



THE DEVELOPMENT
EDITION



FINAL LETTER FROM
THE PRESIDENT



RAPHAEL HOUSE
PARTNERSHIP EXPANDS



VOLUNTEERS OF THE
YEAR ANNOUNCED

JL PRESS



Endowment Grants Awarded to Local Causes

Almost \$30,000 of the Junior League of Portland Endowment was awarded this spring to six local recipients that support the League's mission: Bradley Angle, Door to Grace, Northwest Family Services, Raphael House, Children's Book Bank, and Ronald McDonald House. League members, including President Courtney Flood, personally delivered the checks to these community partners. The funds will be applied to their annual programming that the League also supports through volunteering. The 2016 Endowment disbursements were also used to fund training for League members through participation in regional and national conferences.

Alicia Phifer
JLPRESS Co-Editor

Endowment Grants Awarded

Bradley Angle \$7,000

Grant to be applied to room at Bradley Angle and 10-week support groups, which offer counseling, childcare, a meal & transportation. In addition, the support groups offer two curricula: Healthy Relationships & Strength & Resiliency.

Door to Grace \$5,000

Funding to support mentoring of five commercially sexually exploited children, beginning at ages 14-17, through the R.E.A.C.H. program that encourages girls to set goals in five areas: Restoration, Education, Activities, Community, and Home.

Northwest Family Services \$5,000

The Deceptions program raises awareness among middle- and high-school students of the grooming and luring tactics of child sex traffickers and other internet dangers, an important step in combatting human trafficking.

Raphael House \$2,500

Used to support their Spring Appeal to match gifts under \$100 from primarily younger donors.

Children's Book Bank \$5,000

500 culturally diverse books will be purchased to serve 100 low-income children.

Ronald McDonald House \$5,000

An annual room sponsorship will give JLP access to more community connection events and a plaque outside of a designated room.

Conferences \$12,457

AJLI's Fall Conference & Spring ODI, JL Northwest Exchange & Shared Hope International's JUST Faith Conference

A Letter from the President

"What would you attempt to do if you knew you could not fail?"

This quotation from Robert H. Schuller is what I asked the 2015-2016 Junior League of Portland Board of Directors during our Board retreat last spring. From all of our answers, the current Board would collectively have an amazing event planning business! However, and not surprisingly, no one mentioned being on JLP's Board. This proves to me that we continue to be a top-notch training organization and a nurturing environment that does not allow our members to fail.



Outgoing President Courtney Flood (left) passes on the baton to Incoming President KaDo Gorman.

I love looking back at the past year on the League's progress.

We have implemented a new Focus statement, planned and held three successful fundraising events, volunteered over 15,000 hours, given \$27,500 in Grant Awards, and sponsored 15 members to attend Junior League trainings. This is just a small sampling of our impressive work, none of which would be possible without so much support for each other, time and patience to participate in additional trainings, and overall League camaraderie. This is truly where JLP shines and what makes our League so great!

As I leave the Presidential position, I have so much excitement and optimism, knowing that our League is in great hands and heading in a direction we should all be extremely proud of. We are focusing on our community's needs and listening to our members' wants in a safe and (cont. pg 3)

supportive environment. I feel incredibly fortunate to continue to **Learn** so much from the Junior League of Portland; I truly **Love** every component of it and I can't wait to see its future **Live**.

Learn, Love, Live...

Cheers,

*Courtney Flood
President 2015-2016*

Partnership Expands with Raphael House

In addition to supporting strong JLP traditions like the "crockpot events," more educational events were added to support our work to end the cycle of violence against women and children. Raphael House is the largest domestic violence shelter in Multnomah County and provides emergency shelter to 130 adults and children every year, supports 1,200 callers on a 24-hour access line and offers self-sufficiency programming and housing assistance to an additional 480 survivors. Raphael House provides both support for survivors and community education about healthy relationships. The bond between JLP and Raphael House continues to strengthen as we continue to staff volunteer events, gain knowledge through trainings, and provide an endowment grants, most recently to be used as a challenge match for their Spring Appeal campaign.

"All of us at Raphael House of Portland are immensely grateful for our ongoing partnership – and friendship – with the Junior League of Portland! It has been incredible to work with such a dedicated, energetic, and compassionate group of women who bring so much to our community. We're excited for the ways our relationship continues to grow and evolve, as we work together to support survivors and raise awareness about domestic violence."

*Amanda Ives,
Raphael House Development Associate*



Amanda Ives and Sophie Bayard with school supplies donations.

JLP's relationship will continue to change and grow with Raphael House as next year there will be a new committees in the Community Council including one call End Domestic Violence which will continue to partner with Raphael House and Bradley Angle and add two new community partners that also serve women and children affected by violence.



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HIGHLIGHTS WITH THE RAPHAEL HOUSE

- Gina Ambrose, VIP Committee Chair and slated Community VP, collected an enviable collection of backpacks, from her Nike colleagues, to donate to Raphael House and Bradley Angle. All the backpacks went home with women, who attended the evening support group.
- Raphael House and JLP hosted the Harvest Festival in their Advocacy Center and invited 15 women and their children to join JLP volunteers to celebrate all things Autumn and Harvest related, including Halloween! Eight League members cooked in their crockpots and brought everything to share with the families. Provisionals, Actives and Sustainers came together to provide the crockpots needed to give one to each woman who attended the Harvest Festival. Kids were offered either small bags of candy or creepy glow-in-the-dark bugs and Halloween pencils. One child spontaneously exclaimed, "This pencil will make my homework fun!" Jessica Fritts, VIP Assistant Chair, embarked on refreshing the JLP crockpot cookbook, collecting current recipes and printing it a size that can be stored within the crockpot. Volunteers talked with the Raphael House guests and shared favorite Harvest-time activities and meal ideas.
- Courtney Flood, President, KaDo Gorman, President-Elect and I attended Raphael House's Annual Gala Fundraiser "Destinations" that celebrates the brave journey people make to leave violence behind. The night highlighted their mission of education about and prevention of domestic violence. Raphael House's full-time Education Coordinator Megan Kovacs will be supporting all Portland Public Schools as they implement "Coaching Boys into Men" a program that equips athletic coaches talk about healthy relationships and respect.
- The Holiday Program served 115 families this year. JLP ladies helped with preparing gift-request ornaments that were hung on trees to help collect needed donations, receiving these donations, sorting the donations, stocking the shopping rooms, and replenishing the rooms after long days of shopping, guiding the women shoppers and entertaining kids while moms shopped.
- Rebecca Strachan, Volunteer and Internship Coordinator, spoke at the January GMM to educate our membership about the current issues faced by domestic violence survivors. Lack of affordable housing increases the challenges of survivors finding permanent housing as they transition out of a shelter stay. Shelter stays have lengthened to help the women and children who are in shelter, but this creates few opportunities for other women to enter the shelter space. This is only one of the many obstacles that women face on the journey of leaving abusive situations.
- Rebecca returned to our office to offer the training "In Her Shoes" which was developed by Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Nineteen JLP ladies attended. Pairs of trainees follow the choices available to a woman who is experiencing violence. Participants move from stations like "Social Services," "Education," "Legal," "Friends and Family" and "Domestic Violence Shelter" and discuss why they might make a particular choice as they try to survive the

violent partner. The characters stories were adapted from crisis line calls in Washington and share the real-life dilemmas. The training concluded with Rebecca facilitating an open discussion of how hard the choices were to make and the problems of domestic violence.

- Pre-Mother's Day Brunch where Volunteers prepared brunch options to bring to the Advocacy Center and shared the morning with women and children.

Sophie Bayard

VIP Committee, liaison with Raphael House 2015-16

*End Domestic Violence Committee, liaison with Raphael House
2016-17*

Healthy Habits Healthy Kids Team with Imagination Yoga Certifies League Members to Teach Kid's Yoga



In February, the Healthy Habits Healthy Kids (H3K) committee partnered with Imagination Yoga to train League members in kid's yoga (worth two credit hours at PSU). Since educating the community about child and family health and wellness is our passion, we also held a smoothie demonstration prior to the workshop. During this demonstration, we talked about the health benefits of using ingredients such as coconut or almond milk, vegetables such as kale and spinach, and additions such as dates, flax seeds, chia seeds or nut butters. Participants were treated to tastes of a spicy green smoothie, peanut butter chocolate smoothie, and always a kids favorite, strawberry banana smoothie.

Jamie and Jessie, from Imagination Yoga, taught members eight different poses for children aged 2-12 that will help with calmness, mindfulness and kindness during the two-hour yoga workshop. The approach to the poses makes it fun for kids and uses their imagination: boat pose is actually a raft or a speed boat, child's pose and cobra are turtles and lions, and cat/cow pose can be a stegosaurus and a loud warthog. At the end we learned how to remind kids about kindness while sitting criss cross applesauce and holding our hands together alternatively at heart center, at our lips and at our forehead while repeating three times: "kind heart, kind words, kind thoughts".

As the Junior League of Portland adjusts its focus on women and children that are or could be in the cycle of violence, being able to



H3K committee shares healthy smoothie recipes before the workshop (Kate Cronen (sustainer advisor), Melissa Gard, Elisa Spano (chair))

give children the tools to calm down, think clearly and love themselves will be so important at our partner events. Certified members will potentially be able to teach yoga at community partner volunteer events where children are present. If the mothers are occupied, it's a perfect opportunity to spend some time with the children teaching them poses that will benefit them in their daily lives.

Following the workshop, members stated that they felt that what they learned was applicable to their professional and personal lives, especially if they had children themselves. H3K is already planning a second workshop in the early fall so that more members can become certified. You won't want to miss it!

Elisa Spano
H3K Chair

Volunteers of the Year Awarded for Service



KATIE SHUCK - ACTIVE

Volunteer of the Year is an award that the League has bestowed upon active members that have exemplified outstanding commitment to our mission and serving our community with passion and dedication.

Katie's dedication to the League, strong leadership, and tireless work ethic to help better our community, has been consistently present through the various roles she has held since her provisional year in 2008-09. Since becoming active with the JLP, Katie has taken on roles

with increasing leadership. Some of these accomplishments include the creation of the JLP CAREs event that is now a successful fundraiser and day of service for our league, serving as our league President in 2013-14 and being instrumental in updating our bylaws, and most recently being slated to serve on the AJLI Governance Committee for 2016-2018.

A VOY awardee is not only dedicated to the causes of JLP, but also is actively involved with additional organizations within the community. Katie works closely with military deployed spouses and is an instrumental member of her husband's squadron. In addition to being dedicated to the Junior League and her community, Katie is a loving and devoted mother and wife.

Katie is a true leader in the League and supportive and devoted member, who is looking to make other members more successful leaders.

Her peers have consistently shared that it is a privilege to work with her through many of her placements, that she is

clear in her priorities and always willing to do the work to reach her goals, and that she is committed to giving back to the community.

Placement History:

2009-2010 – Provisional Committee Member & Small Group Leader
2010-2011 – Strategic Fund Development Committee Assistant Chair
2011-2012 – Board of Directors: Fund Development VP
2012-2013 – Board of Directors: President Elect
2013-2014 – Board of Directors: President
2014-2015 – JLP CAREs Committee member
2015-2016 – Trainings Committee member

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KATY NEILL - SUSTAINER

Sustainer of the Year is an award that the League has bestowed upon members over the years that have exemplified outstanding commitment to our mission and to serving our community with passion, dedication, and leadership.

Katy has taken everything she has learned from the Junior League of Portland and transferred it into the community through her involvement in many projects and programs for over 50 years. This theme was consistently highlighted by many of her peers and supporters via nomination letters the Nominating committee received. It was extremely inspiring to read about all of her wonderful contributions to the Junior League of Portland and the community at large.

During her time as a devoted and committed active member of the JLP, Katy has been described as someone that has “always set standards and inspired others to reach beyond what they think are possible, and she displays a positive influence for those around her.” Katy served on the Board of Directors as a member at large.

She worked on the newsletter, Cascades, as a photographer and editor, and also chaired the Nominating committee. Katy also had the idea to introduce the concept of computer training, and she chaired Computer Tooters, which helped to train members on the league's computer. When Katy decided to become a Sustainer, she served as a mentor for the newly formed Leadership Council of the JLP. She also started the Sustainer Craft Group 20 years ago this year. This group started out with



two members, including Katy and Theresa Forni and is now 50 members strong!!

Looking beyond Katy's numerous contributions to the League, Katy has been described by her peers as someone who "works quietly, but so powerfully behind the scenes." Katy has used her skills as a volunteer in numerous capacities within our community. She has always been active in her children's schools with Duniway, Sellwood and Cleveland. Katy helped to initiate the Eastmoreland Holiday Home Tour as a fundraiser for Duniway Elementary School in the 1980's and it continues to be a major fundraiser for the school today.

Katy has been a mentor and advocate for young women and women's issues. She served as a chaperone for the Rose Festival Junior Court for many years, and in 1994 became the chaperone to the Senior Court, which she was one of the last to do so. Katy has spent recent years working with a young moms' group called MOPS through her church, Moreland Presbyterian Church. This is a support and fellowship program for young mothers of preschool children, and Katy has helped provide childcare and served as a mentor mom to support young women as they deal with the many challenges of child rearing. Katy has also served on the Portland Women's Union Board for 12 years and as Chair of the Board for 2 years. They



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[illegible]

have now joined forces with the Women's Care Foundation and have become the Women's Foundation of Oregon.

Katy has directed some of her boundless energy to the Portland theatre world as well. She was actively involved in support of the Portland Civic Theater and spent countless hours, with her husband Jim, fundraising to build the Portland Center for the Performing Arts.

Katy has not only helped by volunteering with non-profits in our community over the years, but also helped to create one after the untimely death of her dear husband, Jim. Katy established the Jim Neill Memorial Foundation that

benefits yearly from a golf tournament in his memory.

This event has raised over \$100,000 to date in support of non-profits in our community, and Katy serves as Chairman of the Board of the Foundation and in this capacity oversees the annual golf tournament and the administration duties of the Foundation she has started.

Katy's vision to remember Jim by inviting his friends to participate in his favorite sport to support his favorite charities has become a reality. Her hard work and vision has led to this remarkable achievement.

Everyone Won at the End of the Year Party



We celebrated a successful year, Kentucky Derby style! The end-of-year event, put on by the Member Connections Committee on Saturday May 7th, was a huge success, with over 100 people in attendance, dressed head-to-toe in bright colors, big hats, and bowties. The venue, Cerulean Wine Bar, was the perfect location for this fabulous event on a hot, sunny day (big thank you to active member, Tammy Miller for use

of the space). Between the photo booth, array of delicious food, and costume contest, there was a little something for all to enjoy. As we sipped our Mint Julips (or Bourbon & Sweet Tea), we watched the "two most exciting minutes in sports" as the favorite, Nyquist, won the race.

Jessica Richey
Member Connections Chair



League Donors

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 **December 15th, 2015- May 5th, 2016**

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Spring 2016

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Giving Vines - <http://www.givingvines.com/Junior-League-of-Portland-OR.aspx> Proceeds of wine sales will directly benefit the League!

Thank you MarCom

The Junior League of Portland's Marketing and Communications Committee has worked diligently to support every part of the League. This is a very large undertaking and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for an amazing job well done!

Leanna Petrone
MarCom Chair

*"If you obey all the rules, you miss all the fun."
-Katharine Hepburn (JL member 1907-2003)*

(As pictured) Natalie Jasinski- HotSheet, Krystyna Mardula and Alicia Phifer- JLPRESS, Nicole Amend- Assistant Chair, Leanna Petrone- Chair, Darya Minovi- Social Media, Natalie Ballas- Council Rep, Rachel Damgen- Social media (Not pictured) Jenn Longbine- Webmaster, Colleen McDonnell- Council Rep, Rhea Ledda- Council Rep, Chelsea King- Sustainer Mailing

