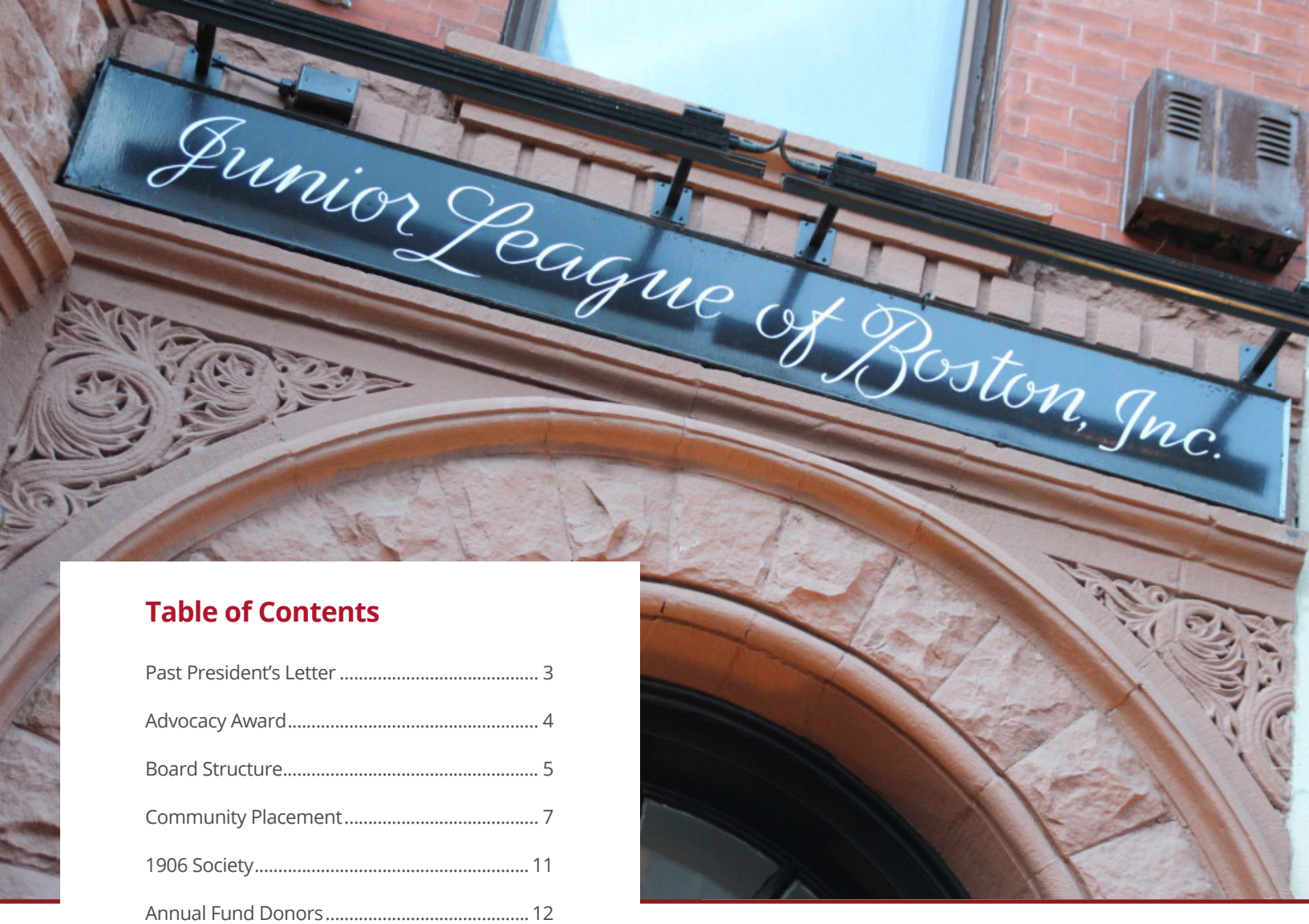
# JUNIOR LEAGUE OF BOSTON

2017–2018 ANNUAL REPORT

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# LEADERSHIP EMPOWERED

**\'lē-dər-ˌship im-'paù(-ə)r-uhd**

an extraordinary breed of woman capable of leading her community and of getting others to follow in tackling society's thorniest issues and orchestrating monumental, meaningful change while enhancing the social, cultural and political fabric of our civil society; The Junior League.

# Letter from the Past President

*Looking Back*

Dear Friends,

In 2017-18, we continued to push our legacy of community impact forward by forging a new partnership with the Jeremiah Program and committing ourselves to supporting the academic and employment success of young mothers. Our STEM program for girls had a great 2nd year, attracting higher numbers of applicants than any other program we offer. Our Grants Committee vetted over 50 organizations and awarded 8 grants totaling $20K to deserving organizations that share our mission to improve our communities. And our first ever Little Black Dress Initiative raised over $34K to establish the JL Boston Homelessness Prevention Fund at Women's Lunch Place. Sixty-three advocates wore the iconic little black dress for a full week to raise awareness around the effects of poverty on women and families.

Our members and friends continued to show their support for our mission and the communities we serve through individual donations and attendance of our major fundraisers. The 2017 Designer Show House at the William Flagg Homer House in Belmont brought in over $90K and our 2018 Gala at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library raised over $30K during the live ask and silent auction alone. Our Donor Relations committee teamed up with a consultant from Donor Focus to improve our approach to our Annual Fund appeals and how we engaged with our major donors. One result of those efforts was a Presidents Dinner Series that I hosted together with immediate past President Pamela Lynch and President-Elect Michelle Lentz. These dinners were well attended and provided donors with a forum for sharing ideas as they learned about what's going on in the League and in our communities today.

Through well-planned trainings, we gave our members multiple opportunities to develop their skills and to think in new ways. This winter, our annual Leadership Summit was facilitated by Tracy Prabhu, a current JL Boston member, past President of JL Fort Lauderdale and a John Maxwell Leadership Coach, Speaker, and Trainer. Participants spent the morning learning how to communicate to connect, using failure as means for growth, managing time to increase productivity, and the essentials of delegation. As a women's training organization, events such as the Summit help our members develop leadership skills that prepare them to influence and have impact both in and outside of the League. Our 3-part Diversity & Inclusion Series led by Malia Lazu, founder of The Urban Labs and President at Epicenter Community, taught us to recognize our unconscious biases, to talk honestly about how we see and treat each other, and to start planning for a more diverse and inclusive future. And in April, the Association of Junior Leagues International recognized our efforts to establish a culture of advocacy by awarding us the 2018 Public Policy & Advocacy Award.

Working together our members have moved this organization forward and created experiences that truly touched the lives of the girls and women that we served. This unstoppable force is the Junior League of Boston. I am proud to be part of this organization and it has been my honor to serve as its President.

Karen Page
President, 2017-2018
Junior League of Boston, Inc.

# The Junior League of Boston Was Awarded the 2018 Public Policy & Advocacy Award by the Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI)

The Junior League of Boston was thrilled to receive AJLI's 2018 Public Policy & Advocacy Award at the annual meeting in Memphis, TN. The award was given in recognition of JL Boston's discussion series titled "Women Moving Our Community Forward – A Discussion on Public Advocacy."

For its Public Awareness and Advocacy Committee initiative, the Junior League of Boston wanted its members and participants to develop their skills as civic leaders by creating a conference to serve as a forum for conversations around the tough issues women and girls face today. "Women Moving Our Community Forward" brought together women leaders to share their stories, experience and knowledge with attendees. The conference featured a keynote address from Victoria Budson, executive director of the Women and Public Policy Program at the Harvard Kennedy School and past advisor to the White House Council on Women and Girls. Additional speakers and panelists included:

- Katherine Adam, Account Director, Denterlein
- Beth Chandler, Chief Operating Office, YW Boston
- Megan Costello, Executive Director, Mayor's Office of Women's Advancement
- Kyndal Henicke, Deputy Chief of Staff for City Councilor Josh Zakim
- Hannah Kane, State Representative for Massachusetts 11th District
- Malia Lazu, Founder, The Urban Labs
- Ryanne Olsen, Executive Director EMERGE Massachusetts
- Eva Millona, Executive Direct, Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy (MIRA) Coalition
- Tonia Scalcione, Director of External Affairs, Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development
- Sarah McCarthy Welsh, Executive Director, Massachusetts Women's Political Caucus

The League wanted each participant to walk away from the Conference with at least one thing she felt confident she could accomplish within the next 30-60 days to expand her advocacy impact.

*(L to R): 2018 - 2019 Secretary Sarah Given, 2018 - 2019 VP of Communications Amy Bucher, 2017 - 2018 President Karen Page, 2018 - 2020 President Michelle Lentz, and past JL Boston President and 2018 - 2020 AJLI Vice President Elizabeth Tyminski*

The Conference was designed to inspire and excite members to become advocates by educating them about the advocacy process, how local and state governments work, and how they can get involved in the greater Boston area to champion causes they feel passionate about. It served as the first event of several focusing on empowering JL Boston members to advocate for meaningful causes. The Junior League of Boston plans to continue its advocacy focus in 2018-2019 and beyond.

## The 2018 Strategic Plan

In March 2018, the Board of Directors and the elect Board of Directors approved a strategic plan for the Junior League of Boston. This plan includes four pillars:

- Improving the member experience
- Assuring financial sustainability
- Enabling strategic vision and planning
- Maximizing our community impact

Each strategic pillar includes a set of target initiatives and key performance metrics that will be monitored and assessed on an ongoing basis.

## A Reimagined Governance Structure

IIn 2018-2019, the Junior League of Boston is implementing a new management structure that separates the strategic Board of Directors from the operationally focused Executive Management Team. The Board of Directors focuses on developing the League's strategic plan, outlining near- and long-term goals. The Executive Management Team develops an Annual Plan that enables the League to execute on the objectives laid out by the Board of Directors. The new position of Executive Vice President serves as a liaison between the two groups, ensuring that strategy and execution support one another.

## 2017–2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Karen Page , President

Michelle Lentz, President Elect

Anamarie Farr, Secretary

Angela Williams, Treasurer

Kate Slemp Douglas, Director of Nominating

Alicia Dunn, Director of Communications

Jane Theriault, Director of Community Service

Meg Wheeler, Director of Fund Development

Maura FitzDaniel, Director of Membership

Marie Schmidt, Director of Strategic Planning & Management

Linda Tedder, Director of Sustainer Membership

Hale Lake, Director of Training

Board Appointee: Jerrylyn Huckabee, Director of Technology

Board Appointee: Sue O'Brien, EVP-Elect

## 2018–2019 EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM

Sue O'Brien, Executive Vice President

Tracy Barber Prabhu, Executive Vice President-Elect

Amy Bucher, VP of Communications

Victoria Hay , VP of Community Service

Celeste Scott-Walker, VP of Fund Development

Morgan Urlaub, VP of Membership

Liza Bates, VP of Placement

Dawn Peters, VP of Sustainer Membership

Jerrylyn Huckabee, VP of Technology

LeAnne MacKenzie, VP of Training

## 2018–2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michelle Lentz, President, 2018-2020

Sue O'Brien , Executive Vice President

Sarah Given, Secretary

Ashley Young, Treasurer

Marissa Bellio, Director of Nominating

Hale Lake, Member-At-Large, Active

Leigh Anne Dempsey, Member-At-Large, Active

Sarah Calabrese, Member-At-Large, Sustainer

Jennifer Poveromo, Member-At-Large, Sustainer

Board Appointee: Tracy Prahbu, EVP-Elect

# Junior League of Boston Awarded $20,000 in Community Assistance Grants

In May 2018, the Junior League of Boston announced the recipients of their 2017-2018 Community Assistance Grants. Each organization received $2,500 to help them continue to serve the greater Boston community. The grant recipients were chosen based on financial need, their plans for using the funds, and the compatibility of their missions with JL Boston's focus on promoting the wellness of girls.

This year, JL Boston received 59 applicants for grants. The candidate organizations serve a diverse group of constituents, from single mothers and foster children to minority populations and senior citizens. The eight recipients, who were recognized at a reception on June 5, are:

1. **Art Resource Collaborative for Kids (ARCK)** is an Arts Integration Program at Boston Public Schools. Their mission is empowering students with high-quality arts education that fosters culture and community while also supporting a school's learning objectives.
2. **Boston Centers for Youth & Families** received a grant for their organized Teen Nights. Their mission is to enhance the quality of life for Boston residents by partnering with community center councils, agencies, and businesses to support neighborhood needs.
3. **Boys & Girls Club of Stoneham & Wakefield** received a grant in support of their Girls STEM Program. Their mission is to enable all young people, especially those who are in most need, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.
4. **Girls Rock** received a grant for their after-school Music & Arts Program. Girls Rock Campaign Boston empowers girls to believe in themselves by providing a supportive community that fosters self-expression, confidence, and collaboration through musical education and performance.
5. **Healthy Waltham** was awarded a grant for their Senior Citizen Outreach Program. Healthy Waltham exists to promote healthy lifestyles and well-being for families and underserved populations in Waltham through educational and collaborative programs that engage residents in healthy cooking and gardening, physical activity and involvement in natural open space within the community.
6. **More Than Words** received a grant for their Life Essentials Workshops & Training. More Than Words is a nonprofit social enterprise that empowers youth who are in the foster care system, court involved, homeless, or out of school to take charge of their lives by taking charge of a business.
7. **Project Hope** was awarded a grant for their Adult Education Program & Speakers Bureau. Project Hope in Boston works in partnership with families so they can move up and out of poverty.
8. **YW Boston** received their grant to support their Girl's Health Program. YW Boston is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all.

***Applications for the 2018-2019 Community Assistance Grants will become available in early 2019 on the JL Boston website.***

> Our investment in the grant recipients will positively impact the lives of many people in the Greater Boston area.
>
> KAREN PAGE,
> 2017-2018 JL Boston President

> We believe we can be most effective not only by fielding our own community-impact projects, but by also supporting organizations who are already making significant contributions to the Boston area.
>
> MICHELLE LENTZ,
> 2018-2020 JL Boston President

# Community Placement

# Stronger Together: JL Boston's Community Impact

Through our popular Community Impact placement, we extend the capabilities of other charitable organizations in the Greater Boston area working toward similar missions. In 2017-2018, some of the organizations with whom our Community Impact volunteers partnered included:

- Respond Inc
- Boston Area Rape Crisis Center
- Women's Lunch Place
- Rosie's Place
- Greater Boston Food Bank
- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- March of Dimes
- Dimock Community Health
- Center Cradles To Crayon
- Room to Grow
- Catching Joy

# 2017–2018 Community-Based Volunteer Placements

JL Boston's direct community service projects work to develop and nurture the self-esteem of girls and young women and helps to keep them moving forward on a positive path.

We are deeply committed to the empowerment of girls from diverse communities in Boston through direct mentorship and sustained community partnerships. The young women we serve are tomorrow's leaders and promoting their emotional and physical wellness speaks to the very heart of our own responsibility and commitment as women. Reaching these girls at critically important stages in both their cognitive and physical development is central to our mission. That devotion has been our driving force for over 100 years and actively continues today.

- Little Black Dress Initiative
- Board Seat Initiative
- Community Impact
- JL Boston Leader Within East Boston
- JL Boston Leader Within Dorchester
- JL Boston Arts HQ
- JL Boston Arts BRCS
- JL Boston Kids in the Kitchen East Boston
- JL Boston Kids in the Kitchen BRCS
- JL Boston Learning Circles Charlestown
- JL Boston Learning Circles Dorchester
- JL Boston STEM East Boston
- JL Boston Amigas at Germaine Lawerence
- Jeremiah Program
- Public Affairs & Advocacy Committee

# Our Newest Community Placement: The Jeremiah Program

JL Boston's newest community volunteer program, established in the 2017–2018 year, is in partnership with Jeremiah Program. Jeremiah Program is a national organization which offers successful strategies for transforming families from poverty to prosperity two generations at a time. Jeremiah prepares determined single mothers to excel in the workforce, readies their children to succeed in school, and reduces generational dependence on public assistance. In short, they help low-income single mothers complete a college degree while caring for a family.

Jeremiah Program's Boston facility is located at 130 Warren Street in Dudley Square, where they provide empowerment and life skills training and individual coaching. JL Boston is partnering with the Jeremiah Program for the second year in 2018-2019, and looks forward to seeing our volunteer impact continue.

League members serve the Jeremiah Program primarily by tutoring Jeremiah moms in their college coursework one-on-one. In addition, JL Boston has supported Jeremiah families by volunteering at Jeremiah Program's inaugural fundraiser in Boston, collecting holiday gifts, and holding drives to collect essential items for moms and their families such as feminine hygiene products and school supplies. At a recent General Membership Meeting, JL Boston collected over 2500 personal hygiene items to be delivered to moms and adolescent girls through the Jeremiah Program.

**JL Boston collected over**

**2500**

**personal hygiene items to be delivered to moms and adolescent girls.**

Jeremiah Program

# 1906 Society

The 1906 Society was formed by Boston members and friends who have established planned gifts to support the Junior League of Boston through a will, trust or other planned gift of any size. The society was named for the year the Junior League of Boston was established to reflect the enduring impact of planned gifts to the organization.

## 1906 Society Members

**denotes new member*

- Melissa Lee Alexander*
- Sarah Calabrese
- Audra Dainora
- Daphne Durham
- Cynthia Fenneman
- Angela Foss
- Elizabeth Lunger
- Pamela Lynch
- Tracey Manzi
- Haley McCraven
- Caroline Michaud
- Sue O'Brien*
- Karen Page
- Kimberly Garner Parker
- Dawn Peters*
- Valerie Pontiff
- Jennifer Poveromo
- Cynthia Reuter
- Kathleen Quinlan Riley
- Leslie Seabury
- Elizabeth Tyminski

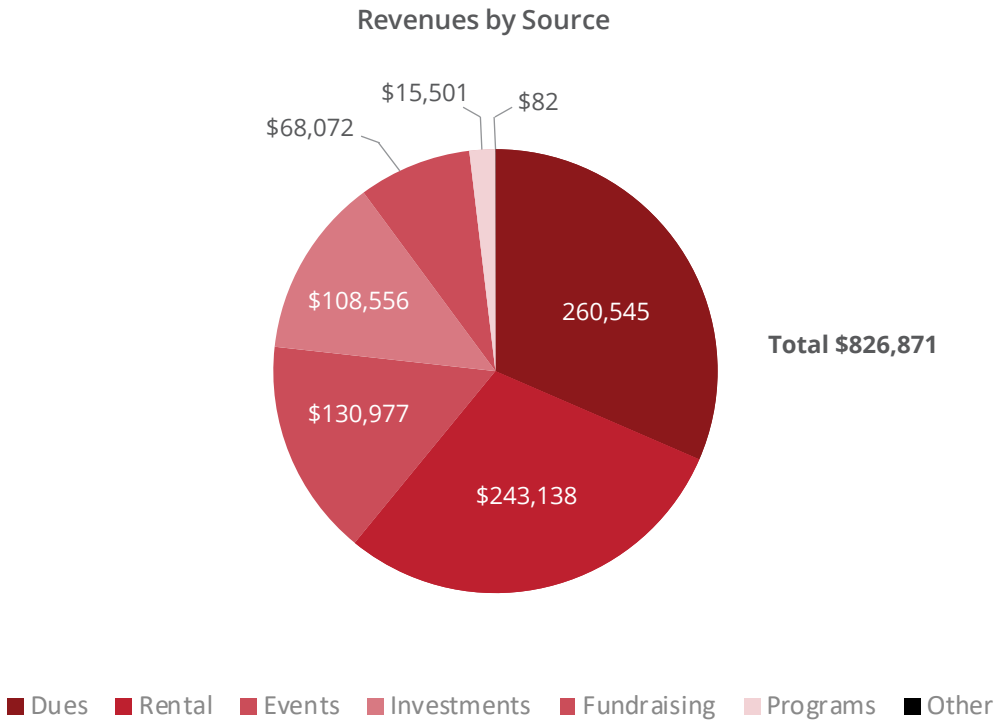
Becoming a 1906 Society member requires no dues, obligations or solicitations. You can make a gift of any amount to the Junior League of Boston through a will, revocable trust or other estate plan. To join the 1906 Society, please complete a Bequest Notification Form on our website under Support > Individual Donors.

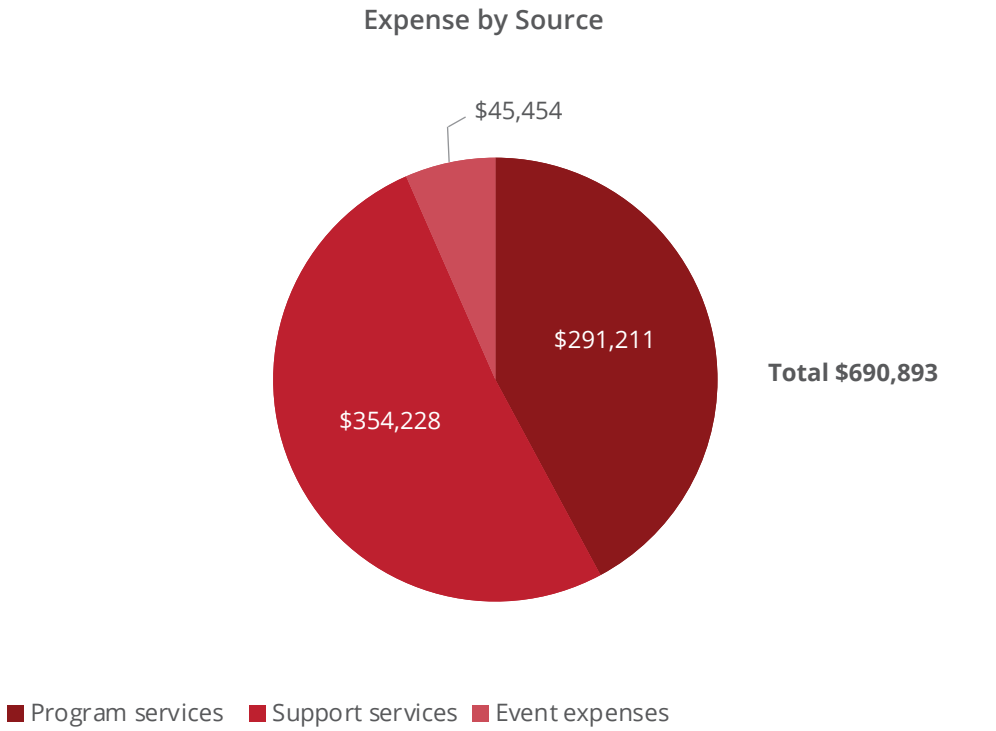
# Annual Fund Donors

We are grateful for the generosity of all who contribute to our Annual Fund. We would like to thank the individuals and organizations who supported us financially in the 2017-2018 JL Boston year, including those members who chose to support the Annual Fund beyond their minimum required commitment.

# 2017–2018 Financial Snapshot

*Audited financials by Cohn Reznick*



# 2017 Junior League of Boston Designer Show House

*"Think of it as a chance to leave the world behind for a few hours and revel in beautiful design."*

That's what the Boston Globe had to say about the 2017 Designer Show House and we couldn't agree more! The transformed 1853 William Flagg Homer House in Belmont, MA was open to the public October 7 – November 5, 2017. Hundreds of guests visited and saw the stunning talents of more than 20 of the Boston area's top designers. From elegant neutrals to whimsical patterns and sumptuous textiles, there was something for everyone.

One of the Junior League of Boston's signature fundraisers, the Designer Show House earned over $200,000 in revenue between the opening sneak peek party and its closing day. We saw hundreds of visitors walk through the exquisitely decorated space.

Our Show House co-chairs, Alison Webb, Suseen Divino, and Hayley Hannan (L to R below), wowed us with their tireless dedication to creating a beautiful experience for our visitors.

**Thank you to our talented designers for sharing their vision:**

- AnaVera Design – Ana Bonilla
- artefact home|garden – Maureen Walsh & Sue Walsh
- Boehm Graham Design – Kacey Graham & Michaele Bohem
- Clifton Lyons Design – Linda Lyons
- Cutting Edge Homes – Anu Shah & Laura Custodie
- Dibby Flint Design – Dibby Flint Hooker
- Edesia Kitchen & Bath Studio – Dianne Aucello
- Elizabeth Home Décor & Design – Elizabeth Benedict
- Elza B. Design Inc. – Barbara Elza Hirsch
- Embellishments – Abby Welling Forstall
- Hammond Design – Melissa Hammon & Meg Bennett
- 500sqft – Katie Brown
- Kelly Rogers Interiors LLC – Kelly Rogers
- Kim Macumber Interiors – Kim Macumber
- Laurie Gorelick Interiors – Laurie Gorelick
- Mally Skok Design – Mally Skok
- National Association of Women Artists Inc., MA Chapter (NAWAMA) – Jennifer Costello
- Robin Gannon Interiors & Home – Robin Gannon
- Spazio Rosso, Inc. – Stephanie Rossi
- Tess & Ted Interiors – Paige Lewin
- Theo and Isabella Design Group – Susan Schaub & Scott Bell
- Vivian Robins Design – Vivian Robins

We appreciate our sponsors, whose generosity makes Show House possible.

# The Little Black Dress Initiative™

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF BOSTON

In its inaugural "Little Black Dress Initiative," the Junior League of Boston raised over $30,000 to help support Boston's homeless community

The Junior League of Boston Homelessness Prevention Fund administered through Women's Lunch Place of Greater Boston and will help 19 women to restore their housing and help others to avoid homelessness.

"We are thrilled to be able to support Boston's women and families in such a meaningful and immediate way through our volunteer efforts," said 2017-2018 JL Boston president Karen Page. "Our volunteers' passion for this cause enabled them to far exceed their initial fundraising goal of $12,500."

The Little Black Dress Initiative is a program developed by the Junior League of London and adopted successfully within many American Leagues, now including Boston. As part of the Little Black Dress Initiative, participants wear the same black dress for five consecutive days to illustrate the effects poverty can have on a woman's access to resources, her confidence and professional opportunities. The dress serves as a visual representation of the lack of choice for families living in poverty.

Sixty-three women, including both JL Boston members and supporters, individually fundraised as part of their commitment to the initiative, with a suggested participant commitment of $250. In addition, JL Boston hosted several supporting events during the program, including a kickoff fundraiser, member volunteer shifts at Women's Lunch Place, and a Fireside Chat about poverty in the Boston community featuring Elizabeth Keeley, Executive Director of the Women's Lunch Place.

**Learn more and support LBDI in 2019:**
www.jlboston.org/littleblackdress

*(L to R): Rhonda McMahon (Signature Events Chair), Meg Wheeler (Director of Fund Development), Brittany Williams (LBDI Co-Chair), Stephanie Lincoln (LBDI Co-Chair), Liz Harrington (Women's Lunch Place), and Nancy Armstrong (Women's Lunch Place)*

*(L to R): 2018 LBDI co-chairs Stephanie Lincoln and Brittany Williams*

> Partnering with the Junior League of Boston was an opportunity to highlight our organizations' commitment to helping women experiencing homelessness and poverty in Boston. We are grateful for JL of Boston's generous funding to help women find safe, affordable housing and to secure those who are at risk of homelessness
>
> ELIZABETH KEELEY,
> Executive Director of the Women's Lunch Place

# The Junior League of Boston Annual Charity Gala: Making HERstory

On April 7, 2018, the Junior League of Boston held their annual Charity Gala at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum and celebrated making HERstory.

Guests enjoyed cocktails in the stunning glass-enclosed pavilion with views of the Massachusetts Bay and the Boston skyline, accompanied by the talents of Berklee College of Music's a cappella group Upper Structure. During dinner, She Geeks Out co-founder Felicia Jadczak offered keynote remarks urging authenticity, diversity, and inclusion as we work toward writing future chapters of HERstory. Finally, the crowd hit the dance floor to the sounds of Sweet Tooth and the Sugarbabies. Throughout the event, Kat Waterman Photography and David Hohenberger for Knollwood Designs captured the action; you can see their beautiful photos on our Facebook page and relive the fun.

During live donations, guests generously pledged to advance the JL Boston mission, as well as bid on an array of amazing silent auction items. In total, the 2018 Charity Gala raised almost $40,000 in support of the wellness of girls in the greater Boston area. We could not be more grateful for the generosity of our guests and donors.

**Save the Date for the 2019 Charity Gala:**

March 30, 2019
John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, Boston, MA
JIboston.org/gala

**Thank you to our generous sponsors and donors**

**Gold Partner:**

- Sweet Tooth and the Sugarbabies

**Bronze Sponsors:**

- Prologis
- Mallory Parkington
- Gourmet Caterers
- Mr. Sid

**Copper Partners:**

- E|MA
- Ninety Plus Cellars
- Wayfair
- CCR
- Great Wolf Lodge
- Blantyre
- Glamsquad
- UFC Gym

**Mercury Partners:**

- Tria
- Total Wine & More
- Boston Hire
- Federman, Lally & Remis
- East Coast Divers
- Southwest Airlines
- River Walk Resort at Loon Mountain
- Revere Hotel
- Daniel Doke Photography
- ASA Photographic
- Bob's Discount Furniture
- Columbia Construction Company
- Boston Event Divas
- Pat D'Amico
- Dan LaCouture
- Knollwood Designs

**Handbid Sponsor:**

- Appleseed's

**The Luxury Booth Sponsor:**

- AKF

# Don’t miss our major fundraising events in 2019!

### Little Black Dress Week

our philanthropic initiative to support women and families

**February 25–March 1**

### Annual Charity Gala

to be held at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum

**March 30**

### Raise for the Roses

a celebration of the most exciting two minutes in sports, The Kentucky Derby

**May 4**

# Training

# 2017–2018 Salon Series: Shattering the Glass Ceiling

Our popular Salon Series includes intimate gatherings at members' homes featuring outstanding local leaders who share their stories and spark compelling conversation. Our Salon Series Speakers in 2017-2018 continued our tradition of offering personally meaningful training opportunities to our members while creating connection with the greater Boston community. The theme for this year's series was Shattering the Glass Ceiling.

**Salon Series 2017 - 2018 speakers:**

- **Patricia (Trish) Gannon**, Executive Vice President, Finance and Planning, and Chief Financial Officer of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston
- **Diana Pisciotta**, President of Denterlein and board member of the Boston Preservation Alliance and Rosie's Place
- **Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz**, Massachusetts State Senator representing the Second Suffolk district
- **Jennifer Cooper**, Executive Vice President, Chief Compliance Officer, & Chief Financial Officer of Martingale Asset Management, L.P.
- **Linda Whitlock,** Founder and President of the Whitlock Group
- **Susan Windham-Bannister**, President and CEO of Biomedical Growth Strategies, LLC

*(L to R): 2018-2020 JL Boston President Michelle Lentz and 2017-2018 Director of Training Hale Lake with speaker Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz and JL Boston members.*

*(L to R): 2017-2018 President Karen Page, Jennifer Cooper, and 2017-2018 Director of Training Hale Lake*

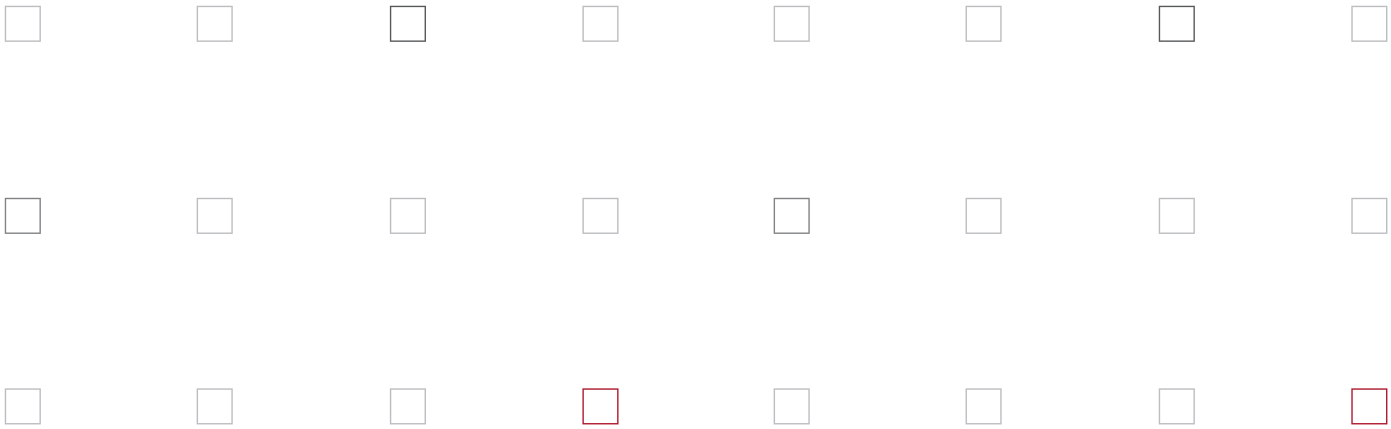
*Trish Gannon of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston speaks to JL Boston members*

# Training Overview, 2017–2018

The Junior League of Boston mission statement explicitly highlights our commitment to "promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers." Our Training Council focuses on organizing and facilitating meaningful training opportunities for our membership that will enhance their success in their personal and professional lives as well as in their volunteer roles.

In 2017-2018, the Training Council:

- Hosted 28 trainings, including 6 Salon Series events
- An average of 17 members attended each training
- Offered over 700 total hours of training
- Started a peer mentorship program for JL Boston members
- Launched the TED Talk training series
- Awarded four conference training grants to members



## Training Series: TED Talks

2017-2018 Director of Training, Hale Lake, introduced the TED Talk Series of trainings after learning about the concept at an AJLI conference. Each facilitator selected a favorite TED Talk with relevance to JL Boston members to share. After playing the talk for attendees, the facilitator moderated a conversation about what members could learn from the speaker to enhance their own leadership skills, efficacy, or knowledge. The talks in the series included:

- How to Take Control of Free Time, by TED speaker Laura Vanderkam, facilitated by Jane Theriault
- Your Body Language May Shape Who You Are, by TED speaker Amy Cuddy, facilitated by Maura FitzDaniel
- The Power of Vulnerability by TED speaker Brené Brown, facilitated by Michelle Lentz
- Why We Have Too Few Women Leaders by TED speaker Sheryl Sandburg, facilitated by Alicia Dunn

## Conference Grant Award Winners

The Training Council administers the Conference Grant Award program. The Conference Grant Fund was established to encourage, empower, and enable active members of the Junior League of Boston to pursue training opportunities, through an offset of registration and related costs.

This year's deserving grant recipients were:

**Michèle Barnett Berg**, who attended the Portfolia Summit focusing on entrepreneurial investing for women

**Julia Geier**, who attended the Playmakers Conference focused on creating positive environments and fostering optimism for children

**Connie Henderson**, who attended the Race Amity Conference celebrating race amity in the arts

**Nicollette Starnella**, who attended the American Spa's Women in Wellness Leadership Conference, focused on women in leadership roles in the spa and wellness industries

Congratulations to our grant recipients!

# Linda K. Ryan Award Recipients

The Linda K. Ryan Award is granted each year to enthusiastic, outstanding girls participating in a JL Boston program to provide them with an opportunity to attend a one week summer camp designed to enhance her personal development. The award is given in memory of JL Boston member Linda K. Ryan.

In 2018, JL Boston was pleased to give the Linda K. Ryan Award to Sophia Valdez, Juliana Bustamante, and Alondra Leon Hernandez, all students at Excel Charter School in East Boston. All three girls participated in the JL Boston STEM program and used their scholarships to attend the STEM in the City camp at Boston University's Wheelock College.

Congratulations to our deserving winners!

# Volunteer Recognition Award Recipients

Each year, the JL Boston membership nominates peers whose dedication to volunteer service is exceptional. In 2017-2018, we were honored to award the Volunteer Recognition Award to three impressive, very well-deserving recipients! These members were honored at our June 2018 GMM for their work.

- Outstanding New Member of the Year: Lindsay Farrell (Community Service Council)
- Outstanding Active Member of the Year: Pendery Haines (Jeremiah Program Chair, Assistant to the President)
- Outstanding Sustainer Member of the Year: Leslie Seabury (Sustainer Council)

*(L to R) Lindsay Farrell,Director of Nominating Kate Douglas, President Karen Page, and Pendery Haines*

# Membership Snapshot, 2017-2018

## Total membership: 913 women

- 56 Sustainers Emeritus
- 352 Sustainers
- 347 Actives
- 158 New Members

## Total volunteer hours by membership group:

New member: 3,188

Active: 13,162

## Total volunteer hours by placement:

### *Internal*

Board of Directors & Leadership: 2742.25

Communications Council: 584

Community Research and Development: 88.75

Community Service Grant Committee: 121

Finance Council: 363.25

Buildings and Facilities Committee: 32

Fund Development Council: 931.75

Charity Gala Committee: 867.5

Donor Relations Committee: 401

Show House Committee: 1357.25

Signature Events Committee: 364.25

Membership Council: 624.5

New Member Program: 617.25

Sustainer Council: 42

Transfer Program: 201.25

Nominating Council: 238.75

Personnel and Risk Management Committee: 27.5

Placement Council: 82.75

Technology Council: 370

Training Council: 645.5

Secretary's Council: 243.25

Strategic Planning and Management Council: 216.5

### *External*

Community Chairs: 216

Community Service Board Seat Initiative: 170.25

Community Service Council: 1840.5

Community Impact Committee: 1635.25

Jeremiah Program: 163

JL Boston Arts BRCS Committee: 518.75

JL Boston Arts Headquarters Committee: 81

Kids in the Kitchen BRCS Committee: 505

Learning Circles Blue Hills Committee: 166.75

Learning Circles Charlestown: 455.25

Leader Within Blue Hills Committee: 306.25

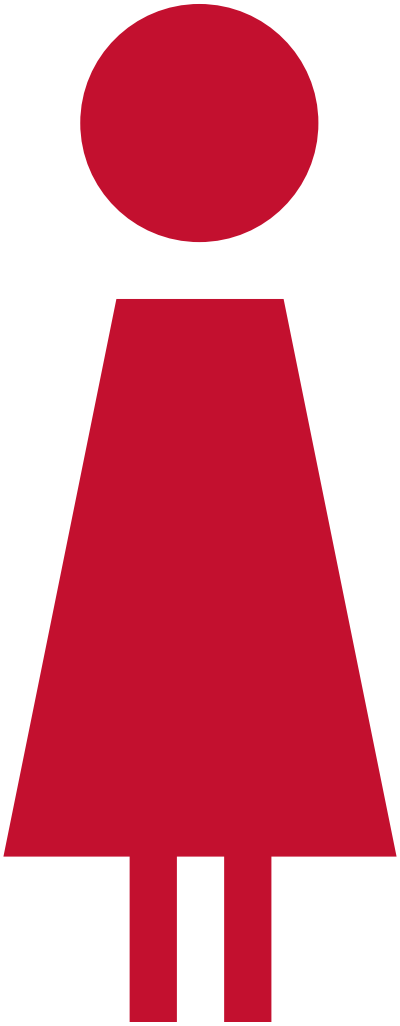
Leader Within East Boston Committee: 95.5

Little Black Dress Initiative: 218

Public Awareness Committee: 211

Solutions Summit Committee: 61.5

STEM Program: 1178.5



# Thank you to our 2017-2018 JL Boston Leaders!

Every year, we have enthusiastic and outstanding women step up to lead committees or placements. We are so thankful to count these leaders among our dedicated volunteers. Thank you to all of the women who served in appointed leadership roles in 2017-2018.

- Kirsten Aarsvold
- Courtney Astemborski
- Talia Azzaretto
- Kim Baker
- Liza Bates
- Caitlin Berger
- Vinita Bhaskar
- Lydia Bugli
- Liz DiVito
- Julie Gal-Or
- Kimberly Garner Parker
- Laura Garvey
- Alyssa Gonzalez
- Pendery Haines
- Connie Henderson
- Megan Hodson
- Jasmine Howard
- Emily Anne Jacobstein
- Hilary Junk
- Kathryn Lally
- Liz Lee
- Tara LePage
- Stephanie Lerner
- Sara Louis
- Rhonda McMahon
- Carrie Murphy
- Kendrice Newman
- Meredith O'Toole
- Lauren Owen
- Linnea Pearson
- Jen Pelton
- Marisa Roman
- Avery Russell
- Nima Santas
- Zara-Marie Spooner
- Samantha Soukamneuth
- Linda Tedder
- Emily Thomsen
- Brittany Williams

# New Member Advisors 2017-2018

Our New Member Advisors play a special role in the Junior League of Boston. As mentors to our incoming members, they are ambassadors for the Junior League and help create the next generation of dedicated volunteers. We'd like to thank the women who served as New Member Advisors in 2017-2018.

**New Member Program Manager:**
Stephanie Fink

**New Member Program Manager-Elect:**
Brindey Marine

**New Member Advisors:**

- Maggie Bernay
- Grace DaFonseca
- Nia Green
- Tori Hay
- Ali McWhorter
- Fallon Cassidy Parker
- Jenn Pellecchia
- Ashley Perkins
- Gabrielle Piasio
- Lauren Restrepo
- Avery Russell
- Kaitlin Sprong
- Denise Wiseman

# New Member Community Service Project

Each year, the Junior League of Boston provides its New Member class with funds to use toward a community service project of their choosing, outside of our formal volunteer opportunities. The intention of this project is to offer our new members an opportunity to come together in service. Our 2017-2018 new member class chose to focus their efforts on supporting Boston's homeless community. Eighteen new members went to Boston's Pine Street Inn homeless shelter and put together a total of 100 emergency toiletry bags to be given to people in need.

**JL Boston put together**

**100**

**emergency toiletry bags to be given to people in need.**

Pine Street Inn
Ending Homelessness

# Letter from the President

*Looking Forward*

Dear JL Boston members, donors and community partners,

I am so proud of the accomplishments the Junior League of Boston has made over the past 112 years, and am honored to serve as the incoming President – the first to serve a two-year term in nearly 30 years.

JL Boston is a truly unstoppable force. JL Boston supports the health and wellness of young girls and women through direct community service, and by educating and building awareness for key issues affecting them. JL Boston is an unstoppable force of leaders, training the next generation of women volunteers to be bold, to do what it takes to help those in need, and to build a bright future for themselves and for our city.

Last year, through strong programming and community impact work, our members' awe-inspiring commitment to the JL Boston mission shined brightly throughout the Greater Boston area. Looking to the future, our charge is to ensure JL Boston continues to be this unstoppable force, building an even stronger legacy of impact. To do so, we must continue to focus on adapting and evolving our organization in order to meet the ever-changing society in which we live.

In the upcoming years, we will be embarking on a long-term journey toward building a culture of advocacy in order to cultivate stronger community partnerships, as well as regain our voice and seat at the table on issues that affect our constituents. We will be fortifying our efforts on diversity and inclusion, so that we may continue to thrive through our members' diverse backgrounds, interests and experiences. We will be vision planning for improved member experiences and leadership development to strengthen our ability to build civic female leaders and create transformational volunteer experiences. We will find ways to work more collaboratively, improve knowledge sharing and strengthen year-over-year transitions. And we will seek ways to ensure long-term financial sustainability through diversifying and bolstering our fundraising and donor relations programming.

I passionately believe in the potential for this network of inspiring women leaders. I look forward to the opportunity to help guide JL Boston through a new era of strategic governance to ensure we continue to deepen our community impact and development of female civic leaders for another 112 years.

Thank you,

MLentz

Michelle Lentz
President, 2018-2020
Junior League of Boston, Inc.