

# ink



**JUNIOR LEAGUE OF  
DENVER**

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give • grow • get connected

**Fall Issue**

*Volume 1415 — Issue 1*

A publication of The Junior League of Denver. A 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization.



# Grow:

*to increase in size, number, or degree.*

## Dear Junior League Volunteers:



I am humbled and honored to serve as your President this year. From my first few weeks as a Provisional, I knew the Junior League was different than other organizations for which I volunteered. I knew it was special. I couldn't quite put my finger on the "how" or the "why" but with the benefit of experience as a League member, I now can. It is my hope that by the end of this year you will understand how the JLD is setting the bar on voluntarism and training in our community, and you will know why your decision to serve your community through it was one of the best decisions you will ever make.

We've been on a journey over the past few years to strengthen our commitment to the League's founding principles — improving communities and training women to become impactful community leaders and volunteers. To do both demanded an investment of resources in these areas as well as in fund development. I am proud to report that:

- The League has made great strides in recent years to build alliances in early childhood education and literacy to solidify our place at the table of organizations moving the needle in this arena.
- Our consistent fund development efforts helped us weather the recession and then gained momentum with the launch of The Journey.
- We have demonstrated our commitment to member development by revamping our Provisional and leadership training and creating new committees to address member needs.

Our members have done great work to meet the objectives set forth a few years ago! This reinforced foundation now gives us the footing upon which to build. This will be a year of strategic planning, positioning and building for the future. We will continue to evaluate the path to financial sustainability, deliver varied, exciting and comprehensive training opportunities for our members, and evaluate and adapt to meet the needs of our community. Lastly, we will further the work of our predecessors to identify our new home, one that meets our needs and fits into our strategic goals and vision for the future.

The JLD's financial position is healthy. Our membership base is brimming with engaged members ready, willing and able to positively impact our community. Our leaders are actively in pursuit of excellence in all facets of our work. The League is well-positioned for greatness once again, and with your continued dedication, we will seize this opportunity.

I look forward to seeing you at the next League activity. Until then, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. Have a great year!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carleigh Elkus".

Carleigh Elkus

2014–2015 Junior League of Denver President

president@jld.org

# Training Council Update | Learn More about the University League!

*By: Liz Kerr, Communications Liaison & Kodee Gartner, Training VP-Elect*

As our mission calls us to do, the Junior League of Denver is committed to developing the potential of women and improving communities through the action and leadership of trained volunteers.

We've expanded our training because we recognize that experiential learning continues to be a benefit of membership, and we strive to grow our formalized training structure through opportunities offered by the Training Council. As Training Council Vice President-Elect, **Kodee Gartner**, shared, "The goal of the Training Council is to provide relevant, need-based training that not only equips our volunteers to be more successful in their respective placements, but also offers space for women to have access to development that will positively affect them both personally and professionally."

The Training Council includes University League, Leaders in Action, Leadership Institute, General Meetings, and the newly formed Talent Management Committee. Each committee is tasked with a specific area of training opportunities for members and contributes to developing a comprehensive training menu for all members.

The University League Committee, affectionately referred to by members as "JLDU", is part of the Training Council, and aims to provide members with trainings geared towards both personal enrichment and professional development. Last year, University League sponsored events that included self-defense, creating financial freedom, and ended with a panel featuring women entrepreneurs sharing the leadership lessons they've learned through their experiences.

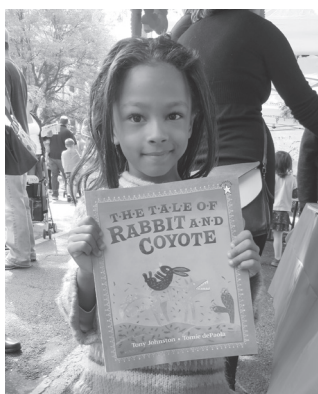
This year, the University League Committee will continue the progress made last year. This year started with a bang! The August event guided participants to identify their goals when networking and to feel more confident in their networking abilities. Our September event was an automotive repair event, geared towards providing women with the tools and skills necessary to navigate automotive care in both preventative and emergency situations. This event empowered attendees to take charge of any automotive situation, no matter how big or small!

The October event is part of a continued partnership between JLD and Saint Joseph Hospital, our 2014 Mile High Holiday Mart Presenting Partner. This event, focused on women's health, will also include a sneak peek of the brand new, state-of-the-art hospital and cancer center. The remainder of this year's University League events will cover a broad range of topics' including: how to navigate your professional career, a communications seminar geared towards having "tough conversations" and the collective power of the women's voice. In addition to the leadership-specific events, University League will facilitate a wine education event, a dating and matchmaking seminar, and a fashion event. We look forward to seeing you!

Questions? Email [universityleague@jld.org](mailto:universityleague@jld.org).

# Give:

*to present voluntarily and without expecting compensation.*



*The JLD gave away about 2,000 books on Sat, Sept 6!*

## Clifford, and Word Girl, and Curious George. Oh My!

*By: Kali Handford, Communications VP*

JLD proudly participated in the 18th Annual Rocky Mountain PBS Kids Fun Fest on September 6, 2014 in Downtown Denver. Volunteers welcomed more than 8,000 attendees, including Curious George and Clifford, to the kid-centric event. JLD members distributed about 2,000 books and 1,900 Clif Kid Z Bars (courtesy of Luna) to happy kiddos and adults alike. Alissa Haight Saguda, of RMPBS, raved, "Wow, I can't even believe how successful the Junior League's booth was on Saturday. No contest, yours was the longest line at the festival! I wanted to emphasize my appreciation for your participation in another fabulous RMPBS Kids Fun Fest." Thank you to everyone who participated in this highly successful event!

Learn more about the event at [www.rmpbs.org/funfest](http://www.rmpbs.org/funfest)



*2013-2014  
grant recipient,  
OpenWorld  
Learning*

## Help us spread the word about 123 Grants!

The JLD 123 Grants Committee is awarding local nonprofits with up to \$5,000 in grant money to qualified organizations who support the JLD's focus of improving literacy rates (programs working with any and all ages of children or adults may apply) in the Denver metro area to be used between May of 2015 and May of 2016.

Organizations that meet the JLD's grant guidelines are invited to submit a Concept Letter describing how the grant money would be used. The 123 Grants Committee will review the concept letters and invite a number of finalists to submit a full proposal.

Interested nonprofits can visit [www.jld.org](http://www.jld.org) for more information.  
**Concept letters are due November 8, 2014.**

Questions? Email [123grants@jld.org](mailto:123grants@jld.org)



# SAVE THE DATES!

## The 2014 Mile High Holiday Mart Countdown is On

By: *Jacqueline Andrews, ink Editor*

The time has arrived to start making your list and checking it twice! The 2014 Mile High Holiday Mart is coming and it's going to be incredible. Make a point to extend an invitation to friends, family, co-workers and colleagues alike with your JLD tickets - the more the merrier!

Join us for Mile High Holiday Mart VIP Shopping on Friday, November 14, 2014 from 9:30-11 am. Be the first to browse and buy from our one of a kind merchants! Tickets are \$22, and MUST be purchased in advance at [www.jld.org](http://www.jld.org). VIP Shopping tickets will not be sold at the door. Coffee and tea will be provided.

**2014 Mile High Holiday Mart**  
*Presented by the Junior League of Denver*  
**November 14-16, 2014 (Friday through Sunday)**

Denver Marriott Tech Center  
Learn more at [www.jld.org](http://www.jld.org)  
Questions? Email [holidaymart@jld.org](mailto:holidaymart@jld.org)

## Colorado Gives Day

**Colorado Gives Day is Tuesday, December 9, 2014!** Please remember the JLD Foundation on this very special day. Give where you live! Learn more at [www.coloradogives.org/cogivesday](http://www.coloradogives.org/cogivesday)

# THE JOURNEY

**Get your tables together for The Journey, Featuring Keynote Speaker Martina Navratilova, on Thursday, March 12, 2015!** Martina Navratilova, tennis player extraordinaire, took women's tennis to a new level with her speed, determination, and agility. She won the Wimbledon women's singles title a record 9 times and has been described by many as "the greatest singles, doubles, and mixed doubles player who's ever lived". Serve as a Table Hostess and receive incredible incentives!

Questions? Email [journey@jld.org](mailto:journey@jld.org).

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*Martina  
Navratilova*

# Get connected:

*join together to provide access and exchange.*

## Sustainer Spotlight: Join in the Fun!

*By: Susan Harned, Sustainer Council VP*

The Sustainer Council kicked off another incredible year with the ever-popular Sustainer Garden Party event on Wednesday, June 18th! **Bev Morrato** was named Outstanding Sustainer and **Angie Matthias** was given the Sustainer Achievement and Recognition (STAR) Award. In September, Sustainers held a New Sustainer Social to welcome our new Sustainer members. In December, the Sustainers will enjoy a **Holiday Cocktail Party** at the Tuscan Ballroom and Wine Cellar at the University of Denver. What fun! Stay tuned for more details.

Lastly, the Sustainer Interest Groups and Clubs are gearing back up! Our Ladies that Lunch and Barflies always promise a good time. For readers, we have the Daytime Book Club and Evening Book Club. Join Great Decisions to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today. If you're passionate about plants and gardening, please consider joining the JLD Garden Club. Did you transfer in from another League? If so, please consider joining the Fun Club for Transfers.

For more information on upcoming Sustainer events, visit the Sustainer tab at [www.jld.org](http://www.jld.org). Questions? Email [sustainers@jld.org](mailto:sustainers@jld.org)



*2013–2014  
Outstanding  
Sustainer award  
winner, Bev  
Morrato*



*2013–2014 STAR  
Award winner,  
Angie Matthias*



*Seanna Mulligan, Jean  
Jones, Sandy Morrison  
at the 2014 Sustainer  
Garden Party*

# Public Policy Council Does What?!

By: *Mamie Ling & Laura Felix, Communications Liaisons*

According to *Junior League of Denver, 1918-1993*, by Ellen Kingman Fisher, the League expanded its advocacy efforts in the 1980s because it realized that effecting change in the community was tied to public policy.

We advocate and support our community through our initiatives, while tackling the same issues as the legislature. In 1987, JLD was the first League in the United States to hire a government affairs specialist. The Public Policy Council has been advocating on behalf of the JLD through various events, educating members in elections, and developing and supporting bills in the Colorado Legislature. The Public Policy Council is a non-partisan council, whose goals are aligned with JLD, working with Senators and Representatives that support our initiatives.

The Public Policy Council is made up of three committees: Development, Events and Training & Outreach. The council offers placements for nearly 40 members. The group is made up of women from all backgrounds, including education, nonprofit, legal, finance, IT, government and economics. Our council works together to host events for members, the community, and to develop relationships with the legislature so that JLD can successfully advocate on the Hill, pushing for the bills that support our community focus area.

As election season approaches, the Public Policy Council will also provide information to members about ballot initiatives, educating us on what those pesky things on the ballot mean, and their impact on the community.

## 5 Facts About the Public Policy Council

1. The JLD has actively engaged in bills surrounding the “cliff effect.” A recent example is SB 12-22, Maintaining Child Care Assistance for Working Families.
2. In 2012, the JLD lobbied for HB 12-1238, Ensuring K-3 Literacy Education, otherwise known as the READ Act. This legislation was a key factor in shifting the JLD focus to literacy.
3. JLD raised \$9,000 to exclusively fund the grant for SB09-123, Healthy Choices Dropout Prevention, a bill sponsored by Senator Suzanne Williams and Representative Nancy Todd and drafted in partnership with the Public Policy Council.
4. The JLD Public Policy Council hosts annual events, including: the legislative breakfast, candidate panels, League of Women Voters ballot instruction, and inviting elected officials to speak and encourage members to engage in the legislative process.
5. Between 2009 and 2013, the JLD Public Policy Council tracked nearly 60 bills, many of which were later enacted, in diverse topic areas touching education, access to healthcare, childhood obesity, child safety, the cliff effect, and tax credits for child care.

Questions? Email [publicpolicy@jld.org](mailto:publicpolicy@jld.org)

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### **Mission**

The Junior League of Denver, Incorporated (founded in 1918), is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Our purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.