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## WINTER 2019/2020

## CONTENTS
THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF HOUSTON, INC.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>LETTER FROM THE EDITOR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>MAKING A DIFFERENCE AROUND THE WORLD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>CHARITY BALL ROUNDTABLE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>JOANIE AMACKER HALEY 2019 ADELAIDE LOVETT BAKER AWARD WINNER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>SECRET GARDEN 2020 CHARITY BALL UNDERWRITERS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>PEACE MEALS MAGIC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>AFTERNOON TEA IN THE TEAROOM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>COMMUNITY PROJECTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>THANKING OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>LUNCH WITH SANTA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>HOUSTON ZOO AFTER DARK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>BRENNAN’S HAPPY HOUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>FASHION UNLOCKED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>PASSING THE GAVEL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>PUMPKIN PARADE STYLE SHOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>ADVERTISER INDEX</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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LETTER FROM THE
PRESIDENT

“The true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit.” – Nelson Henderson

In June, League members were invited to celebrate the reveal of the theme for the 2019 – 2020 League year “Bloom Where You Are Planted” at an event in the courtyard at Brennan’s of Houston. It was fitting to kick off the year in the building that was the League’s first home, given that the annual theme is a celebration of the League’s history and ongoing renewal.

For nearly a century, the Junior League of Houston has empowered women, strengthened the Houston community and improved the lives of those we touch through our mission. This year alone, the League’s 1,500+ active and provisional members will contribute nearly 100,000 hours of service, accompanied by more than $1,000,000 in grants and funding.

Our members are, and have always been, committed and accomplished leaders who identify community needs and develop innovative responses to those needs. In this issue, you will read about several members – past and present – who are full of gifts, talents and potential that have enabled the League to grow and flourish.

An interview with past Charity Ball Chairmen is featured in this edition highlighting the way that the League has evolved over time to remain impactful. The dynamic women who execute the League’s largest fundraiser reminisce about the skills they developed and how these skills enabled them to better the community well beyond their League years.

This issue also features the story of a League volunteer who has taken a piece of Junior League with her as she lays down new roots halfway across the world. The personal journey of this volunteer tells a wonderful story of the impact of connection and mentorship that is possible in the League.

Lastly, there is no better example of a committed and accomplished leader with a servant heart than Adelaide Lovett Baker Award winner Joanie Amacker Haley, featured in this issue.

Each of these stories highlight the Junior League of Houston’s mission in action: to promote voluntarism, to develop the potential of women, and to improve communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

I am mindful that the League could not continue to bloom without our dedicated volunteers, partners and advocates. Whether you are a member, a community partner or a donor, we are grateful for your support as we near our centennial year and continue to “Bloom Where We Are Planted”!

SINCERELY,

Jayne Johnston

JAYNE JOHNSTON
PRESIDENT
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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

“Since you get more joy out of giving joy to others, you should put a good deal of thought into the happiness that you are able to give.” – Eleanor Roosevelt

The one constant in life is change. We grow as we try new things and are open to the unfamiliar or the unknown. Stepping out of one’s comfort zone is not easy but adapting to change with a positive attitude is something we can choose.

“Bloom Where You Are Planted” is an inspiring theme for this League year. League members come from different walks of life, environments and diverse cultures. Yet, we all come together for the greater good to make a difference. I have met and served with exceptional women in the League. When I became Editor halfway through this League year, I was surrounded with support and I knew I could rise to the challenge.

Volunteering and helping others were modeled for me at an early age. One of my earliest memories is getting groceries with my mother and delivering them to those who could not do it for themselves. I would join my father on visits to retirement villages and nursing homes where he ministered to the elderly. I started my own volunteer journey as a Girl Scout, then through service clubs in high school, and served in my church and other organizations. The League helped me carve out time in my schedule and be accountable and intentional in my volunteer hours. In addition, I have increased my nonprofit knowledge and seen the effect committed volunteers have on their communities.

What stands out to me about the League is the vast number of organizations it reaches throughout the greater Houston community. In this issue of Houston News, you will learn that our reach is not just contained to our city, it extends throughout the world. League members, actives and sustainer make positive and substantive change to their spheres of influence throughout their lives.

May we honor the League’s tradition that was started in 1925 by continuing to grow and change lives for the better. Let’s strive to meet the needs of the community while also giving joy and happiness.

SINCERELY,

SARA-HELL VAN LANT
EDITOR
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MAKING A DIFFERENCE

AROUND THE WORLD

Blooming where I am planted: How the Junior League network and volunteering locally helped me transition into my new life in Singapore

by Sarah Davidson

This Junior League of Houston’s 2019 – 2020 annual theme “Bloom Where You Are Planted,” is a timely motto for my current season of life. In August 2019, I left Houston to spend 18 months living abroad in the island nation of Singapore. My husband, an oil and gas engineer, was seconded here for a work project, and I joined him as a “trailing spouse” or a person who follows her life partner to a new country because of a career assignment.

Prior to planning our move, I knew only a bit about Singapore from my career in international tax and from viewing the movie Crazy Rich Asians. Researching Singapore revealed an island rain forest, located nearly 10,000 miles from Houston, just south of Malaysia and just north of the equator. The city-state is roughly the size of the interior of Houston’s Beltway 8 loop and, like Houston, Singapore has a robust economy, a thriving international food scene and a diverse mix of six million residents with foreign nationals making up nearly a third of its citizens.

Merlion Park in Singapore. This mythical creature is called the Merlion. Its body represents Singapore’s humble origins as a fishing village. Its head represents Singapore’s first name, Singapura, or ‘lion city’ in Malay.

The Singapore flag

----- continued

Cody and Sarah Davidson
ENGAGING THE WISDOM OF THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF HOUSTON NETWORK

Having spent semesters abroad during my college and graduate school years, I knew that an international move would be immensely rewarding; however, these experiences had taught me to also expect initial feelings of displacement. To begin to “bloom” in my new environment, I reached out to a fellow League member who has lived as a trailing spouse for advice.

During my provisional year in the League, I attended a group meeting where Jennifer Scheifley Roberts, 2020 – 2021 President-Elect, spoke about her experience living in Malaysia as a trailing spouse from 2010 – 2012. I remembered her comments and reached out to Jennifer by phone. She offered me the following advice: “Try joining your local American club,” she said. “Involvement with the American Association of Malaysia helped me get used to my new life abroad by giving me a way to socialize with other Americans and offering me a variety of volunteer opportunities.”

Jennifer also mentioned that living abroad made her realize that the League’s charitable work addresses global issues: “Living in Malaysia opened my eyes to how the focus areas that the League supports are present around the world, not just in Houston,” she said. “Look for ways to be involved in charitable work in Singapore. You will likely see a way to volunteer in at least one of the League’s 2019 – 2020 focus areas of Abuse/Neglect of Children, Children’s Education and Mentoring Girls/Women. You can contribute to League objectives even while living abroad,” she noted. Chatting with Jennifer left me feeling encouraged. To make the most of my time in Singapore, I planned to begin volunteering at a local nonprofit shortly after arriving.

FINDING A VOLUNTEERING VENUE IN SINGAPORE

I suspected that there might be a few Junior League members living in Singapore, and I knew I could count on them to help me find a volunteer opportunity. Shortly before leaving Houston, I wrote a post in the 15,000-member “Singapore Expat Women” Facebook group seeking current or former members of the Association of Junior Leagues International. I received a response just one day later! Kristi Miller, a member of the Junior League of Dallas and the American Women’s Association (AWA) in Singapore, replied to my post. Kristi invited me to join the local AWA, explaining, “Like the Junior League, the AWA offers a way to volunteer, socialize, meet new friends and explore the local community.” She also invited me to volunteer with her and other AWA members at a local soup kitchen called Willing Hearts in the coming weeks. The international Junior League network had helped me make a new friend and find a volunteering opportunity before I even left Houston!

WILLING HEARTS SOUP KITCHEN

A few weeks later, I joined Kristi and a few other AWA volunteers at Willing Hearts, a nonprofit organization that prepares, cooks and distributes nearly 5,000 daily meals to over 40 locations across the
island of Singapore. Willing Hearts delivers its meals to the elderly, the disabled, low income families, single parent families and migrant workers 365 days a year. In the kitchen we worked alongside a mix of local people including groups of employees from Singapore’s multinational banks, retired ladies affectionately called “aunties” and college students from the nearby National University.

Like the Junior League of Houston’s Tea Room Kitchen, the Willing Hearts kitchen is almost entirely run by volunteers, apart from a handful of staff who provide guidance. For that reason, Kristi and I were able to participate in each volunteer duty during our half-day shift. First, we used large paddles to scoop rice from rice cookers. Next, we packed the boxed lunches with vegetable curry, sardines, rice and green grapes for dessert. Then, we washed the pots, pans and rice nets that were used to prepare the daily meal. Finally, we cleaned and chopped Japanese eggplants for the next day’s curry.

The group of AWA volunteers represented “All women, all nationalities, all walks of life” as the organization’s motto describes. The AWA women had relocated from Australia, England, Scotland, Sweden and the U.S. and were all living in Singapore as trailing spouses. They invited me to join them for AWA activities like Mahjong lessons, trivia nights, cultural cooking classes and “walking with women” tours of Singapore. By the end of my volunteer shift, I had found a new group of friends.

**BEGINNING TO “BLOOM”**

My first two months in Singapore have been a whirlwind of new experiences. Some have been fun like viewing Singapore’s Buddhist temples from the top of a double decker bus, enjoying the delicious national dish, chili crab, at a hawker center and taking Mahjong and orchid arranging lessons with my new friends from the AWA. Other experiences have been less enjoyable, such as finding myself stuck across town during a monsoon rain without an umbrella or bus fare.

With all the change that comes with an international move, it is comforting to know that I can count on the global network of support that the Junior League provides. I deeply appreciate the wisdom offered by Jennifer Scheifley Roberts and the warm welcome to Singapore extended by Dallas League member Kristi Miller. I plan to become a regular volunteer at Willing Hearts soup kitchen and keep my eyes open for other ways to contribute to League objectives from my temporary home abroad. See y’all next fall!
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The self-proclaimed “archaic” chairmen, Jeanne and Linda, were nostalgic for days when the Ball was held at the Shamrock Hotel, declaring that the Shamrock’s Emerald Ballroom had been perfect! It was glamorous, the stage was the right size for a big cast, the acoustics were great for the musicians and the dinners were elegantly served. The best local orchestras played, especially Ed Gerlach, a Houston mainstay, while League members and their guests danced the night away. In the decades from the 1950’s, the Charity Ball show was a sophisticated production led by some of the best musical directors, including Fred Gibbons, whose son, Billy, later offered a very different style of show to fans as ZZ Top.

League members and their male friends committed weeks of evenings to rehearse the complex choreography for Charity Balls at the Shamrock.
“The sparkle job of the League,” is how Jeanne refers to being Ways and Means Chairman, now Charity Ball Chairman. Linda recounts one evening when the father of her Decorations Committee Chairman ran into Conrad Hilton while playing cards. They had never met, but since the Shamrock had long been a Hilton Hotel, he approached Mr. Hilton to ask that he consider a donation to the Bayou City Ball. Weeks later, a $10,000 contribution arrived!

After more than 25 happy, collaborative years at the Shamrock, the hotel closed in 1986 and was demolished in 1987. Finding a new location for the Charity Ball became a challenge for succeeding Ways and Means Chairmen. From 1986 through 1994, the Charity Ball moved to different hotels, and even to the downtown Houston Club. Starting in 1995, the Ball was held at the George R. Brown Convention Center, where it remained for four years.

As Chairman of the Ball in 1997, Liz describes the new format at the convention center. First, guests would enter a theater for the big show and then, “we led everybody to the ballroom for dinner and dancing.” To peals of laughter, Jeanne asks, “Did they follow?” Liz recounts the time she ran down Avenue de las Americas in her ballgown. It was the first night of the Ball. A beloved couple and longtime supporters of the Charity Ball had arrived and stopped for valet parking, but they were in the wrong lane. The policeman on duty tried to force them to move on until Liz, who had been alerted to the situation, rushed to rectify the situation. All agreed that the Charity Ball taught them to stay flexible. In 1999, the Charity Ball moved “home” to the League’s own beautiful building. Lisa and Amy can attest to the appropriateness of that decision. While there is nostalgia amongst the oldsters for the big casts and aura of past locations, the smaller venue and cast reflect today’s realities and allow for stability. Amy served on the 2018 Strategic Planning Committee and noted that in 2003, 49% of League members were employed full time and in 2018 that percentage had risen to 78%. She points out that many members travel for their jobs and cannot commit to weeks of nightly rehearsals. With changing times, the Charity Ball has adapted accordingly.

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In 2005, Lisa was one of the first chairmen to be a full-time professional, practicing law at the time. As a League volunteer, she loved the experience of working on a project together with people who made it fun. She was in awe of the creative team who put together the Charity Ball show and the “woven tapestry of friendship” that Charity Ball placements create. Relationships that often last beyond the Charity Ball year. She talks about how lucky she was to have her Entertainment Chairman, Stacy Anderson, reenter her life as her son’s schoolteacher. Amy echoes the others in cherishing the relationships and team building of Charity Ball. Prior to becoming Chair, she served in numerous placements, including different Charity Ball committees. One change brought about by hosting the Ball at the League building is the flexibility of setting up the show and dinner, and the experience of “trying different things that came together.”

Since 2005, the Ball has added new experiences for guests, including a raffle and silent auction.

As time raced by in the conversation Jeanne asks if it was midnight yet – the level of chatter rose, and hilarity reigned, each recalling memories from their year. Linda asks if anyone remembers the walking ads. Jeanne laments that her program was not printed in color. Liz affectionately remembers the Treasurer staying late each evening, in her ballgown, counting liquor bottles; apparently, the League had been overcharged the preceding year. Linda recalls a terrifying incident that occurred the year she was Decorations Committee Chairman. While helping to decorate the River Oaks Country Club ballroom, her identical twin sister fell from scaffolding. An alert employee caught her and averted a potential tragedy. Terrifying at the time, the story is now one of many shared by former Charity Ball Chairmen.

The heart of Charity Ball shines throughout the conversation. All five ladies share a sense of goodwill and remark on the skills and lessons learned – learning people’s strengths and talents, exercising fiscal responsibility, practicing the art of requesting donations and applying them as the donors intended and, most importantly, expressing sincere appreciation to their donors. The handwritten thank you note lives today through Charity Ball! In short, Junior League training made them “professional” volunteers.

Jeanne, Linda, Liz, Lisa and Amy served the League with purpose and commitment, and have applied their training with deep, passionate involvement in the broader community. Jeanne’s sustaining volunteer and fundraising path was singular. She always loved animals and once suggested a League project at the HSPCA. Pooh-poohed by her friends on the Board at the time, she continued to support the cause and eventually she was asked to be the League’s first Outside Board Representative to the HSPCA. This one opportunity changed her life forever.

Jeanne manned and staffed the first Houston SPCA windows at Gump’s in the Galleria and then later at Neiman Marcus. (Lisa excitedly told us about her mom adopting a beloved dachshund, a boy named Joy, from the HSPCA window.) Jeanne has spent her sustaining years expanding her involvement in animal rights locally, nationally and internationally. Jeanne and her husband live primarily in Austin, where she provides adoption space for Austin Pets Alive!
the Tarrytown Shopping Center. She is proud that last year, 1,818 pets were adopted from her donated facility.

Since becoming a Sustainer, Linda has applied her fundraising skills to more than 70 worthy causes and has raised more than $21 million dollars, enough to receive the National Philanthropy Day Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser Award in 2010. Her fundraising experience is so encompassing and diverse that she was hard-pressed to select a favorite, finally naming the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston and Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens, Rice University and the Salvation Army. In all, her encouraging team spirit and time commitment are clearly visible.

Liz has also spent years applying her volunteer and fundraising skills for numerous non-profits, but her longest and deepest commitment has been to Houston-area organizations Camp for All, Amazing Place and Holly Hall Retirement Community, where she has chaired major fundraising and leadership committees, and served on some of the Boards. Each of these non-profits reveals Liz’s profound commitment to children and adults with challenging illnesses or special needs.

Lisa has a special love for The Joy School, evidenced by her ten years serving on its Board. She is currently in her fourth year as Board Chair. Along the way, she co-chaired the School’s capital campaign, successfully raising funds for a new building. Depelchin Children’s Center has also benefited from Lisa’s Board stewardship and participation on the Advancement Committee. As an alumna, The Kinkaid School remains near and dear to her heart and is a prominent feature on her schedule.

As a first-year Sustainer, Amy currently service as Development Council Sustainer Advisor and sits on the Charity Ball Underwriting Sustainer Committee. She also co-chaired the Adelaide Lovett Baker Award luncheon on Monday, October 21, 2019. In 2017, the year following her Charity Ball, Amy chaired the Community Assistance Committee. In the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, she was especially gratified to be able to apply League funds raised by the Ball where they could be most impactful. In addition to her commitment to the League, Amy is founder and president of a technology recruiting firm.

These five ladies represent the decades of Charity Ball Chairmen who have helped fund meaningful Junior League projects and in the process, gained lifelong friends. Each encourages a positive, can-do attitude; they are organized, hard-working and above all - kind. It is no surprise that they have been and will continue to be called upon to head big jobs again and again.
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The day in July 2019 that she sank her hole-in-one dawned clear and cool, as do most summer mornings in Colorado. Maybe it was the weather that inspired the shot, but far more likely, it was the skill of the golfer who made it. That golfer – Joanie Amacker Haley – has a score card full of exceptional achievements, and it is with pride that the Junior League Sustaining Club selected her as the 2019 Adelaide Lovett Baker Award winner.

Winning awards is not new to Joanie. As a teenager attending Camp Waldemar, she was elected “Best All Around Camper” by her tribe. Joanie believes that the physical discipline of sports empowers females through hard work and practice while simultaneously building self-confidence and developing leadership skills. Those skills shone as much inside the classroom as outside. During Joanie’s senior year at Beaumont High School, she was elected a class officer, a class favorite and a member of the honor society.

Her high grades allowed Joanie to enroll in Plan II, the honors program at The University of Texas at Austin (UT), following her freshman year at Randolph Macon. At Texas, Joanie pledged Pi Phi, became pledge class president and later, chapter president. On campus, she was tapped for Orange Jackets, one of the university’s oldest and most prestigious women’s organizations. Although she majored in math, Joanie changed to education her senior year, mirroring the mantra common at the time: “With a teaching certificate, you can always get a job.” Upon moving to Houston following graduation, she did, indeed, become a math teacher in Spring Branch ISD.

Following her marriage to Don Haley in 1970 and the subsequent arrival of children Heather and Todd, Joanie shifted her emphasis from a career in the classroom to a role in the community. She joined the Junior League in 1974 and served in a variety of placements, including Newsheet Editor; Placement Chairman; Public Relations Chairman; and Charity Ball Program Editor. Joanie leveraged the League’s volunteer training through board memberships at Neuhaus Education Center, Young Audiences, Camp for All and Hunter’s Creek Parent Teacher Association, which she served as president. More recently, her dedication to education resulted in an appointment to the UT College of Education.
Advisory Council for nine years, to which she was just named a Life Member. Similarly, Texas Governors Perry and Abbott, respectively, named Joanie to the esteemed One Star Foundation, which distributes $30 million of federal funds to qualified Texas non-profits annually—a job for only the most highly qualified individuals.

Despite the board memberships, gubernatorial appointments and community recognition, almost nothing in Joanie’s life has been more rewarding than her tenure with the Robert and Janice McNair Foundation for 20 years, 15 of which were as Executive Director. When speaking about the McNair family, Joanie emphasizes all she learned from them about commitment to community, the belief in giving back and gratitude to God for abundant blessings. Joanie made countless site visits on behalf of the foundation to ensure that grant requests met legal criteria as well as the family’s preferences.

In addition, she and Don attended scores of Texans games (due to the McNairs’ team ownership and Joanie’s added role as head of The Texans Foundation). During Joanie’s 20-year term of service, the McNair Foundation awarded countless generous gifts to non-profits both locally and nationally.

Joanie’s final year at the Foundation was perhaps her most challenging and rewarding. The McNairs commissioned Joanie to create a history of the McNair Foundation, which is lovingly titled “The Joy of Generosity.” The 195-page, beautifully illustrated and meticulously articulated publication is perfect in every detail—exactly like a hole-in-one. As the signal achievement in Joanie’s life, the book is just one more example of why the Junior League of Houston is so fortunate to claim Joanie as the 2019 Adelaide Lovett Baker honoree.
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The Junior League apologizes for any errors or omissions in this listing.
This listing is as of December 31, 2019.
Peace Meals Magic

*Food does more than nourish. Food connects us. It eases jitters at cocktail parties, challenges us to learn useful skills and anchors family gatherings.*

These moments, from dazzling soirees to peaceful family dinners, are what the Junior League of Houston wished to cultivate when it published its *Peace Meals* cookbook. This past year, the JLH Publishing Committee was proud to continue that mission by sharing *Peace Meals* with the Houston community. JLH successfully collaborated with local charities and events to “feed spirits as well as bodies.”

JLH’s most significant *Peace Meals* contributions this past year were:

- **The Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo - Rodeo Uncorked! Roundup & Best Bites Competition.** JLH joined Houston’s best restaurants, caterers and wine vendors to kick off the Houston Rodeo with a “cowboy chic” night. Attendees enjoyed appetizers, drinks, all while rubbing elbows with local celebrities. JLH donated 4,500 copies of *Peace Meals* to attendees, and there still weren’t enough to go around!

- **Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo - Food Challenge Contest.** Nearly 550 young but talented cooks served up nutritious and delicious meals in a “Chopped”-inspired cooking challenge. All participants received a copy of *Peace Meals* to further expand their impressive cooking repertoires.

- **Ronald McDonald Holcombe House.** To create a “home away from home” for families with seriously ill children undergoing treatment at the Texas Medical Center, League volunteers served a delicious holiday meal to residents of Holcombe House. JLH also donated 72 copies of *Peace Meals* to Holcombe house families.

The Publishing Committee also spearheaded the **Adopt-A-Library Program**, where you can give the gift of cooking by donating a copy of *Peace Meals* to any library in the continental United States.

HAVE IDEAS FOR HOW JLH CAN CONTINUE TO SHARE PEACE MEALS? LET US KNOW!
Thank you to The Junior League of Houston for your continued commitment to our community.

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We appreciate all you do for our students and community!
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Afternoon Tea
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COMMUNITY PROJECTS

The Junior League of Houston is “Building A Better Community” by committing volunteers and financial support to 35 community projects, each falling within one of five community impact committees.

**CULTURE AND ENRICHMENT**
- Children’s Museum of Houston
- The Health Museum
- Holocaust Museum Houston
- Houston Arboretum & Nature Center
- Houston Museum of Natural Science
- Houston Zoo
- The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

**EDUCATION AND MENTORSHIP**
- Books Between Kids
- ChinquaPals – Chinquapin Preparatory School
- DePelchin Children’s Center
- Pen Pals
- Picture Pals – The Westview School
- Star of Hope

**FAMILY SUPPORT**
- BEAR . . . BE A Resource for CPS Kids
- Bo’s Place
- Casa de Esperanza de los Niños
- Child Advocates, Inc.
- Houston Area Women’s Center
- Kids’ Meals
- Ronald McDonald House Houston

**HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**
- AIDS Foundation Houston, Inc.
- Baylor Teen Health Clinic
- Camp For All 2U
- Camp Janus
- Camp Rainbow – American Diabetes Association
- Texas Children’s Hospital
- The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

**NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH**
- CPR
- Dress for Success Houston
- Houston Food Bank
- Project C.U.R.E.
- Ready Hands
- Sheltering Arms Senior Services
- Sing Along With Seniors (SAWS)
- VIEW (Volunteers In Evening Workshop)
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LUNCH WITH SANTA
UPCOMING TEA ROOM EVENTS

INFORMAL STYLE SHOWS
See the latest trends and designers from the hottest stores the second Thursday of every month

Informal modeling is presented from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. in the Tea Room

Thursday, February 13, 2020 - Pinto Ranch
Thursday, March 12, 2020 - M.M. LaFleur
Thursday, April 9, 2020 - The Frock Shop
Thursday, May 14, 2020 - Colores Collective

AFTERNOON TEA
Sunday, February 16, 2020, from 2 – 4 p.m.
Sunday, April 26, 2020, from 2 – 4 p.m.

BUBBLES & BRUNCH
Sunday, March 8, 2020, at 11 a.m.

BUNNY BRUNCH
Sunday, April 5, 2020, at 10:30 a.m.

NEW EVENT!
WEDDING OPEN HOUSE + MIXER
Thursday, April 9, 2020, from 6 – 8 p.m.

MOTHER’S DAY LUNCH
PRESENTED BY
THE WOMAN’S HOSPITAL OF TEXAS
Sunday, May 10, 2020, at 11 a.m.

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On Thursday, August 15, 2019, Junior League members, prospective members, transfers and guests explored the Houston Zoo - After Dark, All About That Bubbly. Members enjoyed listening to live music, viewing ice carving in action, and seeing incredible animals up close!
MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT EVENT

BRENNAN’S HAPPY HOUR

THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2019, AT BRENNAN’S

While members mixed and mingled the annual theme for the 2019 – 2020 League was unveiled, Bloom Where You Are Planted.
“Spots, stripes and snakes” strutted down the runway as Fady Armanious, Creative Director at TOOTSIES introduced the seasons hottest trends at Opening Style Show: Fashion Unlocked. This September, attendees admired the high volume and high shine looks modeled by League-member and professional models in the evening-only program. VIP guests enjoyed a pre-show cocktail hour in the VIP Style Lounge featuring French 75 cocktails, manicures by Cherry Nails, hair touch-ups by Fringe Salon and Color Bar and clean beauty tips by Switch2Pure founder Estela Cockrell.

Photos by Haylie Lehtovaara and Emile C. Browne Photography
Last May, The Junior League of Houston, Inc. welcomed its 2019 – 2020 President, Stephanie “Steph” Lowrey Magers presided over her final general membership meeting and passed the gavel to Jayne Johnston who is serving as the 96th President of the Junior League of Houston.
Princesses, knights and dinosaurs, oh my! The JLH Minor Leaguers were at it again at A Pumpkin Parade Style Show, adorably showing off their favorite costumes and being a model for a day. Minor League events allow members the opportunity to enjoy the League with their families and introduce them to the fun side of voluntarism.

Photos by Meredith Flaherty Photography
ADVERTISER INDEX

AIDS Foundation Houston .......................... 42
Bo’s Place.............................................. 22
Cadence Bank ........................................... 59
Cammarata Pediatric Dentistry Group ...... 54
Camp Olympia ......................................... 42
CCRM Fertility Houston ........................... 05
Central Market ......................................... 27
Children’s Memorial Hermann Hospital ..... 05
Daughters of the American Revolution .... 38
Dress For Success Houston ......................... 33
Equinox River Oaks ................................. 42
Fayez Sarofim & Co. ................................ 58
Fleuriste .................................................... 54
French Cuff .................................................. 23
Geo H. Lewis & Sons ................................. 09
Mathilde C. F. Hoefer
John Daugherty, Realtors ............................ 42
Houston Ballet Nutcracker Market ............... 33
Houston Racquet Club ................................ 11
Houston Trust Company ............................ 17
Katie & Co. ............................................. 01
Menninger .................................................... 07
Pediatric Dentistry & Orthodontics
Dr. Julie Longoria & Dr. Stephen Chen ........ 26
Persona Medical Spa ................................. 16
School of the Woods ..................................... 33
Sewell ....................................................... BC
Solaya Spa/Salon by the Houstonian ............ 12
Suzann Cooley Richardson,
Martha Turner/Sotheby’s ............................. 52
Taste of Texas Restaurant ............................ 39
Texas Children’s Hospital ............................ IFC
Texas Children’s Hospital
Pavilion for Women ................................... IBC
The Westview School ................................. 52
The Woman’s Hospital of Texas ................. 08

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Steadfast

When you’re little, nothing comforts you quite like your mother’s touch. Time marches on, but a mother’s love never does; its imprint stays with you forever. Likewise, a woman’s experience giving birth often stays with her in vivid detail for the rest of her life. That’s one reason why we believe women should be in charge of choosing the delivery they want – midwife or OB, natural or medicated, VBAC or C-section – while we stand by with the experience and expertise to ensure medical needs are met.

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