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### On the Cover
A collage of vintage news clippings highlighting the various programs and achievements of JLNO.  
*Photos from JLNO Archives*
Winter 2018

LAGNIAPPE STAFF
Editor: Lacy McManus
Assistant Editor: Kristin W. Durand
Photography Editor: Taylor Pospisil
Assistant Photography Editor: Michelle Sens
Writers: Meghan Brown, Tara Quinn-Hagmann, Jen Hale, Jill Holland, Sonia Godfrey, Dr. Christen Mayer, Taylor Sergeant
Photographers: Bailey Morrison, Taylor S. Pospisil, Windsor V. Richmond, Michelle Sens

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Letter from the President

In the midst of the holiday season, we are at the halfway mark of the 2018–19 League year. For me, the holidays are always a wonderfully busy time (or busier, because weren’t we all busy before?), but it’s also an important time to reflect and stay focused on our priorities. As any Junior League member can attest, making a list isn’t just for Santa. In that spirit, here’s a little JLNO list that reflects our 2,100 members’ priorities and impact:

• 17,730 hours spent volunteering in the community by JLNO members
• 1,240 hours JLNO members spent training to become better community leaders
• 346,050 diapers distributed to community partners and early childhood education centers
• 19,880 diapers sent to the Junior League of Panama City Diaper Bank following Hurricane Michael
• $5,000 in emergency response funds sent to the Diaper Bank of the Carolinas following Hurricane Florence
• 3,100 attendees enjoyed the annual Touch a Truck event in November
• 625 elementary students participated in Touch a Truck’s second Field Trip Friday
• 162 Educare students receiving holiday gifts this year from generous JLNO members
• $50,000 to be awarded to local nonprofits through JLNO’s Community Assistance Fund (application deadline 12/28/18)
• 4 Women Entrepreneur Fellows JLNO will support following Idea Village’s NOEW on March 19 (application deadline 1/14/19)
• 1 day is the time it takes to complete JLNO’s award winning Get on Board program on 2/9/19

On a personal note, I am particularly grateful to our JLNO members, community allies, business partners, donors and clients for the opportunity to serve you. Each of you empower JLNO to make a tremendous impact in Greater New Orleans. There is so much more to list, but as you can see, we’re busy improving our community through the effective action of well trained women volunteers!

I wish you a wonderful holiday season and look forward to your continued support in 2019, when we celebrate JLNO’s 95th anniversary and unveil exciting new initiatives for our future!

Alice Franz Glenn
President

*All figures are JLNO fiscal year-to-date, June to November.
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Letter from the Editor

As we celebrate 95 years of JLNO impact, I’m struck by both the actual definition and connotation of the word. Pondering the meaning of “impact,” I realized that I often associate it with a singular instance. Indeed, when Googling the literal definition, I found impact is defined as “the action of one object coming forcibly into contact with another.”

Yet, as I look through the amazing images of JLNO members and read about the activities from years past, I realized that we so often qualify and quantify impact far beyond that first collision. We are instead more likely to value impact by the ongoing reverberations and ripples that proceed — sometimes even going so far as to forget entirely that first point of contact.

Take a peek at the “Enhancing the Arts” article, for instance. Today, NOMA is one of the most iconic and beloved institutions in New Orleans. It is not only a stunning architectural gem, but is also a vault of invaluable art. Though generations of New Orleanians can identify NOMA, how many know the critical role the Junior League played in establishing its legitimacy? I certainly didn’t until reading Dr. Mayer’s article!

The truth is that not only did the Junior League contribute countless volunteer hours and guidance to NOMA, but we also bought a Degas portrait for the museum. Let me repeat that with emphasis: JLNO BOUGHT A DEGAS. I won’t abuse my editorial privileges here by using expletives, but WOW. Just wow.

Herein lies my point: while we might all love NOMA and the value it brings to our community, major points of impact were built upon one another to create this institution, and many of these points have since been lost in our collective conscience. In the end, it is less about the individual moments of collision but about the overall reverberation of our efforts that leave our mark on our community.

As we enter a hectic and exhausting holiday season, it is easy to once again focus on the singular moments of impact: the meal served in a homeless shelter, the teddy bear or bicycle donated to a child in need, the donation given to a favorite charity. While we can’t dismiss these individual efforts, don’t let them stand in isolation. Let 2019 be a year of not only celebrating how far we’ve come, but also a year of building on our JLNO success even further.

If you need easy inspiration, just read on!

Happy Holidays,

Lacy McManus
Editor
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Are you or do you know a female in New Orleans looking to begin or complete her post-secondary education? Whether she is looking for an academic or vocational program, the JLNO Scholarship Opportunity is available for women aged 25 or older residing in New Orleans. Learn more at: jino.org/scholarship

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE FUND
JLNO’s Community Assistance Fund grants money to nonprofit agencies that seek to advance the wellbeing of women. The deadline to apply is December 28, 2018. For details, visit jino.org/CAF

CALLING WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS
Building a business is difficult, but having the right resources can mitigate the challenge. Women entrepreneurs over the age of 21 and operating businesses in the region can apply to receive a yearlong fellowship of mentoring, in-kind services and financial assistance from JLNO. The deadline to apply is January 14, 2019, and more information can be found at jino.org/WEFellowship

GET ON BOARD
Get on Board provides knowledge and skills to current and new nonprofit board members, as well as to those looking to become more involved in philanthropy. The workshop is Saturday, February 9, 2019. Register at jino.org/GetOnBoard

NEW MEMBER INFORMATION
Are you or someone you know interested in joining JLNO? Attend one of our information sessions from January through March. More information is available at jino.org/JoinJLNO

SHOP AND DONATE
You can designate JLNO as the beneficiary of your AmazonSmile purchases. For more information, visit jino.org/AmazonSmile

OFFICE CLOSURES
JLNO’s Headquarters will be closed for the following holidays:
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- New Year’s Eve & Day – December 31 & January 1
- Mardi Gras – March 4 & 5
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Since 1924, the Junior League has been uniting women to promote voluntarism, develop one another’s potential and improve communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Volunteering in our local communities to create lasting change is what shapes Junior League chapters as a whole, but what is it that shapes us as women of the Junior League in our personal and professional lives?

Last fall, JLNO partnered with Trepwise — a nonprofit consulting group — to assess what our members think about the virtues we attain as women trained in voluntarism. JLNO asked our active members what expertise unites the women of the Junior League. What came forth were testimonies of growth and advancement in members’ professional, personal and civic lives. Through this feedback, JLNO’s core competencies were born.

The core competencies consist of eight categories that shape us as community leaders and volunteers. These competencies are applicable to many facets of life whether managing a business, a household or a nonprofit. They serve as a representation of what skills we personally take away from voluntarism that can catalyze growth in all areas of our lives.

The first core competency is communication. When active members of JLNO were surveyed prior to the development of this list, the ability to communicate effectively emerged as the most important takeaway. Active member Jill Holland says, “It has been such a pleasure to work with women who communicate so effectively and with such grace.” She adds, “Each committee I’ve served on has been filled with women who communicate respectfully and clearly. I have found that our common goals to better New Orleans and the lives of women and children outweigh differences of opinion and/or personality. And we are consistently reminded how important it is to communicate positively and with open minds.”

Members were unanimous in the belief that teamwork is a critical skill they develop while serving with the Junior League. Becoming a good team player opens the door to personal growth by working towards common goals, maintaining a positive and productive atmosphere and embracing one another’s individual strengths. JLNO active Joan LaMartina says, “JLNO provided a sisterhood for me which made me feel comfortable enough to come out of the known and try new things. Once new little projects were met, I would start to ask, ‘What’s next?’ ‘What else can I do?’” She goes on to say, “This transcended into my personal career as a social worker, where I was no longer afraid to go a little further, push a little harder, try a different approach, or even lead a project; something I...
probably would have shied away from had I not been given a chance to try and do with my sister leaguers.”

The third core competency is leadership. Some say leaders are born, but as is evident from our members, leaders can also be cultivated. Joan expands on her JLNO experience by saying, “There is a newfound confidence that makes it easier to advocate for others and myself. I might have obtained skills from other volunteer organizations, but JLNO’s embracing and encompassing environment is really what helped bring it out. [It was] a kind push to realize and hone my potential to give, to lead, to learn — all in my own hometown.”

Next is time management and organization. Of course, these resonate with all individuals as an invaluable asset. Without time management, leadership and the ability to work within a team are moot. Jill points out, “JLNO has strived to create an environment where you can be a working woman and still give back to the community. It does this through many different opportunities to serve — weekends, weekdays, nights and evenings, monies for mission and flexible schedules to work on your own time.”

Patience and flexibility are essential to leadership development, especially when engaging a volunteer based workforce. The old saying goes, “patience is a virtue,” and this is especially true when faced with uncertainty. Flexibility leads us to being women of resilience, something the women of New Orleans know quite well.

Vision and creativity are imperative to accomplishing any goal. The utilization of our visions and creativity help us stay relevant and achieve what we set out to do while also making us unique and individual.

Program planning and delivery are next on the list. Planning is crucial in voluntarism and represents a realm of opportunity in finding passion and purpose while serving in the community, thus creating continuous possibilities in contributing to a greater good. Through learning the essential components of program planning and delivery, we take away tools to be able to continue “paying it forward” throughout our lives as women of the Junior League.

Awareness of the organization and the community it serves takes its place as the final core competency. Understanding our organization and the needs of the community provides a path for women to find their most valuable ways to contribute, not just to JLNO but to our communities as a whole. Active member Rachel Batenga says, “JLNO exists to serve the community so I think that listening to what the community needs is really important and the aspect of communication that many members develop as members of JLNO.” Jill adds, “JLNO does a great job of giving its members background on who we are working with and what we are working towards so that our members can approach each project and opportunity as well-informed and goal-oriented individuals and teams.”

The core competencies are excellent tools for discovering what our return on investment is as individuals from the Junior League. As you continue through the League year, remember the core competencies are here as a means of personal reflection and development. These abilities are talents we already have; yet we can continue to promote growth within ourselves and, ultimately, in our community. With missions that matter, support and expertise, we will continue to grow as a healthy, vibrant and respectful group of women. •
Wellbeing
Taking Care of YOU During the Holiday Season

By Dr. Christen Mayer

The holiday season can be so full of parties, planning and purchases that it can be difficult to make time for you. Yet taking time to care for yourself ensures you can be at your best and enjoy all the season has to offer. While spa days, fancy dinners and shopping trips can all be worthwhile indulgences during this most hectic of seasons, taking time for yourself doesn’t have to break the bank. The members of JLNO have some fun and unique self-care strategies that fit nicely into seven packages:

Wrapping Wellness
Take a moment to enjoy the meaningful activities of the season. Seasonal traditions like wrapping gifts, writing holiday cards and crafting a year in review letter to share with friends and family provide time to reflect on the reason for the season. Spend time completing these checklist items as a way to reminisce on the year gone by and get excited about the year to come. Active Mary Lorenz tells us, “I wrap presents whilst watching Scrooged and drinking red wine.”

Time-Honored Traditions
Reinvigorate your holiday season with beloved traditions of your family and community. Many JLNO members treat themselves to some of New Orleans’s best seasonal offerings including a stroll through City Park’s Celebration in the Oaks. Lagniappe Editor Lacy McManus says, “My husband actually proposed at Celebration in the Oaks the night before Christmas Eve — needless to say, returning to that spot every year is now a beloved tradition!” Another favorite outing is taking photographs in the lobby-turned-winter-wonderland in the historic Roosevelt Hotel. There is always the option to stay in as well and cook a favorite holiday recipe.

Mindfulness and Meditation
A moment of quiet reflection is an important strategy for self-care during this frenzied season. Meditation sessions offer much needed calm and clarity for our members to stay centered and focused. Activities like reading, journaling and scrapbooking are fun ways to find your zen. Even a trip to the car wash during a session of chaotic errand running offers a five minute respite and a sense of calming cleanliness. Also, stopping to enjoy the cooler weather helps us appreciate the festive time of year. Provisional Christine M. Berger tells us, “I find motivation in realizing that if I’m not 100 percent, I can’t give others 100 percent. Once I have that motivation, I can set my mind to doing what I need to do for myself so that I can do for others and give them my all.”

TOP: Take a moment to enjoy the activities of the season. Photo provided by: Shutterstock
MIDDLE: Lacy and Bryan McManus enjoy a holiday tradition of walking through the lobby of the Roosevelt Hotel’s Winter Wonderland. Photo provided by: Lacy McManus
BOTTOM: Take time to pamper yourself. Photo provided by: Christmaspa & Shutterstock
Getting from Giving

Unsurprisingly, JLNO members are fulfilled by giving. Formal charity donations and annual gifts feed our altruistic nature during the holidays, but less formal acts of giving are equally meaningful. This includes hosting a successful festive dinner, offering seasons greetings and well wishes on social media or even donating blood — a gift that truly keeps on giving. As Active Laren Holzer says, “I love our annual girls’ night ornament exchange — it’s a great excuse to see friends, and it keeps my tree looking fresh!”

December Destinations

Travel traditions allow our members to pay homage to those nostalgic holidays of the past. One way of treating yourself while traveling could be stopping at the same overlook on the road to Christmas dinner to take in the wintery scenery. It could also mean prepping the same seasonal snacks for trips (both by land and air). It could even be as simple as enjoying the same vacation spots with family each year.

Seasonal Sports

Some members plan their me time around sports schedules during the winter months. It’s no secret college football and professional sports are immensely popular in New Orleans, and these recurring events help us schedule times to get all our friends and neighbors together to turn on the holiday cheer. Whether it’s the Saints gridiron action, the Sugar Bowl buzz or the start of the Pelicans basketball season that gets your spirits up, watching your favorite team could be just the ticket!

Energy from Exercise

Keeping up with exercise routines is a smart approach to self-care. Members note that making time to exercise is essential for wellbeing during the busy season. Recommended activities include yoga, barre, spin and running. There are even several holiday themed races and fun runs during this time of year to give the entire family an excuse to get creative, have fun and burn off a few extra bites of pumpkin pie.

Pamper and Polish

A time-honored approach to treating yourself, no matter the time of year, is taking time to be pampered. Who doesn’t enjoy salon treats like massages, facials or a fresh new haircut? Selecting the hottest shade of red lipstick or glittery nail polish can easily dress up any jolly outfit. And pampering oneself with a yummy cocktail in hand while listening to Bing Crosby croon or watching It’s A Wonderful Life for the fifth time…now that’s the definition of holiday cheer. As Provisional Sarah Lobell says, “My husband and I actually do watch Love Actually every year!”

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Every woman has been there. She is about to cheer for the big game, go into class, head to the store, give a presentation or stand up to clap at her child’s play...And she realizes there’s an emergency — she has her period right now and has no supplies on hand. It is embarrassing, and it is enough to drive any woman crazy!

Imagine, though, that this is not just an instant emergency, but a monthly one that can last up to a week. Imagine the stress that comes with not knowing if you can afford a basic necessity that helps you care for yourself or be a contributing member of your family.

“One in five low-income women report missing work, school or similar events due to lack of access to period supplies,” Elizabeth Janke reported from information she has reviewed as JLNO’s Community Council Director. This statistic on the subject is being publicized now more than ever in the media, reducing the stigma attached to talking about menstruation.

JLNO President Alice Glenn says across our nation, major media publications are educating people on the barriers faced by women and girls unable to afford feminine products.

“Just like women can’t work if babies can’t be in diapers at daycare, women can’t work if they don’t have the supplies they need on a monthly basis,” she says.

To distribute these products into the community, JLNO has partnered with Ultimate Health Inc., an organization which offers medical services to low-income families with children ages five and under. JLNO’s Diaper Bank currently provides diapers to the organization and is looking forward to expanding this partnership through feminine supplies.

David St. Etienne, Ultimate Health Inc.’s President, spoke about the health correlation between providing diapers and period products. David pointed out that children who are not given frequent diaper changes may develop different types of
infections. David added that medical studies show the same thing applies to feminine products, which — if not changed frequently throughout the day — can lead to a variety of medical problems. “If women are able to take care of themselves better and reduce infections, then it provides a better environment for the mother and the child,” says David.

Period products that are delivered to Ultimate Health Inc. will be available to all of the menstruating women in the 1,500 families they currently serve. While this effort is still in its pilot phase, the impact could be extraordinary for the New Orleans community. As Alice says, “I’m excited to see how the pilot works! Anything we can do to help young women and girls is an exciting opportunity.”

**How to Help**

JLNO receives donations from APS and NDBN; however, more is needed to serve the women and girls in our community. Just as individuals and organizations may donate diapers to the Diaper Bank, they may also donate feminine products. Here are a few ways the community can help:

- **Donate Sanitary Supplies** (pads and/or liners only). Drop off to JLNO Headquarters during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 8:30am to 5:30pm.

- **Host a Period Supplies drive.** Contact JLNO Headquarters at (504) 891-5845 or email info@jlno.org for more information.

- **Share Information.** Use social media or other digital platforms to share facts about sanitary product need and raise our community’s awareness.
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Since 1924, the Junior League of New Orleans has been dedicated to its mission of promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Now, it is nearly impossible to imagine a New Orleans without this organization which, with 2,100 members, is the 8th largest League in the world. The Junior League’s members serve as the eyes and ears of New Orleans; each plays her own part in identifying community needs, and together, JLNO offers any means of support available to fulfill those needs.

As the League celebrates its 95th birthday, we reflect on its tremendous impact on local culture, history and togetherness with this special 4-part series.
Enhancing the Arts

by Dr. Christen Mayer

The Junior League of New Orleans has a long and storied history of supporting art and educational programs as part of its commitment to the New Orleans community. An early adaptation of this part of our mission was formalized in 1947 with the initiation of the JLNO’s partnership with the Delgado Museum, which is now known as the New Orleans Museum of Art (NOMA). This dedication to history and education was also highlighted in 1956 with JLNO’s support of the Louisiana State Museum.

In the fall of 1947, the Delgado Museum project was launched. The project was designed to provide Louisiana school children a visual understanding of their cultural inheritance. The program was modeled after a similar effort taken on by the Kansas City Junior League and was headed by Mrs. Clarke Salmon, III who was a recent transfer from Kansas City to New Orleans.

Strained finances and a vacant Director position at the museum presented many challenges as JLNO launched its ambitious new program. Responsibilities for the League members included fundraising, staffing, curriculum development, organizing transportation for students and designing and constructing the displays. Tulane architectural
students were recruited to build props and plan lighting for the new exhibit.

Junior League members volunteered to give demonstrations and arrange transportation. Donations from across the state were solicited by JLNO members, including original Audubon prints, antique furniture, and Indian and Acadian crafts.

In December of 1947 Mrs. Salmon wrote in a lovely thank you letter to an art lender, “We want you to know that we are indeed very grateful to you for the loan of your several Audubon prints. Your generosity and cooperation contributed a great deal to the success of our museum project.”

The same year, the Junior League of New Orleans received a thank you in return from the Orleans Parish School Board: “You are to be highly commended on your excellent leadership in planning and presenting the Louisiana Exhibition at the Delgado Art Museum during November and part of December 1947. Every phase of this exhibit indicated the amount of thought, time and energy devoted to this activity by many members of the Junior League, who worked so cooperatively and harmoniously.”

The initiation and success of this early Junior League project is a testament to the Junior League model of organizing around community need and available volunteer time and talent. It is a timeless model that is truly effective. The project also shows the impact that can come from one motivated member.

In the years to follow, Junior League members continued to plan and execute the art show and acted as docents, presenting two exhibits annually for school children. In April 1959, the League provided $10,000 for two years to support the salary of a Curator of Education at Delgado Museum. In November 1964, the League donated $5,000 to purchase Edgar Degas’s “Portrait of Estelle Musson” by the Delgado Museum, which is still part of NOMA’s permanent collection.

JLNO continued to directly support the Delgado Museum as volunteer docents and fundraisers until 1970 when the responsibility of program execution was adopted by the museum’s Women’s Volunteer Committee. In 1970, the League voted to donate $10,000 to the Museum for three consecutive years. This last iteration of the partnership included two administrative volunteers for planning programs, and in the second and third years twenty volunteers to carry out newly planned visual arts projects.

In 1956, the Junior League of New Orleans extended its efforts to preserve the history of our community through a partnership with the Louisiana State Museum by acting as volunteer docents and assisting with cataloguing inventory. In March 1966, the League voted to donate $1,000 to establish the Junior League Presbytere Guides in cooperation with Friends of the Cabildo and the Louisiana State Museum. This guided tour program for school children throughout the state of Louisiana was held in the Presbytere until the Cabildo renovation was completed in 1971. In May 1971, the guide program was officially turned over for management by the Friends of the Cabildo, which continues to operate guided tours to this day.

The impact made by JLNO in years past has provided both generational benefits and ongoing community relevance. As a result of these early League efforts, the City of New Orleans and the State of Louisiana now has an impressive home for the visual arts that continues to inspire and educate.
It’s hard to imagine the City of New Orleans without its celebrated historical architecture or its passionate commitment to preserving that treasure. However, in the early 1970s, members of the Junior League of New Orleans who wanted to save remarkable buildings across the Crescent City found themselves in the minority. These women began to fear a city without storied buildings dating back more than a century was in the near future for New Orleans. Blocks of history were disappearing underneath bulldozers to make way for modern apartment buildings and offices, but few people seemed concerned. Progressive modern buildings were in demand, not rehabbed older structures.

“There were very few historic districts or local protections for buildings outside of the French Quarter,” remembers JLNO Sustainer Ann Masson, who was a key part of JLNO’s early preservation efforts. “People didn’t want old floor plans. Empty lots and abandoned buildings were prevailing across the city. Demolitions were constant. We lost tens of thousands of structures between the 1960s and mid-1970s. We knew what they were tearing down was incredibly valuable, but our opinion was not popular. We were seen as obstructionists to progress and the future.”

The first step to saving New Orleans’ historic architecture was changing public opinion about “old” buildings and their value. JLNO members brainstormed about how to accomplish that feat and, in 1973, launched an initiative called the Building Watchers Tour, the pre-cursor to today’s Preservation Resource Center (PRC).
JLNO volunteers, not paid guides, led people on tours of neighborhoods like Central City, the Central Business District (CBD), the Garden District, the Warehouse District, Lafayette Square and the Irish Channel. JLNO members were so passionate about the mission of saving New Orleans’ architectural history that this became one of the Junior League’s most popular placements.

“We believed that the Building Watchers Tour was the most important thing being done when it came to historic preservation. We all just jumped in because of the desperation of the situation,” says Ann. “The point of the tours was to get people interested in the city’s neighborhoods. It was a huge marketing idea that was an outgrowth from a series of books published by the Cabildo. We wanted people to appreciate the history in these neighborhoods. If we could do that, we knew it would be easier to save them.”

Indeed, the impact of the JLNO’s Building Watchers Tour was more powerful than even most founding members had hoped for. It only took a few years for this effort to blossom in the hearts of the public as now-revered buildings, like the row houses on the Warehouse District’s Julia Street, narrowly escaped destruction. As the project grew its own wings, the tour first transformed into the Preservation Alliance of New Orleans and then the Preservation Resource Center.

Ann, who is now an Architectural Historian at Tulane University, became the PRC’s second Executive Director and served from 1978-80.

“Truly, I now marvel at the impact and importance of what the PRC has become,” says Ann. “I’m so proud that the League recognized the problem, was brave enough to act and act in a way that had such a long-term influence on this city. I do look back at those years though as a mixed success. I’m so proud to have saved all that we did, but I do get sad driving by many places and remembering what was there once.”

Rooted in the passion of JLNO members from the ‘70s, the PRC is now a nationally-recognized organization that cities across the nation strive to learn from and emulate. It’s impossible to calculate the exact number of minds that were opened or buildings that were saved by the JLNO’s early efforts. Nevertheless, this story’s triumphant outcome should be remembered and appreciated whenever we visit or even pass by an historic structure.

“It’s astounding to me how huge and powerful the preservation effort in New Orleans is now,” says Ann. “People shouldn’t take for granted the treasure we now have. The truth is — we came close to losing so much of it. We had to fight and fight and fight to convince the public and city government that these buildings were worth saving. I don’t know that we could have done better at that time, but we certainly could have done worse.”

Ann’s one request now is that newcomers and younger generations remember the battle to save New Orleans’ history and keep the preservation torch always glowing.
The Parenting Center (TPC) and the Diaper Bank are two JLNO efforts that have seen exponential growth in the community, effectively evolving into legacy projects for the Junior League. According to the original bylaws of the TPC, “The Parenting Center grew out of the Association of Junior Leagues’ commitment to child advocacy. During three years of community research (1977-1980), it was determined that the most pressing need in the area of services to children was that of parent education.”

The AJLI’s focus was in large part due to a cornerstone book, The First Three Years of Life, by Dr. Burton L. White, which emphasized the importance of child development during the infancy through toddler years. Sustainer Marsha O’Connor recalls how Sustainer Peggy Wilson (then Active) had a connection to Dr. White and was able to recruit him to the League to discuss his book and its topic.

His presentation to JLNO ignited League members to join Marsha, already known to be a child advocate, in her efforts to form a center where men and women could learn how to be parents. Marsha says, “Before [the 1970s], the word ‘parenting’ was not a word people used.” Marsha and other League and community members wanted to shift this paradigm and provide parenting skills for the first three formative years.

“One of the reasons the League chose to move forward with this project was because of the impact Dr. White’s presentation made on the Junior League members,” says Sustainer Stephanie Haynes, who was the first Committee Chair for TPC. She continues by saying JLNO members understood “moms and parents needed to know the science of parenting as well as have a support system.” Sustainer Ruthie Frierson, JLNO President when Dr. White came to speak, says, “It was a unanimous vote to do this.”

In 1980, The Junior League of New Orleans and Louisiana Children’s Hospital opened the doors to The Parenting Center. In addition to providing a new platform to support parents across New Orleans, TPC has also benefitted JLNO members directly. At the time of TPC’s founding, Stephanie’s children were two and four and she keenly understood the impact the Center’s resources, programs and parent camaraderie would have on New Orleans families.

Sustainer Maria Huete says, “The Parenting Center was a huge lifesaver for me. I had very few places that I could go to alone with a set of triplets. The Parenting Center topped that list. I could watch them without fearing they would make an escape. There was a triplet mom support group where we shared tips and commiserated over our shared tribulations. Those moms are
still a huge support even as our kids head off to college.”

Today, The Parenting Center continues to operate as a part of Louisiana Children’s Hospital. The center offers daily playtime and group classes for all types of family dynamics. And while most offerings focus on the early formative years (newborn-four-years-old), the parent/child studies have expanded to include gender specific classes for nine to 12-year olds entering those anxious tween years. There is a class for parents of six to 10-year olds, and there is even a grandparents class. For more information about their current offerings, you can stop by the center, located at 938 Calhoun Street near Audubon Park, or you can visit their website online at chnola.org/ParentingCenter.

The Junior League of New Orleans continues to work with TPC to provide the Safe Sitter program. Safe Sitter is a program to teach childcare skills to youth ages 11-13, including what to do if a child or infant is choking and how to approach babysitting as a business. “My two older children are both Safe Sitter trained, and I can feel much more confident with the inevitable juggle of work and family when they are in charge of themselves and their younger sister,” says JLNO Past President Katherine Raymond.

JLNO is proud of The Parenting Center — its beginnings and what it has grown to become. As projects like TPC become independent of the League, new projects arise that are just budding. In the past few years, the Diaper Bank sprouted almost overnight as a direct outgrowth of the TPC’s success.

Just as JLNO members like Maria benefitted from TPC, they also recognized JLNO’s unique ability to continue supporting women and mothers in the community. It’s not surprising that in 2013, Maria (then Active) was reading an article about diaper need. “I remember reading how the lack of diapers affect women as mothers both in their mental health and their physical family health when they have to decide between diapers and food.”

When Maria shared the article with JLNO President Jeanne Boughton and Sustainer Jessie Haynes (who was then Active and Chair of Project Development), it took only one League year for the project to be voted in. As Katherine Raymond, League President the year the Diaper Bank started, says “The Diaper Bank got off the ground quickly in part because the best practices were there for us to emulate. Unlike a brick-and-mortar building, the effort could start small, immediately and scale up as resources became available.” Sustainer Mary Beth Green, a first Chair of The Diaper Bank Committee, adds, “There was immediate support from the community. Woodward Design Build provided our first location — they were an early supporter.”

In 2018, the Junior League’s goal is to provide over 1 million diapers to its metropolitan region. While this is an incredibly ambitious objective that will help countless families, there is more to be done to meet the needs in the New Orleans community. League members and non-members can find information on how to increase awareness about diaper need and how to contribute diapers at jlno.org/community/diaper-bank. (Or take a look at page 14 in this current Lagniappe edition.)

This support the League gives women, children and families has been a priority for 95 years. Each decade, JLNO rooted one idea after another. “I see similarities in the Diaper Bank and The Parenting Center,” says Katherine. “Moms, especially new moms, need support. The Junior League has a history of empathizing with struggling new moms and providing needed support.”

The Parenting Center and The Diaper Bank were nurtured by caring and clever minds and tended by capable hands, each cementing JLNO’s legacy of impact on countless New Orleans families. •
While the Junior League of New Orleans directly promotes the advancement and wellbeing of women, it cannot fulfill its mission alone. For over 30 years, JLNO has supported independent organizations with aligned goals through its Community Assistance Fund (CAF).

Though the League engaged in similar initiatives as early as the 1950’s, CAF was formally established during Ella Flowers’ presidency in 1984. Beginning as a three-year pilot program, it was initially meant to provide short-term funding for nonprofits to complete urgent projects. For example, the first grantee used the funds to purchase and install fire alarms to bring its building up to code.

While the average grant amount has remained the same ($2,500 to $5,000), the number of organizations assisted has increased. In 1996, three nonprofits received a combined $10,000; by 2001, CAF’s annual budget was $24,000. This year, seven organizations received a total of $50,000. “It’s wonderful,” Ella says, “because that one-time amount of money sometimes makes a huge difference.”

While proposed projects no longer have to be “of an emergency nature,” many guidelines for selecting grantees remain the same. As has always been the case, all applicants must be nonprofit organizations, and funds cannot be used for religious, political, fundraising or traveling purposes. Most importantly, grantees’ projects must coincide with the mission of the JLNO.

When CAF was created in 1984, the League had just completed the process of reevaluating and clarifying its public project goals. The first CAF recipient — Volunteers of America Maternity and Adoption Services — addressed the needs of children, one of three main areas of interest decided upon at the time (the others being the elderly and substance abuse). A 1996 grant to Catholic Charities’ Foster Grandparent Program and a 2001 grant to the Norman Playground Project reflected a continuing dedication to the elderly and the young, and awards to the Greater New Orleans Therapeutic Riding Center and the Lighthouse for the Blind indicated the JLNO’s increasing attention to people with disabilities.

Current chairs, Nicole Deshotels and Amenah Abdelfattah Falgoust, agree that, “CAF is committed to helping organizations that provide women with familial support, improved
economic opportunities, and educational resources for women's physical and mental wellbeing." This year's CAF grantees reflect JLNO's commitment to the economic empowerment, familial assistance and physical and mental wellbeing of women.

The New Orleans Women & Children's Shelter and the New Orleans Family Justice Center address the needs of women facing homelessness and violence, respectively, and Start the Adventure in Reading promotes literacy among young girls. Spirit of Charity Foundation and Touro Infirmary Foundation strive to increase quality patient care for the most vulnerable populations, including women. UnCommon Construction empowers young women and men by helping them develop viable, real-world skills. SisterHearts, Inc., a prison reentry program, is especially notable because its founder, Maryam Henderson-Uloho, herself represents the population of formerly incarcerated women she serves. Through CAF, JLNO supports organizations that are run by women themselves, not just on their behalf.

Celebrating 95 years of service, the JLNO is also looking to the future, regularly evaluating how it can best address the needs of women in the Greater New Orleans area. The Community Assistance Fund will continue to be part of this process, allowing the Junior League to actively support key allies in its mission.

**2017-2018 CAF Grant Recipient: unCommon Construction – $1,125.00. Photo by: Jessica Bachmann.**

**2017-2018 CAF Grant Recipient: New Orleans Family Justice Center – $8,000.00. Photo provided by: The New Orleans Family Justice Center.**

**2017-2018 CAF Grant Recipient: unCommon Construction – $1,125.00. Photo by: Jessica Bachmann.**
Touch a Truck

Compiled by Dr. Christen Mayer

TOUCH A TRUCK 2018
BY THE NUMBERS

3,100 attendees, including
625 students and 80 chaperones on Field Trip Friday

Revenue over $50,000

37 vehicles on display
14 vendors and activities

Photo submitted by Taylor S. Pospisil

Photo by: Emma C. Pegues.

Photo by: Bailey Morrison.

The Janke boys in the excavator bucket: Photo by: Elizabeth Janke.

JULD volunteers Kaitlyn Derenbecker and Christine Jenevein pass out hard hats to all of the guests. Photo by: Bailey Morrison.

Compiled by Dr. Christen Mayer
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TRIBUTES & MEMORIALS

In Honor of Melanee Usdin’s 2018 Sustainer of the Year Award by Monique Gardner

In Memory Of Helen Eshleman by Kay Rapier
These League ladies were all dolled up for the Esprit luncheon. Clockwise from left: Actives Colleen Jarrott, PJ Lentz, Stacie Carubba, Elizabeth Janke, Jeanne Charlebois, Heather Doyle, Robin Carubba and Caroline Dodson. Photo provided by: Jeanne Charlebois.

JLNO members enjoy an Esprit Committee bowling night. Photo provided by: Stephanie Campani.

JLNO volunteer at the Financial Literacy table during the Girl Scouts B.I.G. (Believe in Girls) event. Photo by: Sarah Nieuwenhuizen.

Volunteers spend an evening at Second Harvest helping those in need. Photo by Michelle Sens.

Actives Brielle Bovee, Brittany Waggener, and Susie Bares help sell Junior League items at the September 13, 2018 General Membership Meeting. Photo by: Windsor V. Richmond.

Sustainers Janetanne Mears, Cynthia Coleman, Nancy Jane Carson, Charlotte Spooner and Mary Margaret Hevron enjoy an evening celebrating JLNO’s 95 years. Photo by: Michelle Sens.
Cheri Gimenez, Natalia Kaharick, Robin Davis Beducian, and Stephanie Vega, Junior League Volunteers at the American Cancer Society Patrick F. Taylor Hope Lodge Reunion. Photo by: Windsor V. Richmond.

Actives LeeAnn Moss and Tabitha Mangano manned the Bloomin’ Deals Luxury for Less pop-up shop at the ALG Style Warehouse Sale. Photo provided by: Heather Doyle.

JLNO members interacting with participants of the Girl Scouts B.I.G. event. Photo by: Elizabeth Janke.

The Junior League of New Orleans partnered with the newly opened Tory Burch in Canal Place for a first-look at their 2018 Holiday Collection. In addition to allowing us this wonderful opportunity, Tory Burch also donated 20% of the evening’s purchases to JLNO in support of its mission and community projects. Photo by: Michelle Clark Payne.

504WARD Young Professional Day of Service partnered with JLNO to sort diapers during Diaper Needs Awareness Week. Photo submitted by: Dana Schmitt.

Anne Elizabeth Zegel learns how to use a pallet jack during her shift at Second Harvest. Photo by Michelle Sens.
Alumni, friends and family of the American Cancer Society Patrick F. Taylor Hope Lodge attend a casino themed reunion. *Photo by: Windsor V. Richmond.*

504WARD members participating in a JLNO diaper sort during the 504WARD Young Professional Day of Service. *Photo submitted by: Dana Schmitt.*

JLNO members sharing information about women entrepreneurs at the Financial Literacy tables during the Girls Scouts B.I.G. event. *Photo by: Elizabeth Ogden.*

Lorraina Aldridge, Regional Director of Hope Lodge Operations, at the American Cancer Society Patrick F. Taylor Hope Lodge reunion. *Photo by: Windsor V. Richmond.*

President-elect Christine Vinson, Melissa Eversmeyer, Sustainer Donna Flower, President Alice Glenn, Lisa Ludwig and Melyne Holmes celebrate 95 years of leadership with JLNO. *Photo by: Michelle Sens.*

November small group meeting at Morning Call in City Park. *Photo submitted by: Katherine Bernard.*
Chelsey Michael Richter, Tabitha Mangano, Sonia Kamboj and Lindsey Labadie enjoy a ladies lunch at Galatoires. Photo by: P J Lentz.

Dr. Jennifer Avegno, Director of the Health Department for the City of New Orleans, speaks at the September 13, 2018 General Membership Meeting. Photo by: Windsor V. Richmond.

JLNO ladies enjoy a beautiful autumn day supporting the Junior League of Greater Covington’s Harvest Cup Polo Classic. Photo submitted by: Paula Jo Lascak.

Esprit Vice-Chair Nadia Madary and her pup Frankie got dressed up Audrey Hepburn style at JLNO’s October Front Porch Friday held at the Blue Crab. Photo provided by: Nadia Madary.

Sustainers Sara Swigart, Patsy Gibbons and Marie Summitt celebrate 95 years of JLNO. Photo by: Michelle Sens.
Héritage:
League Faces Through the Years

**TOP LEFT:** Pictured left, Mrs. McRary Wheeler lectures to Junior League members on the steps used in the creation of a painting at the Isaac Delgado Museum. Pictured right, League members Mrs. William R. Lamb, Mrs. Leon Trice Jr. and Mrs. Waller Young Jr. hear Delgado museum director comment on “Triumph of Summer,” one of the French works on display.

**TOP RIGHT:** Junior League Past President Mrs. E. Stewart Maunsell and puppet committee chairman Miss Elizabeth Kennard give preview of the puppet show for the Crippled Children’s Institution.

**MIDDLE LEFT:** Mrs. John Labouisse playing bubbles with a group of children at the Junior League Nutrition Center at 819 Bourbon Street.

**MIDDLE RIGHT:** Children Thelma Marchand, Constance Roy, Audrey Glynn and Dolores Dufant of the Junior League Community Center give a tarantella — a traditional Italian folk dance — for their parents.

**BOTTOM:** Children enjoying their time in the club room at the Junior League Community Center.

*Photos submitted by: JLNO archives*
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