

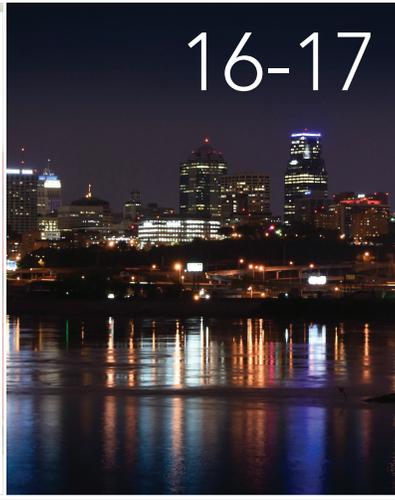
# Inside Scoop

Fall 2017

LEAVENWORTH KANSAS CITY KEARNEY POLO  
BONNER SPRINGS PLATTE CITY  
MERRIAM LIBERTY  
ROELAND PARK NORTH KCMO  
SHAWNEE MISSION GLADSTONE  
WESTWOOD MISSION DOWNTOWN  
FAIRWAY PARKVILLE  
PARKVILLE RIVERSIDE  
MISSION WOODS WESTWOOD HILLS SHAWNEE  
MISSION HILLS  
PLAZA  
KCMO WALDO ROCK HILL  
BROOKSIDE  
INDEPENDENCE  
GRAIN VALLEY  
PRAIRIE VILLAGE BLUE SPRINGS  
OVERLAND PARK LEE'S SUMMIT  
DESOTO LEAWOOD LAKE LOTAWANA  
OLATHE STILWELL GRANDVIEW  
WELLSVILLE SPRING HILL LAKE WINNEBAGO  
LOUISBURG BELTON  
PARKER BUCYRUS PLEASANT HILL  
STANLEY  
RAYMORE  
GREENWOOD



**KANSAS CITY**  
IS OUR **NEIGHBORHOOD**



16-17

12-13

20-21

## Community

- 15 Community Partners for 2017-2018 League Year
- 18 Jewish Family Services: Strengthening Families and Building a Better Community
- 20 Where Are They Now? Programs Started by JLKCMO

## Holiday Mart

- 8 Ghosts of Holiday Mart Past: A Tale of 30 Years

## In League

- 4 Our Best Marketing Tool is in Your Bag
- 5 Meet our 2017-2018 Board of Directors!
- 11 Challenge Yourself to be a Better Presenter
- 12 25 Years of Above & Beyond Parsley

- 16 Separated by a State Line but Connected by Common Goals
- 19 Knowledge is Power When it Comes to Your Finances
- 22 Stepping Up Your Holiday Style
- 24 Leadership Skills to Boost Your League Success
- 26 The League Changed My Life!
- 28 Looking Back 30 Years
- 29 The Oglebay Society is Growing!

## In Every Issue

- 3 President's Letter
- 10 Members on Social Media
- 31 Comings & Goings
- 31 Tiny Juniors
- 31 Congratulations!

# INSIDE SCOOP

## Inside Scoop Committee

Ash Parulekar  
2017-2018 *Inside Scoop* Editor

Alyssa Vargas  
2017-2018 *Inside Scoop* Step-Up Editor

Stephanie Butler  
Layout & Design

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President-Elect	Katherine Fowler
Board Assistant	Karen Crnkovich
Bylaws Chair	Brandi Thomas
Director of Community	Jennifer Graves
Step-Up Director of Community	Heidi Hedges
Director of Finance	Jana Larsen
Dir. of Fund Development	Colleen Goldblatt
Director of Marketing	Katie Minnis
Step-Up Director of Marketing	Alma Azuara
Director of Membership	Erin Lambert
Director of Planning	Katie Werner
Director of Sustainers	Margaret Latshaw
Director of Training	Kimberlee Ried
Nominating Chair	Christy LaHood
Executive Director	Celeste Greenlee

## 2017-2018 Community Advisory Board

Dr. Gary Baker, Director of Community Building Initiatives, UMKC Midwest Center for Nonprofit Leadership

Gerry Brenneman, J.D., Shareholder, Polsinelli PC

Jeffrey Byrne, President and CEO, Jeffrey Byrne + Associates

Dr. Ann Davis, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, University of Kansas Medical Center

Christa Dubill, News Anchor, NBC News Channel 41 (KSHB)

Kimiko Black Gilmore, Assistant City Manager, City of Kansas City, MO

Deanna Graves, Community Volunteer

Greg Graves, Community Volunteer, CEO Emeritus Burns & McDonnell

Jolie Justus, Kansas City Councilwoman, Kansas City, MO

Mary Thompson O'Connor, Senior Vice-President, Logistics, Country Club Bank

Stacie Prosser, Publisher, Kansas City Business Journal

Joni Wickham, Chief of Staff, Office of Mayor Sly James, City of Kansas City, Missouri

## 2017-2018 Agency Partners

Boys & Girls Clubs of GKC - J&D Wagner Unit	Lazarus Ministries
Boys & Girls Clubs of GKC - Thornberry Unit	Rose Brooks Center
Happy Bottoms	Urban Neighborhood Initiative
Jewish Family Services	Wayside Waifs
Kansas City Hospice/Solace House	Women's Employment Network



## President's Letter

Welcome to this exciting time for the Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri! As the year moves into full swing and you begin to get to the heart of your role or start your journey with us, I know you probably have a long list of goals. Isn't that what we all do at the beginning of a new year or any new journey? In that same spirit, the Board of Directors has begun working hard on our goals for moving the League forward, and that includes each of you!

This year we will be celebrating the 30th Annual Holiday Mart and the impact this fundraiser has had on our mission. I'd like to thank all of you who have done an AMR, served on the committee, shopped at the event and brought your friends over the last 30 years. As you know, it takes our entire membership to make Holiday Mart successful, and that makes this milestone so special.

We will be updating the League's Strategic Plan this year and looking for input from you about opportunities for improvement or new initiatives. Our strategic planning process is done every three years and provides direction for that period. This is a chance for all levels of membership to be involved in the future of our League so I hope you will participate in the conversation at the November in-home membership meetings.

Speaking of November, we are changing things up this year. Instead of hosting our large General Membership Meeting in December we are going to enjoy the festive atmosphere at Union Station on November 28. This beautiful setting and an earlier date will be a wonderful way to kick off the holiday season, leaving more time for family and friends later in December when we know life can get a little hectic. I look forward to things slowing down a little at the end of the calendar year, giving me time to reflect on the year to come.

Kicking off the new year, our C3KC and Take Five committees will be working hard to put on fresh and exciting events for the community and our members. There will be more revealed about the details of C3 over the course of the next few months. I am really excited about capping off our fundraising event season with Take Five, which is always a favorite night out for my husband and me.

Throughout the year we will continue to work to strengthen the relationships we've been building with our Signature Programs – Hope and Healing Kits, HealthyLivingKC, Healthy U Family Meals and Empower to Succeed. The Signature Strategy Committee will look at opportunities to potentially expand these programs or add another Signature program for the 2018-2019 League year. We will be working both with well-loved and new partner agencies through Community Volunteers and Grants (CV&G) this year, including Happy Bottoms, Jewish Family Services, Lazarus Ministries, Solace House and Wayside Waifs. The CV&G Committee will evaluate partnerships for 2018-2019 and all Active members will have the opportunity to weigh in on the slate of agencies at the February GMM. Meanwhile the Community Endowment Committee will be responding to funding needs by agencies throughout the year as another avenue to improve our community.

The thing I look forward to most this year is having the opportunity to meet more of you. My door is open, so if I am in the office, please stop by and say hello. If you need a resource or support in your role, feel free to reach out. Thank you for choosing to spend some of your time with us, I know that you will not regret the experience.

**Jen Johnson**

2017-2018 President

# Our Best Marketing Tool is in Your Bag



By Ash Parulekar,  
Inside Scoop Editor

Thirty years ago when we were first introduced to Holiday Mart, technology was a far cry from what it is today. If you wanted to research a particular subject it meant hours spent in the library without the help of Google. The Internet was a luxury that few of us had access to and if we did, the slow dial up connection speeds and that horrible sound were enough to send you running back to the comfort of the card catalog. Perhaps you even remember Zach Morris meandering through the halls of Bayside High on *Saved by the Bell* with a cell phone the size of that 32 ounce water bottle you carry to the gym.

Today, all that technology fits in the palm of our hand. It is the most important tool in your handbag. It is a camera and a library. It's a connection to your loved ones and an entire world of people you don't know. With a whole host of social media platforms, you can easily let people know what you're doing from your phone.

Whether you're on Training Council or HealthyLivingKC, Holiday Mart or Action Team, you are all part of the League's Marketing Council. I know what you're thinking. "I don't remember signing up for that!" Maybe it wasn't explicit but it was your first placement in the League and it began on the day you paid your dues at the start of your New Member year.

Don't worry though. We're not asking you to take out a full page ad in *The Kansas City Star*. Our League's best marketing tool is likely sitting within arm's reach as you read this. A lot of people might tell you to put your phones away during meetings. We say pull those things out (on silent of course)! Whether you're attending a training session or a meeting or taking part in community outreach, we encourage you to snap away, live tweet and check in. Do what you already do, just tag the League when you do it and always use the #JLKCMO as well as #HolidayMartKC, #TakeFiveKC, and #C3KC18, when appropriate.

Social media is perhaps the best marketing tool we have in our shed and it's FREE! We're just asking for your help to use it. Who knows? Your post might just end up in a future issue of *Inside Scoop*.

**Pro tip:** When trying to tag us on Facebook, try typing in @JLKCMO or @HolidayMartKC.



**Facebook:**

Public – facebook.com/  
JLKCMO

Members Only  
– facebook.com/  
groups/131595586991661

Holiday Mart – facebook.  
com/HolidayMartKC/



**YouTube:**

youtube.com/  
JuniorLeagueKC



**Blog:**

jlkcblog.org

**Hashtags:**

#jlkcmo  
#HolidayMartKC  
#TakeFiveKC  
#C3KC18



**Twitter:**

@JuniorLeagueKC



**Instagram:**

@jlkcmo

**A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR**

With the 30th Annual Holiday Mart approaching, working on this issue was a treat for my inner history nerd. From the time Holiday Mart was proposed as a new fundraiser for the JLKCMO to the date it was finally held in October of 1988, the world around us was rapidly changing. We decided to take a look back through 30 years and give our readers the chance to remember what was going on in the world during that time or for those of you that weren't born yet, a glimpse into what you missed. Throughout the pages of this issue, you will find headlines from 1987-1988. I hope you have as much fun taking a look back as I have.

**Ash Parulekar**

*Inside Scoop* Editor



# Meet our 2017-2018 Board of Directors!



By Ash Parulekar,  
Inside Scoop Editor

In order to get to know our new Board of Directors a little better, we decided to ask them to tell us about what motivated them to get involved in their community. Whether they were inspired by a family member who led by example or simply drawn because of life experience, all of their responses were truly uplifting.



## Jen Johnson, President

I was inspired to get involved by a co-worker, Gretchen Ivy, who is now a Sustainer. As a transplant to Kansas City, I hoped to get to know my newly adopted home by getting out and making a difference.



## Katherine Fowler, President-Elect

I first became involved in our community after I began volunteering at a therapeutic horseback riding school when I was 16. I signed up to help because I missed spending time with horses, which had been a big part of my youth. I quickly realized, however, that while I enjoyed having horses in my life again, helping children and adults improve their lives was an even bigger reward. I was inspired to do more and help out in Kansas City wherever I could.



## Karen Crnkovich, Board Assistant

My parents planted seeds of giving with my brother and I when we were very young. They taught us that there are always people with more and always people with less, so we should be thankful for what we have and help those who fall into the those with less category. Over the years this expanded from just giving to those in need to also giving our time, talent and treasure to our community.



## Brandi Thomas, Bylaws Chair

Growing up I loved helping out at local fundraisers, school bake sales and things like Angel Trees at Christmas time. I was hooked and inspired to get involved with my community after hearing several strong community leaders speak at my sorority's philanthropy in college. I can still remember their enthusiasm and passion for our community and how getting involved has changed their lives over time. That time in college was really when I became involved and compelled me to give back. I joined the Springfield Jaycees which really started my community involvement.

*Continued on page 6 ...*

Continued from page 5 ...



**Jen Graves, Director of Community**

As a young child, I remember when I would visit my Grandma in Wichita, and would tag along to help out at the church soup kitchen. In high school, I was involved in an organization called SHOC (students helping our community). In college, I joined a community service sorority called Little Sisters of the Pearls & Rubies. After I graduated from college, my sister Ericka Duker invited me to attend a prospective new member meeting and the rest is history. I guess you could say that helping others is what makes ME who I am!



**Heidi Hedges, Step-up Director of Community**

I moved to Kansas City in 2010 and wanted to find a way to feel connected to my new city, as well as get involved in an organization to meet new friends. Fast forward seven years and being a member of the League has made a huge impact in my life. I feel more connected to my community, more engaged in local decisions and more empowered than anywhere else I've ever lived. Being a part of the League has truly made a world of difference in my life!



**Jana Larsen, Director of Finance**

Being involved in the local community is something that my parents instilled in my brothers and me at a very early age. I have memories, as early as kindergarten, of organizing clothing donations in the church basement and serving dinner at a homeless shelter. I was blessed to grow up in a home where I didn't want for much and my mother believed because we were so fortunate we had a duty to give back to our community. This belief in serving my community and seeking ways to give back has become a core value in my life.



**Colleen Goldblatt, Director of Fund Development**

My first unofficial League placement was sorting hangers at the Junior League of Topeka's Next to New fundraiser in the 1980's, where my mom was an Active member, then President, and now a Sustainer. It was this exposure to the League – to the amazing, strong women who were part of my mom's League experience that drew me to serve my community, particularly through the League, as an adult.



**Katie Minnis, Director of Marketing**

As a young child I was personally impacted by the work and kindness of volunteers, after my sister passed away suddenly. I remember standing in our kitchen during that time and having strangers coming through the door wanting to help. I will never forget that feeling of appreciation and thankfulness and I feel truly blessed to be able to give back in my community today.



**Alma Azuara, Step-Up Director of Marketing**

I had a mentor who I really admired a couple of years after college. She was a corporate executive who valued volunteerism. She introduced me to the Women's Employment Network and I found a connection right away. It was so inspiring to see that I could make a difference in the lives of others. It really opened my eyes (and heart) to something greater.



**Erin Lambert, Director of Membership**

My parents first inspired me to become involved in the community. I grew up watching my parents volunteer and serve in various roles at our church. My dad has sat on a number of boards, such as Ronald McDonald House, and my mom has spent countless hours volunteering at Great Plains SPCA; sharing her love of animals with others. Their actions inspired me to do good and help others in the city I love!



**Katie Werner, Director of Planning**

My parents first inspired me to become involved in my community. I feel blessed that I grew up in a family that encouraged support of those need and emphasized the importance of developing values through giving of yourself.



**Margaret Latshaw, Director of Sustainers**

My mother led by example serving the communities I grew up in – Charleston SC, Wichita and Philadelphia. The Junior League was her training ground. Her inspiration led me to the JLKCMO, which gave me my first Board opportunity. A nonprofit school advertised in a League publication for a Board director. I volunteered, got a great learning experience and a chance to make an impact. This organization knew that League members are trained in leadership and governance, how to run effective meetings, chair committees and get things done. I am grateful to my mother for showing me the way and to the League for opening doors.



**Kimberlee Ried, Director of Training**

My mother. I suspect she knew her only child needed to find an outlet for a lot of energy, so when I was 15 she suggested I begin volunteering at a hospital (where she happened to work). I was a “candy striper”, although they no longer referred to us as candy stripers and instead as community volunteers. That said, the hospital was a good way to learn more about health and human services and how various life choices can impact one’s health and overall well-being. This translated into greater knowledge and understanding around social services nonprofits, many of which we work with around Kansas City.



**Christy LaHood, Nominating Chair**

From early on, my parents taught the importance of giving back in tangible, not just financial, ways. I have vivid memories of weekly visits to a nursing home with my aunt and cousins in second and third grade to spend time with residents who had no family nearby, and loved the feeling of connection that would come from visiting with people not in my usual circle.



**Celeste Greenlee, Executive Director**

My childhood is filled with memories of my dad volunteering for numerous causes that were important to him. He worked tirelessly as a board member of then General Hospital to transform that institution into Truman Medical Center. He believed in quality healthcare for everyone regardless of their ability to pay. I saw first-hand how the passion of that small group of people changed our community. Today, I am inspired to volunteer for organizations whose missions inspire and challenge me to make a difference.

In October of 1987, then Vice President George H.W. Bush alongside his wife and Junior League of Houston Member, Barbara Bush, announced his candidacy for President of the United States. He would go on to win the Presidential election on November 8, 1988, the first sitting Vice President to do so in 152 years. Barbara Bush will become the fifth League member to hold the title of First Lady.



*Holiday Mart Past & Present Chairs*

*Front Row: Julie Lattimer (2004), Polly Kramer (1998-1999), Alicia Starr (1994), Mary Lockton (1989), Susan Belger-Angulo (1993), Jessica Earnshaw (2011), Erika Brant (2012), Jen Johnson (2010), Nancy Fuller*

*Back Row: Katie Minnis (2015), Decemeber Brammer (2017), Kristal Ronnebaum (2017), Karen Crnkovich (2010), Dena Nash (2006), Heather Harper (2007)*

# Ghosts of Holiday Mart Past: A Tale of 30 Years



By Ash Parulekar,  
Inside Scoop Editor

*“Mankind was my business. The common welfare was my business; charity, mercy, forbearance, benevolence, were all my business. The dealings of my trade were but a drop of water in the comprehensive ocean of my business.”*

– Charles Dickens, A Christmas Carol

Sometimes to get to the heart of the story you have to start at the very beginning. Our tale begins in late 1985, when Kansas City native DeeDee Warner found herself living in Colorado for 12 years, where she had joined the Junior League of Denver. With four kids under the age of three and a half and her husband being offered a better position in Kansas City, the Warners decided to move home to be closer to family. By January of 1986, DeeDee would become one of the newest transfers to JLKCMO.

In the meantime, the Fundraising Committee was meeting on a monthly basis to look into potential fundraisers that would bring in \$40,000 to \$50,000 per year so that the League would no longer need to be dependent on revenue generated by cookbook sales and the Thrift Shop. As a transfer from Denver, DeeDee had been previously involved with JLD’s Mile High Holiday Mart. “Why isn’t there one in Kansas City?” DeeDee pondered. Many others began to agree and by April of 1987, a research committee was formed to look into holding Kansas City’s first Holiday Mart in October of 1988.

One must remember that in 1987, you could not simply email someone in Denver to ask for charts, spreadsheets and photos to be sent as attachments. Research had to be done in person by taking a trip to the Mile High City. To fund their trip, members of the JLKCMO held a plant sale to cover their travel expenses.

With their research complete, the committee began to compile their notes and data to present to the general membership. What may seem like a no-brainer to us now, was initially met with a bit of skepticism. Members wondered how adding a shopping event with so many out of town sellers might affect local retailers. Also, included in the Holiday Mart proposal was a stipulation that all Active and New Members must purchase six tickets and work one AMR shift at the event. However, despite some initial objections, Holiday Mart was overwhelmingly approved during the November 1987 GMM.

Planning for Holiday Mart 1988 was officially underway! DeeDee, who had initially planned to take things easy for a little while after her return to Kansas City, would now be officially cast into the role of Steering Committee Chair. The inaugural committee set a goal to attract 30 national retailers, 10,000 shoppers and raise a net profit of \$80,000. They would manage to achieve all of these as well as a couple of other amazing feats.

At the March 8 General Membership Meeting, R. Crosby Kemper, then Chairman of the Board of UMB Financial Corporation, presented a check for \$30,000 toward the co-sponsorship of Holiday Mart. Kemper and other benefactors would later be recognized at a Preview Party for League members and patrons.

Around this time, it was also announced that Linda Davis, Karen Craft and a committee of 50 Sustainers had secured up and coming cookbook author and domestic diva, Martha Stewart, as the speaker for their luncheon. This event was sold out to standing room only. With Bonnie Winston's food and Annemarie Hunter's décor, even the guest of honor was impressed!

When asked about how she felt when the doors finally closed on the last day of Holiday Mart 1988, DeeDee tearfully replied, "In my life I've never felt that much dedication from so many people to get something accomplished. I felt so sad. It was like giving birth. That first day when you open the doors is terrifying. Being with those people, talking from 7 a.m. each morning for so long, you become friends. We sometimes still share those early calls. It was bittersweet."

A lot has changed in the last 30 years since Holiday Mart first made its debut. Gone is the Simply Splendid consignment area that once housed local artists and craftsmen. The Beyond Parsley Café once provided weary shoppers with a meal of soup, entrée, dessert and a drink pulled from the pages of the League cookbooks. After a series of vendor and catering options, in 2016, food trucks were brought into Bartle Hall to serve up a wide variety of fare. Thirty retailers has now become over 200 and net revenue has increased from \$99,000, in its first year, to a record setting \$662,000, under the stewardship of Jen Johnson and Karen Crnkovich in 2010.

What has DeeDee Warner, our first Holiday Mart Chair been doing with all of her free time in the last 30 years? Well, she raised a family and now has three grandchildren. In 1998, she went back to her roots in real estate and over the years has served the League in various Sustainer and Holiday Mart roles.

In the last 30 years, Holiday Mart has raised over \$10 million to support our mission. In addition, the event has supported the local economy by bringing in out of town retailers and shoppers who stay in our hotels, dine in our restaurants and visit other local attractions, such as the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art and the National World War I Museum & Memorial. It's safe to say that the League's largest fundraiser has made a lasting impact on the community and will continue to do so for a long time. Cheers to another 30 years, Holiday Mart, and to DeeDee Warner, the woman who made it all possible!



*Our first Holiday Mart Chair, DeeDee Warner, enjoying some downtime with her grandson, Luke, at the City Market.*

In 1989, one League member went far above and beyond the call of duty in her support of Holiday Mart. In a true show of her dedication to the League, Mindy Steinwart worked a full day on that Friday while in active labor and gave birth to her son later that night!

# Members on Social Media

**execchefsmb** Following



9 likes

**execchefsmb** #casak5k #jlkcmo #superheros #runnersofinstagram ..Great time volunteering with the League this morning !!

**Tami Martin** ▶ JLKCMO Members

Monday at 1:10 PM · Rocklin, CA · 🇺🇸

Just relaxing with my #jlkcmo water bottle at my side. Or...at my feet. — at 📍 Lake Tahoe.



**Erik Bergrud** @erikbergrud · 6/7/17

Another @JuniorLeagueKC meeting at our house, which can only mean one thing: my Spinach Artichoke Dip

1 Reply

**Julie Massana** @juliemassana

Replying to @erikbergrud and @JuniorLeagueKC

Yum! External Relations would love to request some 😊

6/7/17, 8:10 PM

1 LIKE

**Dolly Wood** ▶ Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri

May 18 · Kansas City, MO · 📍

Our final newer sustainer social of the year!! Let's just say that Coley, the service dog in training was a bonus!! #kcroyals — with Daphne Reitz and 9 others at 📍 Kauffman Stadium.




38 likes

**dateswithdolce** Doing some early morning #JLKCMO transitioning for our Inside Scoop. #coffee #latte #latteart

**lund25** Following



17 likes

**lund25** Oh hey 🐧 penguin 🐧 friends at the @kansascityzoo @jlkcmo #KansasCity #Jlkcmo

**beccimeissner** One Light Luxury Apartm... ▶ Following



62 likes

**beccimeissner** Amazing night kicking off #takefive for #jlkcmo!! We are ready for our #partywithapurpose so get ready #2018! It's... more

View all 3 comments

**martha\_tatman** Proud of you!!!

**ermaherwig** what a fun night and looking forward to a great year!! ❤️

**Julia Sobek** ▶ Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri

July 9 at 2:45 PM · 📍

I spy a past president attending Jazzoo. Did you know this event was created by the JLKCMO? #isustaintheleague — with Julie Randolph.



**maurentcorn** Follow



63 likes

**maurentcorn** If you told me 3 years ago Niles and #jlkcmo would bring me so much ❤️ on Wednesday nights I would have never believed it! 🍷 to our place and this amazing group of women!

# Challenge Yourself to be a Better Presenter



By Acey Lampe,  
Sustainer

**H**ow many times have you left a meeting having missed hearing a deadline or some other critical information for your placement? If you are like most people, the answer is “lots of times.” Don’t be too hard on yourself. It might not have totally been your fault.

Meetings usually require someone to get up in front of the room with some slides. Think about trying to read the presenter’s slides and listen to her at the same time. It’s almost impossible!

Earl Miller, a professor of neuroscience at MIT, says that for the most part, the brain doesn’t really do tasks simultaneously, but rather we just switch tasks quickly. He says there are several reasons the brain has to switch among tasks. One reason is that similar tasks compete to use the same part of the brain.

Each time we move from reading the presentation slides to listening to the presenter, there is a stop/start process that goes on in the brain. That start/stop/start process is rough on us: rather than saving time, it costs time (even very small microseconds), it is less efficient, we miss important information, and we make more mistakes.

But don’t use that research as an excuse. Here are some things that you, as a presenter, can do with your slides to help your audience retain the information from your presentation:

- Know the information so well that you don’t need a bunch of cluttered slides.
- Have six or fewer bullets on a slide. Research shows the brain can take a “snapshot” of a slide if it doesn’t force the audience to read.
- Avoid “wrapping” text or using complete sentences. When the text in your bullet wraps to a second line or becomes a complete sentence, the brain wants to “read” it. If your audience is reading, it can’t be listening to you.
- Use symbols and numbers whenever possible. The brain recognizes symbols (e.g. %, \$, &) several thousand times faster than text.
- Use clipart or photos whenever possible. As a child, you learned to recognize pictures before you learned to read text. Your brain can take a snapshot of pictures, which will enhance learning and retention.
- Avoid putting text (other than the legend) on a data slide. Mixing text and data creates more interference for the brain.
- Lastly don’t be afraid to use color. Your slide doesn’t have to look like a rainbow but color can increase retention up to 80%.

My guess is that many of you already know these principles but your bad habits surface their ugly heads because you are pressured by deadlines, work and family. Challenge yourself to be a better presenter and your League members will be forever grateful. They want to listen to you, so help them do so.

**Acey Lampe, Ph.D.**

Executive Professor of Management,  
Director of Undergraduate Business  
Programs, Helzberg School of  
Management, Rockhurst University



“You cannot focus on one thing [reading a slide] while doing the other [listening to the presenter]. That’s because of what’s called interference between the two tasks. They both involve communicating via speech or the written word, and so there’s a lot of conflict between the two of them.”

– Earl Miller, a professor of neuroscience at MIT

# 25 Years of Above & Beyond Parsley



By Beth Blakemore,  
Inside Scoop Committee

**2017** marks the 25th anniversary for *Above & Beyond Parsley: Food for the Senses*, a cookbook written and produced by Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri, members and a community of contributors. It was created as a follow up to the wildly successful *Beyond Parsley* as an enticing collection to share treasured recipes with a wider audience.

*Above & Beyond Parsley* was the latest in a series of cookbooks to be published by the JLKCMO. When the League's first cookbook, *Company's Coming*, was published in 1974, the League realized what a treasure they had on their hands. What was originally meant as a fun social thing for members quickly turned into a fundraising idea. By the time *Beyond Parsley* was published in 1984, the cookbooks already had legions of fans. *Beyond Parsley*

was written up in various national publications at the time, including *Better Homes and Gardens*. It was only natural that *Above & Beyond Parsley* would follow in its footsteps.

*Above & Beyond Parsley* was published in 1992 with the support of an excited Kansas City community. A lot of civic members were passionate about creating this work of art. Halls opened its kitchen department for use of props and there were over 150 artists, designers, consultants from local restaurants and recipe contributors. This was truly a labor of love that elicited extraordinary effort and organization. 1993 was the original release date but because the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art planned a 60 year anniversary cookbook for that year, production was moved up to 1992.

Recipes were tested by a panel of 150 tasters with no budget and who received no placement credit. It took a great amount of teamwork to create this cookbook based on the theme "food for the senses." Jane Guthrie, current Administrative Assistant and Sustaining Member, who served as co-chair for the cookbook shared, "The most memorable experience for me was seeing, both big picture and up close, what extraordinary things that Junior League teamwork

can accomplish. A massive project like the development of *Above & Beyond Parsley* runs on two kinds of fuel, volunteer loyalty and unflagging goodwill, and our committee (as well as League leadership) kept us in constant supply. Jan Flanagan and I were joined by rock stars in all committee areas—editorial, design, business planning, marketing, recipe development, community sponsorship—but so often when I think or talk about our times together in creating this big fundraiser, my thoughts and appreciation turn to the 100+ members of our amazing testing groups. I'm sure that as they cooked, ate and discussed results together, they often had fun. But they also received no placement credit, absorbed all the recipe preparation expenses, never let up after our publication schedule was shortened by a whole year, and had to turn in recipes that built a worthy successor to *Beyond Parsley*. Sometimes after a huge undertaking, you wonder 'How did we do it?' When we finally had our books in hand, I didn't wonder."

The community was so excited about the release of *Above & Beyond Parsley* that it sold out before even being released! A professional publicist was used who focused on the profitable national market.

Aroma, texture and visual appeal were all dominant themes leading the flow of the book. A lot of artistic effort was put into visual appeal. Photographer Ernie Block worked with designers and florist Chuck Matney, who had recently opened a flower shop, to create exceptional photographs to accompany the recipes. The cover features a golden plate of



On July 11, 1987, an eight-pound baby boy is born in Yugoslavia, bringing the world's population to five billion.

# Cloaked Apples

6 tart apples (such as Granny Smith or Jonathan)  
 1 teaspoon fresh lemon juice  
 ½ cup raisins soaked overnight in ½ cup brandy (optional), reserve brandy  
 ¼ cup sugar  
 3 tablespoons unsalted butter, thinly sliced  
 ¼ cup heavy cream

## Topping:

1 (3-ounce) package cream cheese, softened to room temperature  
 ½ cup heavy cream  
 ¼ cup sugar  
 Reserved brandy from raisins (optional)

For topping: In a food processor fitted with metal blade, process cream cheese for 15 seconds. Scrape sides of bowl. Add cream, sugar, and reserved brandy and process for 15 seconds or until smooth. Refrigerate until serving.

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Peel and core apples. Cut into 1/8-inch slices and sprinkle with lemon juice. Generously butter a 9-inch ceramic tart dish or pie pan. Arrange apple slices in dish, overlapping them slightly and layering with raisins. Sprinkle evenly with sugar and 3 tablespoons of butter. Bake for 30 minutes

Increase oven temperature to 500 degrees. Add cream and bake for 5 minutes more. Serve warm with cream cheese topping.

Serves 4

Reprinted from *Above & Beyond Parsley*

pork tenderloin stuffed with a lime cilantro pesto sitting upon a bed of roses. Matney said, “It was a great experience. I had the pleasure of working with Annie Miller and many others. For the cover photo we used a commercial sheet pan filled with floral foam and hundreds of unique orange roses. It weighed 50 pounds! We spent many hours selecting the flowers and background elements for each page.” Block would also win the prestigious Bronze OMNI Award for his photography work in *Above & Beyond Parsley* within a week of the book’s release.

One of Kathleen Johansen, Community Endowment Fund Step-Up Chair’s favorite quick entertaining recipes, Queen of Hearts Salad, was shared during a new member group meeting taking place at her home. She proudly brought out her cookbook and presented it when a new member complimented the salad she had prepared. She shared that she had made so many recipes from this cookbook and shared them with family and friends. “Lotus chicken is my favorite recipe at the moment. Who knew orange marmalade would make for a fabulous sauce? Now I have a reason to buy it when I cruise the jelly section at the grocery store. I collect Junior League cookbooks from all over the country. There is nothing like a League cookbook. The recipes are so original and different to reflect its region of the country. I love how each book celebrates its regional food cultures and gives useful cooking tips. Best of all, proceeds from the cookbook have benefited those very same communities.”

The effort poured into JLKCMO’s cookbooks has been rewarded with nearly \$2 million for the League. This has allowed JLKCMO to go above and beyond our goals to impact the Kansas City area through Signature Programs and reinforce our mission of improving the wonderful community we live in. So grab a copy of this timeless cookbook (available at Half Price Books, Amazon, and The Red Shed in the West Bottoms) to complete your collection and take time to stop and smell the parsley.



*Jane Guthrie and Jan Flanagan pose alongside executives from Halls during the launch party for Above & Beyond Parsley.*

A BENEFIT FOR THE UMKC CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC AND DANCE

# CRESCENDO

DAWN OF A NEW STAGE



STYLING BY THE GOWN GALLERY

PHOTOGRAPH BY NICK VEDROS © 2017

KAUFFMAN CENTER  
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

NOVEMBER 10

FRIDAY, 7 P.M.

Crescendo is a one-hour, fast-paced performance of music and dance by Conservatory students and faculty. Concert tickets are \$30, or enjoy the concert and a three-course dinner at Webster House for \$80. For tickets, visit [umkc.edu/crescendo](http://umkc.edu/crescendo).

UMKC Conservatory of  
Music and Dance



*Mollie Becbold assists an attendee to complete paperwork during the HealthyLivingKC Health Fair.*

# Community Partners for 2017-2018 League Year



By Jen Graves,  
Director of Community

## Community Volunteer and Grants (CV&G)

The membership voted in February of 2017 to work with five agencies. We have partnered with four of the agencies previously and the League is working with Jewish Family Services for the first time. The four returning agencies are:

- Happy Bottoms
- Lazarus Ministries
- Kansas City Hospice – Solace House
- Wayside Waifs

## Signature Programs

This is the third year with our focus on women and children. The League is specifically concentrating on abuse and neglect, childhood development and women’s self-sustainability, partnering with the following agencies:

- Boys & Girls Club – Healthy U Family Meals
- Urban Neighborhood Initiative (UNI) – HealthyLivingKC
- Rose Brooks – Hope and Healing Kits
- Women Employment Network (WEN) – Empower to Succeed

With the sunsetting of our LEAP for Kids program, the League finished working with MOSCA and Sunflower House. We are growing our partnership with the Boys & Girls Clubs by expanding Healthy U Family Meals to a second unit for this League year.



*Bags of groceries are presorted and awaiting pickup at the HealthyLivingKC Health Fair.*



# Separated by a State Line but Connected by Common Goals

## Kansas City is our Neighborhood!



By Alyssa Vargas,  
*Inside Scoop Step-Up Editor*

The members of the JLKCMO are just as varied as the neighborhoods they live in. Spread across a state line, each woman has a unique experience living in the greater Kansas City area. The idea of many different women, coming together from many different communities for one common cause, is the main concept behind Jen Johnson's theme for this year, illustrated in our cover graphic.

"I chose the theme of 'Kansas City is Our Neighborhood' because I think sometimes there is a perception that we all come from the same parts of town but, as the graphic shows, League members and our partners are all over the metro," said Jen Johnson, JLKCMO President. "We are also unique in that we span both sides of a state line. No matter where you live, people have the same goals and things that they want for their community – safe, quality places to live, work and play. I see all of Kansas City as our neighborhood and the League has a role to play in continued progress towards these goals."

Here are some of the things that ten JLKCMO Members, on both sides of the state line, love about their Kansas City communities.

**Name:** Katie Adams

**Neighborhood:** Fairway

**What I love:** What we love most about living in Fairway are our neighbors and all the kids who live in the neighborhood. We have a Fairway mom's group that plans weekly activities during the summer, and we are a short walk to our country club, which is also life-changing in the summer! We love walking to family dinners and brunch at the restaurants near Westwood and we also love that we are within a five-minute drive to the Plaza, Westport and 39th street. Not to mention a quick jaunt to Prairie Village shops. We recently moved to the house behind us because we couldn't bring ourselves to leave the Golden Triangle!



**Name:** Gabbie Greenlee

**Neighborhood:** Waldo

**What I love:** I live about a block from the Trolley Trail and walk it with my dog, Roxie, as often as I can. I also love living so close to great restaurants and bars that have dog friendly patios. Grabbing breakfast from McClain's on Saturday mornings is also a favorite of mine!

**Name:** Brittney Henderson

**Neighborhood:** Leawood

**What I love:** Leawood is the perfect place to live with a family but be close to some action. I love that our neighborhood has a pool, a park and a pond for the kids. Also, I am walking distance from Town Center for shopping with friends, dinner with my husband and coffee at my favorite place, Dean and Deluca.

**Name:** Bettine Freeman

**Neighborhood:** Brookside

**What I love:** I have lived in Brookside for eight years. I love it and there are so many reasons why! We can walk to dinner, shops and the grocery store. We always attend the Brookside Art Fair! We also take advantage of the Trolley Trail for walks and bike rides – there are so many wonderful parks. We have two young kids and we feel this is a great family neighborhood. There is a real sense of community and friendship with the neighbors. I also enjoy the easy access to midtown and downtown.

**Name:** Emily Shaw

**Neighborhood:** Downtown Kansas City

**What I love:** My husband and I love to take the streetcar for dinner and drinks. The next morning, we recuperate with brunch at the Majestic, where it is never crowded and always delicious. On the weekends, we like to peruse the farmer's market for groceries and a bouquet – all without getting in a car.

**Name:** Erika Brant

**Neighborhood:** Liberty

**What I love:** My family and I live in the historic downtown area of Liberty and own a store on the square. I love being able to walk to stores, restaurants, parks, community events, the farmer's market and even my kids' daycare! I also love being a part of the community, supporting the other small businesses and volunteering to improve the area.

**Name:** Jacqueline Clark

**Neighborhood:** Lee's Summit

**What I love:** The reason that I live in Lee's Summit is that my family members live nearby and we enjoy attending mass, family meals and celebrations together. My love of suburban and country life keeps me in Eastern Jackson County. I'm closer to Columbia, Kauffman Stadium and Arrowhead!

**Name:** Kelly Engstrom

**Neighborhood:** North Overland Park

**What I love:** It's a safe and friendly area and central to most places we go. It's 30 minutes or less to do everything from Royals games or dinner on the Plaza, to working downtown or visiting the Shawnee Mission Dog Park. There are also new places popping up all over, so it's fun to explore parks, restaurants and shops in all directions.

**Name:** Jennifer Bennett

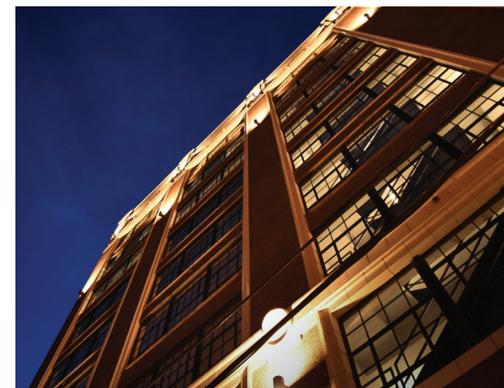
**Neighborhood:** Greenwood, MO

**What I love:** Greenwood is a wonderful community for families. We get the small town feel but with all the large amenities of Kansas City. My son, Henry, enjoys hanging out in our backyard and watching the neighbors, horses and llamas.

**Name:** Vanessa Herring

**Neighborhood:** Overland Park

**What I love:** Our neighborhood is like living in the best parts of your favorite family sitcom. We walk to the grocery store, ice cream shop, Starbucks, the small neighborhood school, local movie theater and park. There are so many young families so there is always someone to play with or a mom to have a driveway drink with. Plus, the houses are smaller, the yards are great, and the trees are magnificent. The Easter Egg Hunt, fall party, outdoor movie nights, dinner club, and Fourth of July parade are just a handful of my favorite things.



*All photos by Mel Smith,  
Photography Coordinator*

*The staff at Jewish Family Services express their gratitude to the JLKCMO.*



# Jewish Family Services: Strengthening Families and Building a Better Community



By Vanessa Herring, Development Director, Jewish Family Services

**B**eginning this fall, Liz Webb and her committee of 11 League members will spend two evenings each month helping clients at Jewish Family Services (JFS) fill their shopping carts with much needed healthy food products and essential personal care items.

Since 1901, JFS has been helping people throughout greater Kansas City meet life’s daily challenges, regardless of faith, age, culture or lifestyle. The agency has been a backbone of social service in our community for more than a century and it recently opened its second location in the vibrant, community-minded, Brookside East neighborhood at 63rd and Oak Street.

The new JFS location has a spacious, full-service food pantry, better accessibility to bus lines, easier building accessibility for families and a large community room where League members will provide food tastings, cooking demonstrations and educational classes to the more than 315 families that visit the JFS pantry every month. In addition to offering both kosher and non-kosher food, clients at JFS can “shop” for personal care products and household items. This is a vital component of the pantry because SNAP benefits (formerly known as food stamps) don’t allow for the purchase of personal care products (toilet paper, body soap or toothpaste) or household items (laundry detergent or dish soap). The JFS pantry is also one of only a few pantries in the metro area that houses a pet food pantry offering dog, cat and small animal food.

In addition to the food pantry, JFS provides a breadth of programs and services to help people get back on their feet, including counseling and mental health services, emergency financial assistance, older adult programs and employment services. The team at JFS is committed to looking at every client from an innovative, holistic viewpoint. If a family comes in need of emergency food assistance, they also help address the underlying cause of the need. They might offer the family financial assistance, job placement services or counseling sessions to overcome life’s difficulties. Last year, they served more than 7,000 people in our community, holding true to their mission of strengthening families and building a better community.

# Knowledge is Power When it Comes to Your Finances



By Mary Thompson O'Connor,  
Community Advisory Board

When recently asked by a friend for a bit of financial insight, I thought carefully on what would be a meaningful reply. This increasingly complex world of finance offers so many different areas requiring literacy on just about everything. Still-evolving financial apps pop up daily, covering everything from budgeting to borrowing (How does one know which work well? Which are safe, which may not be?). From simple checking and cash management to complex portfolios, tax-free bonds, annuities, market changes, the needs of a growing business, insurance, on and on... how do I best offer my friend a meaningful tip or two that will legitimately help her navigate this ocean of complexity? I found myself looking in the mirror and asking, "How do I maneuver all of this?" And the answer became obvious...

From the time I was a little girl, I was curious. I asked a thousand questions (I still do!). I found there was empowerment in knowledge. Education often unlocked a door to yet more questions, but certainly fostered self-development. When I attended an all-girl high school in the early 70's, no one told me girls should stop asking so many questions.

Through all the years, I had wonderful people who answered and answered and answered. The best ones challenged me with questions back. They gave me spiritual, physical, emotional and intellectual insight. Best of all were my parents, who gave me all of the above and identified personal integrity as the hub that holds the wheel together. They encouraged me to surround myself with good people and look for sound advice, and I've been blessed ever since by wonderful mentors. One of my favorites was a banker named Bob Corbett, who guided me through my early days in banking. These mentors gave me

so much insight; I never had to have all the answers myself... just find those I could trust who did, even when I didn't know the question itself.

My father, Byron Thompson, was pretty accomplished in many ways yet he would always ask of others, "What can you tell me to make me better?" He knew, especially in the world of finance, 'it took a village' to address each person's unique needs. He built one for that purpose. So my sincere answer to my friend was to find those caring mentors, those people of integrity to guide your unique ship. The ocean of financial knowledge is too deep for any one person to soak it all in. Start simply, use a budget, save what you can (learn the value of compounding interest over time) and avoid too much debt, especially on consumer goods. Know and manage your credit history, it defines your financial life and may open (or close) a door. Fill your quiver with enough arrows, enough mentors (or at least one really good one who connects you to others) and ask those questions. There is no quick answer, no magical insight in thirty seconds. Tell them *your* story to gain relevant insight regularly and they will challenge you with the right questions over a lifetime. It's worked well for me.



To celebrate the second National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, the first National Coming Out Day is held on October 11, 1988.

# Where Are They Now? Programs Started by JLKCMO

## The Docent Program at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art



By Ash Parulekar, *Inside Scoop* Editor,  
Nelson-Atkins Museum of Arts Friends of Arts Council

In 1914, after two years of operating as a service organization, the Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri, was granted its charter. Meanwhile, plans for the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, another storied institution in our city, were just beginning to take root.

Mary McAfee Atkins, a former schoolteacher, passed away in 1911 leaving \$300,000 for the establishment of an art museum. Through investment, this would grow to \$700,000 by 1927. Four years later, in 1915, William Rockhill Nelson, co-founder of the *Kansas City Star*, passed away. His will stipulated that following the death of his wife and daughter, his entire estate was to be liquidated and the proceeds used to purchase an art collection for the public to enjoy. In addition, his will also provided that his home, Oak Hall, be razed and the surrounding 30-acre property be used to build a world class art museum.

Although each estate established two separate museums, trustees representing the two estates ultimately decided to combine the two projects to create one large art institute at the former site of Oak Hall. While most of Kansas City referred to the combined institutions as the Nelson Art Gallery, the east wing remained the Atkins Museum of Fine Arts and the lobby (Kirkwood Hall) and west wing were part of the William Rockhill Nelson Gallery of Art. It wasn't until 1983 when the two officially came together to become what we now know as the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art.

Because donations to the museum came in either the form of cash or land, curators were able to build the museum collection from scratch. In 1929, fueled by the Great Depression, the market became flooded with art but very few were actually buying, allowing museum curators to amass one of the largest art collections in the country.

Finally, on December 11, 1933, 10,000 Kansas Citians lined up in the cold waiting for a glimpse of the treasures that lay inside. Members of the now almost 20-year old Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri, were on hand to greet museum visitors and show them around.

Shortly after the museum's opening in 1934, members of the League's Arts and Interests Committee started a docent program at the gallery. In its first year, League docents working closely with the Board of Education and the Nelson-Atkins' Education department, gave 200 tours to 5,000 students. At this time, Kansas City, Missouri, schools required trips to the museum as part of its curriculum, with sixth-graders coming in four times a year. At its peak in 1963, 62,500 students would make their way through the halls of the Nelson-Atkins with a Junior League docent. Today that number is only half that due to a lack of funding for school field trips. The museum still provides \$200 to pay for buses for these outings on a first-come, first-served basis, but unfortunately, the money set aside is always depleted before year end.

The model for the docent program set up by JLKCMO was the first of its kind. In a letter from Laurence Sickman, one of General MacArthur's "Monuments Men" during World War II and museum director from 1953-1977, he had this to say about the program, "The Junior League docent program was the first in the United States and was the pilot program which has been adopted by so many chapters of the Junior League throughout the country." The program adopted by the Nelson-Atkins would go on to become a national model and serve as the basis for docents at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.



*Museum docents including League Sustainer, Carol Bliss (center), pose alongside the iconic columns of the museum's façade.*



Over the years, numerous changes have been made to the docent program. What was once a two-week training program has now become two years, requiring classroom time on Mondays and 15-20 hours a week to learn the material. The once rigid curriculum is now called “free choice learning,” where docents gauge what students are interested in and adapt accordingly. Instead of telling children about the artwork, museum docents now encourage open discussion where no answer is a wrong one, as art is often open to the viewer’s interpretation.

Until 1969, the required dress code for docents, as outlined by the JLKCMO, would be matching skirt suits, nude hosiery, closed toe pumps and white gloves. The dress code was relaxed a bit as time went on finally allowing for pantsuits to be worn in the early 1970s. Today, docents are allowed to wear business casual attire.

The docent program doesn’t cover the full extent of the Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri’s involvement with the Nelson-Atkins over the years. During the 1950s, League members in coordination with the Nelson created a television series called “Magic Glove.” In 1959, JLKCMO and the Westport Garden Club combined their resources to fund a Junior Gallery and Creative Arts Center, the predecessor to what is now the museum’s Ford Learning Center. A series of movies created by the League called “Treasures of Time” detailed gallery tours of the Nelson-Atkins. Beginning in 1966, JLKCMO set up a benefit called “30 Miles of Art,” which benefitted the Children’s Library. The Nelson-Atkins also benefitted from a regional arts exhibition during the 1980s called “Mid-Four,” a juried exhibition of artists from Missouri, Kansas, Iowa and Nebraska which supported the local arts community and was held at the museum.

The partnership between the Nelson-Atkins and the Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri, is one that endured for over 50 years and members of the League still serve the museum in various staff and volunteer capacities. Take for example Shirley Bush Helzberg, current chair of the Nelson-Atkins Board of Trustees and Mary Atterbury, past president of JLKCMO and member of the museum’s Board of Trustees. Of course League members like Carol Logan, Jeanne Sosland and others still serve as docents. Still others of us have served on the various boards and councils of the museum from Society of Fellows to Friends of Arts Council to Young Friends of Art and its various party committees. Although the relationship may no longer be official it still stands today.

*With Lorenzo Ghiberti’s Gates of Paradise and Picasso arriving this fall, there has never been a better time to visit your museum. For more information on the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art or to volunteer, visit the museum’s website at [www.nelson-atkins.org](http://www.nelson-atkins.org).*

*Added to the museum complex in 2007, the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art will be celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Bloch Building this fall.*



*Former League member and Nelson Art Gallery docent, Cynthia Warrick Kemper leads students on a tour.*

Caitlin Fore is a member of the JLKCMO and owns C4 Styling, a personal wardrobe styling business.

She focuses on creating wardrobes based on three pillars; style, fit and budget. She believes that we should love the clothes we live our lives in. Since we spend our hard earned money on these items, she works to ensure her clients know all the ways to wear each piece hanging in their closets. We asked her to put together her tips on what to wear to your holiday event!

Photo: Bianca Beck Photography



## Stepping Up Your Holiday Style

By Caitlin Fore

**W**hen it comes to holiday dressing, I like to get creative and think outside of the box, but, before I get ahead of myself, let's talk through the basics and what you should own. You know, for when that last minute invite pops up and you have "nothing to wear." First things first, an LBD (little black dress) is a piece that you should have ready to go in your wardrobe. It might seem like a no brainer, but I recommend finding one in a classic silhouette that can be worn many ways. I suggest looking for an LBD that is made of a seasonless fabric (like a poly) and in your favorite shape for your body type. And once you find that perfect LBD there are just a few pieces I recommend you own for the holidays: an LBD, black pumps, statement jewelry, black tights and a great clutch. You can wear all of these things at once, or pick and choose, depending on the occasion and what you feel is most appropriate. It's up to you!

Now, back to shopping for your body type and how to do this correctly. Creating a proportional silhouette is always the goal, and you might be thinking, "Caitlin, whatcha mean?" I mean, you know how the prettiest people have proportional features!? Well, this rule goes for body type shopping as well. So, if the goal is to look like an hourglass, as the proportion of curves is 100%, then we need to know what we're working with first. Are you still with me? So, here's an example! I'm a "pear shape", and carry my weight in the lower portion of my body. So, I wear pieces that skim over my hips and booty, while the tops I lean towards are styles with ruffles, prints, and/or fitted and structured silhouettes. Now, if you have broad shoulders and slim hips, you will want to play up your shape by adding volume on the bottom half of your body, and keep it simple on top to keep that proportion in check! So, once you can identify what body type you're working with, all you have to do is figure out what part of the hourglass you need to fill out. That will help you identify what you need to shop for! I love shopping with a purpose!

Let's chat about what to wear to a corporate holiday party, or how about let's talk about what not to wear first. This might be the only opportunity for you to really dress up all year, but that does not mean it's your time to let it all hang out or wear something too tight. It does mean it's time to have a great night and wear something that shows you off in an appropriate way! So, find that silhouette that's perfect for you! Toss on those perfectly placed jewels, dancing shoes and have a fantastic night! Now if you're like "Caitlin, I've worn an LBD for the past 10 years, and I'm bored." Well, I'm glad you're reading this and are sick of the old black, green and red routine. I've got some fresh outfit combinations, I think you'll get a kick out of: pink with green, burgundy with mint, plaids with sequins, stripes with fur, velvets with leather. I came up with these by thinking of my favorite shades of red and green that would give a nod to the typical holiday red and green, without being too literal. What do you think of them? Do you have any items in your closet currently that you could wear to your events this year? Take a look at what you've got, and see if you can put together one of these fresh takes on holiday dressing! This exercise will definitely save you time and money, and it even allows you to wear your favorite pieces all over again!

Do you have a hard time accessorizing your looks? This is a topic I get asked a lot about a lot! And I've got a few tricks to keep you from looking like you put on every piece of jewelry you own. My rule is to let one piece do the talking, so either wear a pair of earrings or a statement necklace. Then wear daintier jewelry that compliments the main star of your outfit. Let's say you chose to wear a statement necklace, I would recommend you wear a pair of stud earrings, and maybe toss on a bracelet or two. Another tip for how to wear necklaces is don't let them compete with the neckline of your top or dress. So, if it falls into your shirt, moves a lot and you are constantly messing with it, don't wear it! You don't have time for that. But, you do have time to look your best wearing the best accessories. Now when you're in a pinch you can toss on different accessories and create new looks each time you leave the house!

*A few wardrobe choices for all your upcoming holiday soirées.*





*The JL360 class of 2017-2018.*

## Leadership Skills to Boost Your League Success



By Kimberlee Reid,  
Director of Training

Throughout the 2017-2018 League year there will be a renewed focus on providing members with leadership tools to boost your League careers, as well as help you become better leaders within the greater Kansas City community. Part of our organizational mission is “developing the potential of women” and the League currently offers several ways in which this can be accomplished.

### **Advanced Leadership Certification Series (ALCS)**

This program is offered as a part of League trainings and is presented in partnership with the University of Missouri – Kansas City’s Midwest Center for Nonprofit Leadership. Taking courses within ALCS is an excellent way to build basics skills around nonprofit management. Classes that will be offered this year include: What it takes to be an Effective Leader; The Four Frames of Leadership; Leading Teams and Groups; Leading People through Major Change; Getting Things Done; and Understanding and Dealing with Conflict. ALCS courses are offered over a two-year period and include 12 total classes. Upon completion of this graduate level instruction, members will receive a certificate from JLKCMO recognizing their accomplishment.

## Civic Leadership

The purpose of the Civic Leadership Program is to prepare experienced Active and Sustaining members for civic leadership through advanced leadership training, awareness of issues in Kansas City and the opportunity to connect with Kansas City leaders. This year, under the leadership of Robin Rowland, the Civic Leadership program is taking a hiatus as the curriculum is being re-tooled to benefit our members. Going forward this program will be offered as a placement during the 2018-2019 League year for those members who are interested in learning about ways in which to serve the community after your League career has concluded. More information will be forthcoming in spring 2018.

## JL360

The purpose of JL360 is to educate and develop early active Junior League members through a one-year, mission-focused membership experience. JL360 is a good way for first and second-year Active members to be introduced to the work done by JLKCMO. For members who are thinking ahead to the following year we strongly recommend seeking a placement opportunity within JL360 so you can be familiar with the inner workings of the JLKCMO.

## Soft Mentoring

The League encourages soft mentoring as a part of ongoing skills training and building of relationships. If you know of a leader you admire or want to work with we encourage you to reach out to that individual and ask about meeting up to discuss your League career and goals. There are many seasoned leaders with the JLKCMO and they are available to help answer your questions and aid you in finding your focus within the League.

In addition to the above offerings, the Junior League continuously offers League trainings throughout the year. These opportunities are varied in terms of the types of skill-building provided. Already for the 2017-2018 League year members have been given the opportunity to get behind-the-scenes tours with two of our community partner agencies (Happy Bottoms and Operation Breakthrough); learn social etiquette skills; understand what it is like to serve on the JLKCMO Board of Directors; get inspired by hearing from women in leadership outside of the League; and determine how to identify their social style.

Regardless of what you decide to pursue for your placement within JLKCMO each year, the League will always continue to offer a variety of skill-building opportunities to help you achieve your potential. "Developing the potential of women" is an effective and time-honored tradition within our organization. Training League members to impact the community has served Kansas City well over 100+ years, and will continue to do so.



The Single European Act goes into effect on July 1, 1987, joining the European Economic Community together to form a single market with one standard currency. This is the biggest step toward the creation of the European Union.

*JL360 members Abigail Gloe, Ashley Hrubes, Kaitlin Graham, Nicki Nix, Emily Lundberg, and Caroline Hammond spend some time getting to know each other.*

# The League Changed My Life!



By Jessica Earnshaw,  
Holiday Mart Strategy Chair

I love to tell New Members about the opportunities the League has to offer, but sometimes it's hard to put into words. I joined the League in 2004 because I had moved to a new part of KC and didn't know anyone in the area. I also wanted to volunteer for a charity, but wasn't sure which one or even how to go about finding the right one. A friend brought me to a prospective membership meeting at Headquarters. I listened to the stories and wondered what the acronyms all meant. Then I wrote a check and had no idea what I had just signed up for. Little did I know that what I signed up for would change my life so significantly.

At the time I was teaching sixth grade and the League's impact area was children's literacy. So I really didn't want to spend my time as a volunteer doing exactly what I did all day long; I was looking for something different. During my provisional year while I was going through my requirements I went to Holiday Mart for the first time. I was in awe; like a child stepping into a wonderland of snowflakes, unicorns and butterflies – but the adult version with wine-a-ritas, fun clothes and Christmas décor. I thought to myself with a twinkle in my eye “I want to be a part of this someday.”

I told a few people I wanted to get involved with Holiday Mart, and during my third year as an Active a friend and I applied to be Retail Co-Chairs together. I got a call from Nominating shortly after asking if I'd chair with someone I'd never met before, and as I've done many times in the League I said “sure!” Little did I know that my co-chair, Marti Hatridge, would become one of my best friends for life. We spent a year as Retail Step-Ups, then the next year as co-chairs. She was strong where I was weak, and we complimented each other in every situation. We talked every day and had conversations with each other that no one else could understand. She became my “Holiday Mart Spouse.”



*Jessica Earnshaw along with her 2011 Holiday Mart Co-Chair, Marti Hatridge and Past President, Stacey Bishop, visit with Kansas City Mayor Sly James.*



*Holiday Mart is hard work  
and you have to take your  
breaks where you can get them.*

It was such a great experience and we loved working together, so Marti and I planned to chair the **WHOLE THING** together because we “Heart the Mart”. We decided to take on the challenge of chairing Holiday Mart the year that we moved from the Overland Park Convention Center to downtown Kansas City, because who doesn’t love a challenge? Holiday Mart went from a being well-oiled machine, to starting from scratch in a completely new landscape. We quickly had to learn how to negotiate new contracts, find new vendors, write RFPs, work with the city of Kansas City on policies and permits and convince a lot of people that this move was in the best interest of the longevity of our biggest fundraiser and that it would still be as wonderful as the previous 23 years. I would drive downtown every chance I got to become familiar with the streets and vacant lots. We researched who owned which parking lot and who could rent or donate one to us. We held meetings to listen to concerns from vendors, shoppers, Actives and Sustainers and came up with creative ways to ease the anxiety of change many who were involved were feeling. We called upon experts in the League like Fund Development Director Marissa Schaffner for RFP (request for proposal) and contract help, and Sustainer City Councilwoman Jan Marcason to help us get the mayor and city planner to support our efforts. It was the definition of a team effort to get this job done.

And it wasn’t all peaches and rainbows. It was easily the scariest, hardest job I had ever accepted. I had nightmares of no shoppers showing up the Thursday morning of opening, and single handedly taking down an almost 100 year organization by destroying their biggest fundraiser. But it came together – it happened! – people shopped and we raised money. The amount of teamwork and sense of accomplishment were overwhelming. Sure there were some hiccups, there always are, but we handled them and learned from them.

Co-chairing Holiday Mart was the most rewarding experience I’ve had to date in my career. I learned things I couldn’t learn in a classroom, gained experience that was priceless and that was useful on a resume. After Holiday Mart, I went back to work after a six-year hiatus. It’s intimidating to get back into the working world after being a stay-at-home mom for so long. But I had learned new things and sharpened my skills by volunteering with the League and that gave me the confidence to apply for jobs outside of my degree. I got a job in events and fundraising, and that eventually lead to where I am today – an Executive Director for a nonprofit. All of this because I said yes – sure – ok! Yes, I was scared. Yes, I thought I might fail. But that’s the beauty of the League – it’s a training organization. You’re given opportunities to try something new that aren’t given anywhere else. There are 1400 members to support you, guide you and catch you if you fall.

Take it from a “seasoned” member, in my 13 or so years, I’ve learned these things about League and myself. One, the bigger the challenge, the bigger the reward. Yes it will test you, but you’ll grow from it. And two, never be scared to say yes, because you may meet a new best friend, learn new skills, and stretch yourself. I always tell people you get back what you put into the League. And the reward is absolutely priceless.

On January 3, 1987,  
Aretha Franklin  
becomes the first  
woman inducted into  
the Rock and Roll Hall  
of Fame.

# Looking Back 30 Years



By Ash Parulekar,  
Inside Scoop Editor

Just before Holiday Mart was set to make its debut in October of 1988, another one of the Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri's programs would be voted into existence. Since its creation, the Community Endowment Fund has helped to fund countless projects and organizations throughout the city. We simply can't imagine our League without it!

## Community Endowment Fund

The Endowment Committee is pleased to announce that the membership has approved the establishment of the Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri, Inc. Endowment Fund using the \$125,000 Bequest from Helen Ridenour Riley as seed monies. Our committee is very excited about the fund as we feel that it is an important component in the financial structure of the League and that it will be one of the ways to establish some long term financial stability.

The purpose of the fund is to receive unrestricted grants, gifts, and contributions of every nature from individuals and the community; and to hold, accumulate, and use the income to advance the purpose and goals of the Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri. The principle of the fund will remain intact and the interest earned each year will be considered spendable income. Each Junior League member is eligible to submit a proposal to the Endowment Fund Committee. In making a request, please review the purpose and goals of the Junior League as found in the Directory.

The Endowment Fund Committee will give preliminary approval of the request and will then submit the approved proposals to the Board of Managers, and if necessary, the League membership for the approval of the appropriation of funds.

It is through the Endowment Fund that all League members and interested individuals in the community can help assure the continued influence of the Junior League. Your contribution is tax deductible as it is considered a charitable gift. The committee is very grateful to Mrs. Charlene Schmelzer who made the first contribution to the fund in memory of Mildred Mitchell Payne.

*Reprinted from All That Jazz, September 1988*

On October 16, 1987, America watched as 18 month old "Baby Jessica" McClure was pulled from an abandoned well 22 feet underground after being trapped for 58 hours.

# The Oglebay Society is Growing!



By Celeste Greenlee,  
Executive Director

The generous bequest of Helen Ridenour Riley created a lasting legacy, the Community Endowment Fund, for the League and our community. Your bequest and planned gift can continue our tradition of serving those in need and fulfilling our mission.

The League is grateful to the five donors who have recently joined the Oglebay Society. These women have included the JLKCMO in their estate plans and notified the League of their gift. Please let us know if you have included the League in your will or estate plan so that we can express our gratitude and welcome you as a member of the Oglebay Society. Members of the Oglebay Society will be recognized in the Annual Report and at a Donor Appreciation event August 29.

Having a will or estate plan is an essential step in securing your family's future, yet only 36% of Americans have a will. Your estate plan can provide a legacy for future generations, including your charitable interests. If you would like more information on how to include the League in your estate plans, please contact me at 816-444-2112 or [cgreenlee@jlkc.org](mailto:cgreenlee@jlkc.org).



*Named for one of our founding members and first president, the Oglebay Society ensures our legacy of fulfilling our mission and ongoing community impact.*

## Why I Sustain the League



**I sustain the League** because I love a good bargain! Being a member is like finding Jimmy Choos on the clearance rack. My annual dues have given me priceless gifts of quality trainings, community education, leadership-by-immersion and social experiences that I could have never found elsewhere.

– Rachel Sexton

**I sustain the JLKCMO** because I owe it to future generations. The League gave me training and responsibilities, experiences and lifelong friends. Just as I tithe to my church, I see sustaining the League as a necessary commitment to the present and to the future.

– Jan Flanagan

**I sustain the League** because I have seen the tremendous value Junior League trained volunteers bring to community organizations and I want to pay it forward so the Actives can receive the training today that I was given.

– Katherine Schorgl

**I sustain the League** because it makes such a valuable contribution to our community. Not only through countless volunteer hours and significant funding devoted to worthy causes, but through the outstanding training provided to develop young women into community leaders, the League plays an important role in Kansas City's civic and philanthropic infrastructure. I also had a lot of fun during my active years and still enjoy friendships I developed working on League projects—even the Thrift Store!

– Judy Heeter

**I sustain the League** for our daughters. I sustain the League for the young women in Kansas City. I sustain the League for our community. I sustain the League because I believe in what we do! I sustain the League because I love our members.

– Debbie Campbell

**I sustain the League** because the League sustains me—I'm a kinder, more involved person because of it.

– Jane Guthrie

They may be lost to us now but in 1987, Michael Jackson, Whitney Houston and George Michael all topped the music charts.



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# Comings & Goings

## A Warm Welcome to:

### Actives

**Elizabeth Abbruzzese**, who transferred in from San Diego, CA

**Abigail Curry**, who transferred in from Chicago, IL

**Lindsay Krukowski**, who transferred in from Tulsa, OK

**Laura Marchiafava**, who transferred in from Kane & DuPage Counties, IL

**Jacqueline McShane**, who transferred in from Nashville, TN

**Jill Semmens**, who transferred in from Colorado Springs, CO

**Naudy Solano**, who transferred in from Richmond, VA

**Erin Williams**, who transferred in from Oklahoma City, OK

### Sustainers

**Deborah Starke**, who transferred in from Tulsa, OK

## A Fond Farewell to:

### Actives

**Kelli Eason**, who transferred out to Atlanta, GA

**Vanessa Fuery**, who transferred out to Norfolk-Virginia Beach, VA

**Laura Schuller**, who transferred out to Collin County, TX

### New Members

**Julie Koontz**, who transferred out to New Orleans, LA

### Sustainers

**Paige Scott**, who transferred out to Atlanta, GA

## Our deepest sympathy to the families of these Sustainer members:

**Nina Anderson**, who passed away May 26, 2017

**Marilyn Sweet Newton**, who passed away June 12, 2017

# Congratulations!



Alyssa Klimek married Jonathan Vargas on May 26, 2017. The wedding took place at Our Lady of Sorrows, followed by a reception at the rooftop at The Brass on Baltimore. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Vargas!



Brooke Trug married Jeffrey Allen on July 9, 2017. Our congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Allen on their nuptials!

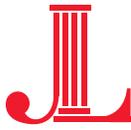


Ellen Shannon married Alex Reynolds on April 28, 2017. Alex is the son of Cindy Reynolds, Sustainer. The wedding took place on the island of St. Barts in the French West Indies. Congratulations to Ellen and Alex Reynolds!

## Tiny Juniors

**Emma Herwig** and husband, Andrew, welcomed 8 lb. 8 oz. Ava Elizabeth Herwig on May 3, 2017. She is the first child for Emma and Andrew.





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*Cheers to*

**30 YEARS**

 Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri  
**holidaymart 2017**  
*great shopping for a great cause*

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