



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
DENVER

Fall Issue

Volume 2023 — Issue 1

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



*More than 560 volunteer hours donated to Denver community
during sixth annual JLD L.U.V.S. day of service*

Grow:

to increase in size, number or degree.



Lindsey Talafuse

Message from the President

As we enter our 104th year, let's reflect on our incredible past accomplishments that have opened the door for a bright future. The JLD changes lives, both inside and outside of this wonderful organization, and I am looking forward to seeing the incredible work we will accomplish this year.

The year ahead already shows so much promise as our members reconnect with each other and our Mission. We are embracing the opportunities to grow as women and increase our community impact, while taking time to reflect on what makes our League successful and what our new normal urges us to reimagine. Whether you are new to JLD or have been here for a while, my wish is for you to seek ways to **Give, Grow and Get Connected**. Lean into the League and allow it to become a part of you!

Our 2022–23 year is taking shape as we reevaluate, refocus, reflect and shake it up! We are currently working on advancing several priorities:

- Our **new HQ building** will be custom-tailored to fit the needs of our current and future League.
- Continuing our important work around **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging (DEIB)**, focusing heavily on diversity of thought and inclusion. We are an organization that welcomes and encourages individual thoughts, that together can make a huge impact.
- Concentrating on JLD **fiscal responsibility and financial literacy** to ensure the health and longevity of our organization. We'll refocus not only on member knowledge of JLD finances, but also prioritize personal finance training.
- Making **connection** a priority. Connecting with each other, connecting with our community partners, and building relationships and memories that will last a lifetime.
- Our changing world requires us to reflect on our member and community needs and rethink how we serve each other. It requires us to shake up how we approach our flourishing organization's needs.

Our members hit the ground running and the list of accomplishments we have already achieved is beyond impressive. We delight in the ability to be face-to-face once again!

- **Membership** welcomed 104 New Members!
- **Fundraising** is off to a fast and furious start, having already hosted our second annual Garden Tour and Drive for Change Golf Tournament.
- **Training** held an inspiring DEIB-focused leadership kickoff and welcomed more than 100 members at our first General Meeting, which included music and prizes!
- **Community** hosted our sixth annual L.U.V.S. day of service, which helped us further our impact with eight local nonprofit partners and held our annual Community Open House to discover more ways to support our community.

- The **Board of Directors** endorsed our updated Strategic Plan and 2022–23 Annual Plan. We also made changes to our Board structure, switching JLD Treasurer to a second-year role and Finance & Operations VP to a first-year role.
- The **Building Committee** started the construction process for our new home! We've contracted a construction company, made design choices and finalized our new building layout. We are now in the waiting period as our permits are reviewed and finalized and are on track with our planned start of construction in late October.
- We welcomed Carla Allen to our **Staff** as our new Finance & Development Director. Vanessa Banker and Celeste Sims stepped up to provide her every tool she needs to succeed. We have such a fantastic JLD Staff team that will help shape our future.

I implore each of you to take time to connect and build relationships with your fellow members. Lean into your experiences, lean into the late-night meetings, and lean into the impact you will make this year, side-by-side with your fellow League members. The JLD is a perfect example of the “get out what you put in” saying. Your experience will be exactly what you make of it. Lean In. Work Hard. Laugh. Learn. Grow.

Thank you for being a part of this outstanding organization, for caring about our community, and for always being there for one another. Thank you for choosing to be a part of our Mission and helping the communities we serve to be stronger and more vibrant.

Sincerely,



Lindsey Talafuse
2022–2023 JLD President
president@jld.org

Building for the Future

In March 2022, a promising building was identified that checked all parameters voted on by membership for the next JLD Headquarters. This includes multiple reception areas, fully accessible meeting space and a kitchen area on the main level, office and storage space, and sufficient parking, all while still being in a location that is conveniently located for members and guests. JLD provided an all-cash offer, giving us the advantage of going through a swift negotiation, due diligence process, and successful close. Ultimately, the ability to close quickly was a key point in our negotiations and allowed the League to secure the property for less than the listed price. Construction has begun to renovate the interior to meet the League's specific needs. A special thank you to the Building Committee for their tireless work to make this possible. We are thrilled to move into our new home in early 2023! Questions? Email building@jld.org.



Board members stopped by our new building, located at 1301 S. Washington St., during the retreat!

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Welcome to our Board Leadership!



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Lindsey Talafuse
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Fundraising VP: Bridget D'Angelo
Membership VP: Kristina Zwettler
Public Policy VP: Angela Visser
Sustainer VP: Rebecca Stark
Training VP: Maryanne Flynn

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Building Committee Chair: Megan Johnson
Special Nominating Co-Chairs: Katy Arnold & Molly
Ostarch Weiss
Special Bylaws Cleanup Chairs: Mamie Ling & Colette Sutley
Transitions Chair: Calley Wright Renz

Get connected:

join together to provide access and exchange.

Preparing our Members for the Upcoming Election

With the midterm election right around the corner, the League is doing its part to ensure our members and the public are informed voters. Both the Public Policy Council and the Training Council hosted non-partisan events to educate and inform voters about upcoming initiatives.

Public Policy hosted the popular Wine & Ballots event on Tuesday, October 4. The event, which was also open to the public, guided attendees through a deep dive of ballot measures. It included a Count Me In Colorado presentation from Caitlin Schneider and a non-partisan overview on all state-wide ballot measures. The goal was to help League members and guests understand how various ballot measures impact them, their community and the state of Colorado. There was also a deep dive discussion on key ballot measures that align to issues closest to the League's focus, including the Make Colorado Affordable measure. If you missed it, you can watch the recording via the JLD YouTube channel (JLD1918).

In addition, the Training and Public Policy Councils co-hosted a lively panel discussion at the October General Meeting, which included a robust and thoughtful conversation about the impact of inflation and how it correlates to housing, education, food, access and healthcare. Because there are several ballot measures in the upcoming election related to these topics, it was an important discussion to have so members have context when making their voting decisions. They also hosted a Training in a Moment that covered Proposition FF, otherwise known as Healthy Meals for All. This initiative was endorsed for Level 1 support, full League engagement, by the JLD Board of Directors and Public Policy Council in September, and voters will see it on the ballot in November.

Former Journey speaker Jenna Bush vocalized it best when she said, "We can all agree on the importance of voting." And the Junior League of Denver is doing its part to inspire all members to get out and vote this November!



Members learn about upcoming ballot initiatives at last year's GM

Save the Dates!

October 29:
Fall Lottery Registration opens

November 4–6:
43rd Annual Mile High Holiday Mart

November 10:
General Meeting (Virtual)

November 11:
Fall Lottery Registration closes

November 18:
JLD Board of Directors nominations close

December 6:
Colorado Gives Day

February 24:
The Journey

Give:

*to present voluntarily and
without expecting compensation.*

Thank You to JLD L.U.V.S. Partners

A Precious Child
ACCESS Housing
The Blue Bench
Denver Children's Advocacy
Center
Florence Crittenton Services
The Gathering Place
MotherWise Colorado
The Urban Farm



*Community partners received \$8,000 in grants from the
League*

Sixth Annual JLD L.U.V.S. Day of Service

The JLD L.U.V.S. day of service was created as a way for our members to volunteer with our nonprofit partners and make a big impact in one day. Six years later, our members are still Leaders United in Volunteer Service, tackling projects that would have otherwise required numerous staff hours to complete.

This year's L.U.V.S. day of service on September 17 was themed "Opening Doors." JLD partnered with eight wonderful community nonprofits whose missions reflected the League's expanded focus of disrupting the cycle of poverty and impacting families and women.

It was the first time since the pandemic that we had all in-person volunteering sites and more than 140 JLD members gave their time, donating over 560 hours of service to these Denver organizations. L.U.V.S. Co-Chair Katie Duvall commented, "It's a perfect day to be outside. Everyone is just really excited to get back out into the community."

Projects included sanding benches, planting bulbs, landscaping, face painting, cleaning playgrounds, painting murals and much more. Giulia Chioetto, MotherWise Colorado Project Coordinator, said, "We're so grateful. They're helping us make self-care bags as well as transferring some logos on onesies and sorting baby item donations." In addition, the League donated \$8,000 in grants to its community partners.

After serving the community, L.U.V.S. volunteers met to celebrate the day at CRÚ Food & Wine Bar. Thank you to our L.U.V.S. Co-Chairs, Samantha Smyth and Katie Duvall, along with their committee members, for planning an event to support our community in a fun and meaningful way. A special thanks to each of our eight community partners. Questions? Email jldluvs@jld.org.

Sustainer Giving Project to Benefit The Gathering Place

The Gathering Place (tgpdenver.org) offers services to combat poverty and address the impacts of marginalization and oppression that are often contributing factors to poverty or homelessness. **The JLD Sustainers continue to collect dental care items for both adults and kids.** Sustainers are encouraged to consider supporting this beloved partner. Please check the member calendar and weekly emails for more information or email sustainers@jld.org. Thank you for your continued donations!



The Gathering Place®
a refuge for rebuilding lives

Texas Style Beef Brisket, from *Centennial Celebrations*

Serves 12

Enjoy this favorite fall recipe from *Centennial Celebrations*, perfect for game day or weekend dinners!

12 lbs full packer prime beef brisket

2 tbs kosher salt

2 tps dry mustard

2 tps garlic powder

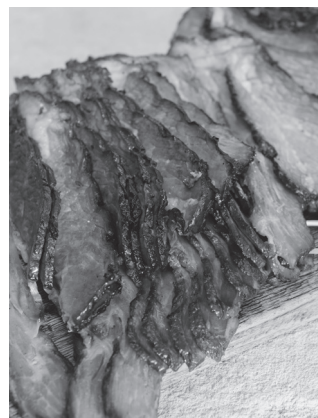
2 tps ancho Chile powder

1 tps cayenne pepper

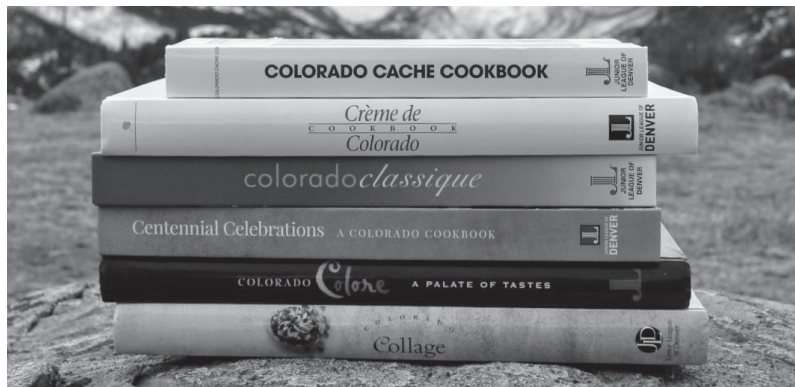
1 cup beef broth

Trim the fat cap of the brisket to 1/4 in or less. Combine the salt, dry mustard, garlic powder, chili powder and cayenne pepper in a small bowl and mix well. Coat the brisket generously with the mixture, double it the rub if necessary to cover the brisket. Place in a large dish. Chill covered for 8 to 12 hours.

Grill or smoke the brisket fat side down over direct heat to 150 to 160 degrees on a meat thermometer. Remove to 2 large layers of heavy duty foil. Pour the broth carefully over the brisket and wrap tightly with the foil. Return to the grill. Grill over indirect heat to 200 to 205 degrees on a meat thermometer. Wrap the brisket with towels and place in a well-insulated container. Let stand to rest for 1 to 4 hours. Remove the brisket to a cutting board and cut against the grain.



*Texas Style Beef
Brisket*



Members receive special pricing for the JLD's six award-winning cookbooks. Please call 303.692.0270 (press zero) or email info@jld.org if you would like to place an order and arrange a curbside or after-hours pick-up at the office. *Colorado Cache* is \$15 and the other five books are \$20. Prices include tax.



ink Committee

Deanne Rider, Editor
Elizabeth Aviles, Assistant Editor

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Vanessa Banker, *Communications Director*, ext. 114
Celeste Sims, *Business Support Specialist*, ext. 100

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Mission

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.



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