Welcome to our 2020–2021 League year!

For 102 years, the Junior League of Denver has been a connection for our members. We are a network of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and making a difference in the lives of our neighbors. We are a membership organization that puts action and leadership of trained volunteers into effective community action. We are more than 3,000 women connected to change the world through action, leadership and innovation. We are driven by the belief that women have the power to create positive change in our communities through action, leadership and innovation.

This year, our League will advance several priorities to deepen our impact and respond to the needs of our members and our community:

• Finishing the expansion of our Future Focus: Throughout all of this, we’ll be working together to ensure our League is nimble, resilient and can meet our members where they are throughout the pandemic. We have all had to adapt quickly in our work. Members at the forefront. JLD members are hosting a mix of activities that include socially distanced and virtual events, to ensure we are providing options for members to participate at their comfort level.

• Our Sustainer members continue to support the League and have stepped up to this challenge. In difficult years like this, our Sustainers have not only given back, they have the unique opportunity to support our neighbors and to give back in a way that makes a difference.

• Our Membership Council adapted their processes to support and retain over 1,600 members, including welcoming 144 new members as part of this year’s Provisional Class!

• Our Training Council is helping us tell our story and lift up the powerful and lasting impact that a group of passionate and dedicated women can make. Our members have risen to this challenge. In difficult years like this one also come great opportunities. We have the unique opportunity to support our neighbors and to give back in a way that makes a difference.

• Our Fundraising Council continues to find creative ways to build a culture of philanthropy across the League by starting new traditions and adapting signature events like our Virtual Mile high holiday mart.com.

• Our Public Policy Council provided critical training on the voting process and ballot measures, including a virtual version of their signature Wine & Ballots event.

• Our Communications Council is helping us tell our story and lift up the powerful and lasting impact that a group of passionate and dedicated women can make.

• Our Finance & Operations Council is supporting all of us to ensure we remain financially healthy and manage our expenses this year.

• Our Nominating Chair, Tiffany Deines, shares details of our 2020–2021 Board of Directors & Advisory Board:

Welcome to our 2020–2021 Board of Directors & Advisory Board

2020–2021 JLD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President
Caryne Mesquita
President-Elect
Susan Palko
Treasurer
Courtney Schimschock
Secretary
Sarah Norris
Communications VP
Megan Johnson
Finance & Operations VP
Lindsey Talafuse
Fundraising VP
Amy Johnson
Membership VP
Laura Dietrich
Public Policy VP
Naomi Amaha Gollnick
Sustainer VP
Tamara Rook
Training VP
Midori Clark

2020–2021 JLD ADVISORY BOARD

Advisory Chair
Shannon LaBay
Vice Chair
Lisa Mehlbrech
Assistant Chair
Vanessa Banker
Advisory Board Members
Molly Mower
Melissa Allen
Erin Lohr
Sarah Ficcelli
Andrea Gargas
Sarah Driscoll

Message from the President

Melanie Lewis Dickerson
2020–2021 JLD President
president@jld.org

Fourth Annual JLD L.U.V.S. day of service a success, despite pandemic challenges

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Welcome to our 2020–2021 League year!

For 102 years, the Junior League of Denver has been a connection point for our members and an anchor in our community. Of course, this year looks very different than any of us had planned, but the League remains a healthy, Mission and member-focused organization.

With challenging years like this one also come great opportunities. We have the unique opportunity to support our neighbors and to grow back to our community and our League. We have the opportunity to grow together and build new leadership skills that are all the more urgent right now. And finally, we have the opportunity to get connected and support each other.

This year, our League will advance several priorities to deepen our impact and respond to the needs of our members and our community:

- Centering on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion: After forming a special committee last year, we've made the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee a permanent placement on our Membership Council. The team is working to craft both a long-term plan for our organization and to provide opportunities in the short term to train our members on topics that are a critical part of community dialogue today.

- Finishing the expansion of our Future Focus: Following a year of research and listening to our members, our Future Focus Special Committee is working to complete the first phase of our expansion by bringing a recommendation to all of you later this year about how we can amplify our impact.

- Building a culture of data-driven improvement through our Strategic Plan: We are also working to implement our new Strategic Plan and begin building a culture of using data for improvement within our organization. We’re excited to begin measuring the impact of our Strategic Plan and exploring how we can embed the use of data across our work.

Throughout all of this, we'll be working together to ensure our League is nimble, resilient and can meet our members where they are throughout the pandemic. We have all had to adapt quickly in our personal and League lives, and we will continue to be flexible and creative. Our aim is to bring as much normalcy to this year as possible, while ensuring that we always keep the safety and experience of our members at the forefront. JLD members are hosting a mix of activities that include socially distanced and virtual events, to ensure we are providing options for members to participate at their comfort level. Our League’s ability to quickly adapt to our rapidly changing environment allows us to reach more members while continuing the tradition of our annual JLD events.

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- Our Training Council is leading the way, hosting seamless hybrid events and fully virtual trainings that help us reach more members than ever before. We had nearly 300 members participate in our first General Meeting!

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Thank you, to each of you, for all that you do to ensure that the state of our organization remains strong.

In Partnership,

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2020–2021 JLD President
president@jld.org
Message from the President

Dear Members,

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2020–2021 JLD President
president@jld.org

Thank you for your continued support as the Junior League of Denver continues to grow: to increase in size, number or degree.

Melanie Lewis Dickerson
President
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President
Melanie Lewis Dickerson
President-Elect
Caryna Mosqueda
Treasurer
Isabelle Vargas
Secretary
Courtney Schimschock
Finance & Operations VP
Megan Johnson
Fundraising VP
Lindsey Talafuse
Membership VP
Amy Johnson
Public Policy VP
Naomi Ahama Gollnick
Sustainer VP
Tammie Roos
Training VP
Meagan Burgio
2020–2021 JLD ADVISORY BOARD
Communications VP-Elect
Mikori Clark
Community VP-Elect
Lisa Weatherbee
Fundraising VP-Elect
Jacklyn VanOyik
Membership VP-Elect
Amy Marty Conrad
Public Policy VP-Elect
Lindsay Johnson
Training VP-Elect
Elizabeth Higg
Sustainer VP-Elect
Amy Johnson
Nominating Chair
Tiffany Donen
Immediate Past President
Julia Lazure
**Grow:**

to increase in size, number or degree.

**Wine & Ballots 2020 goes virtual**

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The fourth annual JLD L.U.V.S. (Leaders United in Volunteer Service) day of service was held on Saturday, September 19 at community partner locations across the Denver metro area. This year looked very different from previous years. With the safety of League members and community partners as the highest priority, the L.U.V.S. Committee continued to work with more than 260 participants in socially-distanced, masked service projects and donation drop-offs throughout Denver.

At Girls Inc. of Metro Denver, a previous L.U.V.S. community partner, JLD members donated and organized supplies to create care packages for young women heading to college in the fall. Donation items included masks, hand sanitizer, hygiene products and school supplies.

JLD members at The GrowHaus worked outside to prep 100+ boxes to support children’s virtual education programs.

League volunteers at Family Tree, a new partner this year, hosted a drive-through event collecting totes, large purses and travel-sized hygiene products. JLD volunteers at Girls Inc. also received donations from members to support partner programs at Denver Children’s Advocacy Center, Family Tree and Florence Crittenton Services.

JLD provided $10,000 in grants to our community partners as well. A huge thank you to our L.U.V.S. Co-Chair, Brenda Garcia and Anya Pampa, for coordinating a fun and safe event that makes a difference in the Denver community!

**Virtual Mile High Holiday Mart**

Please join us for our Virtual Mile High Holiday Mart, running through December 31, 2020! Help us raise funds for the League and support local businesses so hard hit by the pandemic. Visit milehighholidaymart.com to get a head start on your holiday shopping! Questions? Email holidaymart@jld.org.

**Game Day Dip**

Even virtual football watching parties need good munchies! Make this hearty, fall chicken dip from Centennial Celebrations for your household football fans! With the holidays around the corner, don’t forget to add all six JLD cookbooks to your gifting list. Members receive special pricing.

**SERVES 10**

**INGREDIENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 cups</td>
<td>chicken breast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 ounces</td>
<td>buffalo wing sauce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 ounces</td>
<td>cream cheese, chopped</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 ounces</td>
<td>blue cheese, shredded</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Combine the chicken with enough water to cover in a large saucepan. Bring to a boil. Boil for 15 to 20 minutes or until cooked through, drain.
2. Preheat the oven to 325 degrees.
3. Shred the chicken and spread in a 9 x 13-inch baking dish. Pour the buffalo wing sauce over the chicken and toss to coat.
4. Combine the cream cheese and salad dressing in a saucepan. Cook over medium heat until the cream cheese is melted and the mixture is smooth, stirring frequently. Pour over the chicken mixture and stir to mix.
5. Bake for 20 minutes. Serve with tortilla chips and celery sticks.

**Give:**

to present voluntarily and without expecting compensation.

**Fourth Annual JLD L.U.V.S. Co-Chair, Brenda Garcia, commented that “Mile High Station is such a beautiful venue. I absolutely love the industrial look and the authentic style the venue captures!” Mile High Station, located just south of Empower Field.

The Journey Committee is maintaining a waitlist of members that can’t wait to get their tickets and hear Carly Lloyd speak!” shared Keyes. The Journey Committee is maintaining a waitlist of members that wish to attend in person. Questions? Email journey@jld.org.

**Save the date for The Journey on March 19**

JLD is pleased to announce that The Journey, scheduled for March 19, 2021, will feature keynote speaker Carly Lloyd, two-time Olympic Gold Medalist and U.S. Women’s Soccer World Cup Champion. Carly serves as a mentor and role model to young soccer fans, coaching them in mental toughness and empowering them to achieve their goals.

“I am ecstatic that Carly will be speaking this year and that JLD was able to work with her to bring her back,” said Bonnie Keyes, Sponsorship Committee Chair.

With continued safety concerns surrounding the pandemic, JLD is working to host The Journey as a flexible, hybrid event, allowing guests to attend in-person or virtually. The in-person event will take place at Mile High Station, located just south of Empower Field.

L.U.V.S. Co-Chair, Brenda Garcia, commented that “Mile High Station is such a beautiful venue. I absolutely love the industrial look and the authentic style the venue captures!” It is JLD’s priority to provide flexibility for in-person and virtually hosted events this year, to allow members to make decisions that are comfortable for them.

“Journey Committee members are working closely with all parties involved and continuously reviewing the county and State guidelines. I can’t wait to get my tickets and hear Carly Lloyd speak!” shared Keyes. The Journey Committee is maintaining a waitlist of members that wish to attend in person. Questions? Email journey@jld.org.

**Get connected:**

to provide access and exchange.
Get connected: join together to provide access and exchange.

The Junior League of Denver grows, virtually

The Junior League of Denver was just getting started when the Spanish Flu hit Colorado back in September of 1918. Much like today, officials were trying to control the spread of the virus by asking Coloradans to use face masks and restrict public gatherings. JLD’s first members joined during a tragic and tumultuous time, but they persevered, allowing today’s members to celebrate more than 100 years of voluntarism and charitable giving. The League’s membership has continued to grow and stay strong through the years. With the expectation that recruitment of new members would be a challenge this year, due to restrictions brought on by the pandemic, Laura Dietrich, Membership Council VP, reiterated our commitment to creating an exceptional experience for our members: “The quality of the women we recruit and their engagement and satisfaction in JLD is what is the most important.”

Just as JLD founders persevered in 1918, so has the Provisional Recruitment Committee, as they quickly shifted gears, canceling previously planned events and introducing a completely virtual program. The committee surpassed their goal and recruited 144 new members to this unique Provisional Class. The Recruitment Committee has also been creative in attracting Transfer members, exceeding expectations and surpassing last year’s number with 61 incoming Transfers.

The next obstacle is one that every committee is facing this year: keeping members engaged in a virtual setting. Virtual setting Chair, Kristina Zeitler, shared, “I’m very proud of my group for being creative, thinking outside of the box and being innovative when it comes to meetings.”

For women who needed in-person connections, socially-distanced Transfer meetings were held in local parks. The committee also provided online options for women who may be at risk or choose to participate from home. Both committees have gone above and beyond to create a meaningful and fulfilling experience for each new member joining JLD.

Welcome to all Provisionals and Transfers!

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SERVES 10

INGREDIENTS

6 chicken breasts
12 ounces buffalo wing sauce
16 ounces cream cheese, chopped
16 ounce blue cheese salad dressing

INSTRUCTIONS

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Grow: to increase in size, number or degree.

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Mocked and socially-distant, League members participated in community projects and donation drop-offs across the Denver metro area.

Instructions for The Journey keynote speaker

Carli Lloyd, 2021

PROVISIONALS

220 2019

TRANSFERS

70 2018

56 2019

61 2020

179 2018

144 2020

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Game Day Dip

Even virtual football-watching parties need good eats! Make this hearty, fall chicken dip from Centennial Celebrations for your household football fun! With the holidays around the corner, don’t forget to add all six JLD cookbooks to your gifting list. Members receive special pricing.

SERVES 10

INGREDIENTS
6 chicken breasts
12 ounces buffalo wing sauce
16 ounces cream cheese, chopped
16 ounces blue cheese salad dressing

INSTRUCTIONS
1. Combine the chicken with enough water to cover in a large saucepan. Bring to a boil. Boil for 15 to 20 minutes or until cooked through, drain.
2. Preheat the oven to 325 degrees.
3. Shred the chicken and spread in a 9 x 13-inch baking dish. Pour the buffalo wing sauce over the chicken and toss to coat.
4. Combine the cream cheese and salad dressing in a saucepan. Cook over medium heat until the cream cheese is melted and the mixture is smooth, stirring frequently. Pour over the chicken mixture and stir to mix.
5. Bake for 20 minutes. Serve with corn tortilla chips and celery sticks.
Grow: to increase in size, number or degree.

Wine & Ballots 2020 goes virtual

A tradition for the Public Policy Council, Wine & Ballots features a review of statewide ballot measures with impartial analysis to help our members understand the purpose and effect of ballot measures before they cast their votes. Held on October 13, the event looked a little different this year in a pandemic-friendly format, but it was no less informative and fun.

The Public Policy Council was excited to open up this event to the general public, offering the training to Colorado friends and family outside the League. Because the event was hosted virtually, more than 265 voters attended the annual event. Guest speakers broke down the complicated amendments and propositions on this year’s ballot. Feedback from the event was largely positive. Most attendees stated that they valued the speaker selection, format and content.

This year’s program included not only a presentation from Count Me in Colorado on all ballot measures, but also a focused ballot measure discussion on Prop 118, Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program and Amendment B, the Gallagher Amendment Repeal and Proposition A, the Ratepayer Protection Act.

The Public Policy Council also made a recording of the event available on JLD’s YouTube Channel, to share with friends and family. One survey respondent commented, “Thank you for recording and opening it to friends/family of the League! It is really time-consuming to research all of this on your own so having an event that explained everything was amazing.”

Thank you to our Public Policy Council for providing this wonderful opportunity!

Save the dates for upcoming JLD events and deadlines

November 13 – December 31: Virtual Migh High Holiday Mart
December 8: Colorado Gives Day
January 3-11: JLD Board of Directors interviews and slating
March 19: The Journey, Featuring Keynote Speaker Carli Lloyd

Get connected: join together to provide access and exchange.

The Junior League of Denver grows, virtually

The Junior League of Denver was just getting started when the Spanish Flu hit Colorado back in September of 1918. Much like today, officials were trying to control the spread of the virus by asking Coloradans to use face masks and restrict public gatherings.

JLD’s first members joined during a tragic and tumultuous time, but they persevered, allowing today’s members to celebrate more than 100 years of voluntarism and charitable giving.

The League’s membership has continued to grow and stay strong through the years. With the expectation that recruitment of new members would be a challenge this year, due to restrictions brought on by the pandemic, Laura Dietrich, Membership Council VP, reiterated our commitment to creating an exceptional experience for our members: “The quality of the women we recruit and their engagement and satisfaction in JLD is what is most important.”

Just as JLD founders persevered in 1918, so has the Provisional Recruitment Committee, as they quickly shifted gears, canceling previously planned events and introducing a completely virtual program. The committee surpassed their goal and recruited 144 new members to this unique Provisional Class. The Transfer Committee has also been creative in attracting Transfer members, exceeding expectations and surpassing last year’s number with 61 incoming Transfers.

The next obstacle is one that every committee is facing this year: keeping members engaged in a virtual setting. Chair, Kristina Zvetlter, shared, “I’m very proud of my group for being creative, thinking outside of the box and being innovative when it comes to meetings.”

For women who need in-person connections, socially-distanced Transfer meetings were held in local parks. The committee also provided online options for women who may be at risk or choose to participate from home. Both committees have gone above and beyond to create a meaningful and fulfilling experience for each new member joining JLD.

Welcome to all Provisionals and Transfers!

JLD recruitment in recent years

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Save the date for The Journey on March 19

JLD is pleased to announce that The Journey, scheduled for March 19, 2021, will feature keynote speaker Carli Lloyd, two-time Olympic Gold Medalist and U.S. Women’s Soccer World Cup Champion. Carli serves as a mentor and role model to young soccer fans, coaching them in mental toughness and empowering them to achieve their goals.

“I am ecstatic that Carli will be speaking this year and that JLD was able to work with her to bring her back,” said Bonnie Keyes, Sponsorship Committee Chair.

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Give: to present voluntarily and without expecting compensation.

Fourth Annual JLD L.U.V.S. day of service a success despite pandemic challenges

The fourth annual JLD L.U.V.S. (Leaders United in Volunteer Service) day of service was held on Saturday, September 19 at community partner locations across the Denver metro area. This year looked very different from previous years. With the safety of League members and community partners as the highest priority, the L.U.V.S. Committee coordinated more than 260 participants in socially-distant, masked service projects and donation drop-offs throughout Denver.

At Girls Inc. of Metro Denver, a previous L.U.V.S. community partner, JLD members donated and organized supplies to create care packages for young women heading to college in the fall. Donation items included masks, hand sanitizer, hygiene products and school supplies.

JLD members at The GrowHaus worked outside to prep 100+ boxes to support children’s virtual education programs.

League volunteers at Family Tree, a new partner this year, hosted a drive-through event collecting totes, large purses and travel-sized toiletries and tissues to fill welcome bags for women escaping domestic violence.

L.U.V.S. volunteers also received donations from members to support partner programs at Denver Children’s Advocacy Center, Family Tree and Florence Crittenton Services.

JLD provided $10,000 in grants to our community partners as well. A huge thank you to our L.U.V.S. Co-Chairs, Brenda Garcia and Angiola Maramba, for coordinating a fun and safe event that makes a difference in the Denver community!

Virtual Mile High Holiday Mart

Please join us for our Virtual Mile High Holiday Mart, running through December 31, 2020! Help us raise funds for the League and support local businesses hit hard by the pandemic. Visit milehighholidaymart.com to get a head start on your holiday shopping! Questions? Email holidaymart@jld.org.

Virtual Mile High Holiday Mart

Wine & Ballots with their Colorado Blue Books in hand. Voters participated in Wine & Ballots with their Colorado Blue Books in hand.

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Welcome to our 2020–2021 Board of Directors & Advisory Board

President
Caryne Mesquita

President-Elect
Courtney Schimschock

Communications VP
Lacretia Taylor

Community VP
Sarah Norris

Finance & Operations VP
Megan Johnson

Fundraising VP
Lindsey Talafuse

Membership VP
Naomi Amaha Gollnick

Training VP
Tamara Rook

2020–2021 JLD ADVISORY BOARD

Communications VP-Elect
Lisa Weatherbie

Community VP-Elect
Jacklyn VanOoyik

Fundraising VP-Elect
Amy Johnson

Public Policy VP-Elect
Nominating Chair
Tiffany Deines

Immediate Past President
Julia Lazure

Editor
Shannon LaBay,
Assistant Editor
Lisa Mehlbrech,
Finance & Operations Director, ext. 109
Vanessa Banker
Business Support Specialist, ext. 100
Ellen Spangler,
JLD Headquarters
Junior League of Denver
1140 Delaware Street, Denver, CO 80204
phone: info@jld.org
email: JLD.org
Mission
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.

The Community Council and our L.U.V.S. Committee hosted a successful fourth annual day of service, with more than 260 members participating through small in-person volunteer opportunities and donation drop-offs.

Our Training Council is leading the way, hosting seamless hybrid events and fully virtual trainings that help us reach new members.

Public Policy provided critical training on the voting process and ballot measures, including a virtual version of their signature Wine & Ballots event.

Our Fundraising Council continues to find creative ways to build traditions and adapting signature events like our Virtual Mile High Holiday Mart. Be sure to shop through December 31 at milehighholidaymart.com

Communications Council is helping us tell our story and lift the voices of our members.

The Finance & Operations Council is supporting all of us to ensure we remain financially healthy and manage our expenses this year.

Our Sustainer members continue to support the League and each other to ensure our success for another 102 years.

In difficult years like this, we are meeting this current moment in the same way. In Partnership,
Melanie Lewis Dickerson
2020–2021 JLD President

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

Fall Issue Volume 2021 - Issue 1

Welcome to our 2020–2021 League year!

For 102 years, the Junior League of Denver has been a connection point for our members and an anchor in our community. Of course, with challenging years like this one also come great opportunities. We have the opportunity to grow back to our community and our League. We have the opportunity to work together to ensure our success for another 102 years.

With our members, our League will advance several priorities to deepen our impact and respond to the needs of our members and our community:

• Finishing the expansion of our Future Focus:

• Building a culture of data-driven improvement through our Strategic Plan:

• Forming a special committee to implement our new Strategic Plan and begin building a culture of using data for improvement within our organization. We're excited to implement our new Strategic Plan and begin building a culture of using data for improvement within our organization. We're excited to begin measuring the impact of our Strategic Plan and exploring how we can embed the use of data across our work.

Throughout all of this, we'll be working together to ensure our League is nimble, resilient and can meet our members where they are throughout the pandemic. We have all had to adapt quickly in our personal and League lives, and we will continue to be flexible and creative. Our aim is to bring as much traditional and virtual events, to ensure we are providing options for members to participate at their comfort level.

Our League's ability to quickly adapt to our rapidly changing environment allows us to reach more members while continuing the tradition of our favorite annual JLD events.

After forming a special committee last year, we've completed a year of research and listening to our members, our Future Focus Special Committee is working to complete the first phase of our expansion by bringing a recommendation to all of you later this year about how we can amplify our work.

We're excited to begin measuring the impact of our Strategic Plan and explore how we can embed the use of data across our work.

Fact Check:
To increase in size, number or degree.