

MEDIA RELEASE

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**JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI ANNOUNCES THE 2021 BRANTON/HALL COMMUNITY COLLABORATOR AWARD RECIPIENT



The Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri is pleased to announce Mamie Hughes as the 2021 recipient of the Branton/Hall Community Collaborator Award. Named in honor of two beloved League members, Shawsie Branton and Adele Hall, the award is presented annually to an individual who has made a positive difference in the Kansas City community by encouraging civic engagement, corporate responsibility and the promotion of social good. Both together and separately, Shawsie and Adele worked to create collaborations from the civic, corporate and nonprofit sectors in order to make positive and permanent social change. All told, these women served over 50 nonprofits and were among the first women to serve as leaders of nonprofit boards and civic commissions.

The Branton Hall Community Collaborator Award is intentionally awarded at C3KC, an annual conference presented by the JLKCMO, featuring breakout sessions covering a variety of topics with the intent of “Sparking Change” for a better Kansas City. This year’s conference is scheduled for March 3, 2021 and will be presented virtually.

Mamie Hughes is richly deserving of the Branton Hall Community Collaborator Award, having spent her adult life working to make Kansas City a better place. Peers have described her as, “A rare force of nature... One of Kansas City’s most passionate and engaged civic leaders... She demonstrates the true meaning of servant leadership... A Kansas City treasure...”

Her accomplishments include being the first Black woman to be elected to the Jackson County Legislature, being appointed by President Carter to ACTION/VISTA, a government volunteer corps agency, and being Chair of the Black Economic Union and the Mid-America Regional Council and its Commission on Aging. In addition, she supported grass root activities from voter registration and the development of the 18th & Vine area, including the GEM Theater, the Negro Leagues Museum and the Jazz District.

The JLKCMO is proud to share this award with Mamie Hughes, who at 91 is still volunteering, serving on the board of Kanbe's Markets and working across state lines to encourage voter registration.

ABOUT THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

The Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri (JLKCMO) is a 501(c)(3) organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

We accomplish our mission by:

- Providing a motivating and supportive environment that stimulates members.
- Increasing our impact in the Kansas City community by effectively coordinating our resources with community needs.
- Maintaining financial stability through our endowed funds and fundraising events.
- Providing comprehensive training opportunities to develop volunteers to better serve the community.
- Communicating and promoting the organization's mission and historical significance to our membership and the community.

The Junior League reaches out to women of all races, religions and national origins, who demonstrate an interest in and commitment to voluntarism. Our League currently numbers nearly 1,400 strong. We are women who work full-time, part-time and in the home, single women, married women and mothers. We are women who share diverse interests and backgrounds as well as a desire to improve our community through volunteer action and grant-making. Our commitment has remained unwavering: to develop exceptionally qualified civic leaders who can identify a community's most urgent and pressing needs and address them with meaningful and relevant programs and initiatives that not only improve lives but change the way people think.

Since 1914, the League has been associated with more than 350 community agencies and organizations. Our members have raised more than \$18.5 million for our mission and donated over 2.5 million hours of volunteer time. League members research areas of need in the Kansas City area and educate the membership and the community about those issues. Currently our focus is women and children.

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