

## First annual Charity Ball a success; 2016 date chosen



Photo courtesy of Kate Carmack

Held on 12.13.14 at the historic Waverley Country Club, the Junior League of Portland's First Annual Charity Ball was full of drinks and dancing with all proceeds benefiting the League's Endowment Fund, which helps to support domestic violence, health, family life and cultural programs.

A black-tie event featuring live music, attendees were greeted at the door by the Dickens Carolers dressed in 19th century garb, handed a champagne cocktail and ushered into an elegant fireside lounge, where they enjoyed an open bar, passed hors d'oeuvres and a performance by the Jenny Finn Orchestra for the rest of the festive evening. Ticket sales were the only form of fundraising.

Mark your calendars for the 2nd Annual Charity Ball, which will take place on New Year's Eve 2016.

Tickets will be available in tiers, granting Sustaining Members VIP entry and offering an affordable option for those opting for drinks and dancing alone. Further

details are forthcoming.

A special thank you to Kate Carmack, Leslie Nevius and Tina Tunney for their generous donations.

For more photos, see inside this issue.



Photo courtesy of Kate Carmack

## Letter from President Cat Parkay: *When We Listen*



As a theater junkie and closet jazz musician, I spent countless hours in rehearsals growing up. No matter how well I knew my lines or a particular piece of music, the best moments came when something unexpected happened and I was able to listen and respond. Together with my fellow actors or musicians, we created

something magical that surprised and exceeded our expectations. Applying this philosophy of improvisation to work and life is a powerful tool for staying present and ensuring my words and actions genuinely align with the needs around me.

Our Neighborhood Meetings are an incredibly valuable opportunity for your future and incoming Board Members to truly listen and respond to the

needs of our Members and our community.

A big highlight for us was hearing that our emphasis on a “member-centric” approach is on target. There’s still progress to be made but we’re headed in the right direction. Thank you for your patience as we align the Member experience to your needs and interests. I truly believe that this leads to increased Member engagement which will expand our ability to develop tomorrow’s leaders and impact our community!

What an amazing group of women you are! Raising children, puppies, and kittens. Negotiating big deals and job transitions, making time for play and adventure. It is an honor just to be among you and I only wish I had more time to be available to strengthen connections with each of you.

In this issue of the JLPress, you will find some amazing stories. Take a moment to listen and as always let us know what you think.

## Sustainer Rep Spotlight: Meet Julie Branford



Julie joined the JLP in the 1977-1978 league year. She had friends in the league so was able to meet the requirements of one sponsor and two endorsers from the Active membership. They collected information about her work (an HR Director for Nordstrom and later, InFo-

cus), her schooling and other volunteer experience. It was the first year hopefuls could electively apply. Prior to that year, provisionals were chosen via nomination and “secret invitation” rather than application.

Julie has been a trailblazer throughout her tenure in the league - pushing the envelope for equal rights for members and questioning outdated rules.

She was one of the first “evening actives”. At the time, most women didn’t work. They were placed in daytime roles within the JLP and were home by evening to cook and care for their families. Julie worked full-time building a successful career in HR. As more women joined the workforce, the league knew it had to adapt and evolve to continue to support the changing membership.

In that era, members were forced to go Sustainer when they turned 40. As an HR professional, Julie was not keen on age discrimination. When she trans-

ferred to the Seattle league just after her 40th birthday, she had hoped the JLS would be a way for her to get to know her new city.

When she was announced as a Sustainer at her first meeting, she immediately reached out to appeal. She argued that as a volunteer organization, shouldn’t they want her to participate in an Active placement? When the office manager denied her petition, she appealed to the league President. The President granted Julie’s request. She spent that year doing grant reviews, serving on the Sustainer Board the following year.

Twelve years later, Julie transferred back to the JLP. She again reached out to the league President asking to contribute and participated in strategic planning. She later sat on our Sustainer Council.

Throughout her league career, Julie says that this role as Sustainer Rep is by far her favorite.

“It’s inspiring to be around bright, committed, engaged women” she says.

### Her advice to new members:

Try out new skills like management, public speaking, grant writing. It’s a great place to gain experience in a safe environment among friends.

Develop your tool kit here. A heartfelt thank you to you, Julie for all you have done and continue to do to move the JLP forward!



## VIP Committee continues successful crock pot events

In January, the VIP Committee hosted two meal events at Bradley Angle and Raphael House which coordinated with a league-wide crock pot donation drive.

JLP members donated 30 brand new crock pots to the families of these two community partners.

Why a crock pot?

Crock pots are mobile which makes them easier to take along when a family is in transition, and also there are many crock pot recipes that can feed a family at low cost.

At Raphael House, five JLP members cooked recipes and served 7 families lunch and sent everyone home with leftovers.

At Bradley Angle, four JLP members cooked recipes and served 12 families dinner.

This annual event was enjoyed by members and very much appreciated by the families that our community partners' support.



**The 2015-2016 Board Slate has been approved:**

**President-elect: KaDo Gorman**

**Executive VP: Regan Nelson**

**Administrative VP: Andrea LeBaron**

**Finance VP: Carsolina Walton**

**Fund Development VP: Emily Boyd**

**League Development VP: Kristin Kilshaw**

**Community VP: Regina Wheeler**

**Membership VP: Sarah Burns**

**Congratulations to the upcoming board!**

# Thank you to our Junior League Donors!

\*Denotes JLP Member

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We are especially grateful to all of our generous supporters who have given to the Junior League of Portland general fund, endowment or with a gift for our community partners.

We thank you for your support! Here are a list of donors who have given from October 23rd, 2014 – February 17th, 2015.

If you donated to the Junior League of Portland in the past year and have not received a tax donation letter and would like one, please contact Donor Relations at [donorrelations@juniorleagueof-portland.org](mailto:donorrelations@juniorleagueof-portland.org)

## Since June 1, 2014:

**\$40,709** in gross JLP CAREs income

**18** community service events

**4,126** volunteer hours

**183** shifts offered

**148** shifts filled

**\$2,215** to the endowment

**Donors:** 38 actives, 142 sustainers,  
19 provisionals and 132 non-members

# Third-generation JLP member honors her family legacy



Margaret Leonard, right, with her mother and grandmother. Both are past JLP presidents and have taught Margaret about service and legacy.

When Margaret Leonard joined Junior League of Portland, she brought a lot more than the typical enthusiasm of a new provisional member.

Margaret is a third-generation JLP volunteer, a ‘legacy’ whose mother and grandmother instilled in her a deep spirit of service and abiding passion for giving back to the community. Margaret’s paternal grandmother Delight Kolar Leonard was president of the league in 1970-71, and enjoyed her time in Junior League so much that she persuaded her daughter-in-law Kirsten Harrington Leonard to join in 1985.

So what was it like growing up in a family full of do-gooders?

Both of them were incredible leaders in their own ways,” Margaret says of her family, and shares that it was her grandmother that made it possible for her mother to join in 1985 by helping to secure the requisite two recommendations for admission to the League. Volunteering was already a staple of Kirsten’s life, however, having recruited her daughters into National Charity League, an organization focusing on fostering mother-daughter relationships by engaging in community service, leadership development and cultural experi-

ences.

No surprise then, that Margaret’s mother went on to her own Junior League of Portland presidency in 1996-97.

The time and passion these matriarchs gave to their communities and displayed to their families taught Margaret a responsibility to “give back all that we’re given” in order to make the world a better place. From memories of playing underneath the table at Board meetings as a young child to hearing about her father helping out with construction for Raphael House’s remodel, Junior League of Portland has truly been a Leonard family affair.

One particularly fond memory is of her mom’s presidential inauguration, when Margaret and her two sisters sang one of the family’s favorite songs: The Rolling Stones’ You Can’t Always Get What You Want. It’s possible this may even be on video somewhere.

When asked what she wants from her Junior League experience, Margaret says that she has been enjoying the sense of community and camaraderie in her provisional year and would love to be a small group leader.

Is a presidency in her future? Margaret is certainly not ruling it out, but for now is just “appreciating the legacy” of her mother and grandmother. So are the rest of us!

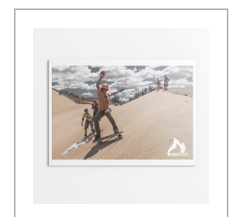
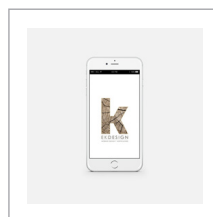
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## Sustainers keeping busy and involved with the League



### Julie Branford, Sustainer Rep

The Sustainers have had some fun, interesting, and informative events in the past few months.

We met at the PSU library for the opening of the JLP History Exhibit, largely developed by Joanne Carlson, Karen Wheeler, Kris Kern, and Sarah Munro. Sarah gave a brief overview of JLP history and the desire to have our documents safely housed and easily accessible for those interested in researching our contributions to the community. We were fortunate to have a number of former JLP Presidents in attendance.

In January, we were treated to an Italian cooking lesson, taught by Renato Salpietro who lives part time in the Portland area, but whose "home base" remains Italy.

It was great fun, followed by a delicious lunch. See the photo of some of our "Gallop-ing Gourmets" enjoying wine and cooking lessons!

In February, Beth Warner taught number of Sustainers how to make multiple-strand bead necklaces that can be worn both long and short. Again, along with expanding our creative sides and appreciation for the skills it takes to make jewelry (that looks

good!), we had a wonderful time and shared a delicious potluck lunch. Thanks to both Beth and Teresa Forni, who opened her home for this function.

In March, Sustainers will take a "field trip" to the Allison Resort and Spa for lunch, followed by a private tour of the Hoover-Minthorn House Museum. Sarah Munro, who is the guiding light at this only Presidential home in the northwest, will lead us on the tour of this special local building.

Our Annual Sustainer Awards Luncheon will be held on June 16th, later than normal due to many scheduling conflicts, at the Portland Golf Club. Sally Wolcott will be our hostess as usual.

Nominations for Sustainer of the Year are due by March 15th. You should have received a form in the mail and can send your recommendation(s) to Donna Smalldon who is spearheading this selection.

We hope to see you soon at a JLP function and we thank you for your ongoing support of the JLP.

The Actives are impressive and the Provisional class is large and talented. Our future is in good hands!



### Need a getaway?

This relaxing Sierra Nevada vacation home is a day's drive from Portland.

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## Gingerbread Jamboree reaches local families

Over 75 families joined the Junior League of Portland at the OMSI in Portland for the perfect kick-off to their holiday season! Families and friends came to decorate a unique gingerbread house.

The Junior League of Portland provided the materials including a giant candy buffet and lots of icing. Lots of fun was had decorating, listening to holiday music and visiting with Santa.

It was the perfect event to start the holidays because The Junior League of Portland volunteers cleaned up the mess, and the family went home with a marvelous gingerbread creation to enjoy throughout the holiday season!



## New committee re-evaluating JLP strategic impact

This year the Junior League of Portland has added a new committee: Issue Based Community Impact (IBCI).

This committee has been tasked with continuing the League's ex-

### IBCI Committee will develop issues for a member vote at the end of this league year.

ecution of the IBCI process.

We began the year by educating ourselves on what IBCI is and how to implement it. As the year

progressed we have been utilizing GMMs to continue educating the membership both on IBCI and what our committee's efforts have been.

We worked with the VIP Committee to develop surveys to evaluate member experiences with volunteer events as well as collect information from community partners on how they feel our partnerships have been going.

At the start of the new calendar year took a look at what other


Leagues have done as a way to raise our own awareness of possible topics as well as come up with a suite of topics to get input from the General Membership on.

At the January GMM we polled the membership to determine whether their interests lean towards Women's Issues, Children's Issues, or Family issues.

As the year continues we will take that data and see how it compares to potential needs in our community.

We will use those findings to develop issues for a member vote at the end of the year.

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# Stop Human Trafficking Committee continues the fight

Human trafficking is modern day slavery, and Portland has been identified as a hub for commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) in the United States.

The average age of a child who enters into sexual exploitation is just 12 to 14 years old. The Junior League of Portland's Stop Human Trafficking committee has been working hard to address this issue in our community.

The committee held its Third Annual Delicates Drive from January 11th to February 11th in which 253 new bras and 577 pairs of underwear were collected.

When victims are first rescued, their undergarments are often taken as evidence, so we help restore their sense of security by donating these items to Hope82, Janus Youth and the Sexual Assault Resource Center (SARC), which are organizations that work directly with survivors.

We also collected \$645 in gift cards during the drive, as these items can be used by survivors to purchase necessities as they work to build a life outside of trafficking.

For example, one survivor was able to use a Fred Meyer gift card to purchase a bike helmet, which she needed in order to ride her bike to her new job.

## The Delicates Drive brought in 253 bras and 577 pairs of underwear for victims.

Undergarments and gift cards were collected using collection hampers that were located at 20 businesses and organizations throughout Portland.

Each collection site included handouts about human trafficking and how the Junior League of Portland is involved in anti-trafficking



A group of JLP members and friends participated in a special Barre3 class, where donations were raised to Stop Human Trafficking.

efforts, which further helps to bring awareness to this issue.

Additionally, Barre3 supported our efforts by offering a donation based class in which the class fee for each participant was waived in lieu of a donation of at least \$20.

In addition to the Delicates Drive, the Stop Human Trafficking committee continues to bring awareness to the community around this issue by utilizing the documentary "Waiting for the Light: Portland's Sex Crisis" to educate interested organizations through screenings including to our provisional members.

We have also shared our DVD with organizations using the documentary to further educate others in the community.

For example, CARES Northwest, a local nonprofit focused on stopping child abuse and neglect, is using the documentary as an ongoing tool in their prevention education

programs.

The committee has also started getting involved in legislative advocacy work this year as we believe this is an area in which JLP can have a great impact.

In fact, Shared Hope International graded Oregon's legislation regarding human trafficking as a "B" in 2014 demonstrating that there is room to improve our state laws.

New laws could mean better prevention, increased prosecution of traffickers and support for survivors. Given that this is a new area of work for JLP, committee members have been busy researching ways to get involved, reviewing upcoming legislation and meeting with lobbyists and lawmakers.

They have also discussed this topic with the Junior League of Eugene as they are readying to address this issue as well. The committee looks forward to continuing efforts around legislative advocacy by getting other JLP members involved in the near future.



## Board Members share their best JLP advice

Board members recently provided the Trainings Committee with 'Pearls of Wisdom' regarding their experience with the Junior League of Portland to be shared at the Neighborhood Meetings.

"I really loved my year last year. The recruitment committee was just so awesome. We all got along well, had small meaningful meetings and when it came to the actual recruiting we were all so excited to share the league with new members. I think it was really special. It was the first time I really felt like what I was working on in the league really mattered and in turn made the league matter to me."

**KaDo Gorman**

**Fund Development Vice President**

"My favorite thing about the League is the quality and diversity of the women that are our Members. They inspire me to be more and do more. What you get out of the League is what you put into it- the more I give of myself to JLP the more that comes back to me tenfold in the quality of my experience."

**Kristin W. Kilshaw**

**Membership Vice President**

"The league has so many resources available to members that I never realized existed prior to this year. Endowment funds provide financial access to multiple leadership and league trainings throughout the year, the AJLI website has templates and materials for almost anything you could want, and the wealth of information we can pass from Chair to Chair on Digital Cheetah is so helpful. I have also learned the importance of League Planning and Budget sheets for Chair



**The current JLP Board at the first annual Charity Ball.**

transitions and background information – I wish I had known that earlier! I am always so impressed with our League events and community impact that we have. We are so effective I occasionally forget that we are fully volunteer based – which is really impressive!

**Sara Morrissey**

**League Development Vice President**

"What I've learned in my nearly 5 years in JLP is that you get out of the league what you put into it. In order to have meaningful, fulfilling experiences you have to be willing engage, to create relationships and to take action. Only then will you recognize your true potential as a leader in the league. And only then will the league be able to reach its true potential."

**Regan Nelson**

**Community Vice President**

"Get involved in leadership. My favorite year in JLP was when I became a chair and was given an amazing committee of women. We did great things that year and those women are some of my best friends in the league to this day."

**Kristi Manseth**

**Executive Vice President**

## Recruitment Committee working hard to build future JLP

This Junior League year, the Recruitment Committee has hosted two mixers; one in Fall and another in Winter. These mixers are events where interested ladies come to meet our members and learn about the League, its initiatives, and our impact on the community in a casual environment.

Active, Provisional, and Sustainer members mix and mingle amongst the potential members sharing their experience in the Junior League and why they continue to be involved. Some of the stories shared were truly inspirational.

These mixers were introduced last year to keep potential members interested in the League throughout the year as our membership only opens once a year in the Spring. Since the commencement of the League year, these mixers have been the number one focus for the recruitment committee and have consumed the majority of the committee's work hours.

The Fall Mixer was held in October at Cerulean, a hip wine and art space located in one of the Pearl District's refurbished, classic buildings. 35 potential ladies attended along with 11 recruitment committee members,

10 active/provisional members, and the committee's sustainer representative.

"I loved seeing the big turnout," said Sarah S., a potential member. "It showed how enthusiastic JLP members are and I could tell how much everyone enjoyed each other's company. I liked the venue as well; it was very conducive to casual mixing and mingling. All the ladies I talked to were happy to answer my questions and seemed interested to speak with me."

The Winter Mixer was held on February 5th at Oba, a vivacious Mexican restaurant and bar in the Pearl district. A private room for the event was donated by the restaurant. 40 potential ladies attended, to meet the 8 recruitment members and 12 active/provisional members who attended to share their enthusiasm about the League.

It speaks mountains of our organization when we bring our passion for the League to the Recruitment Committee's mixers. It is a time for all of us to showcase the impact the League has had on us.

My favorite part of interviewing Sarah at Cerulean was seeing how our enthusiasm inspired her to join.

"I was definitely inspired to pursue membership myself. I also enjoyed meeting the committee's sustainer member, Trink Easterday. Her years of passion and dedication to JLP spoke volumes of the impact this organization seems to have on women."

The women in attendance are in their mid-20s to mid-30s and live in the Portland Metro Area from Salem, Portland, Vancouver, and Hillsboro. They are business owners, business women, healthcare professionals, and full-time moms.

The next event is our Spring Recruitment Informational Open Houses. Tell your friends and encourage them to come see what the League is all about.

The events are all on the calendar and are intended for just Potential members, Recruitment Committee members, and invited speakers.

If an Active or Provisional member is interested in participating at one please contact the recruitment committee.

If any Sustainer is interested in hosting one of the four Open Houses please contact the Recruitment Committee at [recruitment@juniorleagueofportland.org](mailto:recruitment@juniorleagueofportland.org).



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## Committees screen film; prep for 2015 JLP CAREs

JLP CAREs Committee prepping for upcoming fundraiser

The JLP CAREs committee is busy working on this year's volunteer-a-thon and Harvest Soiree! Exciting plans are in process, and we will have more details to come soon. Mark your calendars for October 2015! We also need your help connecting with potential corporate donors like OnPoint, Umpqua, Uber, Car2Go, ClassPass, McMenamins, Blue Apron. Any are welcome! If you can help,

please contact JLPCAREs@juniorleagueofportland.org.

Healthy Habits Healthy Kids Committee screened Fed Up

The Healthy Habits Healthy Kids Committee ("H3K") hosted a screening of Fed Up on January 8, 2015 at the League office. 93 million Americans are obese and there is overwhelming evidence of the link between obesity and the consumption of sweetened beverages, such as soft drinks, energy drinks, sweet

teas, and sports drinks. The documentary, narrated by Katie Couric, traced the development of the processed food industry and the increase in obesity in the United States, focusing on the amount of sugar in the American diet.

The film is both shocking and sobering and provided much discussion for the 10 women who attended including how to better incorporate whole foods into the diet, the resources available online to do so, and the benefits of a vegetarian diet.

## A job well done: JLPers enjoy JLP CAREs Soiree



# Upcoming Opportunities

## Volunteer of the Year Nominations

The nominating and placement committee is requesting applications for the Volunteer of the Year. Applications for the Volunteer of the year are available on the website and due by April 3, 2016.

## Portland Art Museum Exhibit Tour

The Portland Art Museum has agreed to give a tour to Sustainers of the Italian Style Since 1945 exhibit. Tuesday, April 7th at 1pm. Email Julie at [jebranford@gmail.com](mailto:jebranford@gmail.com) to RSVP. \$16 per person, 1 tour guide to every 10 Sustainers.

Julie says Actives are welcome as well - no age discrimination here!

## Placements for 2016-2017

Committee placement for members will occur in May. We will have a placement fair and a placement guide available to assist members in their selection of a committee for the upcoming junior league year. Please look for updates in the hotsheet and on the website.



A group of active and provisional members banded together recently to cook dinner at Ronald McDonald house.

Spring 2015  
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