extends far beyond

the League.

For more than 35 years, she has been a champion for women's wellness across Tarrant County. As the founding chair of the Doris Kupferle Women's Advisory Board at Harris Methodist Hospital (now Texas Health Resources), Anne launched the now 33-year tradition of "Puttin' on the Pink"—a luncheon and style show that, in its very first year, raised enough funds to purchase a mobile mammography unit. That initiative became the foundation of the Wellness for Life program, which continues to bring

life-saving screenings and healthcare services directly into underserved communities.

Her leadership and impact have been recognized time and time again, including receiving the Altruism Award and serving on major fundraising efforts like the Texas Health Jane and John Justin Tower Campaign—the largest construction project in the system's history.

And beyond all of her accomplishments, Anne is someone who truly lives a full and vibrant life—she's a music

lover with a Fine Arts degree, a world traveler with a love for Egypt, and most importantly, a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother to five.

The Sustainer Luncheon not only celebrates remarkable women like Anne, but serves as a powerful reminder: the League's impact doesn't end—it evolves, deepens, and continues to inspire for generations to come. 🌸



PASSING THE GAVEL:

Honoring Legacy, Embracing Leadership

by Terea Noble

In a room filled with nearly 400 Junior League of Fort Worth members, family, and friends, one of the League's most treasured traditions unfolded with grace, reverence, and celebration. The annual Passing of the Gavel is more than a ceremony. It is a living symbol of leadership, legacy, and the enduring strength of women united in service.



While the official transition of leadership does not take place until June 1, this meaningful event marks the turning of the page. It is a moment where past, present, and future converge in a powerful reminder that each presidency builds upon the last, creating a legacy that continues to shape our community.

A highlight of the evening was the presence of nearly a dozen past presidents, each representing a chapter in the League's remarkable history. One by one, they passed the gavel in chronological order, a visual and emotional tribute to the women who have led with vision, courage, and dedication. As the gavel made its way through the line of leaders,

it carried with it decades of service, sacrifice, and impact.

The room grew still as the gavel reached outgoing President **Shay Gipson**, who has led the League with heart, strength, and an unwavering commitment to "Noble Leadership through Majestic Service." In a poignant moment, Shay passed the gavel to Incoming President **Alli D'Acosta**, symbolizing both a culmination and a beginning.

Both leaders shared heartfelt remarks, reflecting on the journey of the past year and the promise of the one ahead. Shay's words honored the collective accomplishments of the League and expressed deep

gratitude for the members who bring the mission to life each day. Alli's remarks looked forward with vision and enthusiasm, inspiring confidence in the continued impact and evolution of the League.

As applause filled the room, it was clear that this was more than a ceremonial exchange. It was a celebration of sisterhood, leadership, and the shared commitment to advancing women's leadership for meaningful community impact.

The gavel may have changed hands, but the spirit of service remains constant, carried forward by each member who answers the call to lead, serve, and make a difference. 🗳️



LIFE AS A SUSTAINER: LIFE AS AN ACTIVE: LIFE AS A PROVISIONAL:



LIFE AS A PROVISIONAL:
Morgan Hixon

For Morgan Hixon, her provisional year with the Junior League of Fort Worth has been a season of connection, discovery, and inspiration. Outside of the League, Morgan works full-time as an Event Manager at Dickies Arena, coordinating logistics for touring concerts and major events. When she isn't bringing a show to life, she enjoys exploring Fort Worth, traveling, spending time with loved ones, and catching up on her favorite Bravo reality shows.

During her provisional year, Morgan has embraced opportunities to serve, especially through Done-in-a-Day volunteer shifts. She values discovering organizations she may not have encountered otherwise and believes even a single shift can make a meaningful difference by easing the workload for nonprofits.

Morgan shares that her time in JLFW has helped her grow as a leader by being surrounded by strong, accomplished women. Trainings like Every Woman All Things have sparked meaningful conversations and built confidence and connection.

Looking ahead, Morgan is excited to continue forming relationships within the League and learning more about the organizations JLFW supports.



LIFE AS AN ACTIVE:
Theresa Lam

For Junior League of Fort Worth member Theresa Lam, life as an Active is a vibrant blend of growth, service, and everyday joy. When she's not volunteering, you'll likely find her spending time with her family and her beloved Frenchie, her ever-present "Velcro dog." She also enjoys refining her cooking and baking skills and embracing time outdoors, from hiking to dirt biking.

Now in her first year as an Active after completing her provisional year, Theresa has stepped confidently into the role of Lead Photography/Videography Chair. Through this opportunity, she has strengthened her skills, built confidence, and discovered the power of saying yes, even when stepping into the unknown.

Theresa finds deep meaning in the League's community impact, especially through its educational partnerships with FWISD. She highlights Paint a Playground as a standout initiative, where bright play spaces come to life and spark joy for children while supporting their well-being.

Looking ahead, Theresa is excited about the League's continued growth and its lasting impact across the Fort Worth community. For her, being part of something bigger and seeing that impact firsthand is what makes the journey so rewarding.



LIFE AS A SUSTAINER:
Amy Akanni

For Amy Akanni, a fulfilling life is built on meaningful connections, service, and staying joyfully engaged with the people and causes she loves most. Whether planning family outings, traveling with friends, or cheering on her multi-sport son, Amy finds balance in moments that bring both energy and purpose.

During her time as an active member of the Junior League of Fort Worth, Amy embraced opportunities to grow and serve. She contributed to Performing Arts Fort Worth, the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging, and Accessibility Committee, and the Daniel Migael Foundation. She also served internally as Headquarters Facilities Chair and was part of the 2021-2022 All Aboard class.

Amy credits the League's trainings, community projects, leadership opportunities, and social connections with shaping her personal and professional growth, expanding her network, and strengthening her commitment to service.

Among her many memories, her work with the Daniel Migael Foundation stands out most, where she witnessed the profound impact of community as children received the gift of vision and a new outlook on the world.

As a Sustainer, Amy remains inspired by the League's legacy of empowering women and strengthening the community for generations to come.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

TRANSFER IN

- Caitlyn Cozart, A, JL Houston
- Leslie Harrison, S, JL Dallas
- Rosanna Knapp, S, JL Seattle
- Danielle Nelson, A, JL Orange County, CA
- Deremia Clark, S, JL Denver
- Jessica Rogers, A, JL The Woodlands
- Kolby Klapper, A, JL Dallas

REINSTATE

- Laura Armstrong, S
- Pat Lorimer, S
- Elise Ellis, S

CHANGE OF STATUS

- Allie Sanders, A to A: LOA
- Mary Siff, A to A:LOA
- Amanda Wylie, A to A: LOA

CONDOLENCES

- Sarah Elliot Webb, Loss of husband
- Shay Gipson, Loss of Sister In Law
- Rashida Fisher, Loss of Partner

CONGRATULATIONS



Erin Gregg was elected and installed as president-elect of the Texas School Public Relations Association (TSPRA)



Jordan Stimpson was recognized by Fort Worth, Inc. Magazine as a 2026 40 Under 40 honoree



Lauren Bernhard Staats was recognized by Fort Worth, Inc. Magazine as a 2026 40 Under 40 honoree



Eva Williams was recognized by Fort Worth, Inc. Magazine as a 2026 40 Under 40 honoree



Sara Norman was recognized by Fort Worth, Inc. Magazine as a 2026 40 Under 40 honoree

LITTLEST LEAGUERS



Lauren and Jeremy Holland welcomed daughter, Daughter Eloise Jean on January 21, 2026



Natalie and Robert Ratliff welcomed son, Warner Lee on September 3, 2026



Jennifer "Jenny" and Michael Geekie welcomed son Robert Cornelius, IV on November 8, 2025



Kellie and Brandon Trower welcomed daughter Lainey on March 11, 2026

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