



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF  
**WASHINGTON**

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**Junior League of Washington Welcomes New Leadership**

**Washington, DC** - The Junior League of Washington (JLW) welcomes its Board of Directors for the 2016-2017 term, led by President Elizabeth Keys. A 16-year veteran of JLW, Keys will guide the organization's 2,300+ members who work to improve the greater Washington, DC, region through the effective leadership and action of trained volunteers.

On taking office, Keys said, "More than a century after Elizabeth Noyes Hempstone and a few of her friends came together to start the Junior League of the City of Washington, we remain at our core a group of women working to learn new skills that we can use to improve our community. In our 104<sup>th</sup> year, we will be busy doing just that. We will continue to connect the dots between our members and our mission – developing the potential of our volunteers, providing effective community organizations with JLW's trained volunteer and financial resources, and helping build a better Washington, DC."

One of the oldest and largest Junior Leagues in the country, JLW has invested more than 5 million volunteer hours and \$5.8 million in local organizations that reflect its mission and 104 years of service to the DC community. Last year, JLW donated over \$132,000 in grants back into the community.

For the 2016-2017 year, JLW has launched a Leadership Institute Committee to foster development of leadership skills among current and future leaders of the League. Notably, the League will celebrate two silver anniversaries – its 25<sup>th</sup> year of partnership with N Street Village and the 25<sup>th</sup> annual Tossed & Found rummage sale fundraiser; JLW also welcomes new partner, A Wider Circle, to its roster of 20+ community placements.

The board term began on June 1 and will run through May 31, 2017.

**President – Elizabeth Keys**

Elizabeth joined the Junior League of Atlanta and transferred to JLW in 2000. She previously served on the Board as Membership Development Council Director, Secretary, Nominating Committee Chair, and Communications and Public Relations Council Director. Elizabeth has served as secretary for the Board of the AppleTree Early Learning Public Charter School and on the vestry of St. Michael's Episcopal in Arlington.

**President-Elect – Aimee Picard Soller**

Aimee joined JLW in 2002. She has held numerous leadership positions in the JLW, including Treasurer, Fund Development co-chair, Holiday Shops co-chair, Community Placements Council Director, and Bright Beginnings chair. She has also served on the Langley Committee, Strategic

Planning, and as a New Member advisor. She has participated in Association for Junior Leagues International's (AJLI) Organizational Development Institute (ODI) training. Aimee is a past recipient of the JLW President's Award for Excellence in Volunteerism and the Sally Carruthers Spirit of Voluntarism Award. She is currently on the Board of Directors for Bright Beginnings.

**Treasurer – Erinn Colaianni**

Erinn joined the Junior League of Washington in 2010 upon moving to DC from Kansas. She has served as the Financial Planning & Education chair and the treasurer for Holiday Shops in 2013 and 2014. She participated in the AJLI's ODI training for Building Internal Capacity in January 2016.

**Vice Treasurer – Frazier Schulman**

Frazier transferred to JLW in 2004 from the New York Junior League. Her most recent JLW placement was with Targeted Grants and Volunteer Resources. She has served on the Nominating Committee, as the AJLI Conference Coordinator during JLW's Centennial year, and Recording Secretary on the Board. Frazier has also chaired Tossed & Found and volunteered with the Done-in-a-Day Committee. She is a recipient of the JLW President's Cup and two President's Awards for In-League and Community Service.

**Secretary – Tracy Van Riper**

Tracy has been a Junior League member since 1984, transferring into JLW from the Junior League of New York in 2006. Tracy has previously served on the JLW Board for two terms as Strategic Planning. Serving on a variety of Junior League committees in New York and Washington, DC over the years, her leadership experience includes chairing Nominating Committee chair, Membership Education Committee vice chair; she's also been on the Non-Profit Boards Clearinghouse and Provisional Training Committees. Outside JLW, Tracy is a member of the Watergate West Board of Directors and as a member of the Arts in Foggy Bottom Advisory Committee.

**Communications & PR Council Director – Marta Hernandez**

Marta Hernandez joined JLW in 2010. She served on the Literacy Events Planning Committee for five years, most recently as its chair. Marta has also volunteered as a new member advisor and as a member of the Holiday Shops Committee. She is the recipient of the JLW Peer Award and the President's Award for Excellence in Volunteerism for Community Placements; participated in JLW's Get on Board training; and attended AJLI's ODI training for Marketing and Communications in June 2016.

**Community Affairs Council Director – Amy Shuart**

Amy joined JLW in 2008 and returns for a second term as the Community Affairs Council Director. She has held leadership roles on the Membership Development Council, as well as Literacy Lab, Resolution Read, Folger Shakespeare Library, and Tossed and Found Committees. In addition, Amy has served on the Literacy Events Planning, Community Outreach, New Members, and Fund Development Committees. Amy received the 2013 President's Award for Excellence in Volunteerism for Community Placements.

**Community Placement Council Director, Adult Literacy – Kate Tyrrell**

Kate joined JLW in 2009 and previously served as the assistant council director for the Community Placement Council, Adult Literacy. She has also served as the assistant council director for Community Placement Council, Cultural and as the chair and vice chair of the N

Street Village Committee. In addition to JLW, she has volunteered with high school seniors at the Academy of the Holy Cross as an adult retreat leader.

**Community Placement Council Director, Adult Cultural Literacy – Meghan Britt**

Meghan has been a member of the JLW since 2008. She has served in community placement leadership roles for the Doorways for Women & Children and Iona Senior Services Committees. She also spent a number of years on the Ways & Means Council, both with Holiday Shops and as co-chair of Tossed & Found.

**Community Placement Council Director, Youth & Families – Sarah Berg**

Sarah Berg joined JLW in 2010 and previously served as the assistant council director Community Placement Council, Youth and Families. She has chaired the Horton's Kids Committee and tutors at 826DC.

**Membership Development Council Director – Courtney Mesmer**

Courtney joined the JLW in 2007 and returns for a second term as the director for the Membership Development Council. She has also served as assistant council director for Membership Development, co-chaired Tossed & Found, been a New Member advisor, and sat on the Nominating Committee. Courtney is a past recipient of JLW's President's Award for both Excellence in Volunteerism and In-League Placements; she received the JLW President's Cup in 2015. In addition to JLW, Courtney serves on the Board of Directors for the Children's Medical Center Celiac Disease Program Board.

**New Membership Council Director – Meredith Regine Scialabba**

Meredith joined JLW in 2008 and previously served as assistant council director for the Strategic Planning Committee. She has served in leadership roles for the Corcoran, New Member, and Strategic Planning Committees. Meredith attended AJLI's ODI in 2014 where she studied League membership issues.

**Nominating Committee Chair, Director at Large – Brooke Horiuchi**

Brooke joined JLW in 2003, and her past League experiences have ranged from internal placements like Treasurer, Communications and PR Council Director, Archives chair and Nominating Committee, to fundraising when she co-chaired Holiday Shops; she has also volunteered with the Literacy Event Planning Committee. Brooke was awarded the President's Award for Excellence for In-League Placements.

**Strategic Planning Committee Chair, Director at Large – Tycely Williams**

Tycely joined JLW in 2006 and returns to the board for a second term as Strategic Planning Committee chair. Prior, she led a number of JLW fundraising initiatives, including co-chairing Tossed & Found and chairing both Friends of the JLW and In-Kind Gifts Committees. Tycely is a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE), a Past President of the Association of Fundraising Professionals, Washington Metro Chapter, and chair of Trustees of Monument Academy Public Charter School.

**Sustainer Committee Chair, Director at Large – Myra Arnold**

Originally, from Florida, Myra joined the Junior League of the Emerald Coast and transferred to JLW in 2013. Within the Sustainer Committee, she has served as the liaison to the Transfer Committee, New Membership Council, and the Community Placement Council for Youth and Families. Other service to Junior League includes chairman of the Child Clothing Project. In

Florida, she was appointed by then-Governor Jeb Bush to serve on the Comprehensive Systems of Personnel Development Founding Board – as well as the State of Florida’s Pre-K Board.

**Ways & Means Council Director – Diane Lebson**

Diane joined JLW in 1993 and spent a number of years as a member of the Junior League of Northern Virginia. In JLW, Diane also volunteered as vice chair of the National Museum of Women in the Arts Committee and served on the N Street Village and Historic Alexandria Docents Committees. Diane is a certified fundraising executive (CFRE).

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**About the Junior League of Washington**

The Junior League of Washington ([www.jlw.org](http://www.jlw.org)) is a nonprofit organization of more than 2,300 women who annually donate thousands of dollars and volunteer hours to the Washington, DC, metropolitan area. The JLW is committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable. The JLW focuses its financial and volunteer resources on the issues of literacy, adult, children, and cultural, and works with a diverse group of community partners. Since 1912, the JLW has donated more than five million hours of direct volunteer service and more than \$5.8 million to the Washington, DC, community.