



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF RHODE ISLAND

The Anchor

THANKSGIVING BASKETS

*Submitted by Erin Herzog,
Community Outreach Council Director*

Sustaining an annual Thanksgiving Tradition, over 20 JLRI members completed a Community Outreach done-in-a-meeting project at our November GMM by assembling Thanksgiving meal baskets for 10 families at **Foster Forward**.

Community Outreach Council member Michelle Allwein took the lead in organizing this year's project, and our members donated various meal kit items from turkey vouchers, to sweet potatoes, to baking tins.

Allison Rubin and Lisa McCurdy organized an additional gift for Foster Forward with our New Member class, contributing hospitality bags filled with plates, napkins, and utensils.

The meeting was made even more special with a social wine tasting opportunity offered by Jeff Baran of Wakefield Liquors. Jeff Baran hand-picked a wine selection that will be offered at our annual Winter Sparkle event!



Our Community Outreach Council Members, Erin Herzog and Michelle Allwein, hand-delivered our beautifully wrapped Thanksgiving Baskets. They are pictured with Lisa Guillette, Executive Director at Foster Forward.

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2018 - 2019 PLACEMENTS

Governance Board

President

Dana Berntsen

Executive Vice President

Phillippa Rackliffe

Secretary

open

Treasurer

Amy Gerhard

Sustainer Council Director

Cynthia Affronti

Nominating Chair

Kim Bigonette

Management Team

Executive Vice President

Phillippa Rackliffe

Communications Council Director

Katie Taylor

Community Outreach Council Director

Erin Herzog

Fund Development Council Director

Katie Nardolillo

Fund Development Council Director-Elect

Chappell Kettleman

Membership Council Director

Brittany Donahue

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Community Advisory Council 2018 - 2019

Valerie A. Endress

*Associate Professor of Communication
Director, American Democracy Project
Rhode Island College*

Lisa Guillette

Executive Director, Foster Forward

The Junior League of Rhode Island

21 Meeting Street - Garden Level
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

jlri.org

Phone (401) 331 - 9302

Email JLRI.JLRImail@verizon.net

Office Administrator Christine Pellegrino-Celio

Office Hours Saturday 9am - 1pm

Mission

The Junior League of Rhode Island, Inc. is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

Reaching Out

The Junior League of Rhode Island, Inc. reaches out to women of all races, religions, and national origins, who demonstrate an interest in and commitment to voluntarism.

Vision

The Junior League: Women Around the World as Catalysts for Lasting Community Change.

WOMEN BUILDING

BETTER COMMUNITIES



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Submitted by Dana Berntsen, JLRI President

As I look at the calendar I can't believe that the holidays are upon us. It seems like just yesterday that I stepped into the role of president. And now, in the blink of an eye, we are halfway through the league year. As 2018 comes to a close, I can't help but look back on the year and reflect on all that has happened. And although there has been some sadness and challenges, there has also been a lot of happiness and laughter.

I can't help but smile when I think back on all the great things the JLRI has done the first half of this league year. There have been multiple fundraisers this year, including the JLRI Golf Tournament, Picnic and Ponies, and a Ghost Tour. The membership team did a great job recruiting for the new member class, which started in September. The Community Outreach team has been working hard planning volunteer opportunities that make such a positive difference in our community. My favorite shift (assembling Thanksgiving baskets) was a huge success this year – I was excited that all the available shifts were filled! The Sustainer committee has done a great job organizing several great Sustainer events, including a trip to the Worcester Art Museum and a coffee gathering. As a training organization let's not forget about the awesome Leadership Training that was held in October. And of course, the Communications committee has done an absolutely amazing job keeping all of us informed and up-to-date on all the JLRI activities.

I hope during this hectic holiday season you can all take of some time to reflect back on 2018 and smile. Smile at the happy memories, smile at the friendships, smile at the laughter, and smile at the hard work that turned into great accomplishments. I wish you all a wonderful holiday season with friends and family and I hope 2019 brings you more happiness than you can imagine.



Ready for a throwback? Pictured above is the JLRI New Member class... from 1935. We are part of an incredible long-standing mission to develop women in Rhode Island.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER CLASS!

Submitted by Lisa McCurdy, New Member Co-Chair

The new member class is underway! We have 7 amazing new members who are already serving the community and getting to know the JLRI. So far, the class has enjoyed visits from Erin Herzog, Deb Gerhard, Katie Nardolillo and Brittany Donahue as a part of their meetings. We also had our new member retreat on Sunday, October 28th. For the first part of the retreat, the new members assembled a portion of the Thanksgiving Baskets that the Junior League donated to Foster Forward, as well as wrote and signed Thanksgiving wishes cards. After a tasty lunch, we met up with some active and transfer members for a fun time at the Escape Room! Together, we solved puzzles to help our group try to "escape" from an underground bunker and disarm nuclear weapons!

Please join us in welcoming
our New Members!

Tricia Breen
Angela Cunningham
Kelly Fetteroff
Kristina Hillinger
Abby Liebenthal
Kathleen Lowe
Alissa Marr



*Putting our heads together at the
Escape Room!*



Happy Thanksgiving from our New Member Class!



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2018 - 2019 PLACEMENTS

Communications Council Members

Whitney Anderson
Krystal Carnes
Ginger Doppke
Rachel Karo
Ashley Kuzmanko
Sarah Lang
Laura Nicholson
Gwen Tarbox

Fund Development Council Members

Kathy Chapski
Lida Cooper
Kim DiPietro
Deb Gerhard
Debra Parziale

Nominating Committee Members

Susan Kostas
Liz Noren

100th Anniversary Committee

Co-Chairs
Petra Jenkins
MC Miller

Community Outreach Council Members

Michelle Allwein
Christen Ciresi
Katherine Firestone
Taylor Gillette
Lisa Gurecki
Kelsey McKinnon
Kate Murphy
Jenn Peters
Tiffany Scheffler

Membership Council

New Member Chairs

Allison Rubin
Lisa McCurdy

Transfer Liaison

Lisa Museler

Membership Council Members

Kathleen Cannon
Kelly DaPonte
Emily Darrow
Alex Ellsworth
Mallory Kuno
Christine Pellegrino-Celio
Nancy Serpa
Stephanie Ventura
Sarah Wait

Committee Members

Tracy Baran
Kim Bigonette
Carolyn Killian
Liz Noren
Nancy Serpa
Colleen Sullivan
Jackie Tracy

Ad-hoc Committee Opportunity! Open to ALL JLRI members.

The 100th Anniversary Committee is recruiting members for an Ad-hoc Historical/Archival Committee. We are beginning to review, organize, highlight, and promote our League's *INCREDIBLE* history of community service and leadership in the Ocean State and surrounding communities. If you are tech-savvy, love researching archival documents, or have a keen eye for photography, please consider joining our committee. We would love to have you. We will begin meeting in January 2019.

If you are interested or have questions, contact Liz Noren elizabeth.noren@gmail.com or Colleen Sullivan colsully@msn.com



WINTER SPARKLE 2019 - FIRE & ICE

Submitted by Katie Nardolillo, Fund Development Council Director

Our Annual Winter Sparkle event is back on **March 1, 2019!** Winter Sparkle is Rhode Island's premier food and beverage tasting event featuring a diverse range of tastes and cuisines from renowned local restaurants, caterers, wineries, and distilleries.



We are excited to announce this year's theme, **Fire & Ice**. Early Bird pricing is available on jlri.org through December 31, 2018. You won't want to miss this gem! You can even donate wine through the eStore and purchase sponsorships.

You can help us by signing up for volunteer shifts, securing food & beverage vendors, and donating raffle & silent auction items.

Here are your Fund Development contacts:

Sponsorships: Kim DiPietro kimber969@yahoo.com

Silent Auction: Kathy Chapski kchapski@verizon.net

Restaurants: Deb Gerhard dngknits@yahoo.com

Wish List Wednesdays

League members often reach out to the Community Outreach Council with generous donations for previous projects & partners. While we never want to turn away a donation, we also want to make sure they go directly to the cause or organization. These causes post Wish Lists to their Facebook each Wednesday:

[Foster Forward](#)
[Ronald McDonald House](#)



COMMUNITY OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Submitted by Erin Herzog, Community Outreach Council Director

Batman, Spiderman and Princesses - Oh My!

Every year, [Foster Forward](#) hosts costume distribution shifts for families to come in to their storefront location in Pawtucket and collect items that their families may need for Halloween. From princess and superhero outfits, to masks, face paint and more, the store front is always bustling with activity. This year, JLRI volunteers helped onsite to organize costume donations, assist checkout and helped make lots of kids & teenagers' Halloweens brighter this year. Special thanks to Sarah Brenneman, Alex Ellsworth, Lisa Museler, Stephanie Van Patton and her daughter Georgia for proudly representing the JLRI.

We would like to recognize members of the Lincoln School Community who donated costumes at the suggestion of their teacher and JLRI member Alex Ellsworth. Thank you Martha Douglas-Osmundson, Shana Germani, and Susan Amsler-Akacem for your support!



SUSTAINER NEWS

Submitted by Cynthia L. Affronti, JLRI Sustainer Director, 2017-2019

Thank you to those of you who were able to join us for our fall Sustainer activities, including our Worcester Art Museum tour and Sustainer Coffee Meetup. Events for the winter and spring are still being planned, but remember that Sustainers are invited to participate in any and all events throughout the year. As always, please check the eAnchor and [website](#) for opportunities. Here are some highlights of upcoming events:

Saturday Coffee Social

Location: Meg's Aussie Milk Bar, 111 Bellevue Ave, Newport, RI 02840

Date: Saturday, February 9, 2019

Contact: Nancy Serpa nancytserpa@gmail.com

7th Annual Winter Sparkle

Location: Roger Williams Park Casino, 1000 Elmwood Avenue, Providence

Date: Friday, March 1, 2019

Contact: Katie Nardolillo katie.nardolillo.jlri@gmail.com

VIP and General Admission Tickets are available on jlri.org.

Spring Sustainer event details to be announced:

- ▶ Sustainer Community Outreach Activity
- ▶ West Bay Coffee Social
- ▶ Women Author's Luncheon



Several of our Sustainer members enjoyed getting together for our Fall Sustainer Coffee meetup.



HATS OFF!

Dana Berntsen for organizing a great Fall Leadership Training event with engaging guest speakers who sparked a discussion in nonprofit board service.

Katie Nardolillo for planning another spooky Newport Ghost Tour led by Sustainer member **Tori McNally**!

Michelle Allwein for spearheading our Thanksgiving basket community project for the November GMM.

Lisa McCurdy & Allison Rubin for their leadership in the New Member training program.



Danielle Bourke

Brittany Donahue, Allison Rubin, and Lisa Museler who will be our December Area GMM hosts!

MEMBER UPDATES

Submit yours to
comm.JLRI@gmail.com

The JLRI welcomed three transfer members into our League this year; Danielle Bourke, Lydia Hofstetter, and Rachel Karo.

Our **Membership Council** is planning a handful of fun member social events this spring! See the upcoming events calendar and keep an eye on the eAnchor for all the details!



Lydia Hofstetter



Rachel Karo



*Who doesn't love a mid-week social hour?
Our members got together for a happy hour at
Bayberry Beer Hall in Providence.*



UPCOMING JUNIOR LEAGUE EVENTS

DECEMBER

December Area GMM - Providence

December 11, 6:30 - 8:30PM

The Club Room at The 903
903 Providence Place, Providence, RI 02903

Hosts: Allison Rubin allison.t.rubin@gmail.com
Brittany Donahue, mchale.brittany@gmail.com

Sign up to bring items [here!](#)

December Area GMM - Portsmouth

December 11, 6:30 - 8:30PM

189 Water Street Portsmouth, RI 02871
Host: Lisa Museler lmuseler@outlook.com

Sign up to bring items [here!](#)

December Book Club & Holiday Book Swap

December 17, 6:30 - 8:30PM

The Slow Rhode, 425 W Fountain St, Providence, RI 02903

RSVP to Nancy Serpa at nancytserpa@gmail.com

For the book swap, bring a used book you would like to pass along to read over the holidays!

JANUARY

January GMM*

January 8, 6:30 - 8:30PM

Providence Preservation Society
24 Meeting St Providence, RI 02903

***Our JLRI 100th Anniversary Steering Committee** has been busy at work. At the January GMM, we will launch our 100th Anniversary Celebration, share our high-level timeline, and unveil our Centennial logo and fundraising campaign. We will also discuss where we can use additional League member support on sub-committees to ensure our Centennial is a roaring success!

FEBRUARY

February GMM

February 12
6:30 - 8:30PM

Providence Preservation Society
24 Meeting St Providence, RI 02903

Social Happy Hour

February 7, 6:30 - 8:30PM

Ragged Island Brewery
200 High Point Ave Unit B6, Portsmouth, RI 02871

JLRI Members are encouraged to bring spouses, children, and friends along for this membership social!

MARCH

March GMM

March 12, 6:30 - 8:30PM

Providence Preservation Society
24 Meeting St Providence, RI 02903

Winter Sparkle 2019

March 1, 6:00 - 11:00PM

Roger Williams Park Casino, 1000 Elmwood Ave,
Providence, RI 02907

Contact Katie Nardolillo katie.nardolillo.jlri@gmail.com
VIP and General Admission Tickets are available on jlri.org.