



1931-2021

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF LONG BEACH



Soaring
Above &
Beyond

PRESIDENT'S THEME



COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

2021-2022 LEAGUE YEAR

ABOUT JLLB



JLLB Mission Statement:

The Junior League of Long Beach is an organization of women 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.

Commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion:

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

JLLB BY THE NUMBERS

2021-2022

91

Active
Members

260

Sustaining
Members

11

New
Members



641

hours served in the community
by JLLB members

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Supporters of the Junior League of Long Beach,

While the ongoing pandemic continues to create challenges, our members are excited to be back in the community. The beginning of the League year coincided with the State of California starting to re-open, which gave us the opportunity to revise our protocols allowing for in-person events and trainings following current health orders. We have gradually transitioned some of our signature events such as Kids In The Kitchen (KITK) and Especially Me! to smaller, in-person events. We brought KITK to Rancho Los Cerritos and Century Villages at Cabrillo, and we were excited to be able to return Especially Me! to students in Avalon after two years.



When I became President in June 2021, I knew that this year would be one of transition and continue to require flexibility and creativity. For that reason, I chose butterflies as my theme. Butterflies represent true transformation and can be found all around the world in every color imaginable. They are each unique and beautiful in their own way. As they flutter through the garden, they almost appear to be dancing on air; however, it was a caterpillar before it transformed. One can easily forget the extraordinary changes that it had to go through. It did not simply grow wings, it went through a complete metamorphosis.

Much like the butterfly, our members are unique and beautiful in their own way, bringing their own special values, skills and beauty to the League. I am so honored to be a member of the League alongside this group of exceptional women who support and encourage each other to take on new challenges and grow together.

It has taken the commitment and dedication of each one of our members to attain the many goals we set for ourselves this year. I am inspired every day by what our more than 400 volunteers have achieved this year and hope you are too. We couldn't do it without you! We are better together.

With gratitude,

Jaylene Eatherly Westfall
President, 2021-2022
Junior League of Long Beach





JLLB CELEBRATES 90 YEARS OF SERVICE

Junior League Marks 90 Years With Giving Campaign

As we had the special privilege of celebrating our 90th year in 2021, the League continued to grow its legacy as a driving force behind the kinds of critical initiatives and institutions that make Long Beach a better place to live. With that in mind, the JLLB committed to making philanthropic investments to benefit women and children with three gifts totaling \$90,000 as part of our 90 by 90 anniversary campaign:

- The Junior League's first \$30,000 gift supported the development of the new, downtown Billie Jean King Main Library, where our donation sponsored "The Lounge," a space dedicated to teen literacy and activities;
- Rancho Los Cerritos received \$30,000 in funding from JLLB for the restoration of the historic site's herb garden and the launch of a larger capital campaign for further restorations;
- And the final \$30,000 was presented to Casa Youth Shelter, originally founded by the Junior League of Long Beach, for a full kitchen remodel.

All three 90 by 90 gifts were presented to longtime community partners. The anniversary campaign was a way for our League to give back, build upon existing relationships, partner to offer new community programs tied to those sites, and tell our story as an organization that has played a pivotal role in creating and supporting projects that have served as catalysts for lasting change in Long Beach.



Billie Jean King Main Library



Casa Youth Shelter



Rancho Los Cerritos



2022 HELEN D. NEWCOMB AWARD RECIPIENT



Junior League of Long Beach Sustainer, Mary Lamo-Putnam has been selected by a committee of her peers to receive the JLLB's highest honor: The Helen D. Newcomb Award.

Since 1996, the prestigious award has been presented in the name of Helen Dutton Newcomb who, in 1931, served as the first president of the JLLB, originally known as the Junior Charity League. The award recognizes a longtime member who embodies the organization's mission to promote voluntarism, develop the potential of women and improve the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

Lamo-Putnam began volunteering with the JLLB in 2000 and has served as VP of Marketing and Communications, 'Bin Queen' for the League's famous Rummage Sale, Sustainer Treasurer and Chair and developed a half day annual Leadership Forum to help members build relationships while learning something innovative. She has been honored with the JLLB Dedication Award and named JLLB Sustainer of the Year for 2014-15. Her most recent success was leading the effort to produce the JLLB Cookbook-celebrating 90 years of life, community and cooking. Selling almost 400 copies in two printings, the book features sixty pages of JLLB history and projects and over 100 recipes submitted by League members.

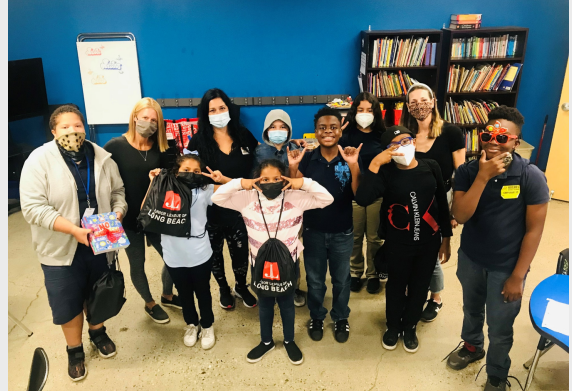
"It has been my pleasure to serve with Mary in the Junior League of Long Beach and work with her this year on the final printing of The JLLB Cookbook commemorating the League's 90th Anniversary," Junior League of Long Beach President Jaylene Eatherly Westfall said. "She is a remarkable woman and I value her leadership and support. She is certainly deserving of this honor."

Her philosophy is "live a life with purpose, be grateful, accept love, grow from challenges and respect others."

COMMUNITY IMPACT

ESPECIALLY ME!

The JLLB Self Esteem Committee hosted six Especially Me! mini-module sessions at the Boys and Girls Club of Long Beach between October and November 2021. Each session included three league member volunteers, who led sessions focused on key development areas, including: self-esteem, decision making, goal setting, and assertiveness. All 25 event attendees (ages 9-16) received a "Confidence Kit."



In February, the Committee hosted Especially Me! at Avalon School on Catalina Island. After a trip on the ferry, nine league members presented to 14 fifth grade girls during a day-long program. It has been a few years since JLLB has hosted Especially Me! on the island – we were glad to be back!

Wrapping up the year at the Michelle Obama Library in Long Beach, the Committee hosted its final Especially Me! program in March. This was the largest session held this year with 25 volunteers and 25 fifth grade girls participating! Presenters introduced topics important to maturing girls, while table hosts led small group discussions and answered all those curious questions. The girls especially enjoyed using their leadership skills in a teambuilding activity by stacking cups using only string and rubber bands.



While it was difficult navigating COVID-19 and the various shutdowns throughout the year, with patience and willingness to try new methods, the Self Esteem Committee was successful in presenting its programming to different groups of youth in the Long Beach community. They also managed to turn out a new manual for Especially Me! curriculum for future use!

COMMUNITY IMPACT

KIDS IN THE KITCHEN



Signature Health and Wellness Fairs

The Kids in the Kitchen (KITK) Committee held two events this year. Our Fall 4 Wellness Fair was held in conjunction with our 90x90 partner Rancho Los Cerritos, where more than 120 community visitors able to enjoy activities hosted by 15 community vendors. Our Spring 2 Wellness Fair was held with our partner Century Villages at Cabrillo and included 16 community vendors that hosted activities such as seed planting, a fitness obstacle course, rubber bouncy ball making, and more.

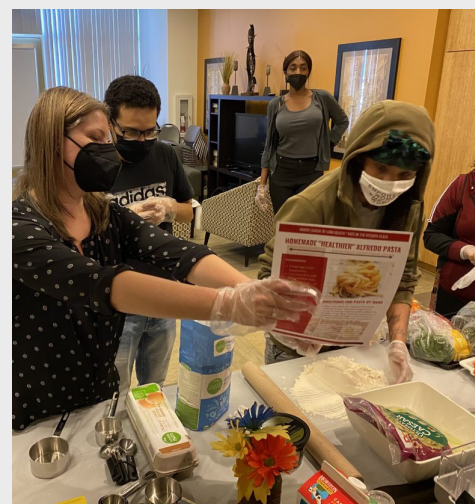
Targeting Food Insecurity in Long Beach



In order to help us meet JLLB's goal of targeting food insecurity in our community, the KITK Committee partnered with Grow2Zero Farms providing volunteers for their weekly food packing and distribution events in West Long Beach. Since August 2021, JLLB has helped Grow2Zero Farms feed more than 12,000 people. We further partnered with Food Finders to host two food drives through which we donated 500+ pounds of food and other needed items throughout the year.

Healthy Lifestyle Education Classes

Additionally, the Committee hosted KITK classes in the community this year reaching children and youth ages 2-24. This included an exciting new partnership with The Palace in Long Beach where JLLB volunteers worked with youth who have aged out of foster care and are learning to live independently. During the classes, participants learned about different nutritional topics while making delicious recipes like black bean and pumpkin enchiladas and veggie based alfredo sauce.



DEVELOPING THE POTENTIAL OF WOMEN



Advocacy - Legislations & Libations



In recognition of Women's History Month, the JLLB Advocacy Committee hosted Legislation & Libations, a fun and informative event that allowed JLLB members and friends to meet and engage with local female leaders and elected officials that oversee key community programming in the city of Long Beach.

Participants included Councilwoman Mary Zendejas, Councilwoman Suely Saro, and District Director of the Office of Senator Lena Gonzalez, Abigail Mejia.

The event was hosted and sponsored by Trademark Brewing, a locally owned and operated craft brewery.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

In its first year as an official JLLB Committee, the DE&I Committee worked to identify key areas where diversity and inclusion could be improved in the organization in order to create an environment where all Members feel part of the League. This included hosting several impactful trainings to help Members understand principals important to creating this safe and accessible space.

In November, Dr. Sara Zaidi led members through an online Implicit Bias training introducing topics, activities, and discussion to increase personal awareness on these (often) unconscious thoughts people have. As a professor of education, education policy, and diversity and inclusion; Dr. Zaidi provided insights of ones own thoughts in everyday interpersonal encounters.



Dr. Sara Zaidi

At the March General Membership Meeting, all Members enjoyed a presentation from Rev. Sunshine Daye. With more than two decades in human relations training, Rev. Daye presented "Our Words Matter" – a look into the impact our words have in daily communication with ourselves and others.



Rev. Sunshine Daye

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Thanks to the generous support of our community partners, family, friends and members, JLLB raised more than \$46,000 this year! Funds raised support the League's important programs and services that advances JLLB's mission in the Long Beach community.

Long Beach Gives

We kicked off in October 2021 with a successful campaign with Long Beach Gives, the city's annual online giving program that provides a fun and easy way for the community to come together to support local nonprofits. JLLB Members raised more than \$6,000 during the one-day fundraising event!



11th Annual LUNAFEST



After two years of virtual events, the JLLB Fundraising Events Committee was once again able to host its largest annual fundraiser, LUNAFEST in person this year! JLLB's 11th Annual LUNAFEST fundraiser was hosted in April 2022 at the Art Theatre in Long Beach. More than 100 event attendees viewed several short films written by, for and about women and enjoyed food, drinks, and an opportunity drawing on the Backlot following the showings. The event raised more than \$15,000 for the League!

THANK YOU TO OUR LUNAFEST BLUE MOON SPONSORS

2021-2022
JLLB Board of
Directors

2021-2022 JLLB
Sustainer
Council

The Weiss
Family

Trinka &
Lynton Roswell





SOCIAL EVENTS

Work hard, play hard! The JLLB Arrangements Committee organized a number of fun social activities throughout the League year to bring Members together and build stronger friendships.

From bundling up for a gondola ride in the bay around Naples, to basking in the sunshine at an afternoon tea, or working up a sweat at an exhilarating Barre class, our Members loved the opportunity to gather together safely and enjoy each other's company.



SUSTAINER UPDATE

In October, our wonderful Sustaining Members hosted the much-loved Harvest Luncheon, celebrating women who have reached the incredible milestone of 50 years of JLLB Membership. 26 Sustainers were recognized at the moving event hosted at Old Ranch Country Club.

We are grateful for these honorees and their many contributions to the Junior League and to the Long Beach community as a whole.

Class of 1968

- Judy Combs
- Sarah Lake Doty
- Donna Gibbs
- Carol Manker
- Jean Nelson

Class of 1969

- Marilyn Brown
- Karen Clements
- Sandy Darling
- Patsy Gilsleider
- Judy Griggs
- Liz Lucas
- Ethel Sanford

Class of 1970

- Sandra Clarke
- Gail Schmoller
- Midgie Cahan
- Margaret Durnin
- Charlene Jenkins
- Sally Schmidt
- Denise Severson-Hobbs

Class of 1971

- Christine Lungren-Maddalone
- Ruth Noble
- Mary Kay Nottage
- Mary Stanton
- Carli Steers
- Sally Tanner-Smock
- Jean Wiblemo



In addition to once again hosting the the Van Heath and Annual Holiday Party in-person, the Sustainer Council and Sustainer Garden Group organized various field trips to cultural venues around Southern California to allow Sustaining Members to reconnect and engage with one another as well as with Active Members.

Sustainers also continued to support the work of the League through individual financial sponsorships and donations, including the Sustainer Council's Blue Moon sponsorship of JLLB's signature LUNAFEST fundraiser this Spring. They also hosted an in-person New Member Welcome and organized the virtual Fall Leadership Forum to bring Actives and Sustainers together, in addition to their continued work advising and mentoring Active members of the League. We couldn't do this important work without them!

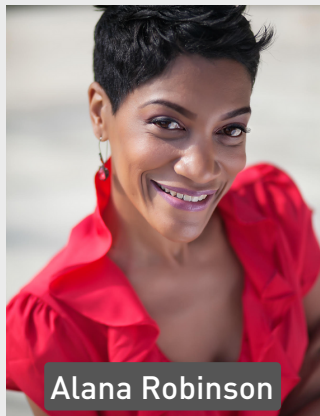
MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We are thrilled to introduce the eleven wonderful ladies of the JLLB's 2021-2022 Fall and Spring New Member Classes!



Abigail Cruz



Alana Robinson



Alex Magnall



Ashley Strickland



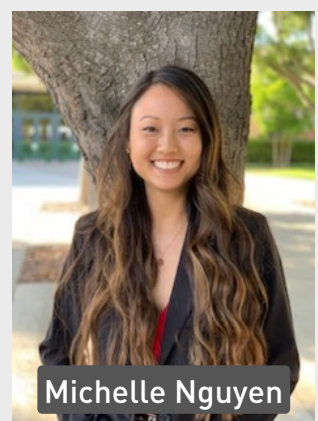
Brittany Reynolds



Cassie Swan



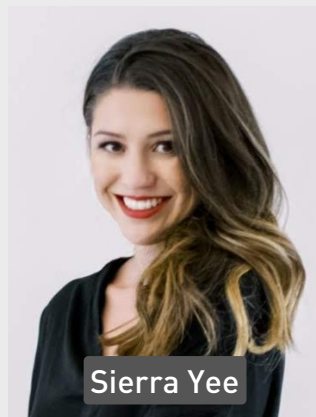
Fiona Foster



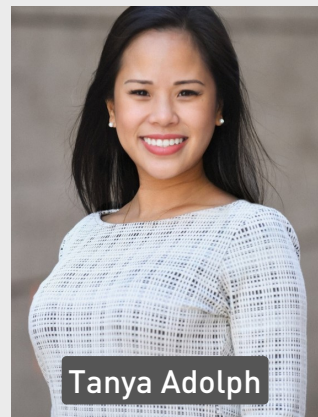
Michelle Nguyen



Sharon Owens



Sierra Yee



Tanya Adolph



CONGRATULATIONS, 2022-2023 LEADERS!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022-2023

President: Francine Odee
President-Elect: Kaley Millan
Treasurer: Jessica Harbison Weaver
Executive Secretary: Allison Anderson
Membership VP: Jessica Martone
Fund Development VP: Bridget McCann
Community VP: Christina Pearce
Nominating Chair: Kami Riley
Board Assistant: Arantxa Chavarria
Sustaining Advisor: Shelly Horvath



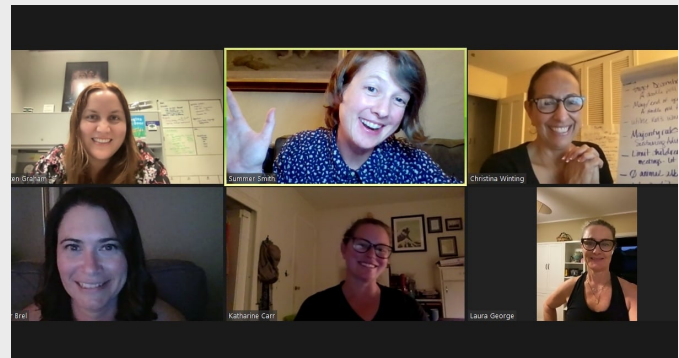
THANK YOU, 2021-2022 LEADERS



BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021-2022

President: Jaylene Eatherly Westfall
President-Elect: Francine Odee
Treasurer: Cameron Hernandez (not pictured)
Treasurer Elect: Jessica Harbison Weaver
Executive Secretary: Leslie Martinez
Membership VP: Ashley Hopkins
Fund Development VP: Alyce Coley
Community VP: Kaley Millan
Nominating Chair: Cheli Nye (not pictured)
Board Assistant: Jessica Martone
Sustaining Advisor: Christie Bettendorf

JLLB IN PICTURES





JUNIOR LEAGUE OF LONG BEACH

LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH!



@JuniorLeagueofLongBeach



Info@JLLB.org



@JLLLongBeach



Interested in becoming a member of the
Junior League of Long Beach?

Contact newmember@jllb.org stay up to date on
details for our Fall 2022 New Member Class!

