



# ANNUAL REPORT

2023-2024

# LEADERSHIP & SERVICE AWARDS

## 2023-2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Photo: see page 21

President	Ginny Lamb
President-Elect	Alex Person
Secretary	Stacey Melerine
Treasurer	Julia Todd
Executive Vice President	Devon Knecht Leon
Fund Development R&D	Amanda Waddell
Nominating Chairman	Maria Katherine Woodley
Active Member at Large	Rebecca S. Luster Radford
Active Member at Large	Dr. Jane Gulick Sugar
Sustainer Advisor	Jodi Penn Rives
Sustainer at Large	Heather Courtney

## 2023-2024 MANAGEMENT TEAM

Communications Vice President	Jessica Martin
Community Vice President	Dr. Erin Elaine Walker
Fund Development Vice President	Elizabeth Langley
Membership Vice President	Angela Hamilton
PR&D Assistant Chair	Dr. Lindsey Tassin Brown
Assistant Treasurer	Kristin Marie Johnson

## 2023-2024 COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

The JLSB seeks out members of the community to serve as advisors lending their expertise in a variety of areas to the League. The JLSB was fortunate to have the following distinguished community leaders serve on the 2022-2023 Community Advisory Board.

**Laura Alderman,**  
Executive Director,  
Step Forward

**Sonja Bailes,**  
Public Relations Liaison,  
Bossier Parish  
School Board

**Renee Ellis,**  
Community Engagement  
Specialist,  
Caddo Parish  
Public Schools

**Kristi Gustavson,**  
Chief Executive Officer,  
Community Foundation  
of North Louisiana

**Amy Heron,**  
Vice President and Chief  
Development Officer,  
CHRISTUS Health  
System Foundation

**Martha Marak,**  
Executive Director,  
Food Bank of  
Northwest Louisiana

**Chuck Meehan,**  
President and  
Chief Executive Officer,  
Volunteers of America  
of North Louisiana

**Clay Walker,**  
Director of Juvenile  
Services,  
Caddo Parish

## PRESIDENT'S AWARD

The President's Award, historically, is presented to someone who has provided great support to the President throughout her term. While I had unbelievable support this year from family and friends, I would not have made it through this year without **Jodi Penn Rives**. She was a steady voice as we navigated unexpected challenges and was always there to answer questions and support me in any way I needed. Jodi's guidance and institutional knowledge of both the JLSB and AJLI helped us make important improvements that we believe will create a more sustainable League. I am incredibly thankful that she agreed to be my Sustainer Advisor, and even more thankful to have her as a mentor and a friend. Thank you, Jodi, for guiding me through this year and for your unwavering support of the JLSB.

## VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

The Volunteer of the Year Award was given to **Lindey Smith!** For years, Lindey has been an outstanding volunteer for the JLSB. This year, however, she has gone above and beyond, standing out as an incredible volunteer and leader. She selflessly moved up to being Provisional Chair in the fall, and created a wonderful and supportive environment for our incredible Provisional class. She brought organization to the program and developed fun activities for the advisors to lead our Provisionals as they taught them about the history of the JLSB. Lindey did all of this with positivity and a smile on her face. We are so fortunate that she will stay in this position one more year and lead the 2024-2025 Provisionals class. Thank you again for your selfless leadership, Lindey!



**President's Award:** Jodi Penn Rives, Sustainer Advisor

**Volunteer of the Year:** Lindey Smith, 2023-2024 Provisional Chair

# COMMUNITY IMPACT



## ACTIVE KIDS

In the Summer of 2023, the JLSB partnered with the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club to bring this summer camp program to elementary students from the Shreveport-Bossier area. The theme this summer was "Around the World," and each Tuesday we spent an hour learning about a different part of the world through crafts, activities, and a snack. Throughout the eight weeks of the program, campers were introduced to new cultures and foods as we visited Africa, India, Germany, France, and Hawaii. We also had a special Christmas in July session with a visit from Santa and cookie decorating.

## ARTIST FOR A DAY

This wonderful group of volunteers, including our Provisionals, hosted children and their families at our Artist for a Day booth at the Red River Revel. Over the nine-day festival, JLSB volunteers assisted over 1,500 children in making crafts. The crafts included recreating works like the art piece *Zinnia* by world famous folk artist Clementine Hunter. The Artist for a Day project provides a free activity for children and their families at the Revel and helps children in our community directly participate in the arts. This coming year, they will also have a spring event!



## MAGIC

Mentoring Ambitious Girls to Inspire Change (MAGIC) provides opportunities for JLSB members to mentor girls in our community. Twice a month, the MAGIC committee met with girls in the Volunteers of America Teen Club and presented topics including: building confidence and self-esteem, peer pressure, mental health, hygiene, healthy relationships, nutrition, etiquette, volunteerism, and responsible decision making.



## RED APRON PANTRY

In partnership with the Food Bank of Northwest Louisiana, our Red Apron Pantry is a food pantry that operates out of the JLSB Headquarters. It was the first food pantry in the 71104 zip code and provides supplemental nutrition to households throughout our community and contributes to combatting food insecurity. This year, Tara Jones and her team brought back the "Client's Choice" model that ended when COVID began. We were grateful to be able to bring this model back to allow our clients the opportunity to choose what they would like, thus also helping to avoid food waste.

# FUND DEVELOPMENT



## 1933 SOCIETY

The 1933 Society, our annual giving campaign, provides our supporters a more structured way to donate to the League. We were overwhelmed by the generosity of the more than 60 donors who met and surpassed our fundraising goal this year.

**Net Profit: \$21,446.92**

## COOKBOOK SALES

Our longest-running source of income comes from cookbook sales. We are pleased to offer three unique books. The award-winning *Mardi Gras to Mistletoe* features 12 months of festivals, events, and more than 200 seasonal recipes. *Revel*, originally published in 1980 and reissued in a 20th anniversary edition in 2000, has sold over 50,000 copies and includes party menus for each of the four seasons. Finally, *A Cooks Tour*, originally published in 1964, features dishes elegant enough for fine dinner parties and casual enough for picnics and is truly a journey back into your grandmother's kitchen.

**Net Profit: \$3,613.00**



## DESIGNER BAG BINGO

Our fifth in-person Designer Bag Bingo event was a huge success! Over 700 attendees filled the Sam's Town Hotel and Casino ballroom for an evening of fun and fundraising. The sold-out event entertained our guests with dinner, 10 rounds of bingo for designer handbags, and dozens of raffle opportunities, including diamond earrings generously donated by corporate sponsor Sid Potts, Inc. We are thankful for the many sponsors who supported this event, including presenting sponsor Community Bank of Louisiana.

**Net Profit: \$79,642.64**



## GIVE FOR GOOD DAY

The Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier partnered with the Community Foundation of North Louisiana to participate in Give for Good. This 24-hour online giving challenge raises unrestricted funds for nonprofits in our community. This day of giving celebrates local nonprofits and allows the community an opportunity to support these valuable programs and organizations.

**Net Profit: \$338.94**

## PUMPKIN PATCH AT PROVENANCE

Our 2023 Pumpkin Patch at Provenance was a great success. JLSB volunteers unloaded over 3,500 pumpkins to stock our patch for the month of October! We raised funds through pumpkins sales and also invited the community to the Patch for fun family activities. We sold over \$27,000 of pumpkins and get to keep a portion of those sales!

**Net Profit: \$13,799.80**



## RED RIVER REVEL PEPSI SALES

The now world-famous Red River Revel Arts Festival was founded by the Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier and given to the City of Shreveport in 1976 as a bicentennial gift. The Revel is held annually in October on the Shreveport riverfront and attracts thousands of visitors to the area. The JLSB continues to support the Revel by providing hundreds of volunteer hours selling Pepsi products during the festival. Another great year of festival attendance led to record sales in our Pepsi booths!

**Net Profit: \$12,305.85**

# SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS & CORPORATE SPONSORS

## 2023-2024 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Each year, the Junior League is honored to award deserving seniors a scholarship as they graduate and continue their education. This year, we awarded one student from Caddo parish, one from Bossier Parish, and two wonderful young women that have participated in our MAGIC mentorship program in partnership with the VOA of North Louisiana Teen Club.

Our Caddo scholarship winner was **Analyce Jeane**. Analyce is an ambitious young woman who loves serving her community. This May, she graduated from North Caddo High School with a 4.89 GPA. She has served her community over 2,000 volunteer hours and created her own fundraiser, Cupcakes for a Cause. This event raised over \$5,000 to raise money for a mammography machine for the North Caddo Medical Center. She was inspired to raise money for this based on her own mother's experience battling breast cancer, and wanting to bring the resources to her community in Vivian. We were honored to award a \$1,000 scholarship to Analyce to help as she attends LSUS in the Fall!

Our Bossier Parish recipient was **Hannah Grace Burch** of Benton High School. Hannah Grace has dedicated hundreds of hours of service to her community by serving organizations like Common Ground, FCA, the Special Olympics, and more. She plans to attend Dallas Baptist University in the fall and intends to focus on Christian Studies and Political Science. She has a servant's heart and wants to continue serving her community through her work.

Again, this year we were able to award two scholarships to our MAGIC program. This addition to our scholarship program was an easy decision to make. This year we received two nominations for outstanding young women that have long been involved in our program. **Ashanti Lemons** and **Jayla Jones** have continued to work hard in school and we are so proud of them.

Ashanti is a graduate of Captain Shreve High School. She plans to attend Northwestern State University to study nursing. In her essay, Ashanti wrote "High school has taught me to cherish the time you have with your friends and family. It is a place where you learn and grow as a person. This is just the ending of the first chapter of my story, I have many more chapters to go through."

Jayla is a graduate of Southwood High School and plans to attend LSUS in the fall. She is interested in dentistry and wants to serve others. She is thankful to the VOA, her mom, and her mentors along the way who have pushed her to do her best every day. She feels high school has helped her to grow, mature, and prepare her for her next steps!

The JLSB is grateful we could honor these young women with scholarships. They reflect what we wish to see in our community and I am thankful that they wish to continue to grow and serve!



**Analyce Jeane**, North Caddo High School; **Hannah Grace Burch**, Benton High School; **Ashanti Lemons**, Captain Shreve High School; and **Jayla Jones**, Southwood High School

## CORPORATE SPONSORS

I cannot miss the opportunity to thank our incredible Corporate Sponsors. **Sid Potts, Inc. Jewelers** and **Christus Highland** have supported the League and our mission for years. Sid Potts has kindly donated jewelry for our raffles, including beautiful diamond earrings for our Diamond Raffle at our Designer Bag Bingo fundraiser! Having these incredible pieces is a big reason DBB is so successful! It is always wonderful working with Sid and Holly throughout the year. They are always willing to go the extra mile for our organization!

Christus Highland is another organization that has helped us in many ways. From being a meeting spot for our March

meetings and an educational resource for our members and clients, to being a cash sponsor that helps us meet our operational needs, we are thankful for Christus believing in the mission of the JLSB. Our missions align, as we too strive to serve the health and educational needs of children and families in Shreveport-Bossier. They are a wonderful partnership and we are grateful for their continued support.

As an organization, the JLSB is always looking for more corporate sponsors that believe in the mission of the League. If you know of an organization or corporation that is looking to support our community, please reach out to Alex Person!

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$560,518.20
Accounts receivable	\$0
Inventory (cookbooks)	\$36,978.81
Prepaid expenses	\$2,315.69
Property and equipment	\$418,606.03

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TOTAL ASSETS **\$1,018,418.70**

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### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Long-term debt	\$0
Accounts payable	\$0
Accrued expenses	\$0
Deferred revenue	\$123,415.50

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TOTAL LIABILITIES **\$123,415.50**

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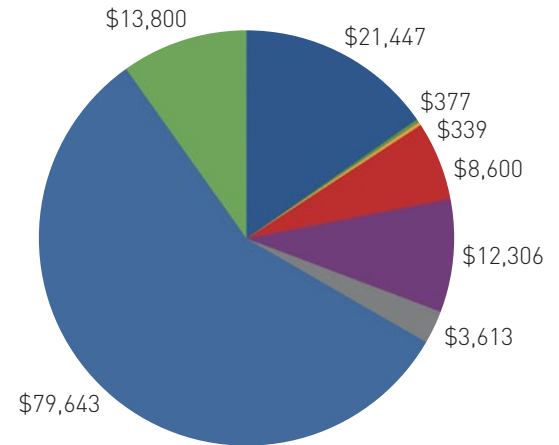
NET ASSETS **\$895,003.20**

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TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS **\$895,003.20**

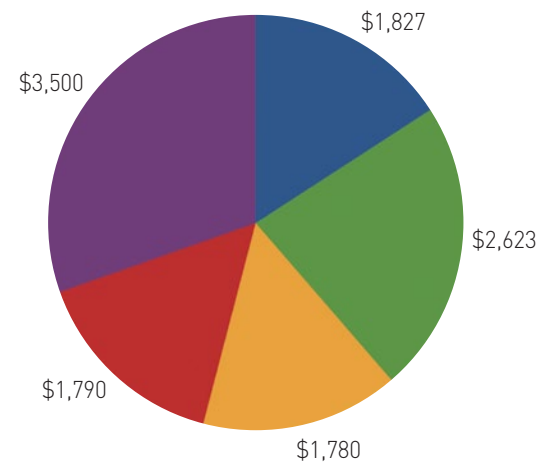
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## FUND DEVELOPMENT



- 1933 Society Sponsorship .....\$21,447
- Individual Donations .....\$377
- Give for Good Donations .....\$339
- Corporate Donations .....\$8,600
- Red River Revel Pepsi Commission .....\$12,306
- Cookbook Sales (net).....\$3,613
- Designer Bag Bingo (net) .....\$79,643
- Pumpkin Patch (net).....\$13,800

## COMMUNITY PROJECTS AND IMPACT EXPENSES



- Active Kids Summer Camp .....\$1,827
- Artist for a Day .....\$2,623
- MAGIC (Mentoring Ambitious Girls to Inspire Change) .....\$1,780
- Red Apron Pantry .....\$1,790
- Scholarships .....\$3,500



Thank you to our 2023-2024 1933 Society donors!

### LEAGUE LEADERS

Nancy Hicks Broyles  
Nancy Cosse  
Kim Foret

Betty Henderson  
Maggie McElroy  
Patricia Miramon  
Jodi Penn Rives

Leslie Scott  
Dr. Jane Sugar  
Edie Broyles Williams



### LEAGUE ADVOCATES

Melinda A. Hernandez  
Ginny Lamb

Mrs. Thomas H. Murphy  
Tracy Prestwood  
Heather Price

Saige Solomon  
Kelly Kilpatrick Turner



### LEAGUE PARTNERS

Susan P. Adams  
Katherine Adger  
Katie Baker  
Tookie Barr  
Dr. Betsy V. Boze  
Broox Boze  
Heather Courtney  
Lee O'Brien Davis  
Roxann K. Davis  
Gaye Eason Dean  
Helen Debeaux  
Melissa Flores

Paula Frierson  
Sarah Giglio  
Sylvia K. Goodman  
Elba Hamilton  
Lisa Hargrove  
Lee Harrison  
Anti-Pest / Michele Horton  
Marie Elise Israel  
Tara Jones  
Mary Jo Kayser  
Hollisann Kent

Ginger Lukacs  
Peggy McClure Lyons  
Jessica Martin  
Jodie McJunkins  
Vickie Meadows  
Sybil T. Patten  
Angela Pharis  
Missie Poindexter  
Michele Q=Petersen  
Rebecca Radford  
Jane A. Snyder  
Michele Wiener

# A YEAR OF

# Change



Ginny Lamb

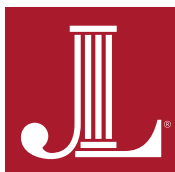
The 2023-2024 League year was a year of change that was necessary for the future of the JLSB. As a League, we voted to disband the Management Team and place those positions back on the Board. Some positions were absorbed by other roles, allowing us to run more efficiently. While the thought behind the Management Team was a good one, after years of operating with one we knew that it was not sustainable for a League our size. I created an Ad Hoc committee, received input from other Leagues across the country to see how they were operating, and in turn made the best decision for the JLSB that we could. The committee also changed the make up of the Nominating Committee, so that it could be a true reflection of our membership.

The Board also added a Code of Conduct to our Policies and Procedures, ensuring that each member treats others with respect—even when views differ—all while projecting the image of the League in the best light. We are all representatives of our organization in all aspects of what we do and we must uphold these standards with great care.

I am grateful for the time I had as President. I learned invaluable lessons through first-hand experience that I will be able to take to other organizations as I continue to serve my community. That is the long-forgotten role of the Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier. It is our job to make an impact in our community through our community projects; however, it is also our role to provide a meaningful training opportunity to our members so that when they Sustain, they can use the tools they have to make a difference in our community.

The needs of Shreveport-Bossier are immense, and I am proud of the hard work of Active members to make things happen, as well as Sustaining members allowing us to continue with this work. Please join me in continuing to support Alex Person and the mission of our League.

Ginny Lamb,  
2023-2024 President



**MISSION:** The Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier, 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.

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

**OUR COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION:** The Junior League welcomes all women who value our Mission. We are committed to inclusive environments of diverse individuals, organizations, and communities.