

ink


JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
DENVER

live the legacy
give • grow • get connected

Winter Issue

Volume 1415 — Issue 2

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



*Join us for a
very special
Journey
featuring
tennis legend
Martina
Navratilova on
March 12th!*



Photos courtesy of Jodi Ellen Photography

Grow:

to increase in size, number, or degree.

Message from the President



Dear Junior League Volunteers:

Continuing our dedication to improving communities and training women to become impactful community leaders and volunteers, we've made tremendous progress so far this JLD year.

A few of the highlights include:

- League and community-wide support of the 2014 Mile High Holiday Mart; provided holiday cheer and raised \$140K
- The Strategic Planning Committee completed the first phase of its three-phased approach, hosted all member Speak-Ups in December and started drafting goals to serve as the foundation of a five year strategic plan
- Colorado Gives Day donations totaled \$16,752 with a 23% increase

in the number of donors to 163, exceeding last year's totals

- We celebrated the Second Time Shop 40th Anniversary at a successful event held on February 8th
- We are sponsoring the 2015 Denver Academy Symposium on teaching and learning differences and renewed our sponsorship with One Book for Colorado to distribute more than 80,000 books to all four-year olds in Colorado April 13-27, 2015.
- Our Public Policy team hosted a successful Legislative Breakfast at the Capitol on Wednesday, February 11th
- The 2015-2016 Board of Directors was voted in by membership at the February General Meeting and will officially begin work in May 2015. This group represents some of the League's finest leaders and will be led by Becky Theis, 2015-2016 President, and Laura Perry, 2015-2016 President Elect.

Our Building for the Future Committee, tasked with finding our new home, has identified League needs and wants through member Speak-Ups, written surveys and person to person interactions. The committee is currently drafting parameters for a building acquisition. Please visit their webpage at jld.org or email buildingfuture@jld.org for more information.

As excitement grows for The Journey this March, I'd like to ask each of you to continue your high involvement and take time to reflect upon the important role you've played in the ever-building momentum this League year. I thank you for dedicating your time, energy, knowledge and resources to our beloved JLD!

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

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

Carleigh Elkus
2014-2015 Junior League of Denver President
president@jld.org

Member Spotlight: Chesney Randolph, Provisional Advisor

In my brief three years in the League I am constantly humbled and in awe of the women I meet on a daily basis. It fuels me to do my part to ensure the JLD is successful and sustainable for future generations. I was fortunate to be placed in a diverse Provisional group whose common motivation to get involved in the community made my decision to join less intimidating. From there I was placed in the Leadership Institute where books, speakers and my fellow members gave insight to day to day skills that would help enrich both my personal and professional life. Currently, I'm serving as a Provisional Advisor. This year, we welcomed a class of about 150 new members. I have been told over and over Junior League is what you make it, and already in my short time being in this wonderful organization, I know that statement to be true and I intend to make the most of all the great opportunities it provides!

Thank you for your dedication, Chesney! We appreciate your hard work.

JLD Celebrations

Congrats to **Nora Heitmann**, Fundraising VP, for her feature in the Jan 2-8 edition of the Denver Business Journal!

On April 28, Metro Volunteers will hold the 10th Anniversary Celebration of its annual Heart of Volunteerism event at the Denver Art Museum. In this landmark year, our very own Past President **Arlene Hirschfeld** will be honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award. The award recognizes Arlene's dedication to improving our community through her many volunteer endeavors, and for being an inspiration to so many others who work to make our world a better place. Congrats, Arlene! We are so proud.

A sincere thank you goes out to JLD Active **Barbara Vetter** for her role to secure a \$1,500 grant from Smoky Hill Trail Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. Thank you for your dedication, Barbara!

Please welcome our new Business Support Specialist on JLD Staff, **Celeste Sims**! She officially accepted the full time position at the beginning of December. Be sure to stop by to say hello! Her contact info is csims@jld.org, 303.692.0270 ext 100.



*Chesney Randolph,
Provisional Advisor*



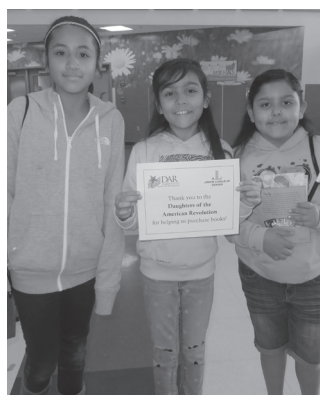
*Nora Heitmann
and her family.
Photo courtesy of
Kathleen Lavine,
Denver Business
Journal*

Give:

*to present voluntarily and
without expecting compensation.*



*Becky Theis,
Lisa Lumley and
Carleigh Elkus at the
2014 One Book 4
Colorado launch*



Read2Kids event

Changing Lives Through Literacy

JLD sponsoring One Book 4 Colorado again in 2015!

We are proud to announce that the JLD has provided a \$10,000 sponsorship to One Book 4 Colorado again in 2015! This project strives to give away copies of the same book to every four year old in Colorado through public libraries, Reach Out and Read Colorado clinics, and Denver preschools. Last year, about 70,000 books were distributed statewide. **This year, the distribution estimate is more than 80,000 books!**



This year's winning book will be announced at the beginning of April, and **books will be given away April 13–27, 2015** at participating libraries, clinics and Denver preschools around the state. Visit www.onebook4colorado.org for more information.

Denver Academy Symposium on Learning Differences, March 6, 2015

The JLD is a proud sponsor of the 2015 Denver Academy Symposium on Teaching & Learning: The Reading Brain in the Digital Age. A select group of JLD members will join practitioners and parents to hear from keynote speaker **Dr. Maryann Wolf** and participate in breakout sessions led by Denver Academy faculty and local experts. Dr. Wolf's opening keynote will bring the perspective of the remarkable journey that the reading brain has taken over the past five thousand years, as well as show us why children with dyslexia have reading difficulties and amazing gifts. Her closing keynote will focus on the future of the reading brain. Questions? Email community@jld.org

JLD receives \$1,500 grant for Read2Kids from Daughters of the American Revolution

The JLD gratefully acknowledges a \$1,500 grant for the 2014–2015 year from Smoky Hill Trail Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution to purchase books for Read2Kids. Thank you to JLD Active **Barbara Vetter** for securing this grant for us!

Insider's Tip: The final 2014–2015 issue of ink will contain info on our community successes this year! Look out for the issue mid-May. Questions? Email ink@jld.org

THE JOURNEY

Thursday, March 12, 2015

Cash bar and raffle ticket sales 6 pm
Keynote speaker and dinner to follow
Hyatt Regency Denver Tech Center

General Admission Tickets: \$150

Patron tickets SOLD OUT!

Questions? Email journeytix@jld.org

Learn more at www.jld.org

Don't miss the JLD event of the year featuring keynote speaker and tennis legend **Martina Navratilova**! Enjoy a wonderful evening out with family and friends while you support our efforts to improve literacy rates for children birth through third grade in the Denver metro area.

We're excited to present **Reggie Rivers** as our master of ceremonies, and Past President **Arlene Hirschfeld** as our 2015 Honorary Chair. The Journey includes a raffle with phenomenal packages and a Meet & Greet with Martina Navratilova for sponsors and Patron ticket holders.

Join us for what is sure to be an evening to cherish and remember! Thank you for your support.

Questions? Email Journey Co-Chairs Caroline Gash and Kikki Penney at journey@jld.org

2014 Holiday Mart a jolly success!

Our Mile High Holiday Mart, held November 14–16, 2014 at the Denver Marriott Tech Center, was a resounding success, raising **\$140,000 in net revenue**! Thank you to our Presenting Partner, **Saint Joseph Hospital**, as well as our team of volunteers, led by co-chairs **Kristin McCarty** and **Sarah Reardon**, for their hard work on the event. Ladies, you are incredible! Questions? Email holidaymart@jld.org

Donors blow out Colorado Gives Day totals!

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all who donated to the JLD Foundation on Colorado Gives Day, Tuesday, December 9th! Because of your generosity, we raised nearly **\$17,000 from 163 donors**, surpassing our total from last year. Questions? Email foundation@jld.org



*Martina Navratilova,
Keynote Speaker*



Get connected:

join together to provide access and exchange.

JLD Training + 123 Grants = OWL Making a Bigger Impact

By **Brittany Quinn**,
ink Reporter



When Sustainer **Lea Ann Reitzig** chose to join the Junior League of Denver, it was an opportunity to use her time to help others while staying home with her son. The positive female role models in the League inspired her to step outside of the corporate world when she returned to work, and she chose to use the skills she gained through the JLD Training Council as the Managing Director of Open World Learning (OWL). “JLD has been huge,” says Lea Ann. “It’s allowed to me see aspects of the community that I wouldn’t have without the Junior League, and getting this training and working experience with my placements was very helpful to reinforce what I’ve learned.”

OWL has another connection to the Junior League; The JLD 123 Grant, awarded last year, has been helping the program keep at-risk youth in a safe space after school, providing lessons in technology from robotics to graphic design, as well as healthy snacks and physical activity after a long day of sitting at their desks. These students also have the opportunity to earn a refurbished laptop to take home. The laptops are often the first computers in the home, opening a world of possibility and connectivity to the student’s family. The JLD 123 Grant has allowed OWL to support more at-risk students, promoting technological literacy in a quickly-developing world. Learn more about OWL at www.openworldlearning.org

2014–2015 Sustainer Awards

Outstanding Sustainer Award and the **Sustainer Achievement Recognition Award (STAR)** nominations are now being accepted!

The Outstanding Sustainer Award is given to a Sustainer who has made a significant impact or contribution to the Junior League of Denver in the 2014-2015 membership year. The STAR Award honors a Sustainer who has made a major commitment to and has realized outstanding achievements in serving our community as a volunteer. A willingness to share her time and talents is essential, and her service should demonstrate the effective utilization of JLD training.

The nomination deadline is April 1, 2015. For more information, please contact Carolyn Hunter at huntcaro@aol.com or 303.722.3418. Nominating forms and information also available online at www.jld.org.

The 2015 JLD Legislative Agenda is in full swing!

By Mamie Ling, Public Policy Communications Liaison

Every year, JLD supports, or opposes, proposed bills during the legislative session. Bills that are aligned with our mission, and support women and children, are always the top priority. What we support or oppose are outlined in our Legislative Agenda.

“The Legislative Agenda offers the Public Policy Council a new and transparent way to communicate to JLD membership how the Council intends to advance the JLD mission and focus through the League’s advocacy efforts on state-wide legislation over the coming year,” says Jessica Grimes, Vice President of Public Policy. “The presentation and approval of this year’s agenda is an exciting step for the council to both train and inform membership as to the process that is undertaken in evaluating and advocating for and against legislation on behalf of the League.”

The Public Policy Council presented the JLD 2015 Legislative Agenda to the Board in November 2014. The 2015 Legislative Agenda presents the current political climate and makes recommendations for the legislative session. The Board approved the 2015 Legislative Agenda, outlining JLD’s goals and support for the current session.

In the past, JLD has supported efforts to advance the health and wellness of Colorado’s children and families, including human trafficking reform, funding breast cancer research, and the creation of the child care tax credit. JLD hopes to continue supporting efforts that are similar to these in the current legislative session.

The Early Childhood and School Readiness Legislative Commission (ECSRLC) introduced several bills when the 2015 legislative session commenced. The League has determined this is an issue area that JLD will act within because they are congruent with our focus of advancing literacy and early childhood education. A final determination of whether to support, or oppose, the bills coming from the ECSRLC will be determined once the final bills are presented.

The Public Policy Council will continue the efforts to make permanent and progressive changes in our community by advocating for or against bills aligned with JLD’s historical priorities, interests, and legislative goals as well as bills of interest under the AJLI topic areas. As the Public Policy Council engages our government, it is along with your voluntarism and influence in the community, that will make the Legislative Agenda successful in 2015.

Questions? Email Public Policy Vice President Jessica Grimes at publicpolicy@jld.org



The JLD sponsored a Legislative Breakfast on Wednesday, February 11th at the Capitol to interact with key legislators and educate them about our legislative agenda. 25% of state legislators attended!



ink Committee

Jacqueline Andrews, *Editor*

Helen Lutz, *Reporter*

Brittany Quinn, *Reporter*

To submit content for consideration (article ideas, pictures), please email to ink@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.



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF DENVER

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