

# Cover



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## President's Letter

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**W**e invite you to join in the celebration of 100 years of history and community impact through the work of the Junior League of Cleveland. The women who laid the foundation were nothing short of extraordinary in their vision for the roles that both women and volunteers could have in shaping a city and its citizens.

Consider this your invitation to find yourself, your mothers, your grandmothers in the stories of these gutsy women and the stands they took for improved health and wellness, domestic safety, historic preservation and more.

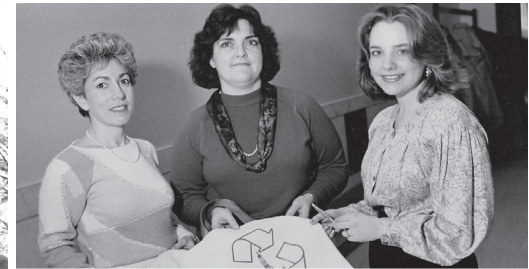
Look closer and find yourselves, daughters and granddaughters in the future vision of the League – creating lasting community impact and developing our regions next generation of social innovators who are skilled in navigating the public sector, building partnerships, and meeting the needs of today's volunteer leaders.

It is an honor to stand on the shoulders of such giants – women big in heart and wise in mind – who through their legacy challenge us all to create our own lasting impact.

Hermione Malone  
President, 2011-2013



*JLC president  
Hermione Malone, 2011-2013*



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## Introduction

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The Junior League of Cleveland, Inc. (JLC) is proud to celebrate 100 years of history in the northeast Ohio community. From its inception in 1912, the JLC has given more than \$2.3 million to the community and its members have volunteered countless hours in service to community need. The JLC has been involved with projects pertaining to children, education and women, and has provided volunteer energy, financial assistance, and training in the Cleveland community. Often in collaboration with other community groups and/or the public sector, the JLC designs and implements projects and programs to address identified needs. Successes such as these make each and every JLC member proud to be a part of an organization with such a solid and impactful legacy. As the JLC looks forward to its 2nd century, our history reminds us all what a group of committed and passionate individuals can do to truly make the world a better place.

The book is organized in such a way as to visually tell a story through photographs along with the printed word. The content in some sections is chronological and in others is organized by topic area. The overall goal is to provide a comprehensive view of the JLC while focusing on key areas and topics of the past 100 years.

This history book has been compiled using various sources of information. There are many JLC print materials – newsletters, board minutes, project documents and photographs. The JLC is also fortunate to have many materials archived at the Western Reserve Historical Society. Many members have also contributed memories and stories that have helped craft our descriptive history. Thanks goes to our sister Junior League in Portland, Oregon, for providing a wonderful example of a memory book and to the Association of Junior Leagues International for its support and contribution to the materials contained in the following pages. Thank you to all of those not mentioned specifically but whose contribution and support of this project has made this book of history a reality.







∞ History of the Junior  
League Movement

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## History of the Junior League Movement

With the industrial revolution came great change in the United States. Men went to work at factories while women stayed home with the children. Women working outside the home for money was far from the social norm, leaving those intelligent and educated individuals with no community outlet for their abilities and contributions. At the turn of the 20th century, the impact of these constraints were being felt more and more as community needs were becoming visible. The early 1900's saw a great influx of immigrants coming through Ellis Island to find a better life. What they found was a society that was not quite prepared for this new population. There were not enough housing or jobs and the American dream for which so many were searching did not feel much closer to reality after they arrived. These unfortunate conditions led to the development of settlement houses that focused on working with immigrants to acclimate them to American society – literacy, education, health and nutrition.

At Barnard College, two young New York debutantes, Mary Harriman and Nathalie Henderson, heard a lecture on the topic of the settlement movement. Both were daughters of New York City's elite and were preparing to make their social debut. Both were also disturbed by what they heard during the lecture and were left feeling as though they must publicly recognize their obligation to the community and take appropriate action towards improving it. Shortly thereafter, the first Junior League was formed in New York City in 1901. Mary and Nathalie motivated 80 other daughters of privilege to work in the University Settlement house in lower Manhattan which was the first settlement house in America founded in 1886. And, so began the Junior League tradition of identifying a community need and taking action to positively impact the community.

The name Junior League came into existence as the founding group of women wanted to distinguish themselves as a younger group of socially conscious women of New York society, hence the word 'Junior.' The original name was actually The Junior League for the Promotion of Settlement Movements but was later shortened to the Junior League. The organization founded in New York was the Junior League of New York. As other Junior Leagues were organized in other cities, members began to feel that connecting with one another could further promote their cause. As a result, in 1921, the Association of Junior Leagues of America (AJLA) was formed. At the time 24 Junior Leagues were in existence. The parent organization was eventually renamed as the Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI) as leagues can now be found in Mexico, Canada, and the United Kingdom.



"We have the responsibility to act, and we have the opportunity to conscientiously act to affect the environment about us. We feel this environment to be an injustice to some, and in some cases, intolerable. When we feel this acutely enough, we must seek out, and as far as possible, take part in the work of trying to better these conditions which surround us." ~ *Mary Harriman*



*Sarah Lawrence*

There have been many famous Junior League members: Barbara Bush, Laura Bush, Julia McWilliams Child, Betty Ford, Margaret Hamilton, Katherine Hepburn, Sandra Day O'Connor, Nancy Reagan, Eleanor Roosevelt, Shirley Temple Black, and Eudora Welty. If one was to ask any of these women, there would likely be a common theme – the experience and lessons learned as a member of the Junior League helped them grow and achieve the success for which they are known. The Junior League develops women in ways that are not always visible but always in ways that sustain its members, their passion for their community and their commitment to developing their own potential.



*Barbara Bush (Houston, TX)*



*Laura Bush (Austin, TX)*



*Sandra Day O'Connor (Phoenix, AZ)*



*Shirley Temple Black (Palo Alto, CA)*



*Eleanor Roosevelt (New York, NY)*



*Nancy Reagan (Los Angeles, CA)*



*Betty Ford (Grand Rapids, MI)*



*Margaret Chase Smith (Bangor, ME)*



*Margaret Hamilton (Cleveland, OH)*



*Katherine Hepburn (Hartford, CT)*



∞ The Junior League  
of Cleveland.....  
the beginning

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## The Junior League of Cleveland..... the beginning

In 1912, Cleveland had emerged as one of the great industrial cities in the country. Gone were the self-contained farming households of the previous century as wealth and success from industry blanketed the city and brought it to the forefront of the country's economy. Any history of Cleveland will mention "Millionaires' Row" along Euclid Avenue where the city's industrial tycoons made homes in mansions that were part of an era that is now past. During the glory days of industry in Cleveland, great wealth provided a backdrop for a philanthropic movement where those more fortunate felt an obligation to give back to the community. While men were endowing organizations and providing financial support, women believed their impact was best made by working in the community in a more direct manner. It was from this perspective that The Junior League of Cleveland, Inc. was formed.

One of Cleveland's prominent families was the Holden's. Albert Fairchild Holden was the son of Liberty Holden, once owner of the Plain Dealer and critical in the construction of the Cleveland Museum of Art, Wade Park and Rockefeller Park. When Albert Holden's wife died, he brought Alice Knapp of Boston to Cleveland to be the companion for his daughters, Emery May and Katharine. Alice brought with her the idea stirring in the east of women making an impact and volunteering in the community. Alice and her friend, Sarah Lawrence, would ultimately leave a legacy in the city that exists 100 years later. In 1912, Sarah, who was a member of the Junior League of Boston gave a talk that was attended by 67 civic minded Cleveland women. So inspired were these women by the words of Sarah as well as by their own personal desires to have an impact in their community that they formed the seventh Junior League in the country and the second in the Midwest. This group of women was brought together by the common desire to change their community and help train others to do the same. The official date was September 26, 1912 and the invitation-only gathering occurred at the Mather home on Euclid Avenue which would one day become a site of a JLC project.

The JLC's first president was Katherine Hoyt Mather Cross. The founding members were women in their early 20s who did not typically work outside of the home. Their concern, however, motivated them to make their community a better place. They were following in the footsteps of women elsewhere in the country and had the energy and talent to make a difference. The result of the efforts of the founding members was the development of a list of 190 volunteer opportunities at various organizations such as settlement houses, hospitals, orphanages, and homes for the elderly. These seemingly simple beginnings established a foundation for what the JLC would become decades into the future.



Catherine Abbot Cobb was one of the founders of the Junior League of Cleveland and was a graduate of Hathaway Brown. Writer Gwill L. York wrote about how Catherine emphasized the fact that all the founders were very close "...and that because of their friendship the League was founded in a completely harmonious manner." As a League member, she founded the "Know your City" Committee (gathered information on Cleveland and reported to the rest of the League) and the Lecture and Literature Committee. She also started several groups at University Hospital, including the Dental Clinic and the Sewers of Surgical Dressing. Catherine was the 2nd president of the JLC from 1914-1916.





*William Holden*

JLC members have always worked to identify needs and then develop projects and programs, touching the community in countless ways – some simple, others controversial and unique. Looking forward, the League’s legacy continues to develop with plans for its next 100 years of impact.



*Katherine Hoyt Mather Cross, President 1912-1914*

“Perhaps among the best things that happened during the first four years while I was President (of the Boston League), were the trips we took to Baltimore and Cleveland to speak at meetings being held when they were starting the Junior League there.” ~ *Sarah Lawrence Slattery*



❧ League House –  
Past and Present

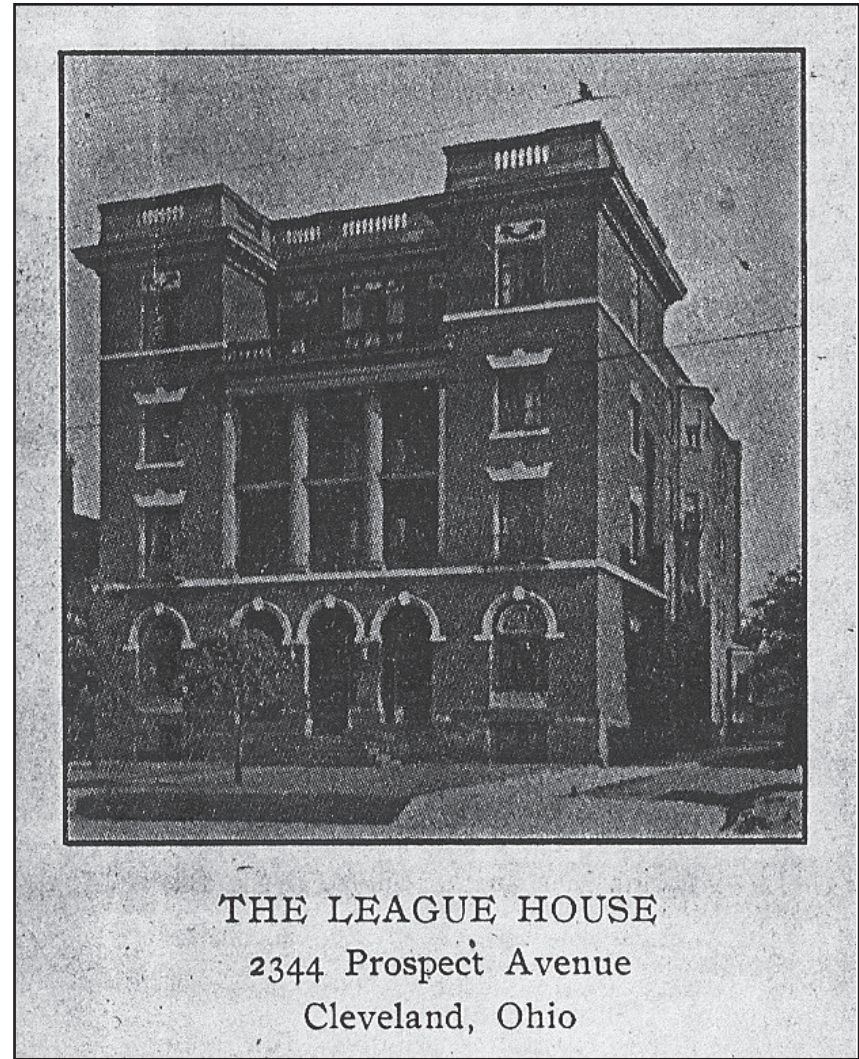
## League House – Past and Present

At the very beginning of the JLC, members were already volunteering. In 1914, the Committee on Girls focused on women's needs in a time when the expression "pity the poor working girl" was common in society. Working with the Consumers' League members aided in investigating the salaries of working women and the necessary expenses for these women to live outside of their parents' houses. Statistics and data were compiled and presented to the State Industrial Commission that was in the process of establishing a minimum wage law for women. The JLC also worked with the Vacation Savings Bureau as members visited stores and factories to collect and deposit the working women's salaries on their behalf. As a result of this focus on women's issues and circumstances the original League house was established in 1919.

League House provided affordable housing for employed young women at 2344 Prospect Avenue. It was managed as a non-profit facility and the 103 tenants lived there for a fee which was based upon the cost of operation and ranged from \$9-\$12. League House was intended to be a home not just a house for those who lived there - tenants had private rooms, access to living rooms and were able to partake of fifteen meals a week in the dining room. The location on Prospect Avenue was within a few minutes' walk of downtown Cleveland, including Playhouse Square and its shops. Tenants could travel to locations farther away from the House through use of the Wade Park and Euclid trolley lines or the Carnegie-Clifton bus line as both were closely accessible from the Prospect Avenue address.

While the House was the result of League members' focus on women's issues and the need to provide comfortable and respectable lodging for women who worked for low salaries, it became reality due to the financial support of Elizabeth Bingham Blossom and U.S. Representative Francis Payne Bolton. Elizabeth and Representative Bolton purchased the property that was once an apartment building for bachelors and turned it over to the JLC with the Cleveland Trust Bank as Trustee. In 1925, an expansion was built to the original building as a result of an additional donation of \$100,000 by Elizabeth and Representative Bolton. The expansion efforts were coordinated by the League House. Work was started in April 1925 by Van Blarcom Construction Company with Abram Garfield as architect and occupancy was taken on January 1, 1926.

For many years, the House provided residents a home even as occupancy ebbed and flowed with the economic struggles in the 1920's and 1930's. Ultimately, there were too many financial challenges for the efficient operation of the house. After much discussion it was sold in August 1946 for \$115,000 to Mr. David Frankel of the Frankelite Company who would use it as a hotel. The proceeds from the sale were used as the basis for the Bolton-Blossom Trust



*The original League House at 2344 Prospect Avenue*

Fund. This Fund still exists today and interest earned from it is used to fund JLC community projects and provides a source of income for operations of the organization. This financial support is unique among Junior Leagues, and the Cleveland League is fortunate to have this resource to help ensure its longevity.

## Winsor French

"According to the rumors the Mid-Day Club has been putting the squeeze on the League and any day now it may have to move out of its present penthouse atop the Union Commerce Building into other quarters.

So, naturally, the girls have been looking around and it became Mrs. Higbee's duty to announce that Halle's, thank you so much, had made them the best offer. If they accept it, the move will take them right into the corset department!"



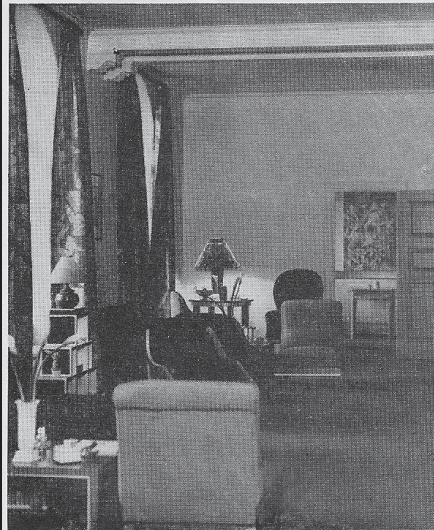
Enjoying the comforts of the new Halle clubrooms, occupied in 1949 are Florence Brewster, Margaret Foster, Evelyn McGraw and Mary Elizabeth Beeman, left to right.  
Joanne Stevenson and Virginia Osborne, left to right, have lunch at the Halle clubrooms.

## Junior League of Cleveland Headquarters through the years

- 1914 3rd Floor of Birmingham Building, 5607 Euclid Ave.
- 1919 League House, 2344 Prospect Avenue
- 1929 Clubrooms at the Allerton Hotel, 1802 East 13th Street
- 1931 Penthouse in the Union Trust Building
- 1947 Halle Brothers Clubroom, 6th Floor. JLC President at the time was Mrs. Higbee whose husband owned another major department store.
- 1981 Statler Office Tower, Euclid Avenue
- 1990 League House on Magnolia Drive in University Circle

As the decision to sell League House was being made, the following was stated in a letter to Frances P. Bolton by Newell C. Bolton -  
"I can assure you that the work that has been done in the past is tremendously appreciated in the City, and I feel strongly that this project is very worthwhile."

## CLUB ROOMS



The Junior League had club rooms in the Allerton Hotel from 1929-31.

The group then moved to the Union Commerce Building and was there until 1949.

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The League House of today is the building located at 10819 Magnolia Drive near University Circle and serves as the home of JLC operations as well as the offices for other Cleveland non-profit organizations. 10819 Magnolia was built in 1912 and was once known as Morley House as it was home to the Morley family, one of Cleveland's powerhouse families in the early 20th century. The JLC is proud to celebrate Morley House's 100th anniversary along with its own in 2012.

Morley House is a Georgian revival built by Mr. and Mrs. John E. Morley. It was designed by William Corbusier, a renowned Cleveland architect who also designed Church of the Covenant in University Circle and Church of the Savior in Cleveland Heights. The house took one year to construct and was built at the cost of \$20,000.

It was a large yet comfortable home that provided a gracious and leisurely lifestyle of a now bygone era. Family and friends spent many afternoons in the yard picnicking among the dogwood trees or by the goldfish pond and gathered often for an evening of impromptu music in the drawing room. This warm, friendly and open house was home to five Morley children. The young children lived with their governess on the third floor which included a large playroom with gymnastic and tumbling equipment, a full kitchen and sleeping quarters. The Morley's employed a nanny, a butler, a chauffeur, three maids and a cook to help with their home.

Morley House was also a meeting place for some of Cleveland's most prominent people. Mr. Morley, an attorney with Tolles, Hogsett, Ginna and Morley (now known as Jones Day) was well known and respected. In addition to sitting on the Board of the Utilities Commission as the legal advisor, he served on the Draft Board, as a trustee of Laurel School and as legal advisor for several banking institutions. Mr. Morley's position made entertaining essential and Sunday afternoons were reserved for "open house" at Morley House.

In 1925, this beautiful home was extensively damaged by fire. It was rebuilt in time for the oldest daughter's wedding in 1927. All of the Morley children were married in the house in front of the fireplace. The Morley family called 10819 Magnolia Drive home until 1964. The house was then donated to Western Reserve University. Western Reserve University maintained Morley House until 1971, at which time University Circle, Incorporated (UCI) acquired the property. In 1972 it was leased to The Friends School on Magnolia, a private school for children in Junior High grades. During the transformation into a school, the house changed drastically as walls and stairways were moved and adapted to meet city fire codes and the needs of the children. In 1984, the school closed. As part of its master development plan for the area, UCI chose to hold the property for the next two years in the hope that the Morley house would be developed into condominiums.



The Honorable Francis Payne Bolton is one of many Junior League members nationally who became an elected official; serving in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1940 through 1969. She wrote the Bolton Act which created the Cadet Nurse Corps. This allowed women to be trained as nurses in exchange for their service in the armed forces or dedicated civilian posts after the training was completed. Francis Payne Bolton had a great deal of respect for nurses after following them during their rounds while they served the families who resided in Cleveland's most impoverished neighborhoods. This experience helped fuel her passion to see more effective training for nurses. In 1923, she endowed the School of Nursing at Case Western Reserve University.



*Elizabeth Bingham Blossom*



*League House at 10819 Magnolia Drive*

By the fall of 1986, two things had occurred – the condominium plans had not materialized and the JLC was searching for a headquarters and community training facility. Almost two years later, the purchase was official and the title of the Morley house transferred from University Circle, Inc. to The Junior League of Cleveland, Inc.





∞ The Early Years, World  
War I and the Depression

## The Early Years & World War I

Prior to the JLC being formed in 1912, many members belonged to the Brownie Club or Babies' Aid Society. The Brownies held fairs for charity and made dressings for the Visiting Nurses' Association (VNA). The Babies' Aid Society members organized the year they made their social debuts to work for the brand new Babies Dispensary which was located in the Central Friendly Inn Settlement with the purpose of supplying knowledge of infant care and basic items such as drinkable milk. The girls were young and earnest and their intense enthusiasm for service led to the organization of the League.

Other early JLC activities included working with various settlement houses whose purpose was to offer programs and resources to immigrants who were integrating into American society. Just as Mary Harriman recognized the need for better conditions in New York City when she established the first Junior League, members in Cleveland recognized the need to ensure their own community was providing appropriate and needed services to local immigrants. Alta House, Goodrich House, the East End Neighborhood House and the Music School Settlement all have a place in early JLC history.

Alta House located on Mayfield Road in Little Italy developed from a day nursery and kindergarten into a settlement house. John D. Rockefeller paid for its construction and named it after his daughter. Goodrich House was born in 1896 and was planned by Mrs. Samuel Mather as a supplement to the activities of the Old Stone Church in downtown Cleveland. It was a social settlement with goals of improving the community. The Legal Aid Society resulted from Goodrich House and helped solve neighborhood legal problems. The League Settlement Committee coordinated classes and activities for children at these locations including sewing and cooking classes for girls, and dance classes for girls and boys.

The Music School Settlement was founded in 1912 and provided music instruction to the community at a modest price. The first board of trustees included Julia Raymond in 1912 who was one of the first members of the JLC. In 1913, the settlement named three-year trustees including JLC member Mary Raymond. The Music School Settlement is located on Magnolia Drive, and



*Babies Dispensary*

the JLC continued to partner with the Settlement over the years including the creation of puppet magic on University Circle in 1955.

Member commitment to the various Settlement House projects was undeniable. In the JLC's second annual report, a proud notation is made of the excellent record of no absences in its activities at the different locations. The League continued settlement house activities for many years and with others including the University Settlement, Broadway Group, Merrick House and Hiram House. The Settlement Committee was ultimately disbanded as the need for settlement houses in the community diminished and became something of the past.

For many years, Junior League members were often recognized by their husband's name if they were married. For example Catherine Smith Abbot was always recognized as Mrs. Ralph Cobb. However, Mrs. Oriana B. Stephens, an active member of the League in 1912, was one of the few women who chose to be recognized by her name instead of her husband's.

JLC member Maud Lawrence was a faithful worker in 1917-1918 at the Dispensary and “assured the (League) Public Health Committee that weighing babies was very entertaining.”

Before she was an honorary JLC member, Belle Sherwin actually participated in initial meetings to establish the infant clinic, later known as the Dispensary.



*Music School Settlement*



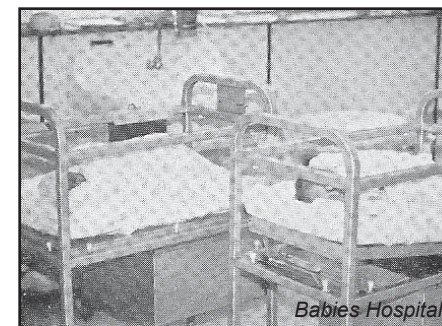
*Central Friendly Inn*

“The war has already taken a great many of the trained nurses and doctors and undoubtedly many more will be called in the near future. Volunteers must help fill their places and all the Junior League girls will be called on this summer and until the end of the war, to make new sacrifices of their time and strength. We must work our hardest and get others to work.”

– Frances Eells House,  
President 1914-1916.



*Maternity Hospital*



*Babies Hospital*

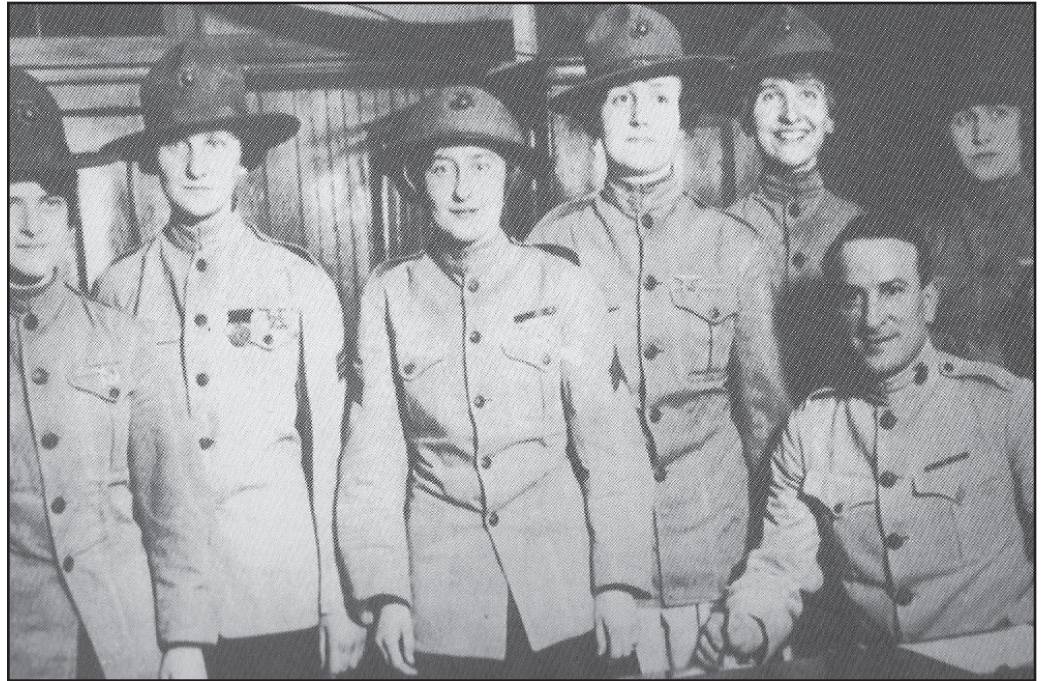
## World War I

When the United States went to war in 1917, patriotic fervor ran high in Cleveland as it did across the country. Public Square was the site of parades and rallies showing support of the country and those fighting overseas. Resources here on the homefront were organized in various efforts and JLC member participation was everywhere.

The Red Cross was one organization where JLC volunteers could be found. In fact, the JLC was represented in all branches of that organization. JLC members readily engaged in the training required by the Red Cross in order to provide the highest level of community service possible. Some members sewed bandages and knitted items that were sent overseas. Members also participated in the Red Cross Home Service program that included various jobs like typewriting, bookkeeping and visiting families of soldiers. Other members eventually moved to civilian relief work by joining the Motor Service that transported nurses to site visits. JLC volunteers also worked on behalf of the Red Cross at the headquarters for the Army and Navy and at train stations as part of the Canteen teams to meet soldiers returning home from overseas.

The JLC also worked for the National Defense Committee on subcommittees such as The Nursing and Public Health Committee, the Bulletin Committee, Clerical Training Committee, and Civilian Relief Committee. Additionally, JLC members took Civilian Defense courses and supervised War Savings Stamp drives. President of the JLC in 1918 Julia Raymond served as Chairperson of the Civilian Relief Committee. She left her Presidency mid-term to do work in Italy and as did her Vice President Helen Milliken. The JLC was like so many Junior Leagues across the country who volunteered in countless ways to support the war.

To teach women to keep the home fires burning, the Arts and Interests Committee introduced a "Tinkers Course" in electrical repairing, home plumbing and automobile mechanics. Additional recognition of the problems of having a husband in the service was the reduction of dues from \$23 to \$10 for League wives of servicemen.



*Junior League volunteers in France during WWI*



*Surgical dressing activities*

## The Depression

During the Depression, milk stations were setup by Associated Charities to provide necessities to the poor throughout the community. These stations needed volunteer help and the JLC responded by providing volunteers who acted as captains of 14 milk stations. Each captain was responsible for ensuring at least one volunteer was on duty at a given station every day. Some of the larger stations needed up to six volunteers. On a typical day, members distributed over 1000 bags of flour, 3600 loaves of bread and 1800 gallons of milk. As the Depression continued, the milk and food station distribution developed into a mammoth project requiring 90 to 100 volunteers weekly. The work grew into a commissary type of relief so when the State Relief Commission ruled in April 1934 that all government commodities must be distributed by retail grocers, the League released a collective sigh of relief as it had seen the project through a period of great need but was ready to release its volunteers to serve elsewhere in the community. League members also helped with the Community Christmas program and kept "Penny Boxes" in their homes. Every family member dropped a penny in the box at each meal. The money raised totaled over \$1,200 and was given to Associated Charities to help feed families during difficult economic times.

City Hospital was the League's outstanding achievement during the 1930-1931 year. With an initial pledge of \$400 from Dudley Blossom, the JLC raised \$1,400 to fund a fulltime Director of Volunteers at City Hospital. This funding would continue for 15 years and the position was a first in Cleveland Hospitals. The hospital also asked the League to supervise all offers of volunteering. This milestone enabled the JLC to give reliable service to the community while demanding worthwhile work for League volunteers.

In 1930 the JLC hired its first paid Placement Secretary whose role was to make contacts between volunteers and charity organizations. The Secretary also led a survey of Cleveland's volunteer environment which identified the need to promote more citizen participation in social work. As a result, the JLC facilitated the establishment of The Cleveland Volunteers Association in 1933. JLC President and Regional Director of AJLI Ruth T. Lucas provided guidance and expertise in the creation of this organization that was run entirely by volunteers. An advisory committee of trained social workers assisted in the development of policies and plans for the organization which would change names several times throughout its history - Volunteer Department of the Welfare Federation and Central Volunteer Bureau - before becoming Central Volunteer Services. A training course was offered to Association members that included lectures and field trips. The course used the best talent available in the city and was open to League members as well as anyone with desires towards volunteering. During that same year, the JLC had volunteers working in 61 different agencies with members holding 755 positions.



City Hospital

When President Roosevelt ordered all banks closed in March 1933, JLC President Dempsey faced a very tough decision. "The (League) Treasurer and I knew the day before that the bank would be closing. All of the Junior League money was there. So we both went to our husbands for advice on whether to take the money out the next morning. We were thinking of our responsibilities to our members. But each of our husbands thought of the reputation the Junior League would earn if we started a panic by removing the money. Jeannette chuckles, "I've often thought how ironic it was that our husbands were so worried about maintaining the Junior League's reputation!"

Left: Ruth T. Lucas,  
President 1930-1932



Right: Jeannette Johnson Dempsey,  
President 1932-1934





# ∞ World War II

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## Defending the Homefront During World War II

“We sacrificed everything to the war effort.” Said Catharine Litchfield Hyde, Junior League of Cleveland President from 1940-1942.

As the specter of war loomed over the United States, the JLC once again dedicated itself to helping the war effort and civilian defense. All of the League’s energies were funneled into training and placing volunteers.

Faced with war-time hardships, the League and many of its members were in flux. Gasoline rations, help shortages, budget cuts, and service wives traveling with their husbands depleted the JLC’s resources and ranks. But members banded together to meet the emergency head on. League members abandoned the social activities of the organization, instead intensifying its volunteer efforts. By 1942, the League’s 580 active members were contributing over 3,625 volunteer hours per week.

Answering a call to action from the Civilian Defense Organization in Washington, the JLC set up a Civilian Defense Volunteer Office (CDVO) with the help of the Welfare Federation and the Cleveland Civilian Defense. The League provided both volunteers and follow-up placement management to the CDVO – including lending the League’s own professional placement secretary to the CDVO four days a week. Two former JLC presidents – Maud Corning and Ruth T. Lucas – headed up the CDVO, occupying the positions of Chairman of the Advisory Committee and Executive Director.

Just two days after the organizing the CDVO, the attack on Pearl Harbor would prompt nearly 1,000 civilians to register for volunteer service. At its peak, the CDVO boasted 77,000 volunteers and 14 branch offices. These volunteers offered health and welfare services; housing and evacuation services; staffing for Draft Boards and Red Cross facilities; drives for war savings stamps and bonds; protective services (such as auxiliary firemen and police, nurses and emergency medical teams); and decontamination and demolition squads.

Operating the Bureau was not the JLC’s only contribution to the war effort. The League doubled volunteers’ hours during the war, and helped staff the First Aid office of the Red Cross. Members also took Red Cross courses and became Red Cross instructors; cooperated with the USO to entertain service men stationed in Cleveland; sold war bonds over the radio and at a War Bond Booth in the Cleveland Hotel; worked long hours at day care centers to allow mothers to support their families and work in defense plants; joined Mayor’s groups and community planning groups to reinforce the League’s position against Hitler; taught a course in automotive mechanics for women; and, loaned the League’s

Antoinette Baldwin Quail served as JLC President from 1942-1944. The day of the Annual Meeting symbolizing the end of her term was the evening of the D-Day invasion. Antoinette recalled that “all during the meeting, we interrupted the program to announce the news and when we adjourned, we knew at last that the invasion had been a success. . . . I have never known a more exciting or inspiring moment, and we all shared in the glory of it.”

Union Commerce Building meeting rooms to other organizations.

Throughout the war, despite the ever-increasing demands of war-time services, JLC members continued to work as many hours at their regular health or welfare agency as they did at emergency war-time assignments. As noted by Catharine Litchfield Hyde, “They pooled their babies and they pooled their gas and by their own ingenuity, got the jobs done.”

The League also shifted its inner-workings both to address the heavy need for volunteers and to compensate for the hardships many of its members were enduring. The Admissions Committee raised the age limit for provisional members and expanded the size of the provisional class. Service wives who travelled with their husbands were encouraged to find volunteer work wherever they were. Transfers and inter-league members were put to work quickly. The JLC reduced dues – from \$23 to \$10 – for service wives and members in service themselves. Sustainer members stepped in to provide childcare while their mother League members volunteered. And the League offered accelerated night courses to those who couldn’t take the normal courses.

“It had been very challenging, very thrilling – it was not over, but the end seemed in sight,” said former JLC President Antoinette Baldwin Quail, remembering D-Day vividly. She was preparing her farewell remarks for her final Annual Meeting as President when she heard the joyous news over the radio. “We all felt that it was the end of a grim era,” she wrote, “that our hard work had been worth it, and that the peace-time reorganization plans we had been developing might soon be realized.”

The war-time efforts made a lasting impact on the League’s ambitions. The JLC incorporated the knowledge and experience gained during the war to increase both volunteer efforts and service to the community.







∞ The JLC Entertains  
the Community

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## The JLC Entertains the Community

### Radio Program

The Radio Committee started in 1939 and began with a small group of JLC script writers along with the Women's Committee of the Cleveland Orchestra who worked jointly on a series of musical broadcasts for children. With the help of AJLA professional script writers they were able to perfect their radio writing skills and techniques and were on the air with WGAR and WHK by the spring of 1940.

Active in the formation of the new Radio Council of Greater Cleveland, the JLC helped produce several fifteen- and thirty-minute programs in 1941 and 1942 for notable organizations such as the Art Museum, Group Work Council, Defense Savings Staff and the Volunteer Department of the Office of Civil Defense. Due to the War and despite growing recognition, programming was off the air waves until fall of 1945.

On December 23, 1945, WHK offered the League thirteen consecutive time slots on Saturday afternoons from 4:45 to 5:00 for a new series called Books Bring Adventure (BBA), which consisted of dramatic adaptations of various children's stories. Everyone in the organization was completely impressed with the series and by the following May, the Ohio State University's Institute of Education gave BBA its first award under the classification of children's programs for listening outside of school.

Despite its success the BBA radio program became inactive again until 1948 and then returned for 30 scheduled programs on Saturday mornings. As the audience grew, over 7,500 pages of teacher's manuals were sent to county and city libraries to allow the others to facilitate discussions before and after the broadcasts. Hundreds of lists of books planned for radio dramatizations found their way to churches, school libraries and settlement bulletin boards and children waited in anticipation for their release.

### The Wizard of Music

The original idea for this new series was devised by the Radio Committee in 1950. The Wizard of Music was a fifteen minute weekly program for children presented at WJW for 26 weeks. Using all types of music and infusing literature and history, the program was designed to bring the story behind the music to an audience of children ages nine to twelve.



Arnold Perris of Western Reserve University was employed to write and produce the series and a year later Karl Mackey was employed to play the wizard. The Junior League paid the total cost of the professional talent and promotion which included twenty five dollars weekly for the author and director, and twenty dollars for the radio performer. The program received approval by the Board of Education in a number of school districts in greater Cleveland and many letters

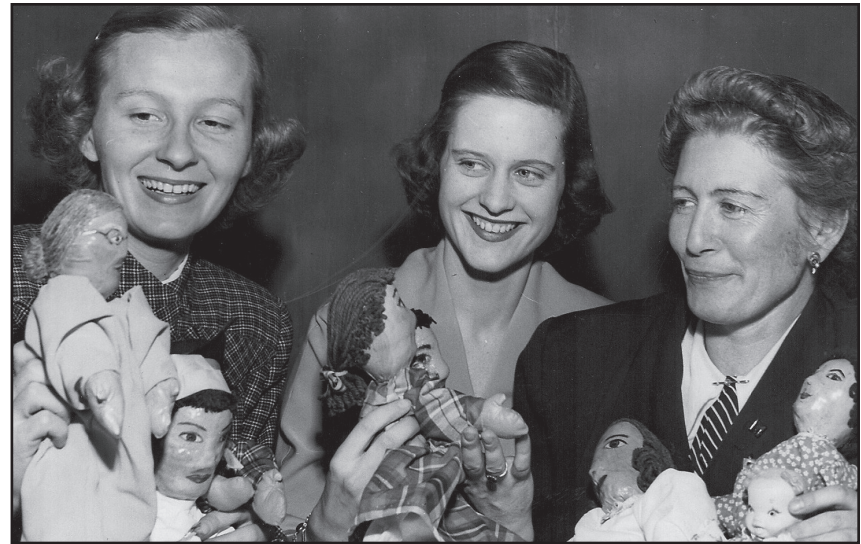


of praise were received in the fields of education and music. For three years the program had a rating of third place overall on the air (out of ten), competing with both NBC and CBS.

## Junior League Puppeteers

In 1948-1949 a new group called the Junior League Puppeteers was formed. This new project provided entertainment and eventually evolved in to a therapeutic hospital based program providing pleasure, relaxation and diversion for the old and the young, the sick and the well. Most shows were written, produced, cast and directed exclusively by the Junior League with limited outside professional help or advice. The first year's performance of "The Magic Switch" was trouped to many welfare agencies, schools, civic institutions, private clubs and hospitals. Twenty four performances were given in total with 12 paid performances playing to approximately 2,300 children and adults. The JLC Puppeteers had a budget of \$400 and were able to end the season with a total income of \$790.50, thus allowing them to purchase their own new stage booth as well as complete lighting equipment.

By the fourth season they were asked to perform an original puppet show on television to aid the Art Museum in advertising its Christmas program. Even more exciting was the new puppet therapy program installed at Cleveland State Hospital which was financed solely by the JLC. For the first time an experimental study was performed by mental health professionals on the use of puppet therapy with psychotic patients. The program proved so valuable it was



incorporated into regular psychotherapy programs at various other local hospitals.

During its 8th season the Puppet Committee produced a successful show "Freddie and His Fiddle" at the Cleveland Playhouse. Using big rod puppets and designing all of their own spectacular props and scenery, they sold out for all four performances. By 1960 over 80 performances reached an estimated 10,000 people and their success continued into the 1970's. Shows included many familiar children's classics such as Pinocchio, Aladdin, Jack in the Bean Stalk, Puss in Boots and Thumbelina. After a sensational thirty year run, the focus changed and the JLC started anew with an educational puppetry program aimed at teaching children about handicaps and disabilities.



## Liltin' Leaguers

The Liltin' Leaguers was a choral group start by a provisional class in 1949. They developed their own repertoire of twelve numbers in their first year, in addition to providing background music for the puppeteers group and singing Christmas carols. In its second season they increased their performers from 16 to 21 and their repertoire expanded to 22 songs. During their trouping they determined that "there was a definite need for this type of entertainment and especially where there were people with little or no contact with the outside world".

According to the JLC annual report in 1951-1952, the group noted "as the type of audience varies considerably we attempt to select numbers suitable for the listener. One week we might sing to a three time arsonist who is thirteen years old; in the next half hour an old woman of eighty six who hums along with us in monotone; or a mentally ill girl in her twenties whose face only shows normalcy when she hears a familiar tune.

The Liltin' Leaguers considered their work to be a continuation of their provisional training. They became much more cognizant of the community, feeling as if they had gained as much or more than they had entertained. By 1953, 32 performances were given to over 6,000 people and two of the most popular favorites became "The Lord's Prayer" and "Put on Your Old Gray Bonnet".

## Garden Club

In 1945, the Garden Club had 52 active members with interest growing year after year. In 1946, interest in flower arrangement and gardening exploded and a Garden Club II was created. Soon Club I and Club II had over 100 members combined.

In the Club's early years, members made arrangements for their own enjoyment as well as outside projects including Christmas greens' decorations for Goodrich Settlement House and arrangements for bedsides at Crile hospital. In 1962, the Club produced a Community Arts and Services Brochure and



in 1971 the Club planted and maintained the garden at the Golden Age Nursing Home. These are just a few examples of the efforts of the Garden Club that existed as part of the JLC through most of its first 100 years.







# ∞ JLC & the Community

## JLC & the Community

The JLC's mission says it all – promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. In 100 years, the list of projects and initiatives are too many to list. In the pages that follow the reader will find highlights from various focus areas of activities.

## Children's Health & Services



*HELP for Retarded Children 1971-72*

### **H.E.L.P. for Retarded Children**

In 1971, the JLC engaged with the H.E.L.P. for Retarded Children project, an agency that provided training for 3-8 year olds with low IQ's (35-65) to help prepare for entry into County programs. The League provided volunteers and \$4,000 for special equipment for a playground.

### **High Risk Infant Project**

The JLC partnered with the Cleveland Section of the National Council of Jewish Women, University Hospital's Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital, and Mac-Donald Women's Hospital to establish the pilot program known as the High Risk Infant Project in 1978. The goal of this project was to reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect for high risk infants and mothers through pre and post natal care. In 1981, the League continued financial support by partially



*High Risk Infant Project*

funding the salary of the program administrator and assisting with the publication of educational brochures for use in direct service situations. The High Risk Project demonstrated the JLC's commitment to child advocacy and served as a referral source for another one of its projects, Bellflower House.

### **Bellflower House**

After the success of a golf fundraiser at Kirtland Country Club, the JLC was positioned to help children in the community but needed to identify a viable project. JLC president Kitty Makley approached Pat Leech, Chairperson of the Child Advocacy Committee, and asked her to find a project to use JLC funds and volunteers. Research led the Committee to Parents Anonymous who had also been approached by the Cleveland Chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women. The JLC and the Council formed a coalition in 1979 to work jointly on a project for Parents Anonymous. The goal of the project was to provide aid to families in crisis and provide a home-like setting where families could feel safe while receiving programming on managing their own homes and families.

The full name of the project would eventually be Bellflower Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse, nicknamed Bellflower House. The use of 'Bellflower' was the result of the project's location on Bellflower Road near Ford Road in University Circle. A lease was signed for the old house and volunteers from both coalition organizations worked tirelessly to renovate and refurbish the building before its opening in October 1981.



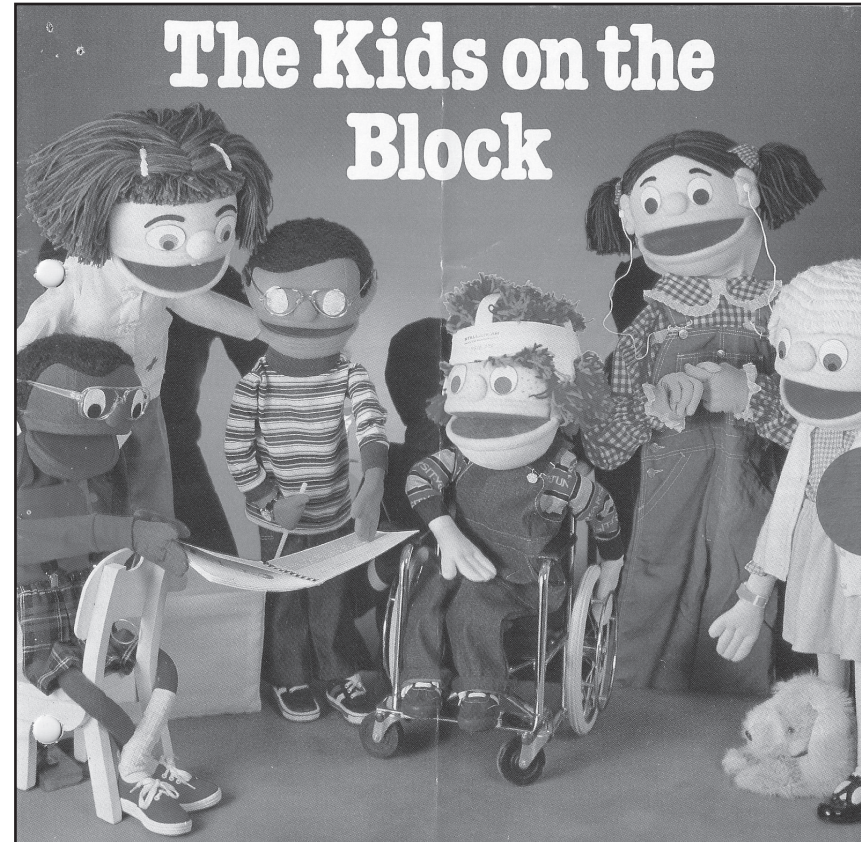
*Bellflower House*

The JLC's support of Bellflower was in the form of direct service, counseling, fundraising, speaking, and strategic planning. Programs at Bellflower expanded to include a Teen Parent Project for 12-17 year old parents who were potential abusers, a Teen Anonymous Group for teenagers who had been abused, and an Adult Abused Kids Group. Also available were pre-pregnancy counseling and collaboration with University Hospital on a High Risk Infant Program with the goal of identifying and referring potential abusers. Throughout the early years of Bellflower House, the JLC gave \$54,000 financial support as well as facilitated Board training and strategic planning.

In 1982 the project received well-deserved media exposure when it was included in a documentary titled 'The Next Volunteer.' The documentary focused on the valuable contribution of volunteers in creating, funding and staffing organization such as Bellflower House. It premiered in Cleveland on October 27, 1982 and resulted in additional volunteers and clients for the program.

### **Kids on the Block**

Kids on the Block was a copyrighted sensitivity awareness program that used puppets in simple skits, question and answer periods and hands-on awareness activities to help educate third through sixth grade students about the needs and capabilities of the disabled. Always at the forefront and looking ahead to expand their involvement and understanding of community needs and issues, and a full decade before the Americans with Disabilities Act was signed in to law in 1990, the JLC began paving the way for this underrepresented population.



*Kids on the Block*

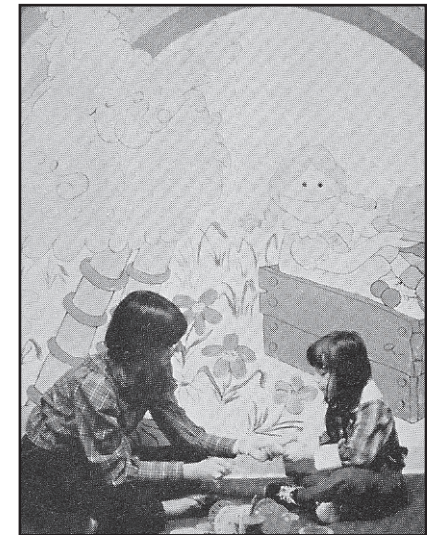
In 1981-1982 the JLC in partnership with the Cleveland Health Education Museum and the Cuyahoga Special Education Service Center, made contact with agencies and groups representing the various disabilities the puppets portrayed. At the end of the first year together the coalition celebrated with a spectacular full day special awareness workshop on January 19, 1983 which was featured on the February 2 segment of Good Morning America.



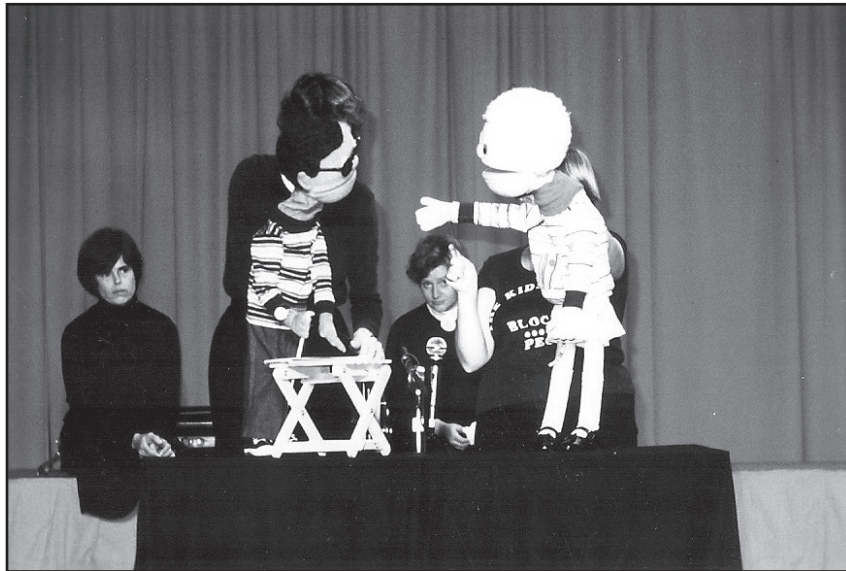
*Kids on the Block*



*Positive Education Program*



*Positive Education Program*



*Kids on the Block*

#### **Positive Education Program (PEP)**

In 1981, the JLC played a key role in the start of Positive Education Program's (PEP) early childhood program which serves families in the greater Cleveland area with children up to age six years who demonstrate a broad range of behavioral problems or developmental delays. The program trains parents to work with their own children as well as providing an opportunity for interaction with other families in similar situations. From 1981 to 1991, members gave more than **30,000 volunteer hours** doing everything from training to conducting tours of the facility. JLC members continued support at PEP through board and staff positions. In 2010, PEP recognized the League as an important contributor to its success at its 'PEP Rally for Kids' event; then in 2011, PEP was awarded the Century Award by the JLC.

#### **Med-U-Cate**

Med-U-Cate began in the 1982-1983 League year as a provisional class presentation and potential future project. The name Med-U-Cate was derived from its simple goal – educate children about medical experiences. The workshop was developed with approval from the medical community and was piloted in three greater Cleveland area elementary schools. After the successful pilot, JLC membership voted to fund the project in the upcoming League year. The initial audience in the first year was 500 third graders. The JLC's partner in the medical community was Euclid General Hospital. Med-U-Cate was a project of the League for more than five years.



*Positive Education Program award*

#### **Teen Outreach Program (TOPS)**

A JLC task force in 1986 recommended forming the Teen Outreach Program (TOPS) to address the issue of teen pregnancy. The goal of TOPS was to decrease the number of teenage pregnancies and increase the number of teens who completed high school. The task force recommended support of the issue resulting in three years of funding totaling \$36,800. Money was used to train program facilitators, develop curriculum, and purchase supplies. The program reached over 600 students each year and was a cooperative effort with East Cleveland, Euclid Public, and Mayfield Public school systems.

#### **Cleveland Children's Museum**

The concept of a museum specifically for children was somewhat novel in the 1980's so when the JLC gifted \$63,000 to help open the Cleveland Children's Museum in 1986, it was truly a pioneer action. The League's financial gift created a solid foundation for the Museum until it was strong enough to stand on its own, and JLC volunteers contributed in various ways – staffing exhibits, producing newsletters, manning the admission desk and providing clerical support. Since the beginning, League members have continued to volunteer at the museum whether through an official JLC project such as the Be Fit, Be Fine Initiative in 2010 or simply as a community supporter. The League has always recognized that children are the community's most important asset and the long-standing relationship with the Museum is a testament to that belief.



*Children's Museum*

TAKE ONE

# DON'T WAIT TO VACCINATE!

Immunization Week April 21-27, 1991

HOTLINE: 844-VACC (8222)

Cooperating Health Care Providers have agreed to provide **FREE HIB VACCINES** at certain times during Immunization Week.

Take immunization records with you.

Make an appointment at one of the following sites:

**COOPERATING HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS**

City of Cleveland Health Dept.	664-2324
J. Glen Smith Health Center	249-4100
McCafferty Health Center	651-5065
Tremont Health Center	241-6539
Cuyahoga County Board of Health	443-7500
East Cleveland	
Brookpark	
Rainbow Babies and Childrens Hospital	844-3971
MetroHealth Medical Center	459-4291
Clement Center	391-3200
Kaiser Permanente	795-6018
Hough Norwood Health Centers	
Norwood Health Center	881-2000
Hough Health Center	231-7700
Collinwood Health Center	851-1500
Southeast Health Center	751-3100
Superior Health Center	851-2600
Mt. Sinai Medical Center	421-3614
Cleveland Clinic Childrens Hospital	444-KIDS
Fairview General Hospital	WALK-IN
Neighborhood Family Practice	281-8945

SPONSORED BY:

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF CLEVELAND, INC.  
RAINBOW BABIES AND CHILDRENS HOSPITAL

**TAKE ONE**

**Don't Wait to Vaccinate**

In 1990-1991, the JLC assumed a leadership role in the AJLI program Don't Wait to Vaccinate with 276 other leagues. The League raised public awareness to educate and encourage childhood immunization. It coordinated Immunization Week, and worked with local and state public officials to allocate funds for immunization and distribute 5,000 doses of HIB vaccine from the Ohio Department of Health. The JLC partnered with University Hospitals Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital as well as 23 other healthcare providers through this campaign and project.

The League updated the original Don't Wait to Vaccinate video in 1996 and allocated \$10,000 to the Consortium for Healthy and Immunized Children (CHIC). CHIC used this money to purchase incentive items for parents to remind them of the importance of on-time immunizations. JLC volunteers worked with CHIC on public relations and event coordination including celebration events for children who receive on-time vaccinations.

**Girls Make Great Leaders**

The JLC began a multi-year program in 2003 titled Girls Make Great Leaders at Wilbur Wright Middle School in Cleveland. The program



*Don't Wait to Vaccinate*

provided 6th through 8th grade girls monthly mentoring, field trips, leadership training, and service learning. A few key projects included a cookie bake that was sponsored in part by Gold Medal Flour and a Leadership Training Retreat at League House.

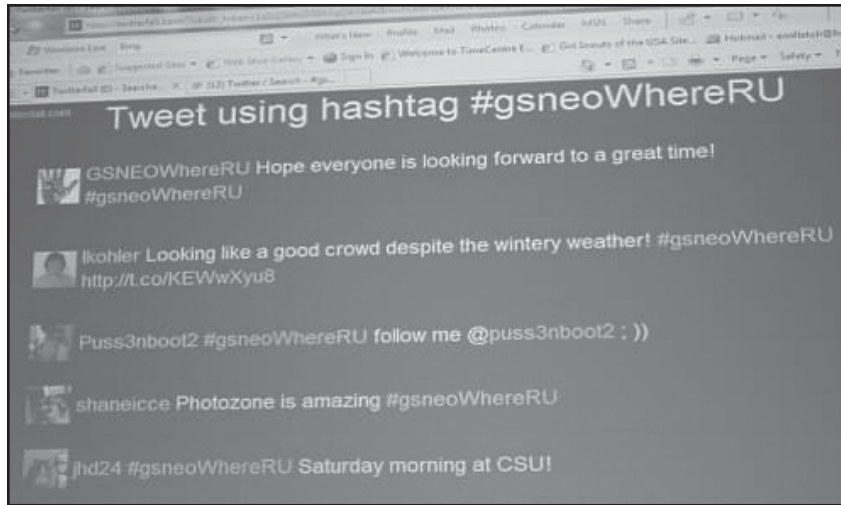
**Kids in the Kitchen**

Kids in the Kitchen (KITK) was developed by AJLI in 2006 in response to alarming statistics of the increasingly large percentage of children who are overweight or at a high risk of becoming overweight. The JLC participated in this program starting in 2008 and for several subsequent years as KITK aligned perfectly with its Be Fit, Be Fine Initiative that focused on healthy eating and the importance of an active lifestyle for children. One day events were held at locations in Cleveland including Lakewood Hospital and the Children's Museum. Children learned how to prepare healthy food and incorporate exercise into their lives.

**Foster Care**

In 2010, the JLC funded a pilot project with Adoption Network Cleveland to introduce basic life skills to teens in foster care. The program, Cooking with Cuyahoga's Kids, offered a hands on cooking class and the opportunity to develop a cookbook. Students had practical instruction in meal planning, grocery shopping, and table etiquette.

The JLC's Signature Initiative in 2012 focused on youth transitioning out of



Where R U Event



Where R U Event

foster care. It included such projects as Cooking with Cuyahoga's Kids noted above, Next Steps in Life providing basic life skills to teens in preparation for independent living, and Where R U?, a leadership symposium for high school girls in collaboration with the Girl Scouts of North East Ohio.

The Where R U? event was first held in 2012 to help kickoff the JLC's 100th anniversary celebration, and the excitement surrounding its success resulted in the plan to hold a symposium each year. Participants were given the opportunity to think about their futures, boost their self-esteem, and develop a positive outlook on life. A disc jockey set the stage for fun and a panel of speakers shared their own struggles as teenagers and accomplishments as adults.

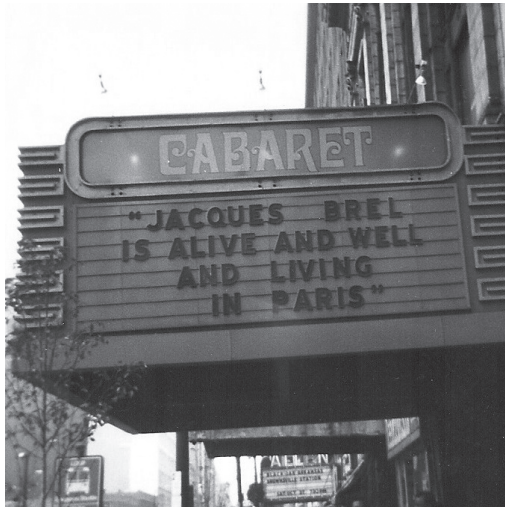
## Community Preservation & Restoration

### Playhouse Square

In the early 1970's, the JLC decided to concentrate efforts on downtown Cleveland and its revitalization. One area that had suffered from neglect was Playhouse Square. All the fashionable department stores had disappeared and only one of the original five theatres, the Hanna, remained open. In 1972, the Ohio and State theatres were in very real danger of being turned into parking lots. Due to a recent and very successful showhouse fundraiser, a first of its kind in the greater Cleveland area, the League knew it had funds to help stop the impending demolition but it needed time to gather additional support. Thanks to a member's husband who served on the Fine Arts Commission, the JLC knew the city would not allow another curb cut in downtown, allowing some time to rally the community. A pledge of \$25,000 from the JLC was matched

by six other civic leaders, and a group of concerned citizens rallied to save the proud old buildings from the wrecking ball. Once that tragedy was averted, the JLC then focused efforts on rebuilding the area. A feasibility study was initiated by the JLC and confirmed that an entertainment complex was very much a viable and marketable concept in downtown Cleveland. In 1973, Playhouse Square Inc. was formed with Ginny Felderman, Lainie Hadden and Gwill York (all past presidents of the JLC) as incorporators and the JLC as the corporation's sole shareholder. Playhouse Square Associates was also formed and offered others in the community limited partnerships for an investment of \$5,000.

Restoration efforts resulted in the theatres being returned to their former grandeur but the process took many years. The 1,000 seat Ohio Theatre was the first to be restored. It had suffered from a fire in 1964 and subsequent destruction by vandals that left moldy plaster ceilings and damaged wooden floors. Nonetheless, restoration was completed in one year. The State Theatre was next and was changed from a movie and vaudeville house to a ballet and opera theatre. The Palace Theatre was the last to be restored and, in 1981, the League gave \$100,000 to renovate the dressing room tower. This gift was given in partnership with Diamond Shamrock Corporation's gift of \$350,000. John F. Lewis, President of Playhouse Square Foundation said "There can be no question of the need for restoring and renovating the Palace Theatre dressing rooms. To the Junior League, we can only say thanks for being there when you're needed." The Palace opened in 1988 with former JLC President Diann Scaravelli and JLC Sustainer K.K. Sullivan coordinating the grand opening. After 16 years of restoration efforts, Playhouse Square was reborn and served as a catalyst for revitalizing all of downtown Cleveland – all thanks to the JLC's efforts to stop the wrecking ball in 1972.



## Playhouse Square Preservation and Restoration



### AN INVESTMENT WHICH PAYS OFF

#### MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

1980 - 1982

- Over \$267,000 in funds raised
- \$100,000 pledged and raised for the continuing renovation of Playhouse Square
- Funds and volunteers committed toward the establishment of Bellflower House
- Substantial funds granted for community requested projects
- More than 44,000 people brought into downtown Cleveland by Holiday Festivals 1980 and 1981, and Diamond Shamrock Towers Showhouse '82
- Over 1000 trained volunteers providing more than 70,000 volunteer hours annually

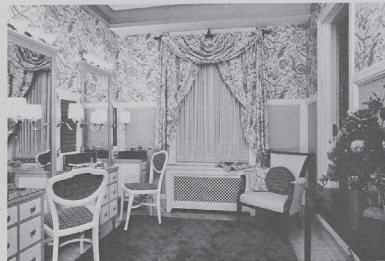
1912 - 1982

- 70 years of service to the Cleveland Community
- Over \$1,000,000 raised and returned to the community for projects in the fields of health, education, social service, public affairs, and the arts

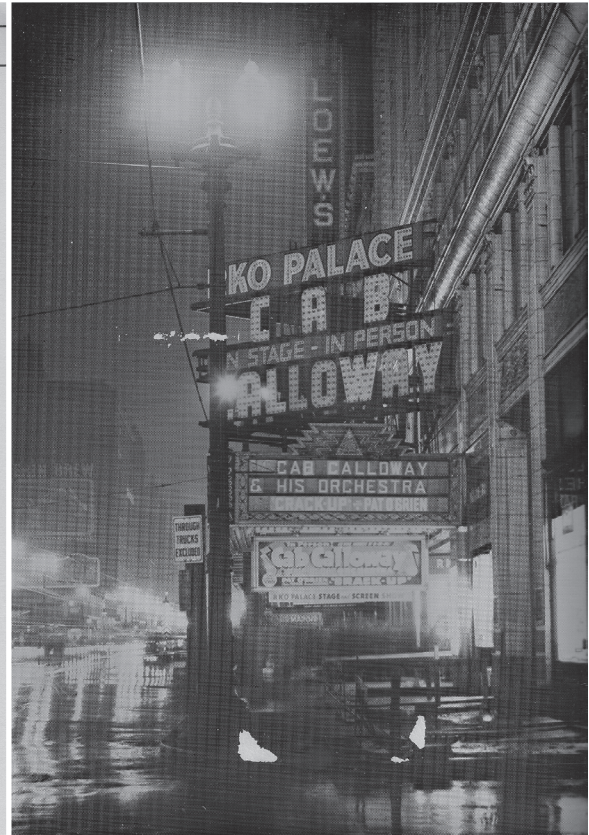
#### DIAMOND SHAMROCK TOWERS SHOWHOUSE '82 PROJECT / FUNDRAISER



A Palace Theatre dressing room prior to total renovation



The volunteers in Playhouse Square utilized the original furnishings to restore this dressing room as a gift to Playhouse Square





### Children's Theatre Series

In the early 1980's the JLC developed a children's theatre program for school age children in partnership with Playhouse Square. Along with the Series, the League created the Children's Theatre Endowment. The Theatre Series began with \$6,500 in JLC funds to develop a project of high quality professional entertainment aimed at school children, some of whom had never seen a live theatre performance. The Committee was led by Rosemary Haverland and it spent many months conducting research and planning performances before the curtain was finally drawn. In 1982, three different productions were presented to over 15,000 children in the Series' inaugural season: *The Potato People* in October, *Reasons to Be Cheerful in March* and *Oliver Button is a Sissy* in May. There were two audiences for the shows: Cleveland school children who were bused to the Ohio Theatre during the week, and family audiences who saw the shows on Saturdays. The Cleveland Foundation provided \$10,000 to help keep ticket prices low. JLC members played a key role in starting the program and also supported the series by volunteering as ushers at the theatre and by visiting schools to prepare children for the plays.

The success of the Theatre Series was welcomed not only by students but also by educators, parents and civic leaders. All recognized the value of the program and understood the need for its continuation. In 1986, Past President of the JLC Marge Carlson and then chairperson for the Children's Theatre Series Renee Snow drafted a proposal for the Children's Theatre Endowment. "Although the creation of an endowment was unprecedented, the proposal was well-received and universally supported by the Board and membership of the Junior League, so naturally we were very interested in doing all we could to preserve it," said Snow about the League's involvement. Looking to foundations, corporations and members of the community, the Endowment Fund Drive raised more than \$250,000 from 132 individuals and organizations including a leadership gift of \$60,000 from the JLC. The Endowment Fund is held and administered by The Cleveland Foundation and income from the Fund is made available for operating support. Through the first ten seasons of the Children's Theatre Series, over \$400,000 was raised by the JLC and Playhouse Square Foundation to subsidize ticket prices for the weekday performances.

JLC member Renee Snow was responsible for developing the Children's Theatre program and was recognized for her efforts by Playhouse Square Foundation. The inscription on a framed poster given to Renee on July 30, 1992 read "Renee L. Snow, you opened new worlds of imagination and wonder to hundreds of thousands of children from all walks of life."

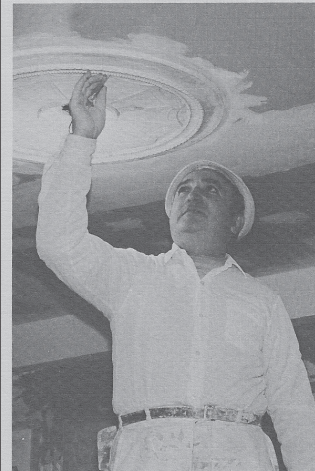
### CHILDREN'S THEATRE PROJECT AT PLAYHOUSE SQUARE

In March, 1980, the Junior League of Cleveland gave a \$5,000 grant to Playhouse Square Foundation to fund the research and development of a children's theatre program. A further grant of \$1,500 in June, 1981, allowed continuation of the planning phase of the program.

Junior League volunteers in cooperation with Playhouse Square Foundation, spent two years screening and evaluating professional groups who perform for children, studying operations of existing children's theatre companies, working with the schools to determine their interest in and ability to attend performances, and investigating sources of funding from foundations and corporations to underwrite the expenses of the program.

With its first performances to be given in October, March, and May, 1982-1983, the Children's Theatre Project will:

- Bring elementary school children primarily from Cleveland City Schools to Playhouse Square during the week to see the best professional groups performing specifically for children
- Offer the schools an educational component by sending volunteers with study guides to prepare the children for the performances they will see
- Schedule weekend performances for family audiences who can purchase subscriptions or individual tickets
- Give elementary school children from the Greater Cleveland Community the experience of live performances in the landmark Ohio Theatre, thus enriching their cultural lives and building audiences for the future
- Add another component to make Playhouse Square a full scale entertainment complex for downtown Cleveland



Restoring the ceiling parget in the Green Room, decorated and donated by Halle's



The Potato People



*Renee Snow 3rd from left*



MRS. JOHN B. DEMPSEY (right) as the "Goosegirl" and Miss Margaret Hamilton as "Fustian" in the Cleveland Junior League Players' offering at the Play House. The "Goosegirl" is trying her art as a gloom dispeller.

*JL Players*



*The Potato People*

### **Environmental Efforts**

In 1970, after a Board member reported on the hearings she attended regarding pollution, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the cause and work to educate the population as well as mobilize membership for action. After studying the issue of pollution in northeast Ohio and attending a conference sponsored by the Chicago League, the JLC formed an Environmental Studies Committee made up of members from other committees including Education, Public Affairs, and Community Research as well as members-at-large.

The Environmental Study Committee's efforts in 1971 illustrate the various methods the JLC utilized in the fight against pollution. Members heard lectures, testified at EPA hearings, and wrote letters to the media and government concerning various environmental issues. The Committee also supported an Ohio bill related to strip mine regulation (which was ultimately passed by the State). In 1972, the League partnered with the Museum of Natural History to hold a 3-day Environmental Seminar. In 1974, the Committee became a Task Force and its efforts focused on educating League members and the public through three educational programs including support of the then proposed Cuyahoga Valley National Park project.

### **Urban Renewal**

The JLC celebrated its 50th anniversary in 1962 with the Urban Renewal Gift for the City of Cleveland. The \$10,000 gift was part of the exciting new Erievue Project and was to finance a study of trees in the city called Open Space in Urban Design. The study investigated how shrubs and trees could successfully be planted and maintained in urban areas.



Two charter members of the Junior League of Cleveland, Mrs. Allan C. House (left) and Mrs. S. Homer Everett (right), chat with Mrs. Edward L. Meister, chairman of the Junior League 50th anniversary year.  
Plain Dealer Photos (William A. Wynne)



Mrs. James J. Tracy Jr., president of the Junior League of Cleveland, presents the league's gift of \$10,000 to Mayor Anthony J. Celebrezze.

## Junior League Gives \$10,000 for City Task

★ From First Page

what trees, and what shrub and what flowers—or how to keep them alive.”

The Junior League sought advice from the Garden Center, the Holden Arboretum, the National Park Services of the United States Department of the Interior, the Cleveland Development Foundation and many private citizens knowledgeable in the fields of silviculture, horticulture, plant science and city planning.

The real need, they found, was for serious research that would establish, for the city and its redevelopers a complete and authoritative planting program.

“It is a serious, all-inclusive



The Honorable  
Frances P. Bolton

The Library of Congress has received as your gift the material described on the opposite page.

Your interest in the Library of Congress is sincerely appreciated and your generosity in presenting this valued addition to its collections is gratefully acknowledged.

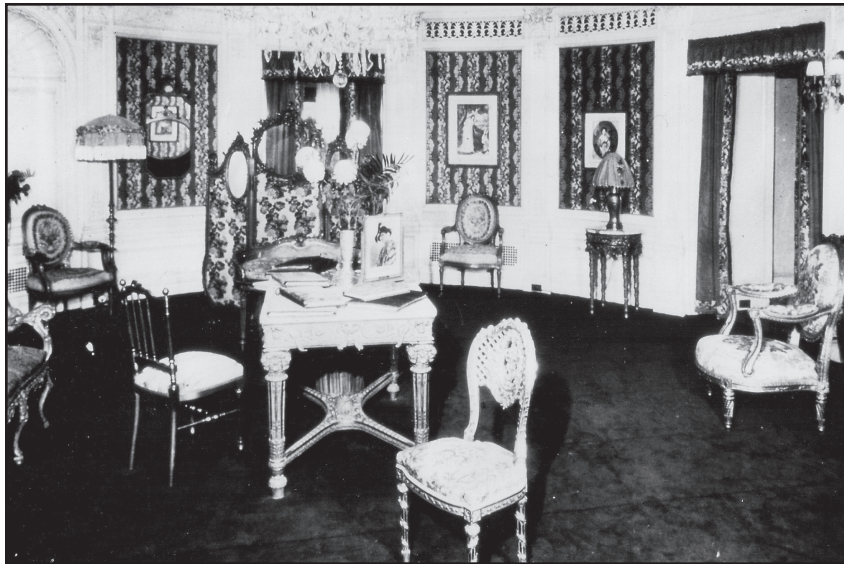
*Ammy Tompford*

The Librarian of Congress  
February 12, 1965

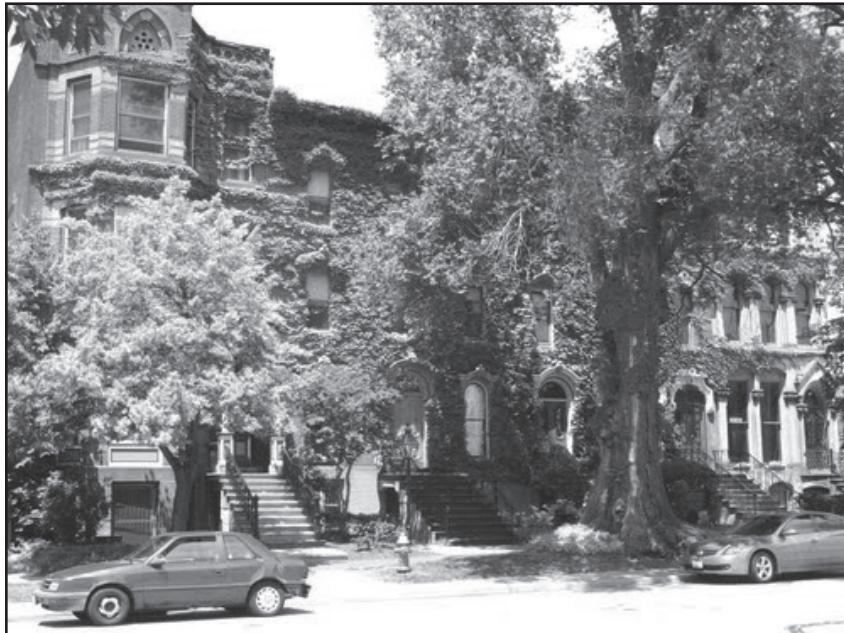
### Description of Gift

*Open Space in Urban Design. A Report prepared for the Cleveland Development Foundation sponsored by the Junior League of Cleveland, Inc. 1964.*





*Rowhouse interior then...*



*Rowhouse exterior now...*

"The Junior League is to be congratulated. We would like to make this as a standard for future restoration throughout the city," said Albert J. Sgro, architect and general (project) coordinator in a Cleveland Plain Dealer article, May 9, 1976.



*Rapid Recover*



Mather Mansion

### Rowhouse Restoration

In 1976, the JLC funded the restoration of the exteriors of five and interiors of two Cleveland Landmark rowhouses on Prospect Avenue. Working with the American Society of Interior Designers, Ohio North Chapter, the League used the two renovated interiors – located at 3649 and 3651 Prospect Avenue – in one of its Designer Showhouse fundraising events. As a result of the JLC efforts, the Upper Prospect Avenue Association (UPAA) was able to win a \$500,000 federal block grant from the city to be used in other renovation efforts.

### Rapid Recovery

The Rapid Recovery Program, formed in 1977, was a non-profit program with the purpose of beautifying a 30 mile corridor of the Rapid Transit right-of-way from the airport to Windermere. Once known as Clean-Land, Ohio, and then ParkWorks, the program was a coalition of corporations and private citizens interested in preserving the community. The JLC was one of the participants and in 1979, literally helped clean up Cleveland. The League earned a symbolic deed to its “homestead” which is along Columbus Avenue between Abbey Avenue and West 25th Street.

### Mather Mansion

Mather Mansion was the first building in Cleveland to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973. The Mansion was one of the last homes built on Millionaires’ Row and was home to iron-mining millionaire Samuel Mather. The house served as the site for the very first Junior League of Cleveland meeting in September 1912. In 1978 in coalition with Cleveland State University (CSU), the JLC ventured into the world of “grantsmanship” by setting a goal to raise \$100,000 for renovation of the Mather Mansion Conference Facilities currently located on the CSU campus. The JLC gave \$25,000 and submitted grant requests to 11 foundations for the balance. The amount realized for funding was \$150,000 as well as \$200,000 from the State for structural

The Junior League of Cleveland, Inc.  
Salutes the Steamer *William G. Mather* Museum

★  
★ “THE MOORING OF THE MATHER” ★  
★ June 1, 1991 ★

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Photo by Chris Anichaman

The Steamer *William G. Mather*, once the flagship of Cleveland-Cliffs, Inc., has just undergone an \$800,000 facelift and has been rechristened as a discovery center and floating ship museum. The Junior League of Cleveland, Inc. provided the initial seed money to turn the historic *William G. Mather* into a floating museum—bringing to life the remarkable story of the role the ore boat played in Cleveland’s history. In 1987, in commemoration of the Junior League of Cleveland’s 75th anniversary, \$75,000 was gifted by the League for the renovation and restoration of the vessel’s Captain’s Quarters, including the officers’ (pictured above) and passengers’ dining rooms. On June 1, 1991, The Junior League hosted “The Mooring of the Mather”, as the greater Cleveland community celebrated the dedication of The *William G. Mather* Museum—Cleveland’s newest treasure.

improvements. Money raised was used in this joint effort of the JLC and CSU to restore many of the larger rooms in Mather Mansion and ensure longevity of this piece of Cleveland history.

### Steamship William G. Mather

In celebration of its 75th anniversary, the JLC gave \$75,000 to the Great Lakes Historical Society for the restoration of the *William G. Mather*, an ore steamship

that became Cleveland's first floating museum. The League's gift was used to restore the captain's dining room and was matched by the Mather Foundation. The steamship is now part of the Great Lakes Science Center in downtown Cleveland.

### **Wade Park Historic District**

In 1993, the JLC partnered with the Cleveland Restoration Society and University Circle, Inc. to publish a brochure on the Magnolia Wade Park Historic District. The 63 acre area was donated to the city in 1882 by Jephtha Wade, a Cleveland industrialist, and was the first gift of large open space to the city of Cleveland.

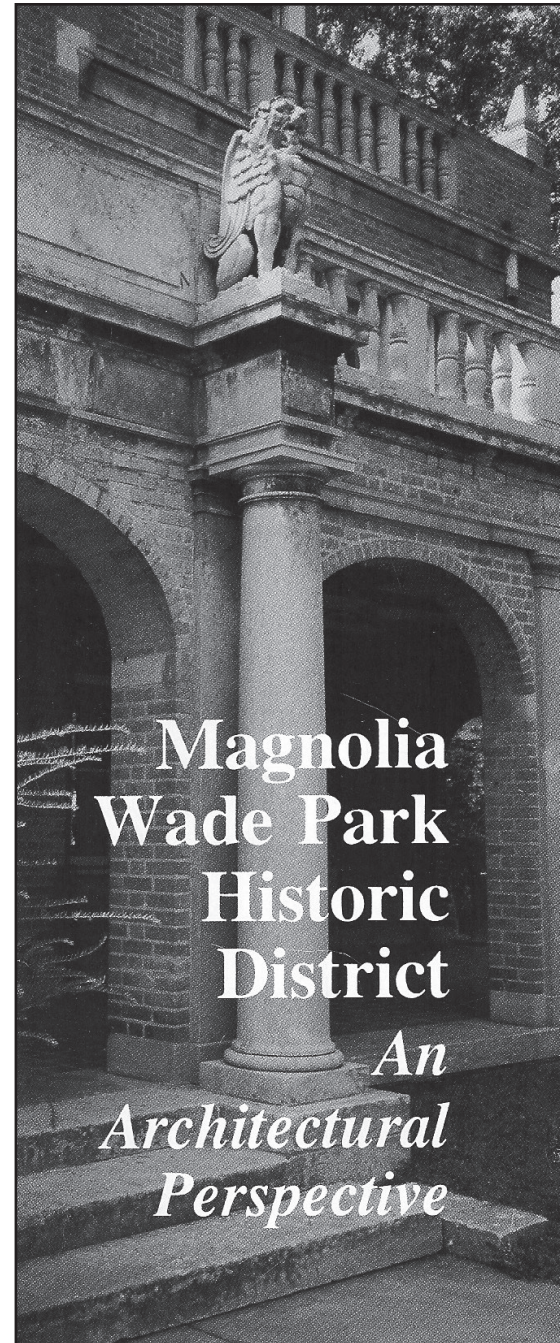
## **Funded Positions & Organizations**

### **Central Volunteer Bureau**

Seeing the need to promote more citizen participation in social work, in 1933 the JLC facilitated an organizational meeting of the Cleveland Association of Volunteer Social Workers at Women's City Club on February 16. In May of the same year, the Cleveland Volunteer's Association was formed. The goal of the Association was to recruit, train and place volunteers with various health, welfare, recreational and cultural community agencies. The organization has changed names through the years - Volunteer Department of the Welfare Federation in the late 1930's, Civilian Defense Volunteer Office during World War II and Central Volunteer Bureau of the Welfare Federation in late 1940's - before becoming Central Volunteer Services.

The accomplishments of the Volunteer Bureau have been vast and varied. Programming has included organizing a course for polio aides at City Hospital, conducting the first course in crafts for homebound children in cooperation with Society for Crippled Children, assisting in the reactivation of the USO Lounge, and working with Cleveland State Hospital and Mental Hygiene Association to establish a volunteer program. The Bureau provided countless hours and volunteers throughout the community. In the first eight months of operation, 125 volunteers were placed in 33 different agencies. By 1963, the Bureau referred almost 3,500 volunteers to 248 agencies including close to 500 junior (student) volunteers from over 40 schools.

In 1955, the League funded the salary for a part-time Director. The influence of the League on the Bureau can be seen in the 1958 report from then Director Ruth T. Lucas, past president of the JLC, as she states "had it not been for the continuing interest and cooperation, our service to the community would have been greatly curtailed."



### **Museum of Natural History**

JLC membership in 1957 voted in a new project with the Museum of Natural History. It was called a demonstration project intended to show the community the value of the Museum and to help enlarge its current programming. League members helped fill over 50 volunteer opportunities throughout the Museum and were the first volunteers to serve there. Some worked cataloguing items, assembling exhibits, teaching classes, and leading tours; others worked at home on short-term projects and publicity efforts. The JLC also paid the salary for the Museum's new Director of Volunteers position for two years.

The timing of the JLC project coincided with the Museum's move from Euclid Avenue to Wade Park in University Circle. To help with the actual move, the JLC led a caravan of cars that moved many of the animal exhibits to the new location. JLC members were joined by their families in this effort and saved the



Museum thousands of dollars in moving costs. The League's Garden Clubs contributed to the new location by landscaping a hillside on Museum property. When the JLC's active project ended, JLC members continued to volunteer there as docents.

#### **Lake Erie Junior Nature & Science Center**

In 1957, the JLC gave \$1,000 to the Lake Erie Junior Museum Travelling Zoo to purchase a station wagon to transport wildlife to inner city schools throughout Cleveland. Several JLC members also volunteered with the project that was widely considered to be most gratifying as it gave children an opportunity to hold live animals, perhaps for the first time.

The League pledged \$12,000 over three years (1968-1971) and also provided many more volunteer hours at the Museum. JLC members assisted with the

wildlife film series, arts and crafts activities, library, sales desk, and the curator program. Programming at the Center served nearly 90,000 individuals and the League was proud to support the many innovative efforts at the Museum. Over 65 years later, the museum still resides in Bay Village and provides free admission to all.

#### **Appalachian Project**

In 1969, the JLC began its support of the Appalachian Action Council (AAC). The purpose of the Council was to assist Appalachians integrating into their new communities as was happening in Cleveland. The League granted \$1,400 to the AAC to help establish the Appalachian Mountain Heritage Project which had two purposes: to develop a sense of pride in heritage among Appalachians living in Cleveland and to develop an understanding of the Appalachian culture. This project helped Cleveland organizations and agencies better serve those from a mountain or rural background.

The project consisted of two programs: a traveling library and a workshop. The library went to schools with a high concentration of Appalachian children, local colleges and universities, the County Welfare Department, the Police Academy, and other interested organizations and agencies. The workshop was held in June

1971 and addressed issues surrounding people of Appalachian descent as they integrated into the Cleveland area. Participants included social workers, teachers, students, police, County Welfare employees, representatives from the Salvation Army, V.A. Hospital and the U.S. Mental Health Task Force. The end result was not only a better understanding of the Appalachian culture but also more information available to the community at large. For example, the Cleveland Public Library began an Appalachian section at the site on the near west side; an elementary school in Shaker Heights donated books to the Council; and, Cuyahoga Community College explored setting up vocational classes targeted at the Appalachian population.

The final piece of work the JLC did with the AAC was a first of its kind for any Junior League. In 1972 the JLC loaned the Council \$6,000 to help fund a two-day Mountain Music Festival fundraiser.

# Police get gift— three-year-old horse

By MARJORIE ALGE

When it comes to community commitment the Junior League never horses around.

But this morning, in a community first, it turned over a beautiful three-year-old horse named Moses Junior to the Cleveland Mounted Police. Katie MacFarland, officially made the presentation to Police Chief Gerald Rademaker at unit headquarters, 1150 E. 38th St.

Katie did the honors because she was the winner of a contest sponsored among league children to name the horse.

Her letter was simple and to the point:

"Dear Junior League ladies: I would like to call the police horse Moses Junior. I hope I win. Love Katie."

"I liked the name because it was half after Moses Cleveland and half after the

Junior League," added Katie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald B. MacFarlane, of Cleveland Heights.

Project Horse started when the community research committee contacted the Mounted Police Unit upon hearing that 17 of its 40 horses would be retired and no city money was available to replace them.

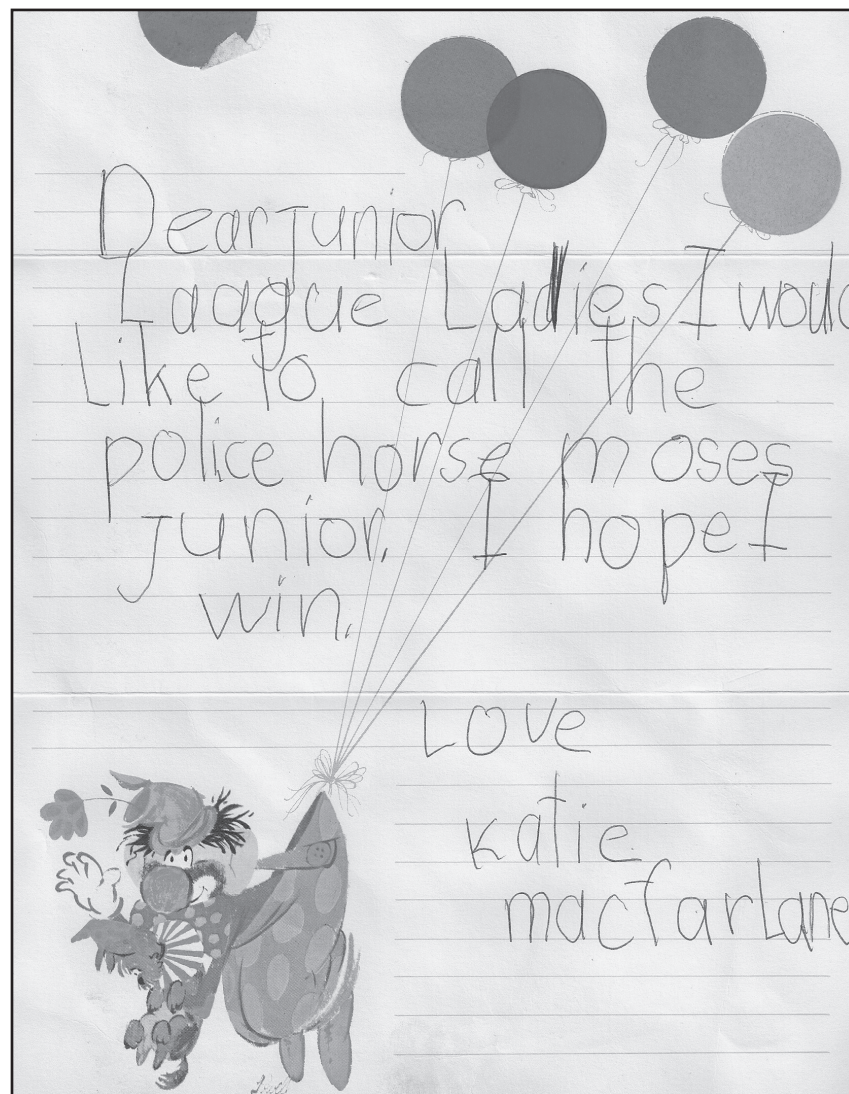
The committee brought the plight before the league members who overwhelmingly approved the idea.

Patrolmen Jerry Lasch will be assigned the American Saddlebred horse to train for police work. This will take from three months to a year. Lasch's father, Albert Lasch, also has been a mounted policeman for many years.

"The league feels that this project is timely and in harmony with its efforts to help revitalize Cleveland," said Mrs. Kenneth I. Felderman, president.



Katie MacFarland, 7, Mrs. Edgar L. Ostendorf Jr., Patrolman Jerry Lasch and Moses Junior got acquainted this morning. (Press photo by Frank Reed)



## Legal Aid Society

The JLC worked with the Legal Aid Society in 1970 on a project that counseled juvenile delinquents. The League gave \$10,000 from the Community Trust Fund of which a portion was used to hire a counselor specializing in juvenile behavior. The counselor worked with the courts and the JLC as volunteers worked to establish relationships with troubled juveniles. The role of the volunteer counselor developed into an important adjunct in the legal system as the program offered an alternative solution to institutionalizing the troubled juve-



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In 1989, the Homeless Task Force, who worked with St. Patrick's Church on the near west side of Cleveland, took an active role in helping homeless children with their education. They sent one member of the Task Force to serve as a liaison to the Federation for Community Planning and the Cleveland Board of Education as a joint effort to provide schooling for homeless children.

niles. Later in 1970, the JLC contributed \$4,200 to help fund the salary of the volunteer coordinator at the Legal Aid Society.

#### **Cleveland Mounted Police**

The current unit of the Cleveland Mounted Police has existed in some form since 1877. While in recent years much of the unit's activity is ceremonial in nature, its purpose has always been to patrol the city and keep citizens safe. Once 85 horses strong, the population decreased to 56 by 1965. To help maintain this longstanding tradition, the JLC bought a thoroughbred horse in 1973 to help fill the quickly depleting stables and named the horse Moses Junior.

#### **Housing & Homelessness**

In 1987, the JLC invested \$40,000 to provide favorable rates for home construction to low-income residents through the Cleveland Housing Network (CHN). CHN began its work in 1981 and is northeast Ohio's largest community development and energy conservation provider whose mission is to develop affordable housing for low and moderate income Cleveland residents.

In 1989, the JLC gave funding to The Cleveland Housing Now program to help pay expenses for 10 participants marching for the homeless in Washington, D.C.

#### **Western Reserve AIDS Foundation**

Early in the fight against AIDS, the JLC took action when in 1988 a team of JLC members collaborated with Meldrum & Fewsmith Advertising to produce the commemorative program book for Star Night, Star Bright - A Show of Humanity to Benefit the Western Reserve AIDS Foundation. The project generated \$16,000 which was contributed to the Western Reserve AIDS Foundation in the name of the JLC.

#### **Great Lakes Museum of Science, Environment & Technology**

The Great Lakes Museum of Science, Environment and Technology, known as the Great Lakes Science Center (GLSC), was founded in 1988 and officially opened in downtown Cleveland in 1996. Its purpose was to raise awareness of and interest in science, particularly in the Great Lakes region. As a tribute to its 80th anniversary, the JLC granted \$10,000 to GLSC to establish an exhibit allowing children to communicate in various languages.

## **Women's Health & Services**

#### **Alcoholism**

Long before it was acceptable to talk about alcoholism as a social problem, the JLC focused efforts on this issue. In 1959, the League adopted this topic as a project area as it understood the importance of findings by MetroHealth that alcoholism was one of the community's three major health problems. Membership approved a five-year program of education and interpretation on alcoholism in the community by JLC volunteers under the supervision of the Center on Alcoholism. Financial costs would be studied annually by both groups to determine exact, rather than estimated needs. The project was approved and the League pledged \$40,000 over 5 years to the Center; money was used by the Center to strengthen its resources, programs and the public educational process and also fund the salary of a caseworker.

In 1978, the JLC gave the seed money for Hitchcock House which is a halfway house for recovering alcoholic and other chemically dependent women. It was the first of its kind in Ohio and is unique in that mothers are allowed to live with their children in the facility. In addition to providing funds, JLC members also spent many hours volunteering at Hitchcock House and implementing various projects with the women who live there.

From 1986-1989, the JLC managed the Woman-to-Woman Program which was designed to inform and educate those in the workplace about the disease of alcoholism and drug dependency as it affects women. The program had three main objectives: identifying needs in the community, organizing a coalition of more than 60 organizations to help educate the community, and coordinate programming in the workplace. After the three years with the League, the program found its new home at University Hospitals.

#### **Domestic Violence**

The JLC began a partnership in 1992 with The Center for the Prevention of Domestic Violence. Its first project was to grant \$8,000 to fund a volunteer coordinator at the Center. Then in 1998, the JLC coordinated semi-monthly activities for the children at Center shelters. This project continued for a number of years, aligning with a focus area of serving those who are victims of domestic violence.



In 1995, the Silent Witness exhibit toured northern Ohio. The exhibit used life-size figures to commemorate women who lost their lives due to domestic violence and its goal was to end this silent epidemic and help surviving victims heal from their painful experiences. Shortly thereafter, all Ohio Junior Leagues adopted domestic violence as a project area. In 1998, the JLC participated in the National Silent Witness Initiative's March to End Silence held in Washington, D.C. That same year, the League facilitated the addition of children killed in acts of domestic violence to the Exhibit.

#### **Race for the Cure**

In 1994, the JLC brought the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure® to Cleveland. The League brought together a coalition of local organizations to support the event and managed every aspect of the event – logistics, sponsorship, communications, and education. The inaugural event raised \$105,000; \$17 million has been raised since that first Race in 1994. The northeast Ohio Susan G. Komen affiliate would later be a tenant at League house on Magnolia Drive until moving to a larger location in 2008. The Race for the Cure is now 25 years old in northeast Ohio thanks to the JLC. A portion of the funds raised by the Race for the Cure were used to establish locally the BEST Voucher Plan, in collaboration with the American Cancer Society of Cuyahoga County. This plan gives medically underserved women free mammograms. Throughout the years, JLC members have also served on the affiliate's board of directors and as leaders and volunteers in the annual Race event.

### **Rape Crisis**

In the 2002 League year, new members worked with the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center to create Care Kits. Then in 2003, the JLC continued its commitment to the Center through League advocacy efforts.

### **Girl Culture**

As part of the Be Fit, Be Fine Initiative, the JLC brought Lauren Greenfield's Girl Culture exhibit to Cleveland in 2007. The exhibit contains photographs of girls and women of all ages and focuses on body image and the stigma of beauty. The exhibit ran for eight weeks at Trinity Cathedral and was enhanced by programming provided by the JLC and the YWCA of Greater Cleveland. Tennis star Venus Williams helped kick off the exhibit at the opening.

### **Scholarship**

Part of the JLC mission is "developing the potential of women." One area where this can be seen is the League's support of scholarship programs in the community. In 1969, the JLC gave scholarships to the Summer Science Program of the Cleveland Council of Independent Schools (CCIS). CCIS is a nonprofit organization founded in 1967 to promote cooperation among independent schools of northeastern Ohio. CCIS consisted of over 4,500 students with 12 unique schools committed to the ideal of an independent education as a valuable and viable choice for learning.

The Cleveland Scholarship Program (CSP) helped students who were not eligible for traditional scholarship programs. In 1970, the League granted \$500 to a student through the program. A JLC member also acted as a personal contact or mentor to the student in this area. The next year the League gave \$4,000 to the CSP program which helped students obtain matching state and federal funds. "The League is the first organization to offer CSP the combination of funds and volunteer help," said CSP vice president Clarence Mixon at the time.

In 2003, the League developed its own Scholarship Fund program to give money to non-traditional women ages 17 and older, seeking the opportunity to gain further education and/or training. Since inception, scholarships totaling \$53,000 have been awarded to women in the greater Cleveland community.



## **Community Wellness & Family Services**

### **Music Therapy at Cleveland State Hospital**

In 1952, the JLC was approached by two members of the Cleveland Mental Health Association to consider supporting a music therapy project at Cleveland State Hospital. Music Therapy was a very new tool in mental health treatment, and the JLC was viewed as an organization that could bring visibility to the developing method in the Cleveland community. First, an Advisory Committee was formed consisting of experts in the mental health field, hospital personnel, and representatives of various non-profits interested in supporting the project. Most of the first year was spent doing research – surveying needs of the patients, identifying necessary equipment at the hospital, and determining a training program for personnel and volunteers. Eventually, music as a treatment instead of a treat began to emerge.

The JLC hoped to provide its own volunteers for the program. However, as the project developed, it was determined that a formal training course for non-JLC members was needed to ensure volunteers in the program had the necessary skills and training. Baldwin Wallace College would later incorporate courses that would lead to a degree to qualify students in music therapy solidifying the thought that experts in this new field were needed to manage such therapy with patients. The JLC's contribution would last for five years and total \$10,000 but the impact was far greater as the League made possible the mainstreaming of what was once an adjunct therapy in the Cleveland community.

The League again supported a project related to music therapy in 1966. The goal in this effort was to bring focus to the demonstrated value of music therapy in mental institutions through a documentary. The production showed the benefit to the patient and also promoted the study of music therapy to potential students.

### **Suicide Prevention**

The opening of Cleveland's Suicide Prevention Center in 1967 was the result of teamwork by the Academy of Medicine, the Cleveland Mental Health Association and various foundations who provided financial support. The JLC was one of these benefactors and gave \$30,000 over two years to fund the Medical Director's salary. JLC members also volunteered at the Center by providing telephone support and other clerical work. One member who was professionally trained provided direct services to Center clients.

### **Hough Neighborhood Activities**

The Hough neighborhood in Cleveland was once a prominent place to live but suffered during the depression and then again during the race riots in the 1960's. The JLC first worked in the neighborhood in 1962 when it pledged \$24,000 to the Hough Preschool Nursery. The League would later work in the Parent-Child Center in 1968.

The Hough Parent-Child Center was developed out of a community need to provide support to children of all ages and families as a whole. The Center received mothers and children (ages 6 months to 4 years) two-and-a-half days a week for individual and family programming. Because the Center focused on the entire family, it also offered services such as hot lunches to older school age siblings and an after school program. It was considered one of, if not the



*Commissioner Frank Pokorny, Mrs. Rudolph Garfield (Community Research Chairman), Mrs. Gordon Smith (Day Care Project Rep), Commissioner Hugh Corrigan, Mrs. Scott York (JLC President), Commissioner Frank Gorman, Mrs. Edgar Ostendorf, Jr (JLC Public Relations) & Mrs. Ione Willis who headed the County Welfare Department's day care area during this project's development*

most successful centers of its type in the United States resulting in favorable consideration in Washington and selection by CBS to be studied in depth for a television documentary on Parent-Child Centers.

The JLC became involved with the Center at its beginning by providing volunteers and funding. While the Center's funding was 80% federal, the remaining 20% was from local organizations. The JLC gave \$15,000 which provided services to over 50 Hough neighborhood families. As noted in League Board Minutes from May 1969, this project "attacks a need of the community not just a symptom."

### Planned Parenthood

The JLC gave \$10,500 to the Maternal Health Association (MHA), now known as Planned Parenthood in 1964. The gift enabled MHA to purchase a mobile unit for complete clinical services to low-income areas.

### Day Care Planning

In 1970, the JLC presented \$25,000 seed money to Cuyahoga County Commissioners for a Day Care Planning project. The JLC and County hoped to establish multiple day care centers that would provide care for children of all ages in a given family, a need which was not being solved by existing programs at the time. The George Gund Foundation also contributed \$10,000 to help renovate the first location of the project. Additional funding was sought from the federal government at a rate of 3 to 1 so the JLC's contribution would be increased by \$75,000.

### TEL-MED

In 1978, the JLC collaborated with Kaiser Permanente and the Cleveland Academy of Medicine to establish TEL-MED, a call-in health information system that gave free taped health messages to the public. Messages addressed various health topics and ended with local referral information. As one of the three sponsors of the program, the League gave money and volunteers including a representative to the governing board that oversaw the TEL-MED program. The JLC's \$5,000 gift contributed to the startup funds for the TEL-Med program.

## Publications & Television

### The Friendly Giant

The Friendly Giant television show was brought to the air in northern Ohio through a collaborative effort of the Junior Leagues of Akron, Canton, and Cleveland in 1957. The child-friendly, parental-approved show aired mid-day on WEWS and often illustrated the fun in learning as experienced by the Giant and his friends Jerome the Giraffe and Rusty the Rooster. The target audience was very young children but as viewer letters would prove, children as old as 11 watched the show. The Friendly Giant was eventually replaced on the air by shows such as Sesame Street.

### Cheerful Earful

In 1959, the JLC assumed editorship of the award-winning Cheerful Earful magazine for The Society For Crippled Children. The magazine was geared towards children ages 6-12, who were homebound or hospitalized and it featured original stories, educational articles and activities. The League had three fulltime artistic contributors as well as writers who worked to grow magazine's size from 20 pages to 30-40. Some of the content was provided by several of the 550 child readers throughout the Cleveland area as it was entertaining and therapeutic for them.



### The Guide for the Handicapped

The League's Professional Group embarked on a mission in 1965 to determine and identify where in Cleveland one could find handicap-friendly facilities. Forty-five JLC volunteers gathered data on more than 200 buildings using 4,260 volunteer hours to measure doorways, check elevators, escalators, restrooms, handrails and identify availability of doctors. The result was a 48 page directory produced in 1967 titled, "Guide to Cleveland for the Handicapped." The



*Dorree Swift and Mayor Ralph Locher)*

JLC partnered with the Vocational Guidance and Rehabilitation Center, who distributed the booklet to the community. The impact of the project was seen in a number of ways including passage of a “reasonable access and use” bill (No.124) by the Ohio Senate.

“Both Mayor Ralph S. Locher and Mr. Winsor French said the booklet will not only benefit handicapped people but will also open the eyes of others to the architectural barriers that exist, and the need to lessen them.” ~ *Harriet Veale*

### **Cleveland’s Child: A Challenge for Our Future**

In 1992, the JLC joined efforts with the Children’s Defense Fund of Greater Cleveland to produce Cleveland’s Child. This 40 page booklet was a call to action to the community to create awareness of the issues facing Cleveland’s children. The community was challenged to “make children a priority through voluntarism and advocacy” as the children’s future is also the city’s future.

## **Community & JLC Training**

### **International Youth Leaders Exchange Program**

The goal of the Cleveland International Youth Leaders Exchange Program was to create peace by facilitating personal relationships between youth leaders around the world. Students of the program arrived in Cleveland in April and stayed through August, living with host families who represented a cross section of American life. During the first six weeks of their stay in Cleveland, students attended classes two mornings a week at the School of Applied Social Sciences of Western Reserve University studying various topics like government, economics, city planning and urban renewal, public education and other topics of American culture. From mid-June through the end of August, students were placed with summer employment at camps, social agencies, settlement houses and children’s institutions in and near Cleveland, Chicago, Minneapolis, New York, Pittsburgh and Youngstown.



The JLC was involved with this program in two ways – by providing volunteers and financial support. The JLC supplied over 120 volunteers. Some members served in leadership roles on the Program Planning and Housing Committees.



The League also granted \$2,500 for two years joining U.S. and foreign governments, private citizens, foundations and various agencies as financial supporters of the program. JLC involvement supported 61 youth leaders in 1958 and 70 youth leaders in 1959.

#### **Project LEAD**

Project LEAD (Leadership Experience and Development) was a joint effort of AJLI and the Quest National Center and was an extension of their program

that was already in use in 20 Cleveland area schools. The program was a high school course focused on building individual skills for living and encouraged self-confidence and self-esteem. Project LEAD took the program one step further and channeled student interests and energy into community projects such as volunteering. The JLC was one of the participants in the pilot program.

The Project consisted of multiple teams with six members - a JL volunteer, a teacher and four students. Teams spent four days sharing experiences in group development, listening leadership, interviewing and needs assessment to prepare them for the task of implementing a project in their community. Benefits of the program were student volunteerism in the community, leadership training for the students, and training to JLC members along with solid public relations for the League.

When the pilot was complete and the program expanded across the country, it was obvious that more trainers were needed. The JLC was proud that one of its members, Kathy Leavenworth, was chosen by AJLI to serve as a regional Project LEAD trainer.

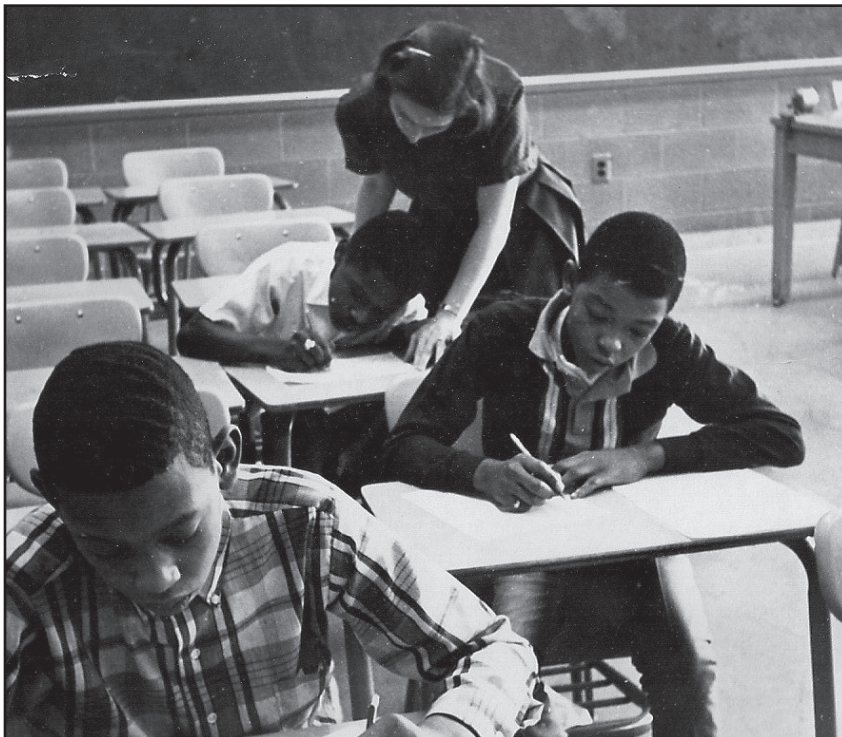
#### **Downtown Youth Forum**

In 1981, the JLC developed the program Leadership Skills for Youth which included both classroom instruction in individual leadership skills and a Downtown Youth Forum to bring together urban and suburban youth. The idea was to gain civic pride and leadership skills. This program was part of the JLC's ongoing mission to train the community as well as its members.

## **School & Education Initiatives**

The JLC has developed and conducted numerous education projects and programs throughout its history. One of the first forays into education was the formation of a committee 1942 to study education-related issues. Projects ranged from providing scholarships to supporting school literacy programs to working with early childhood education initiatives. Through all efforts, the JLC has advocated for better education for all children of greater Cleveland.





## PROJECT LITERACY

### "CAREER SHADOWING" UPDATE

"How big of a loan can you make?" "How long does it take to get promoted?"

These questions are from the mouths of four future bankers. That is, today they are seventh and eighth grade students at Harry E. Davis Middle School visiting Society Bank, and in a few years they could be branch sales managers, accountants and foreign currency traders. The visit to Society was the third "Shadowing" trip in Project Literacy's Harry E. Davis Career Exploration Program.

Highlights of the day included witnessing behind-the-scenes trading of foreign currencies and watching how the time codes on the vault door are set. Students toured the Public Square Branch Office with administrative branch manager and Harry E. Davis graduate Debbie Biggins. "I thought to myself," recalled Biggins, "I'm living proof to these kids that it's possible to advance. That's when I told them how I got to where I am today and how they, too, can make something of themselves by working hard." The students ate lunch in the Society cafeteria (where, much to their delight, they were told to order "whatever they wanted!") with League members Amy Carlson, Susan Kramer and Angela Mago, who spoke with them about the importance of staying in school.

Since October, League members have accompanied Harry E. Davis students to the Natural History Museum, Society Bank and Case Western Reserve University's Medical School. The success of these trips is exciting for the League members involved and for school faculty members. Harry E. Davis school principal Del Gagliardi views the trips as "real world eye-openers" for her students and is very pleased about the Shadowing experiences which have taken place. Through the efforts of the League and school faculty members, the visits are fun and educational. Before the trips, students read about the companies they'll be visiting and prepare a list of written questions about the business. After the visit, they must write thank you notes to the people they met and prepare a summary report and assessment for the supervising faculty member.

Upcoming trips are scheduled for Lotus computer software company, a Cleveland police department, and Thompson, Hine & Flory law firm. If anyone has an interest in accompanying students on a Shadowing trip, or is interested in hosting a trip at their workplace, please contact Beth Robenalt, Direct Service Chairperson.

### Literacy Initiative with Harry E. Davis School

The JLC formed a relationship with Harry E. Davis School in 1960 when a few volunteers began working at the school. This relationship would grow over time eventually resulting in the two organizations working together on a national initiative. The initiative was Partnership for Progress developed by AJLI in 1992 with funding support from the Edna McConnell Clark Foundation. The purpose of Partnership for Progress was to demonstrate that citizens can play a vital role in education reform. The JLC was one of six Junior Leagues from across the country that participated in the initiative. There were two focus areas: 1) help the community develop higher literacy rates in the middle grades, and 2) a school-community dialogue about a partnership to ensure successful reform. Results from the JLC and Harry E. Davis' partnership were presented at the AJLI Annual Conference and shared with all Junior Leagues and the general public.





### **Cleveland Public Schools & Libraries**

In 1964, the JLC donated \$11,000 and reinstated the library system in the Cleveland Public Schools which had been dropped for several years because of cost. JLC volunteers cataloged materials, staffed libraries and provided financial assistance. This was the first time that Cleveland schools had allowed



*Bill Cosby speaks at the Program to Keep Kids in School 1970*

“outsiders” to volunteer. After a couple of years, the League trained others so that the volunteer concept could spread and additional Cleveland schools could have libraries.

### **Urban Community School**

The Urban Community School (UCS), located on the near west side, is an alternative school using Montessori methods and a sliding scale for student tuition. Students at the school typically come from multi-racial, multi-cultural and low income families. The JLC’s first involvement with UCS was in the form of a \$360 scholarship in 1971. Ten years later, the League granted funds to develop a curriculum titled “A Look at Cleveland.” This program provided for 4th through 6th graders’ education on political and economic situations in Cleveland, as well as the cultural diversity of the city’s residents. JLC volunteers each worked with five children and went on field trips as part of the “Look at Cleveland” curriculum.

In 1982, UCS requested additional financial and volunteer support to expand its motor perception program called the Home Help Center for children grades K-2. The expansion of the program trained parents so that motor sensory and language training would become an ongoing learning opportunity in the home. JLC volunteers played various roles in the Home Help Center assisting in motor perception training, developing newsletters, maintaining parent/child records, developing workshop training materials and making follow up phone calls and home visits. UCS continues to thrive after more than 40 years, serving over

## CLEVELAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Mrs. Scott R. York, President  
The Junior League of Cleveland  
1228 Euclid Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

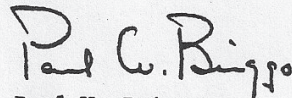
Dear Mrs. York:

You and the Junior League are to be congratulated for the part you played in bringing Bill Cosby to Cleveland. This program was nothing short of sensational.

I am personally proud of the fine relationship we have with the Junior League. I am reminded of your leadership in many fields, particularly when you helped us to get our first library program underway. We are also indebted to Junior League members for their assistance in tutoring and sponsoring many worthwhile projects and programs.

You have given support to another winner.

Sincerely,



Paul W. Briggs  
Superintendent

400 students annually. The School has received the Blue Ribbon Award from the U.S. Department of Education and is considered a model of urban education.

### Cleveland School of the Arts

In spring 1983, the JLC began working with the Cleveland School of the Arts (CSA), a magnet school of the Cleveland Public School System. The first support was a \$1,500 grant so that CSA could hire a consultant. The consultant's role was to gather support from CSA parents, set goals for a friends group, facilitate dialogue with CSA administrators, school board members and



community leaders, and work with an Advisory Committee from the JLC. By that summer, the recommendations were being implemented and a foundation was laid for League involvement in the School. Next, The Cleveland Revitalization Task Force presented a recommendation for League financial and volunteer involvement at November area meetings. The proposal was overwhelmingly approved by 244 of 248 members, and volunteer work began in January 1984.

With \$15,000 from the JLC, the Friends of the Cleveland School of the Arts was formed in 1983. The Friends was a non-profit group who provided volunteer services and fundraising support for CSA. Funding by the Friends ultimately led to the School's production of Chicken Little at Playhouse Square and a new partnership for the JLC with The Links, Inc. Cleveland Chapter. The extremely successful event was produced for sold-out school and public performances and garnished widespread media coverage. Proceeds from the event funded arts scholarships, the CSA artist-in-residence program and supplemental curriculum materials.



The purpose of the St. Paul's Play-School was to free mothers with pre-school children for volunteer service. The school operated every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings from September 1971 to May 1972. The School was sanctioned by the Day Nursery Association although a Day Care license was not necessary as the director's own children were involved in the program.

#### **Saturday Tutoring at Church of the Covenant**

In 2009 the JLC began volunteering at the Saturday Tutoring program at the Church of the Covenant on Euclid Avenue. The tutoring program gives free academic help in all areas to students grades 1-12 from school districts throughout the Cleveland community.

#### **Wade Park Elementary & Reading is Fun**

In 2004, The JLC partnered with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District and coordinated a successful literacy and mentorship project called Reading is Fun at Wade Park Elementary. Started as a Sustainer project with the Cleveland Rockers women's basketball team, the project provided a safe environment for

children to learn to read. One JLC volunteer, Mary Bruner, made an observation when she started tutoring at Wade Park – most children left their coats on in class. She learned that the kids were malnourished and often could not stay warm, even inside the classroom. Mary organized a grassroots project that raised over \$3,500 and made 421 blankets for the children at the school. As Sustainer Suzanne Blaser noted “A real miracle is happening throughout the Sustainers and also into the community. It is Mary Bruner’s blanket project for Wade Park School.”

## Elderly Care & Services

### Golden Age Center

The Golden Age Center began in 1955 as did the JLC’s involvement with the project. The Center provided innovative opportunities for the increasing elderly population in Cleveland. Some activities included classes, social groups, and community service events like stuffing envelopes for local health agency campaigns and making bandages for the County Nursing Home. The League’s first project was funding the Volunteer Director salary for two years. When the Center requested an extension, the League agreed to fund the position an additional year with the final year of support in 1958. The success of the Center resulted in more centers being established in Cleveland. Ten years after the Golden Age Center was first opened, three Centers were in operation throughout Cleveland.

### Share & Care

In 1982, the JLC began the Share & Care project in conjunction with Lakewood Hospital and the Lakewood Office on Aging. This innovative program offered services to the elderly of Lakewood (and later in Cleveland Heights) who are discharged from the hospital and need a connection to the community. This connection came through home visits, phone calls or assistance accessing needed services. Volunteers reached out within a week after the patient was released to see how the individual was doing. Any problems or issues were reported to and tracked by the Office on Aging to ensure eventual resolution. Over the ten years of the program, more than 10,000 elderly were assisted by JLC volunteers. The Share & Care program enriched the lives of the elderly participants as well as JLC volunteers who often formed long-lasting friendships with those benefiting from the program.

### Kids & Seniors

In 2002, the JLC began a partnership with Judson Retirement Center with a project called Kids & Seniors. There were weekly interactive sessions between Judson residents and JLC members and their children. This JLC project continued for 5 years.



*School of the Arts*

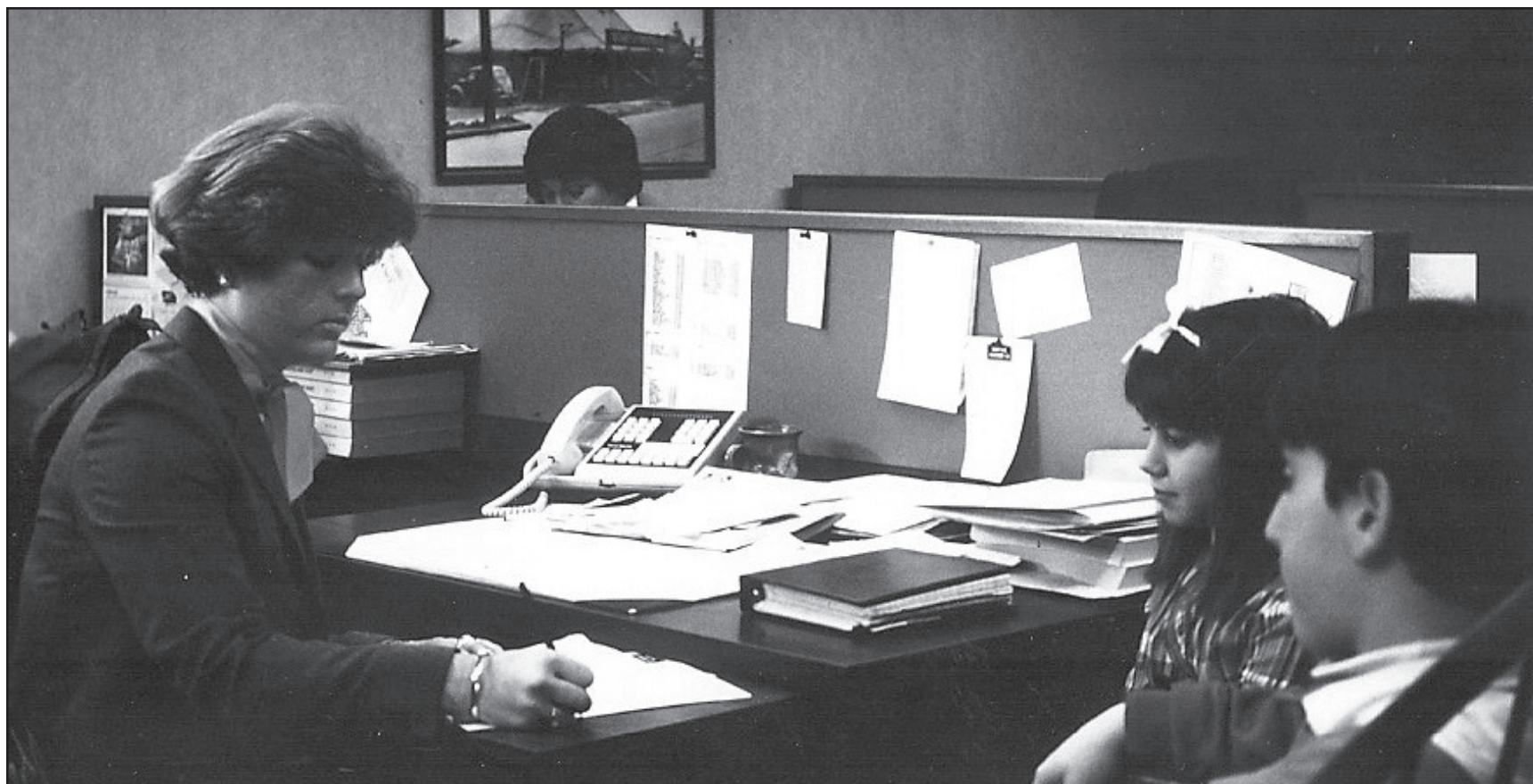


*Share & Care*





∞ Advocacy



## Advocacy

The definition of 'Advocacy' is the act of arguing or pleading in favor of something such as a cause, idea, or policy. The JLC embodied this definition in several ways over the years and continues to do so through its own efforts and in partnership with other Ohio Junior Leagues through the State Public Affairs Committee (SPAC).

A Junior League project often naturally involves many aspects of the League – fundraising, volunteering, training, and advocacy. Therefore, the issues noted in this section may also be referenced on other pages. This cross-reference illustrates the interconnectedness of projects and the JLC experience.

In the beginning, advocacy as it exists today was not in the forefront of League activities. Support of issues was more passive as members worked in the com-

munity where they were needed – for example, at settlement houses and hospitals. When the League established the original League House, this was indirectly advocating for single working girls needing a place to live. Both World Wars directed JLC focus towards immediate needs in the community and country. Then, after World War II ended and focus shifted back to local community, the JLC took a big step towards organized advocacy when it formed a Legislative Committee in 1946. The committee would ebb and flow with the times, changing names and direction as needed – originally the Legislative Committee, then the Public Affairs Committee, Child Advocacy Committee and Advocacy Committee.

After the Legislative Committee was formed, the goal was clear – making a positive impact on the community while educating members and the public on the legislative process. Members immediately took action as representatives on a Child Labor Committee, the Inter-Council for Juvenile Protection Committee and the Cleveland Mental Hygiene's Correlation Committee in 1948. Trainings were



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also coordinated for both internal and external audiences during the first year of the Committee.

In the years that followed, the League quickly became involved in many legislative committees. In 1948, we were one of the member organizations supporting the Workshop for Women Voters, sponsored by the Cleveland News and the Women's Forum. In 1949, the JLC was asked by the Citizen's League to endorse their plan. Members also attended meetings with representations from the Women's City Club and the League of Women Voters.

By 1951, the JLC recognized its new Legislation Committee was its most challenging effort in the community as the Committee was still relatively new and did not shy away from any topic no matter how controversial. That year also saw the formation of the State Committee of the Junior Leagues of Ohio, eventually known as State Public Affairs Committee (SPAC). The League's Annual Report noted the following on the topic - "The Legislation Committee is a very important and educational force in our League and throughout the state for better government. We must act calmly and wisely in order to continue to be an effective force in our community and state. When the Junior League of Cleveland or the Junior Leagues of Ohio stand for or against a piece of legislation, let us be sure that understanding and sound judgment precede our action. Only then will decisions be heeded by our own members and our community and state."

In the 1950's and 1960's, advocacy efforts related to study of metro government, lake pollution, mental health, children's protective services and the "Right to Work" amendment. The JLC also worked closely on several projects with the League of Women Voters and was instrumental in the Women's Bureau's improvement of the new quarters, training and equipment for policewomen. It should be noted that no action was taken without proper due diligence and study by JLC members. Research was so thorough that in 1959, five of the six bills endorsed by the JLC passed. As two decades filled with advocacy action came to a close, the JLC chose to address the issues of black and white racism, the history of black/white problems in America and African American history. In the 1970's advocacy efforts did not just continue, they intensified. Issues included an ERA resolution, a strip mining bill in the state of Ohio, gun control laws, child advocacy and neighborhood housing rehabilitation. The JLC gave \$35,000 in 1974 and a core of committed volunteers with the Criminal Justice Citizen Impact Program which was created to coordinate services and reduce fragmentation in the criminal justice area. In 1978, the JLC committed \$27,000 to the Institute for Child Advocacy (ICA), the first citizen based advocacy group for the area's children. Through association with the JLC, the Executive Director of ICA later expanded the organization throughout the state utilizing the SPAC of Leagues in Ohio.

Ohio law mandates that the interest of a child must be represented by a Guardian Ad Litem in cases involving dependency, neglect or abuse. In 1985, the

JLC worked with the National Council of Jewish Women to provide volunteer advocates who worked with attorneys to ensure children's best interests were represented in court.

The Silent Witness exhibit in 1995 advocated for stronger laws and rights for victims of domestic violence at a state and national level. In that same year, the JLC initiated the Coalition Against Violence and Neglect, striving to prevent violent behavior, and participated on the Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Harassment for the Ohio Department of Education.

As the JLC ended its first 100 years, advocacy related to its Signature Initiatives – first, Be Fit, Be Fine and then Youth Aging Out of Foster Care. As the league moves into its next 100 years, advocacy efforts will continue and grow as the JLC has recommitted with the other Ohio Leagues to work together and create impact in the state.



# ∞ Fundraising

## Fundraising Throughout the Years

### Revue & Follies

For the first several years, dues covered the costs of the League. Needs were simple – office supplies, postage, books, lecture fees, and typewriting services. First year initiation fees totaling \$110 and dues totaling \$363 covered expenses. By the end of 1913, the League had a balance of \$9.85. In response to a suggestion by Miss Julia Raymond to help the financially struggling community in Montreal, the JLC held its first event where money was raised for a cause. A small admission was charged to members who came to a playlet performed at the Mather ballroom on Euclid Avenue. That same year, the Entertainment Committee performed Mrs. Oakley's Telephone at a number of locations in the community. Money raised from both performances was sent to the Montreal League for area relief work. And so a tradition was born...

Soon thereafter the Board decided that raising funds to support operations was a smart idea and it looked for ways to make that happen. Early events were dances, musical revues and follies. The first musical revue was in 1923 called Dancing Along, performed at the Hollenden Hotel. It had five scenes and illustrated the growing stages of women. \$1,000 of the \$1,500 raised was donated to League House. That was followed by the Nine O'Clock Revue in 1924, Three Twins in 1925 and Jacks and Jills in 1927 which ran for one week at the Hanna Theatre. The Hermit Club was the League's partner in many of the early productions.

During the Depression, the League took a step back from fundraising but returned in 1937 with Stepping Out in Cleveland as it celebrated its first 25 years. This cabaret was performed at the Masonic Auditorium under the direction of the Jerome Cargill Organization of New York and raised \$10,000. The second World War caused the League to pause once again. Then in 1947 Ladies in Hades raised \$24,225. That was followed by such follies as Running Bored in 1968 and Up a Crazy River in 1976. Several were completely original shows written and produced by League members and husbands. This Side of Forty in 1954 netted \$18,328 profit. The chairman of the event was Louise Humphrey "who broke her collar bone several weeks before the performance, but carried on magnificently" said Polly Schrenk Bruner, JLC President 1952-1954. Another was Editorial Whee in 1977 whose proceeds were used to renovate Mather Mansion.

## ENGAGEMENT EXTRAORDINARY!

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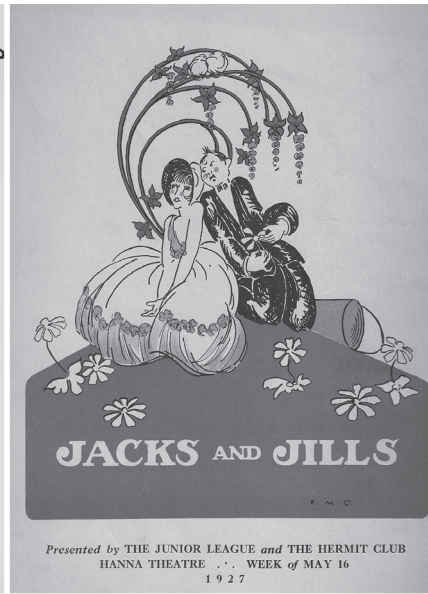
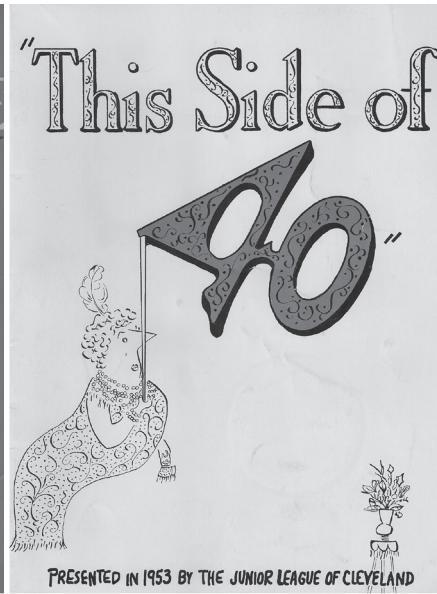
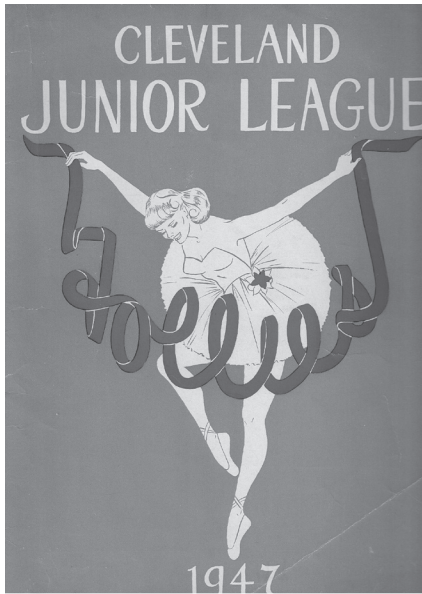
## PALACE

B. F. KEITH THEATRE

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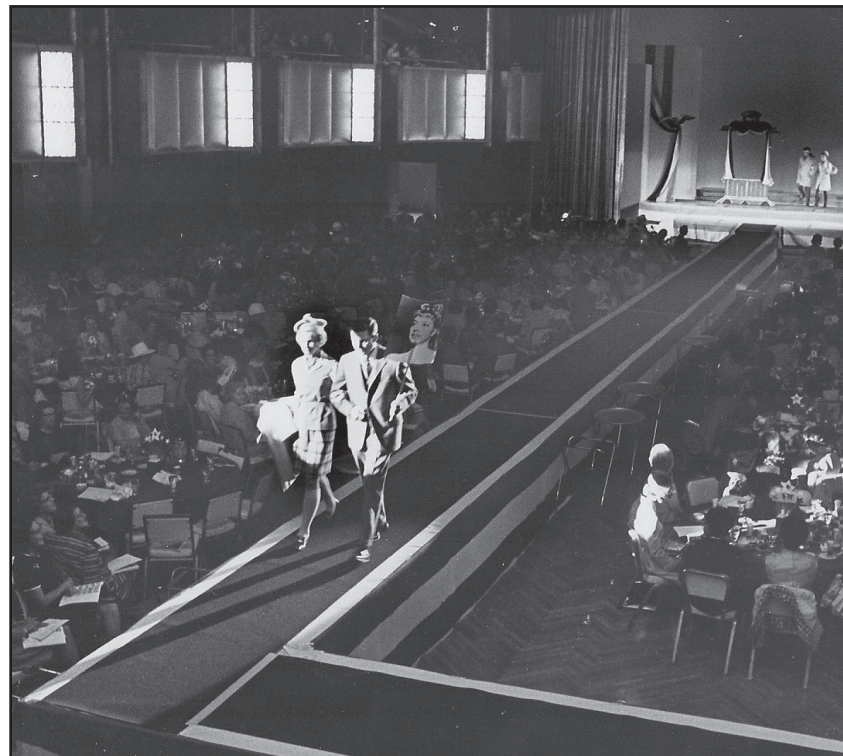


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### Fashion Shows

Musical revues and Follies showcased talent and creativity as shows were performed by the League members and sometimes written by them. Always open to new ideas and changes to help the League's longevity, a new fundraising idea came about in the mid 1950's. This idea, a fashion show, was first brought to the forefront of the League's members by Kate Ireland. *Time A La Mode* was a success as the League along with the Museum of Natural History took over the Palace Theatre and raised \$12,000 in the inaugural event in 1957. Another show followed in 1958 titled *Salute to Cleveland* which was held in conjunction with Halle's and boasted original skits written by League members and raised \$20,000. Every year for 17 years, the League produced a Fashion Show fundraiser with titles such as *Portrait of Fashion* in 1961, *My Fair Cleveland* in 1964, and *Reflections* in 1969. The show in 1973 was titled *Viva* and this was the last consecutive year in which this type of fundraiser was held until the concept was renewed one last time in 1995 with *Kaleidoscope of Fashion* at Tower City. *Kaleidoscope* raised \$44,000 for the League and featured Lauren Hutton. The fashion shows raised money for the League and awareness of its activities in the community but like other great things, the time of the fashion show fundraiser came to an end





## Showhouses

Before the final fashion show in the 1970-1971 League year, a committee was formed to research other ideas for fundraisers. Several concepts including a country fair and a sports day were brought to the membership for a vote. The winner was the idea of a Decorators' Showhouse. In this huge collaborative effort that has since been undertaken by the JLC on a number of occasions, the League worked with designers, each of whom decorated a room and provided all furnishings and services. City officials and various community organizations that might be impacted by the work and final showhouse event were also consulted. While the main goal of a showhouse is fundraising, it naturally also improves the community through restoration and preservation. The JLC was very successful with all of its showhouses raising more than \$380,000 in total.



The first showhouse in 1972 was at 2012 Denton Drive in Cleveland Heights in when the JLC celebrated its 60th anniversary. Sixteen rooms were transformed in this inaugural effort and more than 12,000 people visited the lovely home with a primrose path.

The second showhouse in 1973 was at Arrowhead Farm, a 40 room country estate in Hunting Valley. Attendance was over 24,000 and the profit was \$91,500 – both incredible accomplishments at that time. More than 20,000 volunteer hours were spent over 10 months of planning and more than 86 miles a day were driven by the volunteers as the distance between the house and parking was two and a half miles.

The third showhouse in 1974 was titled Showhouse in the Circle. The address was 11130 Magnolia Drive in University Circle. Many institutions cooperated to make this event a success as related activities took place at various other locations – from a vintage fashion show to tea and cookies. In total, 18,600 attendees helped raise over \$75,000 in profit. After the showhouse, the home was considered as an official residence for the mayor or visiting guests of Cleveland. It was noted in the promotional publication “the Decorators’ showhouse puts the fun in fundraiser.”

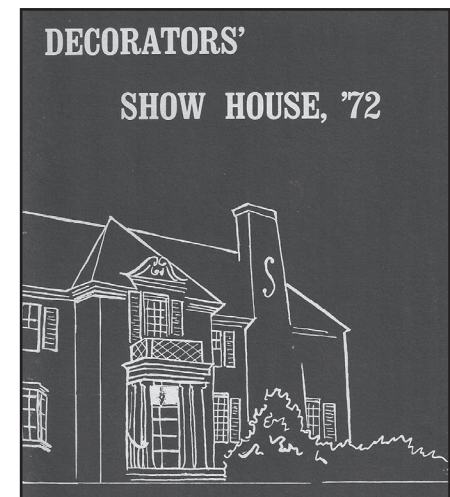
The fourth showhouse was the 1976 Landmark Row Houses Restoration where five exteriors and two interiors of Cleveland Landmark rowhouses on Prospect Avenue were restored. To accomplish this event, the League had to forge new relationships with residents and commercial interests on Prospect Avenue while working closely with City Hall and the Landmarks Commission. Ultimately, this project served as a model for how restoration could work in other neighborhoods.



As JLC Past President Diann Scaravilli said “It has been very rewarding to be a part of a total concept, with the designers, the city, business and the Junior League joining forces to revitalize what might have been a dying sector of the city. I would like to see it happen over and over again in all parts of the city.”

The next showhouse was in 1982 at the Palace Tower dressing rooms at Playhouse Square. This project was the most ambitious the JLC had undertaken and combined community preservation with fundraising. The name was the Diamond Shamrock Towers Showhouse and it was attended by 20,000 people and realized \$140,000 profit. Over 30,000 volunteer hours were tallied during the 18 month project that resulted in another positive mark on downtown Cleveland by the JLC.

The final showhouse was in 1989 at 10819 Magnolia Drive in University Circle, and this house continues to serve as headquarters for the JLC. This 18-month project resulted in a 10-day event attended by 6,000 people. The “League House on Parade” raised over \$72,000 and ensured longevity for what was once known as Morley House.







### **Holiday Festival of Trees**

The late 1970's was when the League took another look at its fundraising efforts and asked what can we do next? From this question came the Holiday Festival of Trees. The Festival helped people rediscover the excitement of downtown Cleveland. It became an instant holiday favorite that was shared and enjoyed by all. Started in 1980 at the State Theatre, the Festival spotlighted Cleveland's rich heritage. Fifty artificial Christmas trees were decorated by nationality groups in their Christmas tradition with the assistance of local florists and designers.

To kick off the Festival, a gala was held at Playhouse Square. It was a smashing success and the community trust fund realized \$48,000 net profit, nearly doubling the goal! Just as important was the joy the festival brought to over 12,000 attendees not counting those at hospitals, nursing homes and social service agencies that received a gift of a tree following the event.

Holiday Festival continued to grow from year to year. The Christmas trees were always the main attraction and local designers and florists worked to help the League create a holiday wonderland. Supported by local businesses and community agencies every tree had its own special and unique theme. After just three years the Holiday Festival Committee was quoted as saying "I think we're well on our way to becoming a family tradition" and they were right! The Holiday Festival of Trees continued for years to come making every year in downtown Cleveland an unforgettable holiday fantasy and raising over \$700,000 for the League.

### **A Cleveland Collection**

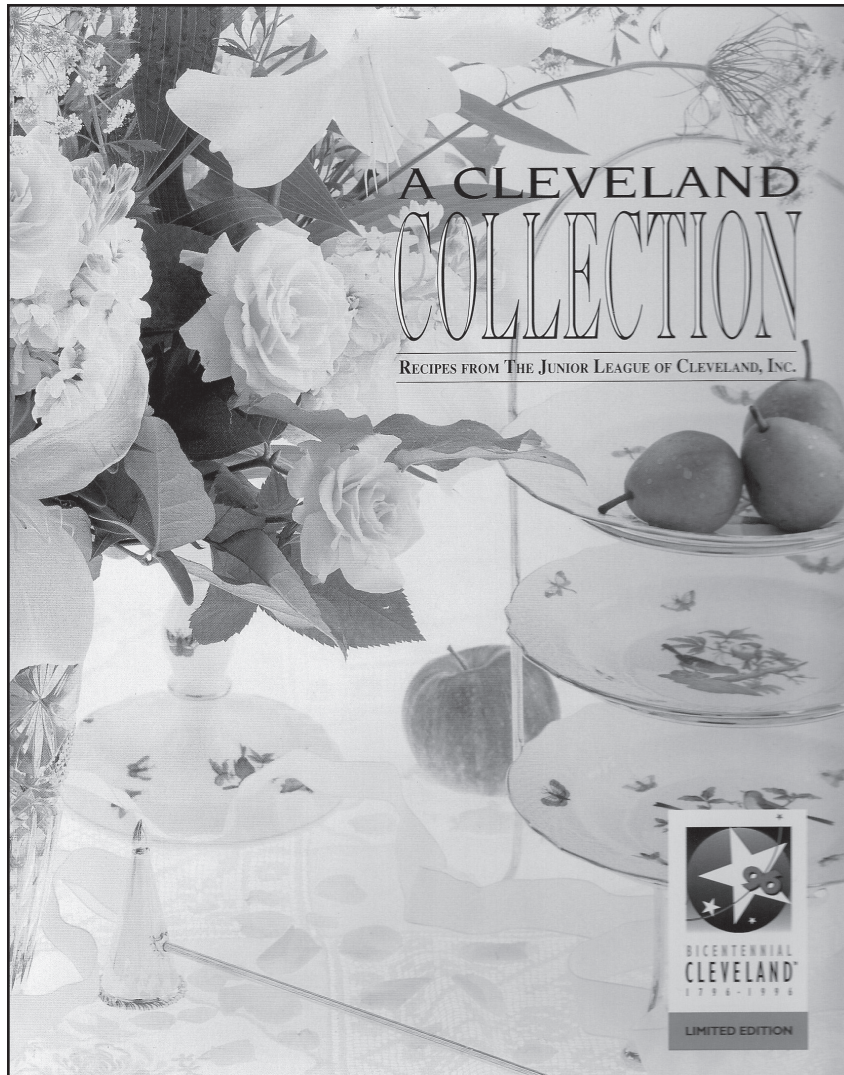
In 1989, the JLC began research on the idea of a fundraising cookbook. After a successful feasibility study, the project was presented to membership and was approved. In 1990, the JLC secured underwriting from Nestle Enterprise, Inc. and began collecting and testing recipes. 250 recipes would ultimately be chosen from the nearly two thousand submissions. Sustainer Karen Godt of M G Studios was chosen to design the cookbooks with 60 JLC members putting in hundreds of hours collecting and tasting recipes, editing and preparing the final product. In 1991, a presale campaign resulted in over 4,500 books ordered as the cookbook went to print. In October 1992, A Cleveland Collection made its debut at a release party at the Ritz Carlton. Almost 400 were in attendance when recipes from the cookbook were prepared and served at the "gourmet grazing affair," noted event co-chairs Martha Hartland and Helen Greenleaf.

The success of this fundraiser provided support of the JLC's community projects including funding the Literacy Initiative at Harry E. Davis Middle School. The original goal of raising \$100,000 was surpassed and placed the JLC in good company with other Leagues who had also successfully produced cookbooks. In fact, the JLC now swaps A Cleveland Collection for other Leagues' books allowing cookbooks to be shared across the country.



### **Poinsettia Place**

In 2000, the Sustaining members of the JLC started a fundraiser called Poinsettia Place: A Unique Holiday Boutique. Typically held in November, the event consisted of boutique shopping often with a winter holiday focus as well as a keynote speaker and luncheon. Poinsettia was held at different locations throughout Cleveland each year – Shaker Heights Country Club and the historic Higbee Building to name a few. The Active membership would eventually take the lead in the overall event with Sustainers coordinating a related event called Treasures in the Attic. Treasures collected various items including antiques, silver, china, crystal, linens, jewelry, and vintage clothing and then resold the items with proceeds supporting Sustainer activities.



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# ∞ Membership

## Membership

### What does it mean to be a JLC Member?

“Her charm was very great and her gaiety contagious, but she always lived up to her ideals and foremost among them was that volunteer work must be done carefully, intelligently, and diligently, and that only by faithful fulfilling our tasks would each of us discover for herself the joy that comes from service.” This was said by Catherine Abbot Cobb about Katherine Hoyt Mather, the first president of the JLC. These words speak to the dedication and compassion possessed by members of the Junior League of Cleveland.

Catherine also had strong opinions and thoughts on what members should do for the League and what the League should do for members. The duties and goals of the JLC should provide value to all members. In return, members should be strong and capable since, in the outside community, the whole League is frequently judged by the actions of one member doing a particular volunteer job. Any failing in any member can harm the entire League. These wise observations and opinions still hold true almost 100 years later and help answer the question of what it means to be a member of the JLC.

In 1962, Jean Sprain Wilson pointed out in an Associated Press article: “A typical Junior Leaguer ’61 variety (as determined by a membership survey) is almost always a college graduate. Married, she has a large family, from three to six children, and is without any household help. Babysitters free her from home temporarily for community work. One in eight active members holds a paid job. Jobs held by husbands of League members run the gamut of trade and professions.” While this description may not apply to all members in 2012, it does illustrate that members have always lived full lives with the League serving as a piece of a whole. Membership requires the compassion as noted about Katherine Hoyt Mather Cross and involves balance among all aspects of life.

Membership in the JLC can take various forms – Active, Sustainer, and New Member/Provisional. The requirements for each have changed over the years – the number of community hours, the age at which a member can become Sustaining, and the training courses required for New Members. This ebb and flow illustrates that the JLC is aware that women have changing needs and that to move into the future, flexibility and understanding are necessary. As Lucia McCurdy McBride recalled, she and the other five founders of the League “like good parents everywhere, gave members of the baby League the opportunity of being, and then gently pushed them out of the nest and watched them develop and mature.” This sentiment of providing members a safe place to learn and create impact in the community holds true regardless of one’s ‘title’ in the League.



*Provisional Class 1924*



*Unit Meeting 1956*

Did you know that in the early years JLC by-laws stated “no girl is eligible for membership who has not lived in Cleveland or its suburbs for at least one year.” In September 1923 the Admissions Committee faced issues related to this bylaw. One applicant had lived here only 7 months, another lacked two weeks of a year, and a third had no home anywhere and spent some time each year at Mrs. Garfield’s. When these scenarios were presented to the Board, the exception requests were denied and it was clearly noted that the Constitution will be followed. This inflexibility regarding membership was eventually eliminated and women can now join regardless of the length of time they have lived in the area.



*Night Group 1970*



*Ad Sales Team 1973*

Lucia McCurdy McBride recalled that at the time the Cleveland League was formed, there didn’t seem to be any great need for volunteer workers at that time, but the settlement houses were delighted with the new idea, and the women responded with enthusiasm. Lucia also noted that membership requirements were lenient; friends invited friends and members found volunteer work novel and interesting. Everybody had help at home and all the time in the world to devote to their new organization.



*Provisional Class 2011*



The following was noted in the 1921-1922 Annual Report: Edwina Glenn Garfield recommended that a “debutante or provisional chairman be chosen from the provisional members to represent (the group) on the Board and to take charge of assigning work to them from time to time, rather than to call on them for regular work which is difficult to do during their debutante years.”

### **Training**

Training has always been the hallmark of Junior Leagues around the world. Before any task was undertaken, members understood that learning was essential. Even at the first Cleveland meeting in November 1912, the young women decided a necessary first step was to read about and understand the needs of their community. This was visible in the very first year’s training program titled “Know Your City: Cleveland’s Population and Social Problems.” The next year, members decided to acquaint themselves with the work of city agencies and attended talks each Friday morning at the main office of Associated Charities of Cleveland where experts in various fields explained their work. They would then visit places like the Cleveland Farm Colony at Warrensville, the Babies Dispensary, and City Hospital to witness practical day-to-day workings.

By 1922, the Extension Committee of the JLC developed and managed a Provisional Training program. Along with visiting city agencies and hearing lectures, provisional members also had to pass a prescribed course in Home Charities. The course consisted of ten of the most interesting and instructive lectures on different organizations with a visit to charities such as: Lakeside Dispensary, Babies Dispensary, Warrensville YWCA, Society for the Blind, Day Nursery, Associated Charities, to name a few. Provisionals were required to take an exam and transcribe fifty pages of proof before receiving an official diploma. Twenty-four hopefuls took the provisional course in 1923 and became Active members the following winter.

As the JLC’s membership changed through the years, so did the training for members. In the 1948-1949 League year, due to the number of participants and the time obligations involved with being a member of the JLC, two Provisional courses were offered. The Day Course ran for five weeks, 16 two-hour sessions, while the Evening Course was condensed into 14 two-hour sessions. A total of 66 ladies successfully completed the course titled “The Junior League, Your Community and You.” The course tagline demonstrates the focus and dedication of the League – “The welfare of all the people is the concern of all the people.”

It was clearly understood that Provisional training was critical to new members’ success in the League. However, all members receive training on an ongoing basis in their JLC careers. Key concepts include understanding the JLC’s history, the needs of the community, and the responsibilities of being a member of the JLC. To that end, the JLC offers its members continual opportunities for growth and development. In the 1980’s, many participated in AJLI’s diversification training sessions which led to development of a Membership Diversification Development Task Force and ultimately a focus on diversity training. By the early 1990’s, the League expanded offerings to include Community Board training, Train the Trainer, Getting Great Grants, multicultural literacy and motivating volunteers. The JLC also held events called Training Fests and engaged in various partnerships including one with the YWCA to develop the Women’s Leadership Initiative Speakers’ Program in 2004-2005. While the training focus has continued to shift with the needs of members, the core has remained the same – ensuring that the JLC provides trained volunteers to the community.

Nita Storey was the first African American member of the Junior League of Cleveland. She joined in the late 1960s and was on the Board in the mid-1970s. She volunteered at the Cleveland Scholarship Fund and then worked there. She was president of the Benjamin Rose Board during the 1990s.

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## JLC Awards

Ruth T. Lucas was president of the Junior League of Cleveland from 1929-1931 and was also a Junior League Regional Director in 1933. The Ruth T. Lucas Award was established by the Junior League of Cleveland in 1970 to annually recognize a member who best exemplifies the ideal of a education woman training for community service.

### Ruth T. Lucas Award

Awarded to an Active member who best exemplifies the ideal JLC volunteer – a woman who is educated and trained for community service and who fulfills this education and training through dedicated, compassionate, and creative volunteering that contributes to the betterment of the community. Award was established in May 1970 in honor of JLC Past President Ruth T. Lucas (1929-1931).

1971	Carolyn Oakes	1991	Patricia Robertson Paddock
1972	Linda Johnson	1992	Nancy Dolan Schrank
1973	Gwill (York) Newman	1993	Signe Forbes
1974	Jane Outcalt	1994	Linda Campbell
1975	Paula (Anderson) Fay	1995	Katherine Kelly Ohlrich
1975	Sara Robecheck	1996	Agnes Rose 'Aggie' Nagy
1975	Becky Smythe	1997	Deborah Smythe Hermann
1976	Jane M. King	1998	Paulette Munch Fruchtenbaum
1977	Mella Davies	1998	Linda Mae Visocan
1978	Christine Herbruck	1999	Judith E. Matsko
1979	Marjorie C. Moyar	2000	Frances Seetoo Namboong
1980	Beverly F. Sload	2001	Ellen Perez
1981	Patricia Higgins Leech	2002	Carol Szczepank
1981	Margaret Steck Carpenter	2003	Lauren Wagner
1981	Gail Cohn Schlang	2004	Paula McKale
1982	Joie Sabbagh Haddad	2005	Nicole St. Marie
1983	Rosemary Haverland	2006	Elizabeth Hatch
1984	Ellen Brzytwa	2007	Karen Doubrava
1985	Renee Snow	2008	Jill Albrecht
1986	Margie Westendorf	2009	Amy Boyd-Kirksey
1987	Nancy F. Mitchell	2010	Kimberly Liddell
1988	Maureen Schneider	2011	Cheryl Stawicki
1989	Deborah Daberko	2012	Barbara Kakiris

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**Carolyn K. Oakes Award**

Awarded to Active or Sustainer who has demonstrated exceptional leadership and distinguished service to the JLC. The award is named in honor of Carolyn K. Oakes, the first non-president to receive JLC Honorary status, and was established in May 1988.

1988	Ann M. Bailey	2000	Denise Naskali Grcevich
1989	Anne DeLozier	2001	Colleen Abdalian
1990	Nancy Cutting Young	2002	Joan Giberti
1991	Ann Burger Bowdish	2003	Michelle Reef
1991	Joyce Matthey Litzler	2004	Jennifer Gehrlein
1992	Elizabeth Hunt Petrequin	2005	Eryn Medved
1993	Cathleen Coyne Lane	2006	Colleen Sirhal
1994	Margaret Ann Gibson	2007	Mary Seay
1995	Deborah G. Corbets	2008	Betsy Nagy
1996	Susan Aylward Jotte	2009	Robyn Forney
1997	Betty Gillis Hidalgo	2010	Jenn Molnar
1997	Ellen Roberts-Sinicariello	2011	Susan Larson
1998	Kristin Giesecke Broadbent	2012	Kary Kandra
1999	Kathryn D. Maney Mook		

**Frances Payne Bolton Award**

Established in 1975, this award is given to an Active or Sustainer who has made an outstanding contribution in her field. It is to be given for professional achievement which results in local or national eminence based upon the precepts, ideals, dedication, and measurable accomplishments exemplified by the service of Frances Payne Bolton to this country. The Honorable Mrs. Bolton was a founding member of the JLC and was responsible for the Bolton-Blossom Trust Fund. Her public career as a Congressional representative was of the highest professional caliber. It is highly appropriate to honor Mrs. Bolton through this award.

1975	Mary Adelaide Mendelson	1998	Gertrude Seymour Hornung
1982	Ruth Blatt Merkatz	1999	Nedra A. Starling
1985	Jane Kirkham	1999	Georgianna Timmons Roberts
1987	Jane Healy	2001	Jacqueline Woods
1990	Chloe Warner Oldenburg	2004	Margo Copeland
1991	Barbara Stevens Oldenburg	2005	Susan Larson
1992	Lolita McDavid, M.D.	2006	Kitty Makley
1993	Diane Woodbridge	2007	Polly Clemo
1994	Marge Carlson	2009	Carol Heiss Jenkins
1995	Mary 'Mimi' Jontzen	2010	Robyn Gordon
1996	Mary Elizabeth Weimer	2011	Award not given
1997	Sally Reddig Schulze	2012	Lonya Moss Walker

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**Sustainer Service Award**

Awarded to a Sustainer who best exemplifies the purpose of the JLC, honoring contributions to the community and continued support of the Junior League. The award was established in 1986

1986	Elizabeth Flory Kelly	1999	Bonnie Hughes Marcus
1988	Marjorie C. Moyar	2000	Suzanne Richardson Blaser
1989	Catherine Fuller	2001	Mona McQuade Ridge
1990	Sarah Lund Donnem	2002	Alaire Beeby
1991	Barbara Wigginton Miller	2003	Barbara McGinty
1992	Erika Mueller Reale	2004	Tina Hardenbergh
1993	Karen O'Brien	2005	Mary Bruner
1994	Helen Greenleaf	2006	Terri Becker
1994	Virginia Wilhelm	2007	Judith Matsko
1995	Joyce Matthey Litzler	2008	Julie Smerdel
1996	Linda Harlan	2009	Carolyn Oakes
1996	Melinda 'Mindy' Tabor	2010	Bonnie Femec
1997	Emily Hodge Brasfield	2011	Jocelyn Ruf
1998	Ann Burger Bowdish	2012	Mary Seay & Joyce Monachino

**Presidents In-League Award**

Awarded to any member who has gone above and beyond one's position to further support the mission of the JLC. This award was established in 2004 and is given at the discretion of the President.

2004	Tracey MacIvor
2005	Catherine Carter
2006	Mary Amjad
2012	Betsy Nagy

**Century Award**

Established in 2008 to recognize a community organization that has benefited from the mission of the Junior League of Cleveland, and is an example of our volunteers taking their Junior League training to a higher level to benefit the community.

2008	The Benjamin Rose Institute
2009	Bellflower Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse
2011	Positive Education Program

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**Past Presidents**

Katherine Hoyt Mather Cross (Mrs. John)	1912-14	Gwill Linderme (York) Newman (Mrs. Bruce)	1968-70
Catherine Abbot Cobb (Mrs. Ralph)	1914-16	Lainie Grasselli Hadden (Mrs. John A., Jr.)	1970-72
Frances Eells House (Mrs. Allen C.)	1916-18	Virginia Thompson (Felderman) McCarthy (Mrs. John)	1972-74
Julia Raymond	1918	Jane Pierce Kirkham (Mrs. J.P.)	1974-76
Geraldine Walker Brown (Mrs. Fayette)	1918-20	Paula Corell (Anderson) Fay (Mrs. Thomas)	1976-78
Katherine Hoyt Mather Cross (Mrs. John)	1920-21	Kathryn Lewis Makley (Mrs. John T.)	1979-80
Mariette Chandle Walker (Mrs. M.C.)	1921-23	Diann Guinta Scaravilli (Mrs. Victor J.)	1980-82
Edwina Glenn Garfield (Mrs. E.G.)	1923-25	Polly Howe Clemo (Mrs. P.H.)	1982-84
Clara Bunts Daoust (Mrs. Edward C.)	1925-26	Marjorie Morris Carlson (Mrs. Harry Jr.)	1984-86
Elizabeth White King (Mrs. W.Griffin)	1926	Margaret Seelbach Wheeler (Mrs. John D.)	1986-88
Delia White Vail (Mrs. Herman)	1926-28	Catherine Dwyer LoPresti (Mrs. Joseph, Jr.)	1988-89
Marion Warmington Kling (Mrs. John D.)	1928-30	Patricia Halse Munro (Mrs. J. Broock, Jr.)	1989-90
Ruth Townsend Lucas	1930-32	Jane Mursener Wetzel (Mrs. Robert E.)	1990-91
Jeannette Johnson Dempsey (Mrs. John B.)	1932-34	Margot James Copeland	1991-92
Ruth Ann Patterson Barnes (Mrs. George)	1934-36	Rosemary Linich Downing (Mrs. James)	1992-93
Anne Belle Wickham Harding (Mrs. Frank I., Jr)	1936-38	Mary Lou DeGrandis Wellman	1993-94
Maud Eell Corning (Mrs. Warren H.)	1938-40	Patricia Robertson Paddock (Mrs. David W.)	1994-95
Catharine Litchfield Hyde (Mrs. Howard L.)	1940-42	Cathleen Coyne Lane (Mrs. John K.)	1995-96
Antoinette Dodge Baldwin Quail (Mrs. Wallace B.)	1942-44	Carolyn Atwater Newman (Mrs. James)	1996-97
Katherine Taylor Case (Mrs. George S., Jr.)	1944-46	Deborah G. Corbets (Mrs. David A.)	1997-98
Barbara Skinner Highbee (Mrs. Edwin C.)	1946-48	Charlene A. Jones	1998-99
Sue Turner Lohmiller Little (Mrs. Bascom)	1948-50	Catherine S. Hougan (Mrs. Michael G.)	1999-00
Jane Griswood Holmes (Mrs. Dan W.)	1950-52	Denise Grcevich (Mrs. Steven)	2000-01
Polly Schrenk Bruner (Mrs. Clark E.)	1952-54	Judith E. Matsko	2001-03
Elizabeth Gardner Norweb (Mrs. R. Henry Jr.)	1954-56	Jennifer Morgan Allanson	2003-04
Kate Ireland	1956-58	Mary Howes Seay (Mrs. Thomas)	2004-05
Ruth Castle Newel (Mrs. Hal Harker)	1958-60	Jennifer Gehrlein (Mrs. Andrew)	2005-06
Elizabeth Bourne Tracy (Mrs. James J., Jr.)	1960-62	Amy Boyd-Kirksey (Mrs. William)	2006-07
Carol Babcock Davenport (Mrs. David W.)	1962-64	Susan Larson (Mrs. Lee)	2007-09
Jane King Harris (Mrs. J. King)	1964-66	Barbara Smith	2009-11
Catherine Crowe Dickman	1966-68	Hermione Malone	2011-13



*Edwina Glenn Garfield*



*Elizabeth White King*



*Marion Warmington Kling*



*Jeannette Johnson Dempsey*



*Ruth Patterson Barnes*



*Anne Belle Wickham Harding*



*Maud Eell Corning*



*Catharine Litchfield Hyde*



*Barbara Skinner Higbee*



*Polly Schrenk Bruner*



*Elizabeth Gardner Norweb*



*Ruth Castle Newell*



*Elizabeth Bourne Tracy*



*Carol Babcock Davenport*



*Jane King Harris*



*Catherine Crowe Dickman*



*Gwill Linderme York Newman*



*Lainie Grasselli Hadden*



*Virginia 'Ginny' Felderman*



*Jane Pierce Kirkham*



*Paula Anderson Fay*



*Kathryn 'Kitty' Lewis Makley*



*Diann Guinta Scaravilli*



*Polly Howe Clemo*



*Marjore Morris Carlson*



*Margaret 'Margie'  
Seelbach Wheeler*



*Catherine Dwyer LoPresti*



*Patricia Halse Munro*



*Jane Mursener Wetzel*



*Margot James Copeland*



*Rosemary Linich Downing*



*Mary Lou DeGrandis Slife*



*Patricia Robertson Paddock*



*Cathleen Coyne Lane*



*Carolyn Atwater Newman*



*Deborah G. Corbets*



*Catherine Hougan*



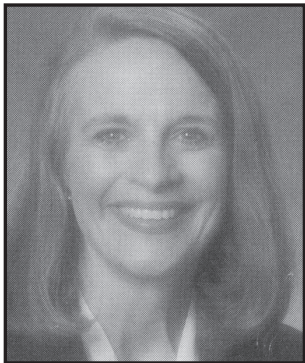
*Denise Grcevich*



*Judith Matsko*



*Jennifer Morgan Allanson*



*Mary Howes Seay*



*Jennifer Gehrlein*



*Amy Boyd-Kirksey*



*Susan Larson*



*Barbara Smith*





*Past Presidents*



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## JLC Memory Book - a Summary

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During the lazy, hazy days of summer, many Junior Leaguers enjoy the slower pace that summer brings. In 2012, a number of JLC women worked diligently through the summer months to make the 100th year the best that it could be. While the Gala committee was hard at work getting everything ready for the great celebration on September 8, 2012, another small, dedicated, unheard of group also worked many hours through the spring and summer.

Way-y-y up on the third floor of the Junior League House is where one could find the archives of the JLC. There a group of women met weekly. They were the writers and researchers who produced this Memory Book in honor of the JLC's 100 years. The writers and researchers met at least twice a week for three or four hours at a time for many months. Junior League member, Betsy Nagy, took the helm and was the chief writer for the project. She was helped by Kim Liddell, Amy Shaper and Suzanne de Roulet. Provisional member, Elizabeth Deering designed the cover.

In the spring the team determined an outline for the book. From there researchers, former JLC President Susan Larson and Sustainer Joyce Litzler combed the League archives for documents on the membership, projects and fundraisers through the years. The researchers found wonderful photographs for the book and delightful quotes from past presidents, League members and community leaders.

The book was a true labor of love for all those involved. We hope that you enjoy the history of the Junior League of Cleveland as much as we did discovering it. This project was a first for many of those involved - isn't that what the League is really all about? We were encouraged to spread our wings, challenge ourselves and give back to the community. We hope you feel the same inspiration as we do as we move into the JLC's next 100 years.

Sincerely,  
Susan Larson  
Joyce Litzler  
Betsy Nagy