



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
DENVER

Spring Issue
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Our League is Healthy and Thriving!

Grow:

to increase in size, number or degree.



Lindsey Talafuse

Message from the President

As we embark on the last weeks of our League year, it's a great time to reflect on our successes and the opportunities that lie ahead. Here are just a few of the things I am excited about and proud of — and you should be too!

- Fundraising has been working hard to ensure we raise vital funds to further our impact. With a changing world and economy, this is no easy task. We celebrated a successful 43rd Annual Mile High Holiday Mart, Partner Projects like the popular wreath-making events at Birdsall & Co., and our **11th annual Journey** fundraiser, featuring Olympic gold medalist and cancer survivor, Shannon Miller. It's such a joy to see League members continue to support each other and our Mission at these events!

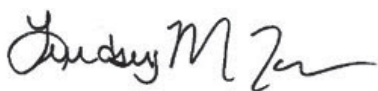
- **We made history on Colorado Gives Day** as 2022 was our highest earning to-date! And because more than 100 people participated, an anonymous donor gave an additional \$5,000 gift. We raised a total of **\$23,449** from **140 donors**. Thank you for your generosity on Colorado Gives Day and every day.
- We've celebrated and focused on connection at this year's General Meetings and held some very exciting votes! During the February GM, we voted on our new BOD slate. It's an absolute honor to welcome our **2023-2024 Board of Directors and Vice President-Elects**. The League is filled with so many talented women and our future is very bright with this group of leaders.
After thoughtful consideration, our Collaborative Impact Grants Committee narrowed down granting finalists to three phenomenal organizations. At our February General Meeting, **We Don't Waste and Colorado Village Collaborative** were selected to receive grants totaling up to \$25,000 and volunteer placements next year based on member endorsements!
- We are thrilled to let you know **construction is well underway at our new JLD HQ, located at 1301 S. Washington in Denver!** We are full steam ahead with the completion of our demo phase and the new walls are already up. The estimated date of completion is early summer 2023. We are making excellent progress as we work to make our new home the perfect place for us to **Give, Grow and Get Connected**. Thank you for your patience and thank you to our Building Committee, led by Megan Johnson, for their hard work and persistence.

The future is filled with opportunity — and here is what is on the horizon for our League and its members...

- It is with great excitement that I share that we have **contracted with an amazing financial firm to help us keep the League fiscally sound**. We have been looking for the right fit for our organization's financial goals and are thrilled to have G&G partner with us moving forward as financial stewards of our Mission and organization. Together, we'll continue down the path of fiscal responsibility and financial literacy, which was a high priority for the Board this year. Thank you to our VPs and council leaders for making this a priority and continuing the tradition of adaptability to ensure the future success of our League! »

- The Public Policy Council and the JLD Board of Directors voted to support the **“Proposition FF Healthy School Meals for All”** ballot measure at a Level 1 (League-wide engagement). In October, the council educated members on the measure by highlighting it in the Wine & Ballots training. With help from organizations like the JLD, the ballot measure passed during the November 2022 election! The Public Policy Council is now hard at work reviewing legislation during the spring session. On March 6, the council hosted our annual JLD Day at the Capitol, where members had the opportunity to interact with 45 of our 100 legislators and receive education about affordable housing at a GM.
- The **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging** Committee has been working on inclusion and diversity of thought. We are excited to see what new milestones they tackle with their new council liaison program, along with the monthly growth of their DEIB Media Club, providing regular opportunities for learning and conversation to all members.
- Training, Community and Membership Councils are all hard at work planning new events, preparing for next year’s placements, and finishing out the year with a bang!

The hard work of our members combined with the financial support of our donors is what allows us to flourish by strengthening and furthering our community impact. Thank you for all you do!



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

Diversity + Equity + Inclusion = Belonging
The “who” The “what” The “how” The “why”

DEIB Media Club Monthly Meetings

The Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging Committee hosts monthly media club events where they discuss articles, podcasts, books and more in order to meet more learning styles. Each month, they pick a different theme and select resources to listen, watch and read. All are welcome, even if members don’t have time to review the materials. They are encouraged to join, listen, learn and discuss. In March, the committee focused on celebrating **Women’s History Month** with resources including the 10-part podcast “AmplifyHER” from the United Nations, the TV series “Women of the Movement,” and literature by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. The April DEIB Media Club will focus on **Autism Awareness Month**. The format and type of resources change each month — even including two field trips in April. All members are invited to join in!



*DEIB Field Trip to
Colorado Center for
Women’s History on
April 1*

Give:

*to present voluntarily and
without expecting compensation.*



Shannon Miller

The Journey 2023 Features Olympic Gymnast & Gold Medalist Shannon Miller

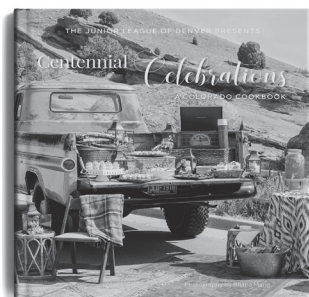
The Journey is our annual evening celebration of the League for our members and their guests, and this year's fundraiser, held February 24, was no exception.

The evening event kicked off with a cocktail hour, where members and guests perused live and silent auction items before enjoying dinner and an inspiring program. Our keynote speaker this year was Shannon Miller, a gold medal Olympic gymnast, who's keynote address featured her "Gold Medal Mindset."

In addition to our keynote speaker, guests enjoyed some past favorites as well as some new additions to the program. The silent

and live auctions featuring incredible items from local Denver businesses were followed by a paddle raise. New this year was our location, the University of Denver Magness Arena; our emcee, Romi Bean, lead sports anchor for CBS Colorado; and our after-program entertainment, Wash Park Band. We're pleased with all the new additions and excited to keep evolving this annual fundraiser to keep it fresh and exciting.

Thank you to everyone who helped support The Journey 2023, including Fundraising Council, The Journey 2023 Committee, attendees, sponsors, volunteers and more. We couldn't have done it without you! And keep an eye out for the date of The Journey 2024.



Cookbook Committee Hosts Celebration of our Newest Cookbook

When we launched *Centennial Celebrations* in July 2019, no one could predict that a global pandemic would impact the release. Well, with JLD events returning to meet in person, the Cookbook Committee finally got the chance to celebrate our newest cookbook and all the hard work that went into creating it.

"I wanted to create an event that would bring people together, have fun, and have dinner, with ties back to the newest cookbook »

we are selling,” said Kristen Peterson, 2022–2023 Cookbook Operations Chair. “Our friends at 1908 An Uptown Eatery created a dinner with recipes out of *Centennial Celebrations* and we sold three cases of books. Everyone had a great time!”

Members and guests enjoyed a four-course dinner at 1908 An Uptown Eatery (formerly The District) on Friday, February 3 with recipes from our very own *Centennial Celebrations*, including:

- Cranberry Grapefruit Sparkler (page 53)
- Grilled Peaches with Whipped Ricotta Fig Toast (page 24)
- Summer Salad with Watermelon Radishes (page 84)
- Winter Pork Roast with Port Sauce (page 162)
- Apple Cranberry Crisp with Maple Whipped Cream (page 268)

Thank you to the Cookbook Committee for all your hard work you continue to put into making *Centennial Celebrations* a success. And look for more cookbook events in the future!



Members celebrate our newest cookbook, “Centennial Celebrations”



43rd Annual Mile High Holiday Mart

Our annual shopping event was a complete success! The fundraiser was held November 4–6 at Gates Field House on the University of Denver campus. Congratulations to our Mile High Holiday Mart Co-Chairs, Brooke Bearman and Heather Yount, as well as their entire team for their hard work on the event! We appreciate and value your time and dedication.

SAVE THE DATES

for our 44th Annual Mile High Holiday Mart, November 10–12, 2023 at the same location!



102
Merchants
(93 Colorado-based)



\$100,000+
Total Raised



1,473
Volunteer Hours
(at \$29.95 an hour, equates to more than \$44,000)



4,000+
Happy Shoppers

Get connected:

join together to provide access and exchange.

The new Leadership Institute will train members to be effective League leaders, perfect for those that want to lead in a chair or Board position!



A Name Change is Just the Start — Exciting Changes Coming to Leadership Institute!

Training Council is pleased to announce that starting with the 2023-2024 League year, Leadership Institute will change its name to Leadership Development Program (LDP). And the new name is just the beginning for exciting changes on the horizon!

Starting next year, the new LDP will be open to all interested Active members, significantly increasing the reach of the program and the number of members trained to be effective leaders. LDP will provide training, coaching and learning opportunities for those early in their leadership journey who are looking to grow the skills it takes to become a future leader within our League and the Denver community. The program includes 10 monthly classes throughout the League year in which members will learn leadership and professional development skills such as: Knowing your Strengths, Crucial Conversations, and Leading with Emotional Intelligence. Participation in the LDP is in addition to a member's regular League placement (instead of a member's yearly placement, as it was in past years). Members who are interested need to commit to attending all 10 sessions because consistent attendance will help all participants facilitate their personal growth and strengthen their League connections.

“We believe this program is important and valuable to all members »

of the League and truly builds leadership skills in all its participants,” said Emily Thibault, 2022-2023 Training Council VP-E. “The purpose for making this change was to open the program up so that anyone that would like to participate is now able to!”

LDP is a great way to learn and hone skills while making friends and getting to know people in a smaller group setting. If you’re interested in participating in the new LDP, register to attend an upcoming information session. The info sessions are mandatory for participating in LDP to ensure those interested know their placement and can make a determination if LDP is a good add-on for them in their upcoming League year. The LDP application will then go out to the participants who signed up for the info session this November!



Sustainer Spotlight, Karen Valdez

Sustainers are a vital part of the League. They support League events, programming, and training. They provide guidance, advice, and mentorship when needed. There are over 800 total Sustainers in the JLD.

Karen Valdez has been a member of the JLD since joining in 1989. She wore many hats as an Active member (including filling in for the role of Co-President alongside Jill Pedicord Peterson in 2001–2002). Karen has remained active as a Sustainer, serving as the Sustainer Social Activities Coordinator. She has helped with many, many years’ worth of monthly Ladies Who Lunch — a lunchtime gathering where members visit a different restaurant each month, and co-plans Sustainer Barflies — a quarterly social event with a fun-filled Happy Hour at different locations, with Gail Berliner.

Outside of her JLD life, Karen is a Realtor with Coldwell Banker. She is a Denver-area native, having attended Littleton High School. Thank you for many years of service to the JLD, Karen! We appreciate you.

Save the Dates!

May 3:
Spring Luncheon Honoring
Emeritus & Helen Daly
Peale Society

May 18:
End of Year General
Meeting

May 24:
JLD Summer Kickoff Party

May 31:
Major Donor Happy Hour

September 13:
Sustainer End of Summer
Soirée

September 23:
Seventh Annual JLD
L.U.V.S. Day of Service

November 10–12:
44th Annual Mile High
Holiday Mart



ink Committee

Deanne Rider, Editor
Elizabeth Aviles, Assistant Editor

JLD Staff

Vanessa Banker, *Communications Director*, ext. 114
Celeste Sims, *Operations Manager*, ext. 100

JLD Headquarters

Junior League of Denver
1720 S. Bellaire St. Suite PH, Denver, CO 80222
phone: 303.692.0270
email: info@jld.org
web: JLD.org
hours: Monday—Friday 9 am–4 pm

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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1720 S. Bellaire Street
Suite PH
Denver, CO 80222



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