

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF DULUTH

Women building better communities®

ANNUAL REPORT

2022–2023





Mission:

Junior League of Duluth is an organization of women whose mission is to advance women's leadership for meaningful community impact through volunteer action, collaboration, and training.

Our Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion

The Junior League welcomes all women who value our Mission. We are committed to inclusive environments of diverse individuals, organizations and communities.

Vision:

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

Junior League of Duluth, Inc.

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President's Letter

A Message from the President: Elizabeth Hanson

And just like that, our 2022–2023 league year comes to a close and I could not be more proud and thankful! All of the wonderful women of League showed great courage and strength to connect and ensure we executed on our mission, our values and stayed the course as we navigated the challenges that were in front of us. Things like declining membership and the absence of our fundraiser for several years due to the pandemic. As we tackled these challenges, we laughed, we connected, some of us cried (like me..ha), but most importantly we did the work and we learned from one another. Many lessons learned at each turn. We learned that we need to have conversations that are hard and learn about how we communicate with each other and what that means to the sustainability of our 100+ year old league. I am humbled by the humility, vulnerability and grit shown – thank you for leaning in.



We made it to the Women's Expo this year and we had a tremendous turn out and a lot of interest shown by the women of the community to join our league. Thank you to Membership Council for strong governance and commitment to understanding that our survival depends on engaging current membership and recruiting new members. This work will continue.

Our work with First Witness was pivotal and important as we connected the original work we did to the new work we will do as they move to their new space. Our work on creating trauma-informed spaces will continue as we move through the summer months. The Junior League connected again this year in summit to ensure a great turn out to support Building a Community of Resilience with Duluth Thrives. The work of understanding trauma continues – many thanks to our league members for continuing to support this great work and for offering training that is impactful for our membership and the community!

Lastly, please accept my gratitude and love as I think about concluding my year as your lead. This time of my life will be something I will reflect on and treasure as I move through my life. I am changed in skill, in courage, in leadership, in service and I have been stretched to ensure I learned what was needed to do the very best job I could for you and for our community. I will continue to find strength in our relationships, new and old. You inspire me and I am forever changed. Thank you is truly not enough.

Cheers and deep gratitude!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth Hanson".



Anchoring the **Past**

Living in the **Present**

Preparing for the **Future**

LEADERSHIP

President: Elizabeth Hanson*

President-Elect: Angela Engblom*

President Elect-Elect: Unfilled

Recording Secretary/Arrangements: Stephanie Forslund*

Treasurer: Libby Socha

Sustainer Reps: Susan Johnson* and Patty Salo Downs*



Community Council

Director: Unfilled

Community Project Lead: Emily Andrews

Community Funding Lead: Unfilled

Finance Council

Director: Anne Chouinard*

Endowment Chair: Katie Kuettel

Communications Council

Director: Natalie Broberg*

Internal/External Communications Lead:

Kathy Jensen

Web Lead: Amanda Sutton

Membership Council

Director: Chelsea Loining*

Nominating/Placement Lead: Patricia Norman

Nominating/Placement Lead Elect: Unfilled

Nominating/Placement Advisors: Addie Smith
and Anna Nelson

Member Development Lead: Alexis Elder

Training/Ed Lead: Unfilled

The Sustainer Advisors (formerly Shadow Board)

Board of Directors: Susan Johnson* and Patty Salo Downs*

Community Council: Sue Ellen Moore

Finance Council: Julie Johnson

Membership Council: Sue Murphy

Communications Council: Leslie Brunfelt

*** denotes Board of Directors member**

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Sustainers

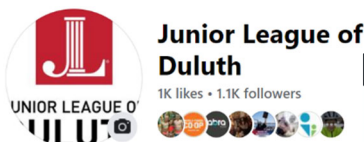
- Recruited sustainer representatives for the four councils
- Coordinated Sustainer Tea held September 22
- Organized production of small JLD Membership Directory books for members
- Contacted and coordinated efforts of Nelle Rhicard to work on a history graphic recording for JLD, "Women of Action for Over 100 Years"
- Selected Canelake's Candies to make toffee for FOT 2022
 - Managed toffee breaking event details and encouraged Sustainers to sign up for the event as well as FOT
 - Contacted media company regarding covering the PR for FOT
 - Reached out to other community organizations and/or events to sell remaining toffee following FOT
- Involved in First Witness meetings as the organization develops plans for their new, enlarged location to meet increased need in the Duluth community
- Sought to put into place a Communication Strategy for timely responses between JLD members; a training opportunity was provided at March GMM by a communication specialist
- Bylaws were thoroughly reviewed by Lisa Plachta and Nicole Widdes; revised document currently undergoing legal review; JLD policies will also be reviewed in the future



- Purchased fabric to make Tie Blankets for CASDA and First Witness Safe Haven
- With membership, coordinated Shift Our Brains: Practices to Unravel the Impact of Trauma and Create Community Resilience held on March 25 attended by 50 in person and 35 virtually

Communication Council

- Utilized Canva to create compelling content for Instagram and Facebook posts
- Communicated important updates to members by emailing Take a Minute Mondays and E-Lights
- Updated the Junior League of Duluth external and internal website to include event information and registration for Festival of Trees, New Member Socials, and Duluth Thrives.
- Collected, arranged and formatted content for the JLD newsletter, League Lights. This year's newsletter is full of informative updates from each council as well as a plethora of photos that capture members in action.
- Compiled and formatted content for Annual Report



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Planning Council

- Attended 2022 AJLI Annual Meeting and 2023 AJLI Winter Forum and participated in the presidency track training sessions. President-Elect worked closely with the current president to learn the responsibilities at each level to ensure continuity and expansion of vision
- Updated JLD Mission Statement to match the newly adopted AJLI Mission Statement which was approved by ballot vote at the General Membership Meeting on January 17.



- JLD hired out FOT responsibilities this year per board decision. JLD did not have a FOT Event Chair or FOT Vendor Chair placed for the 2022.2023 League year.
- The JLD Planning Council worked with the event coordinator to plan and organize the 2022 Festival of Tree's event. The event coordinator also developed written instructions and templates to make it easier to run this event in the future
- Actively engaged with membership by attending events, such as Tie one On blanket tying, New Member Socials, etc
- Actively recruiting a key President Elect position that has not been filled yet for the current year

Membership Council

- Hosted a Yoga/Happy Hour New member event on October 13
- The Fall new member orientation took place on October 20 at the new First Witness Facility; six prospective members were in attendance
- Hosted a Winter new member event at Mix Cosmetiques on Feb 2; the group enjoyed making a salt/sugar scrub and learned more about Junior League
- The new member orientation took place at the original First Witness building. The group toured the facility and learned more about the Junior League and our partnership with First Witness.
- The Spring New Member event took place at Board and Brush on March 23. A new member orientation is being planned at First Witness.



ENDOWMENT

The Dale Heimbach Wheeler Memorial Fund was established in 1983 in memory of Dale, who died while an active member of the Junior League of Duluth. The management of the Memorial Fund is the responsibility of the Endowment Fund Committee.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE DALE HEIMBACH WHEELER MEMORIAL FUND

From April 19, 2022 to April 19, 2023

Delia Bujold	Katie Kuettel
Sarah Crowell	Cathy Wolff

The Junior League of Duluth Endowment Fund was initially funded by a devise of the estate of sustainer Margaret Mitchell. The Fund was established in 1992.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE JLD ENDOWMENT FUND

From April 19, 2022 to April 19, 2023

Karen Andresen	Sarah Crowell	Kathy Jensen	Patty Salo Downs
Lail Beste-Michelson	Angela Dougherty	Katie Kuettel	Cary Thompson-Gilbert
Karis Boerner	Angela Engblom	Lisa Mandelin	Jennifer Webb
Delia Bujold	Lynne Frigaard	Trish Norman	Cathy Wolff
Denise Bussa	Michelle Hargrave	Suzanne Rauvola	

Mickey Ferguson in memory of sustainer Mary Olson

Betsy Harmon in honor of past president Dawn Kregness

Julie Johnson in memory of past president Judy Salyards

Barb Sheedy in memory of Michael Sienko


The Endowment Fund Committee awarded \$9,000 in additional monies during the 2021-2022 year. The following organizations received funding: CHUM-Steve O'Neil Apartments, College of Saint Scholastica Thanksgiving Dinner, Community Actions Duluth, Damiano Center, and Lake Superior Center/Great Lakes Aquarium. The Endowment Fund and the Dale Heimbach Wheeler Memorial Fund will continue to fund additional requests through the end of the 2022-2023 year.

The King's Daughters Bequest Society, established in 1999 by the Endowment Fund Committee, honors those who have made a significant commitment to the future of the Junior League of Duluth by remembering the League in their will, trust, life insurance or other estate plan. The Society members include Sherry DeWulf, Angela Dougherty, Kay Gower, Katie Kuettel, Margaret Mitchell, Mary Olin, and Mollie Thibodeau.



FINANCIAL REPORT 2022–2023

	Actual	Annual Budget
<u>Year-to-Date Income*</u>		
Contributions - Let It Grow	–	–
Arrangements	\$595	–
Interest and Dividend Revenue	\$0.57	–
Membership Dues	\$9,555	\$9,640
Festival of Trees	\$66,935	\$68,500
Total Income	\$77,086	\$78,140
<u>Year-to-Date Expenses*</u>		
Operations	\$16,492	\$27,615
Planning Council Expenses	\$880	\$5,150
Community Council Expenses	\$1,203	\$1,150
Finance Council Expenses	\$5,448	\$18,520
Membership Council Expenses	\$361	\$6,6000
Communications Council Expenses	\$1,905	\$5,350
Total Expenses	\$26,289	\$64,385

	Festival of Trees 2022
<u>Income</u>	
Sponsorship Revenue	\$2,050
Toffee Revenue	\$11,619
Trees Revenue	\$2,136
Raffle Revenue	\$2,810
Gate Revenue	\$29,742
Vendor Revenue	\$45,686
Total Income	\$94,043
<u>Expenses</u>	
Toffee Expenses	\$5249
Trees Expense	\$1237
Vendor Expense	–
FOT Admin Expense	\$19,498
Promotion Expense	\$804
Miscellaneous FOT Expense	\$320
Total Expenses	\$27,108
Net Income	\$66,935

*through March 31, 2023

	March 2023	March 2022
<u>Current Assets</u> (as of 3/31/23)		
Republic Bank Checking – General Fund	\$53,806	\$44,056
Republic Bank Savings – Let It Grow	\$10,944	\$10,945
U.S. Bank – Money Market /Mutual Funds	\$91,728	\$91,729
U.S. Bank Trust – Endowment/DHW	\$351,847	\$351,849
	\$508,325	\$498,579

