



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF  
**WINSTON-SALEM**



# WOWS

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF WINSTON-SALEM • 2023-2024

**WORDS OF WINSTON-SALEM**

- 03 LETTERS FROM THE PRESIDENT AND PRESIDENT-ELECT
- 04 WHO WE ARE
- 05 YEAR IN REVIEW
- 06 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS
- 08 2023-2024 JLWS AWARDS
- 10 ANNUAL REPORT
- 12 FUNDRAISERS
- 14 LITERACY & EDUCATION EQUITY FUND
- 16 COMMUNITY IMPACT
- 17 KALEIDEUM
- 18 OUR MEMBERS
- 19 SEEN AROUND TOWN

**2023-2024 CONTRIBUTORS TO WORDS OF WINSTON-SALEM:**

MEAGAN FORBES  
 ELIZABETH WINN  
 HEATHER WILBURN  
 SARAH McCOY  
 ANNA GERAS  
 ERIN GREENE  
 ONDRA WALKER  
 GRACE WHITE  
 ARIEL BROTHERTON  
 ADISON BAKER  
 CARRIE VICKERY

**DESIGN:**  
 SIR SPEEDY PRINTING

**COVER:**  
 TWO MEMBERS SERVE FOOD AT A STRONG WOMEN. STRONG FAMILIES. HEALTH FAIR.

**PUBLICATION DATE:**  
 MARCH 2025



Dear Junior League of Winston-Salem Members and Supporters,

It has been an honor and privilege to serve alongside such dedicated and passionate individuals who are committed to making a positive impact in our community.

Together, we have accomplished so much. Each initiative we undertook has brought us closer to our mission of advancing women's leadership for meaningful community

impact through volunteer action, collaboration, and training.

Here's a summary of the highlights from the Junior League of Winston-Salem's activities over the past year:

**1. Community Outreach Programs:** The JLWS excelled in its mission to serve the community through various outreach programs with over 900 volunteer hours.

**2. Educational Workshops:** Members participated in several training workshops aimed at empowering leadership advancement. Topics ranged from leadership skills to career development, to personal health initiatives.

**3. Fundraising Events:** Successful fundraising events were held throughout the year to support charitable projects and community initiatives. These events not only raised funds but also increased awareness about the League's mission.

**4. Membership Growth and Engagement:** The JLWS continued to focus on membership engagement, recruitment, and retention efforts. New members brought fresh ideas and energy to the organization, while members worked on creating a new committee to improve training opportunities for our membership in the 2024-2025 League year.

**5. Endowment Update:** During our Centennial, the JLWS created a new endowment at the Winston-Salem Foundation, the JLWS Literacy & Education Equity Fund. The funds in the endowment support individual schools within the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School system that align with our impact area of increasing children's literacy.

I am incredibly proud of what we have achieved during this past year, but I am even more excited about the future of our League. I encourage each of you to continue to support the JLWS with the same enthusiasm and dedication that has defined our organization over the last 100 years.

Thank you all for your hard work and unwavering support. It has been a privilege to serve as your president, and I am grateful for the friendships and memories we have created together.

Warm regards,

*Allison Bradbury*

Allison Bradbury  
 2023-2024 President



Dear Active and Sustaining Members of the Junior League of Winston-Salem,

When I joined the Junior League in the fall of 2012, I never would have imagined that 12 years later I would be president of this incredible organization. It is my great honor to serve all our members - Active and Sustainer - and lead the JLWS into its 102nd year of advancing women's leadership for meaningful community

impact through volunteer action, collaboration, and training.

What sets the JLWS apart from other community organizations is our emphasis on training. For myself, that's meant learning how to create a balanced budget, how to delegate tasks across a committee, and how to run an efficient meeting, just to name a few! I'm grateful for all the opportunities the Junior League has afforded me and want the same experience for all our members.

With that in mind, I look forward to introducing a brand new committee focused on providing real and lasting training moments to grow our members' skillsets. The Member Engagement and Leadership Development Committee will identify the necessary training to grow women ready to step into leadership positions across the entire JLWS, as well as in their personal and professional lives. I can't wait to see what this talented group shares with all of us in the coming year!

Most importantly, the end result of a properly trained membership is an even greater community impact. We are a league that is standing on the shoulders of 102 years of innovative and vital volunteerism in our community, a fact that continues to inspire me in my own league career. I believe wholeheartedly in all our community placements and look forward to seeing what change our members will bring about for the citizens of Winston-Salem.

Thank you for trusting me to serve as president in 2024-2025. I look forward to seeing what we will accomplish together!

*Sarah*

Sarah Johnson Blackwell  
 2023-2024 President-Elect



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2023-2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



- President: Allison Bradbury
- President-Elect: Sarah Johnson Blackwell
- Administrative Vice President: Chinu Dama
- Communications Vice President: Meagan Forbes
- Communications Assistant Vice President: Elizabeth Winn
- Community Vice President: Abby Becherer Bartholomew
- Community Assistant Vice President: Diane Staff
- Finance Vice President: Meg Horvat
- Finance Assistant Vice President: Allison Sigmon
- Membership Vice President: Fowler Smith
- Membership Assistant Vice President: Kathleen Hansen
- Strategic Planning Officer: Christa Burger
- Volunteer Development Chair: Tess Knops
- Nominating Chair: Isabelle White
- Sustainer Vice President: Leigh Sobel
- Member-At-Large: Erin Greene

VALUES

- We exist to strengthen and improve our community.
- We value and support the power of trained volunteers.
- We value each member.
- We value and encourage ethnic, racial, religious, and economic diversity.
- We grow through challenging experiences.
- We wisely manage our resources.
- We are ethical and fair.

OUR COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

The Junior League of Winston-Salem, Inc. welcomes all women who value our mission. We are committed to inclusive environments of diverse individuals, organizations and communities.



WINSTON-SALEM IS GROWING.  
SO ARE WE.

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR TEAM

**Linville | Team Partners**  
COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE

MISSION

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

VISION

The Junior League of Winston-Salem, Inc. nurtures and educates individuals to build healthier families and a stronger community.

WHAT DOES THE JLWS DO?

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



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF  
**WINSTON-SALEM**  
jlws.org



**564** women currently make up the JLWS

**900 VOLUNTEER HOURS**  
worth  
**\$30,141.00**

2023-2024 COMMUNITY IMPACT

**BookWORM**

**2,037 books** collected for local organizations and individuals. **1,000 books** were donated through community partners and events

**Strong Women. Strong Families.**

**310+** parents and children participated in three health fairs and were served a healthy dinner. **55+** small kitchen appliances were distributed to families. **\$1,000+** in raffle giveaways

**Crosby Scholars**

JLWS read **157** college application essays from **115** Crosby Scholar participants working towards higher education

**Backpack Program**

JLWS provided **2,147 meals** with fresh fruit weekly to an average of **50** students at Cook Literacy Model School

**Tour of Fine Spaces**

The JLWS raised approximately **\$28,110** towards JLWS community projects

**Little Black Dress Initiative**

Advocates raised **more than \$12,000** towards JLWS community projects

**Kids in the Kitchen**

JLWS baked **1,160** healthy sweets and helped feed **3,780** people with H.O.P.E. **47** sets of kitchen items donated (**\$600+** value)

**Literacy and Education Equity Fund (LEEF)**

**7** WS/FCS teachers received mini-grants totaling approximately **\$2,210** to fund projects that focus on children's literacy, educating, and mentoring youth, and improving family health outcomes



**131 Liberty View Lane | Suite 201 | Winston-Salem, NC 27101 | Phone: 336.722.9681**

**General Membership Meetings**, often referred to as GMMs, are held throughout the year to bring together our membership, provide training that supports our mission, educate members on happenings within the League, and more. This year, our League Linkers committee went above and beyond and selected five different locations around Forsyth County that allowed our membership to explore new places.

During the meetings, we had wonderful speakers and training that left members feeling invigorated and ready to better our community. Most importantly, we celebrated! We celebrated our 101st birthday, members who were going above and beyond, and teachers in our community who received the first seven LEEF Grants from our centennial project.



## GMM Snapshots

### SEPTEMBER 2023



**Location:** Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina  
**Guest Speaker:** Ann Phelps and Jasmine Logan, The Program for Leadership and Character at Wake Forest University  
**Highlights:** Centennial Gala Past Presidents' Toast Painting Reveal and BookWORM Fall Drive Kickoff  
**JLWS Awards:** League Linkers Committee and Ondra Walker

### NOVEMBER 2023



**Location:** Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts  
**Guest Speaker:** Scott Best, Executive Director H.O.P.E. of Winston-Salem  
**Highlights:** Fall LEEF Grant Presentation and Backpack Food Drive for Cook Literacy Model School  
**JLWS Awards:** Recruitment Committee and Strong Women. Strong Families. Committee

### JANUARY 2024



**Location:** The Barn at Reynolda Village  
**Meeting:** Member Voting Meeting  
**Highlights:** Little Black Dress Initiative Training and Kids in the Kitchen Cooking Utensil Drive  
**JLWS Awards:** Tour of Fine Spaces Committee and Backpack Committee

### MAY 2024

**Location:** Truist Stadium  
**Meeting:** End of the Year Updates and 2023-2024 JLWS Awards  
**Highlights:** Spring LEEF Grant Presentation, Recognition of New Active Members and Sustainers, Annual Fund Raffle, and Strong Women. Strong Families. Small Appliance Drive



### MARCH 2024

**Location:** The Red Barn at Tanglewood Park  
**Meeting:** JLWS Panel featuring Megan Davis, Leah Crowley, Paige Bosworth, Martine Silver, and Tiffany Statler  
**Highlights:** 101st Birthday Celebration, Placement Fair, and BookWORM Spring Drive Kickoff  
**JLWS Awards:** League Pathing Committee and Little Black Dress Initiative Advocates



**NEW MEMBER OF THE YEAR  
BETHANY SCHULTZ**



There is one new member that stood out since before the year started. Not only did she soak up every opportunity that her new member year had to offer, she also attended almost every recruitment opportunity prior to her new member year beginning. She showed that she is committed to supporting the Junior League and building a better Winston-Salem.

It is for these reasons that we are confident she will continue to make an impact as she becomes an active member next year. Congratulations to New Member of the Year Bethany Schultz!

**SUSTAINER OF THE YEAR  
LISA AFT**



It seems only fitting that we recognized this past year's Sustainer of the Year at the conclusion of our Centennial year. She has always been a leader for our League and community but for over two years she dedicated her focus to two key events of our

Centennial celebration: the history exhibits at Reynolda House and the Forsyth County Public Library.

We can't thank Lisa Aft enough for her time and energy other than to acknowledge her as our Sustainer of the Year!

**ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE YEAR  
STEPHANIE DELANEY AND  
BRITTANY BUNDEFF**



Stephanie Delaney demonstrated exceptional leadership by going above and beyond to meet the needs of others. She transformed our placement process in her role as the League Pathing Chair by applying her passion for senior business analytics. Stephanie streamlined and modernized an often chaotic placement process making it easier for our membership to chart desired paths on their league journey.

As League Pathing Chair, Stephanie has implemented data analysis, research, relevant training, and leadership concepts to help our membership evolve and grow both as women

and as active participants in our community. We are so grateful for her analytical mind and servant-leader heart which is why she was the first recipient of Active Member of the Year.

Planning a get-together for over 100 of your friends is no small feat, but doing it five times over and creating member wide socials throughout the year sounds downright daunting. Our League Linkers Chair, Brittany Bundeff, not only tackled those huge lifts, but she did it with a smile and a grace that stopped us in our tracks. Her careful planning, attention to detail, and seamless execution for our member wide events could not go unrecognized. This past year, we awarded her as a second recipient of the JLWS Active Member of the Year. The League is so grateful for your service.

**COMMUNITY PLACEMENT OF THE YEAR  
STRONG WOMEN.  
STRONG FAMILIES.**



The Community Placement of the Year was awarded to the Strong Women. Strong Families. (SWSF) committee. Their mission is to bring together the families of Title I schools and community outreach organizations with a special focus on overall health and wellbeing.

During the 2023-2024 League year, SWSF hosted a total of three successful events. At the events, caregivers were able to connect with the community partner organizations while the children participated in activities

such as face painting, decorating flower pots, and various games.

At the fall event, the children experienced a special science activity hosted by Kaleideum. Every child was given an opportunity to select a book to take home from our BookWORM committee and a snack provided by our Kids in the Kitchen committee.

Families were then invited to come together and enjoy a free meal. Each event ended in a raffle for gift cards and children's bikes, and families were eligible to receive a free kitchen appliance.

Throughout the year, SWSF served 309 meals and gave away \$994 worth of raffle items and 56 appliances! The committee consisted of seven JLWS members led by Jennifer Smid (Chair), Jessica Barger (Assistant Chair), Chelsea Tarr (Food Chair), and Sarah Simpson (Medical Hospitality Chair). Congratulations to our SWSF committee on such a successful year!

**FRIEND OF THE LEAGUE  
LINVILLE TEAM PARTNERS**



The Junior League of Winston-Salem presented the Friend of the League award to Linville Team Partners. Their generous donation of event space was instrumental in maximizing our fundraising efforts, allowing us to support vital community outreach programs.

This support directly contributed to the sustainability and expansion of our initiatives, making a lasting impact on the individuals and families we serve.

We are immensely grateful for their generosity and dedication to making a positive difference in our community.

Thank you, Linville Team Partners, for your invaluable support and commitment to our shared vision of service and empowerment.

**KATHARINE REYNOLDS  
JOHNSTON AWARD  
NANCY PLEASANTS**



The Katharine Reynolds Johnston League Legacy Award is reserved for past and present JLWS members who have served the community at exceptional levels and lived the JLWS mission of advancing women's leadership for meaningful community impact through volunteer action, collaboration, and training.

Nancy joined the Junior League in 1967 and during her Active years, she chaired the Life Skills Course, was Newsheet Editor, Treasurer, and Community Vice President.

In 1977, she became the first Area 111 AJLI Council member from our Junior League. Nancy served her Presidential term for the Junior League of Winston-Salem from 1979-1980. She was an enthusiastic leader, always having with her a "little black book, which carries her mind." Everyone agreed that her strengths were having a love of people, a great sense of organization, and a willingness to try new things.

During her tenure, JLWS project focuses included Horizons, Juvenile Justice Council, Learning Difficulties, Parenting Education, Committee on Aging, Public Affairs, WFDD, and CPR training.

We were honored to present JLWS Past President, Nancy Pleasants, with the Katharine Reynolds Johnston Award!

**IN LEAGUE PLACEMENT  
NOMINATING COMMITTEE**



The In League Placement of the Year went to a committee that always acts in the best interest of the Junior League of Winston-Salem, placing the organization ahead of personal beliefs and wishes.

This committee balances the leadership needs of the JLWS with the skills and interests of the membership, working tirelessly (and meeting weekly!) to slate the officers of the Board of Directors and appoint all of the nominated leadership positions.

This past year, the Nominating Committee filled 57 leadership positions. The dedicated members of this committee were integral to shaping the future of the JLWS and approached their work with intentionality, creativity, discretion, and, ultimately, a love of the League. Congratulations to the Nominating Committee on receiving the In League Placement of the Year!

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

May 31, 2024 and 2023

	2024	2023
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 147,813	\$ 78,855
Inventory	2,627	2,627
Investments	403,317	427,410
Prepaid expenses	5,247	39
Property and equipment, net	5,137	6,785
Operating lease right-of-use assets	178,480	217,512
Beneficial interest in assets held by others	260,265	213,188
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$1,002,886</b>	<b>\$946,416</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 6,640	\$ 2,704
Deferred membership dues	55,730	61,795
Operating lease liabilities	184,306	223,515
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 246,676</b>	<b>\$288,014</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Without donor restrictions		
Undesignated	\$ 490,741	\$ 442,214
Board designated for endowment	184,956	160,448
	\$ 675,697	\$ 602,662
With donor restrictions	\$ 80,513	\$ 55,740
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 756,210</b>	<b>\$658,402</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$1,002,886</b>	<b>\$946,416</b>

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the Year Ended May 31, 2023

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
<b>SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>			
Contributions and grants	\$ 45,232	\$ 18,937	\$ 64,169
Memberships	74,405	–	74,408
In-kind contributions	–	11,141	11,141
Tour of Fine Spaces	26,817	–	26,817
Advertising income	1,050	–	1,050
Change in value of investments	68,878	–	68,878
Investment income, net	10,121	–	10,121
Miscellaneous income	5,303	–	5,303
Change in value of beneficial interest	20,638	5,836	26,474
	\$ 252,444	35,914	\$288,358
Net assets released from restrictions			
Satisfaction of purpose restrictions	11,141	(11,141)	–
<b>Total Support and Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 263,585</b>	<b>\$24,773</b>	<b>\$288,358</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Program services	\$ 103,458	–	\$ 103,458
General and administrative	64,693	–	64,693
Fundraising	22,399	–	22,399
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 190,550</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>\$190,550</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>73,035</b>	<b>24,773</b>	<b>97,808</b>
<b>Net Assets, Beginning of Year</b>	<b>602,662</b>	<b>55,740</b>	<b>658,402</b>
<b>Net Assets, End of Year</b>	<b>\$ 675,697</b>	<b>\$80,513</b>	<b>\$756,210</b>

This and future annual reports will be located on the Junior League of Winston-Salem's website.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the Year Ended May 31, 2023

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
<b>SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>			
Contributions and grants	\$ 53,669	\$ 8,756	\$ 62,425
Memberships	73,090	–	73,090
In-kind contributions	–	17,158	17,158
Centennial Gala	71,025	–	71,025
Boutique	230	–	230
Tour of Fine Spaces	22,309	–	22,309
Advertising income	750	–	750
Change in value of investments	25,237	–	25,237
Investment income, net	5,229	–	5,229
Miscellaneous income	4,305	–	4,305
Change in value of beneficial interest	1,139	202	1,341
	\$ 256,983	26,116	\$283,099
Net assets released from restrictions			
Satisfaction of purpose restrictions	17,158	(17,158)	–
<b>Total Support and Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 274,141</b>	<b>\$ 8,958</b>	<b>\$283,099</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Program services	\$ 119,644	–	\$ 119,644
General and administrative	70,779	–	70,779
Fundraising	103,273	–	103,273
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 293,696</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>\$293,696</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>(19,555)</b>	<b>8,958</b>	<b>(10,597)</b>
<b>Net Assets, Beginning of Year</b>	<b>627,952</b>	<b>48,782</b>	<b>674,734</b>
<b>Cumulative Effect Adjustment Due to Adoption of New Lease Standard</b>	<b>(5,735)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>(5,735)</b>
<b>Net Assets, End of Year</b>	<b>\$602,662</b>	<b>\$55,740</b>	<b>\$658,402</b>

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Little Black Dress Initiative (LBDI) is a weeklong awareness and fundraising campaign to educate people about local issues in the community. Advocates wear black for five consecutive days to initiate conversations about our cause.

For our 2024 LBDI campaign, the Junior League of Winston-Salem focused on food insecurity and how it impacts our community. Unfortunately, one in five children in Northwest North Carolina face hunger. JLWS Community Programs work to impact food insecurity in Forsyth County by providing families with healthy meals and snacks.

We kicked off our campaign with a “Pedal Out Hunger” ride at CycleBar. Advocates spent the week in their “little black dress” and sharing information about food insecurity in Forsyth County. We ended our campaign with the Mah Jongg Clinic and Mardi Gras Bash that was co-hosted by our Sustainers. At this new event, Sustainers taught attendees the basics of Mah Jongg while embracing the Mardi Gras season with Cajun food, raffle items, and outfits!

We are thrilled to announce that we raised over \$12,000 towards our campaign which will go directly to funding our community programs. Thank you to all the advocates, members, community partners, and donors who made our 2024 campaign successful. Together we are able to make a difference and reduce hunger in our community!



We'd like to thank our 2024 Little Black Dress Advocates for their support!

Anna Geras, Diane Staff, Sarah Keiser, Serena D'Agostino Readhead, Sarah Johnson Blackwell, Katy Nimmons, Allison Bradbury, Kristie Rhodes, April Johnson, Paige Bosworth, Kabler Meyer, Elizabeth Merriman, Elizabeth Winn, Jessica Smid, Hannah Blank, Krystal Morris, Grace White, Allison Sigmon, Isabelle White, Giulie Speziani, Chelsea Tarr, Michelle Krell, Sarah Griffin, Lindsay Sullivan, Meg Horvat

Letters from Santa



New for the 2023-2024 JLWS year was the addition of the Letters From Santa and Letters From Frosty fundraiser. This new fundraiser featured a custom letter to a child from Santa or Frosty the Snowman. Each one included special details about the child to add to the magic.

Thank You to our 2023 - 2024 JLWS Sponsors!

FRIEND OF THE LEAGUE

Schiffman's JEWELERS

CHAMPION



APRIL 2024

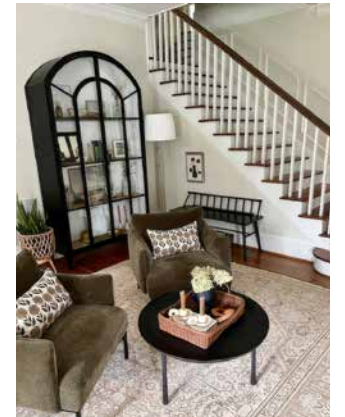
by Ariel Brotherton and Adison Baker

The 18th Annual Tour of Fine Spaces was held on April 20, 2024 and it was our most successful Tour of Fine Spaces event to date! We featured seven unique homes, including a historic AirBnB in Old Salem, Kaleideum's new downtown location, a unique outdoor landscaping build, and recently renovated and other beautiful homes to inspire. A new addition to the 2024 Tour of Fine Spaces was a silent auction, where each space had items to bid on exclusively available to Tour ticket holders.

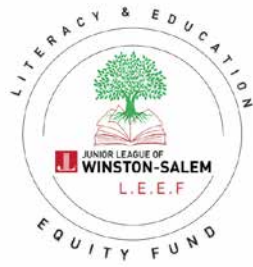
We would like to share our sincerest thanks to all of our sponsors:

- Amanda Hiatt Interiors
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- Biology Garden Design and Landscaping
- Fader Real Estate
- ICON Custom Builders
- Johnson Granite
- Linville Team Partners
- McCullough Tile
- QFC Builders
- Ron Williams Building Company
- Solid Foundation Construction
- Sterling Spaces

Save the Date for our 19th Annual Tour of Fine Spaces on Saturday, April 12, 2025!



GROWING LITERACY IN OUR COMMUNITY WITH OUR LEEF MINI GRANT PROGRAM



The Literacy & Education Equity Fund (LEEF) program's purpose is to give financial support to individual educators and schools within the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School System for projects that align with the JLWS's community focus areas of children's literacy, educating and mentoring young people, and improving families.

**FUN FACT:**

The LEEF grant program was founded as part of the JLWS Centennial celebration!

In 2024, we gave seven grants to a group of amazing educators for a total of approximately \$2,210. We had so many wonderful applicants to choose from and look forward to all the applicants we get to learn about during our 2024/2025 cycles.

**Fall 2023 Grant Recipients**

**Kathryn Gehrs**



*Kathryn Gehrs (right)*

We gave Kathryn Gehrs, a kindergarten teacher at Kimberley Park Elementary, a grant to host a "Books, Buddies & Blankets" day with the kindergarten students. Students will get to choose a new book from Bookmarks at a

"special book fair". Students will also get a new blanket and a stuffed animal reading buddy, and have a special cozy reading time in the gym. Our BookWORM committee will be donating books for the students to choose from and "gift" to children in Brenner's. A great service component for the students!

**Kristina Steveson**



*Kristina Steveson (right)*

Kristina Steveson, an art teacher at Smith Farm Elementary, will be using her grant for art materials to implement literacy instruction into visual arts lesson plans, which she learned from attending NC Center for the Advancement of Teaching's weeklong professional development training "Literacy for K-5 Specialists" in January 2023. Our members will hopefully be judging the works of art in a little contest!

**Spring 2024 Grant Recipients**

**Madelyn Hughes**



Madelyn Hughes, the media coordinator at Cook Literacy Model School, will be using her grant to purchase a large felt/white board and accessories to work with Pre-K through 1st graders and her 4th grade students. Felt boards are a great visual and tactile aid for stories that involve a lot of sequencing. The white board side will help her 4th grade readers "chunk" words into their syllables in order to sound them out.

**Gina Weymouth**



Gina Weymouth from Petree Elementary School is an EC (Exceptional Children) teacher. She will be using her grant to purchase a wonderful set of adapted books to use with her non-verbal students specifically. Her students need adapted books for visual support, limited words on the page and items that can be moved on the page. This helps her students actively follow along with the story. JLWS members have been invited to come read with the students!

**Corie Maffett**



Corie Maffett is a multi-grade math teacher at East Forsyth Middle School. Her grant will support the purchase of a fun kit of math games to help teach her students math and problem solving skills. Most of her students are connected digitally, but board games require working collaboratively with others, following directions (literacy component), and higher order thinking and problem solving skills. Fun Fact: She is the mother of one of our members, Kelsey Gibson!

**Amy Talley**

Amy Talley, from Jefferson Elementary School, is an ESL (English as a Second Language) teacher. She will use her grant to purchase bilingual and Spanish books to create a small lending library for her students. These books will include high-interest titles, non-fiction titles that align with NC curricula, and bilingual books to get families involved with reading and learning English at home.

**Erin Harp**

Erin Harp is a 3rd/4th grade teacher from Lewisville Elementary. She will be using her grant money to purchase an interesting collection of books that focus on myths and stories from around the world for her academically gifted students. She will use these to compare and contrast the use of similar themes and patterns of events in stories, myths, and literature from different cultures.



You can learn more and donate on our website, [www.jlws.org](http://www.jlws.org).

The more we raise, the more we can give!

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Congratulations on another fantastic Tour of Fine Spaces! My team and I loved seeing all the creative and unique renovations. And thanks to all the volunteers who made it happen!  
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The Junior League of Winston-Salem aims to create positive change for the betterment of our community. We currently have five community projects that address issues ranging from education to health and human services. During the 2023-2024 League year, the members of the JLWS completed 900 volunteer hours across all five placements.

**Backpack**



JLWS was at Cook Literacy Model School weekly during the school year to pack and deliver bags of food to students who need more to eat over weekends and school breaks. Over the course of the school year we packed and delivered over 2,200 bags of food to the children at Cook.

**BookWORM**



We collected 2,075 books throughout this year and got them in the hands of children in our community that would otherwise not have access to

them! These books made it out in the community thanks to Imprint Cares, LEAD Girls, Brenner NICU, Amos Cottage, Strong Women. Strong Families., the Bookmarks Festival of Books and Authors, the Ultimate Sacrifice Back to School giveaway, among others.

Thank you to Footnote Coffee and Cocktails, Kim Taylor & Company, CycleBar, Pest-X Exterminating, both Pure Barre locations (Stratford and Reynolda Village) and Tour of Fine Spaces for hosting boxes during the Spring Drive.

**Crosby Scholars**



**Crosby Scholars**

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Members who work with Crosby Scholars review and provide guidance and suggestions to college bound students to strengthen their application essays. This year committee members read 157 essays from 115 scholars working towards higher education.

**Kids in the Kitchen**



The Junior League's Kids in the Kitchen Committee addresses several critical issues that children and their families face in Winston-Salem, including food deserts and lack of available healthy alternatives. We partnered with H.O.P.E. of Winston-

Salem (Help Our People Eat) and various community-centered events throughout the year that are focused on equipping children with essential cooking skills and nutritional knowledge. By empowering children to make healthy food choices and providing them with the skills to cook nutritious meals, Kids in the Kitchen aims to combat the impact of food deserts and promote better health outcomes for future generations. Together we baked 1,160 healthy sweets, helped feed over 3,780 people, and donated 47 sets of kitchen items.

**Strong Women. Strong Families.**



Strong Women. Strong Families. held three health fairs, two at Cook Literacy Model School and one at Kimberley Park Elementary. We were able to provide the community with appliances, meals during the events, take home meal kits, and raffles.

We were excited that H.O.P.E., B Balance Counseling, Second Harvest Food Bank, Dental Education from multiple practices, You Can Vote, Car Seat and Helmet Safety from Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist, Family Services Forsyth Counseling, Wake Forest Law Department and High Point PT Department were excellent community partners to make our year successful.

**THE NEW KALEIDEUM:  
A VISUAL TESTAMENT TO THE LASTING  
LEGACY OF THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF  
WINSTON-SALEM**

By Carrie Vickery  
Kaleideum Board Member and  
2022-2023 JLWS President



In 1962, Mrs. Claude Strickland, Mrs. James Hancock, Mrs. Louis Owen and Mrs. Robert Cordelle on behalf of the Junior League of Winston-Salem, launched an idea for a children's nature science center in Winston-Salem. The Nature Science Center, later renamed Sci-Works, opened in 1964 to the greater Winston-Salem community in the Barn at Reynolda Village and later moved to the location on Hanes Mill Road in partnership with Forsyth County. The museum paved the way for thousands of Triad children to discover through interactive hands-on learning.

As a gift to the city of Winston-Salem to commemorate its 75th anniversary, the Junior League of Winston-Salem launched a capital campaign for the Children's Museum of Winston-Salem. Instrumental in that launch were JLWS members: Marie Arcuri, Pat Avetta, Cindy Christopher, Susan Conger, Susan Elster, Adrienne Livengood, Shannon Rainey, Sharon Ralston, Nancy Schneider, and Kim Stogner, in addition to numerous others. In 2004, the Children's Museum welcomed all ages of learners to its location on Liberty Street with colorful exhibits focused on young children and expanding their imaginations. Beginning in 2009, Elizabeth Dampier, JLWS Sustaining Member, served as the Executive Director for the Children's Museum and is now the CEO and Executive Director for Kaleideum.

In 2016, I was a member of the Board of Directors for the Children's Museum of Winston-Salem and part of a historic vote to merge these two long-standing JLWS projects. That merger created a new organization, Kaleideum, a word that plays on the everlasting children's toy, kaleidoscope. At the time of the merger, the plan was to continue to operate in two locations while a new single building was constructed with an anticipated opening in 2020.



Fast forward four years past the planned opening and in February 2024, the newly reimagined Kaleideum opened to the public on Third Street in downtown Winston-Salem. This new building highlights more ties to the Junior League, this time in the form of Shelley Holden, Capital Campaign Chair and a JLWS Sustaining member. The grand opening of this 70,000 square foot building has four floors of interactive exhibits including a water exhibit, a rooftop play area, and a reading and storytelling exhibit on the 3rd floor recognizing the Junior League of Winston-Salem. With one of the JLWS focus areas being children's literacy, I can think of no better exhibit to acknowledge the monumental role of the Junior League of Winston-Salem.



The ties of the Junior League of Winston-Salem to Kaleideum are strong and lengthy, with JL members visioning and working to create these two

unique organizations that later became one, and now to morph into this fantastic space with the stamp of the Junior League all over it. There is no bigger visual testament to the work of the JLWS than to see the children running through this new space, to hear giggling and screaming in awe and to know that this would not have been possible without the women of the Junior League of Winston-Salem.

To learn about your next visit to Kaleideum, you can visit [www.kaleideum.org](http://www.kaleideum.org). To learn more about our intertwined history, you can check out the History tab on the Kaleideum website or the Our History tab on the [www.jlws.org](http://www.jlws.org) site.

Meet the New DEIB Committee



The committee consisted of Martine Silver (Chair), Edelin Silab (Assistant Chair), Whitney Mack-Obi, and Kathryn Vernon.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) transitioned into a committee in the year of 2023-2024 with the intention of progressing the values and mission of the Junior League in accordance to AJLI. The committee collaborated with other JLWS committees and community members to increase diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging throughout league-wide activities, social media, and community outreach.

AJLI Annual Conference 2024



Allison Bradbury (President), Sarah Blackwell (President-Elect), and Kristie Rhodes (President-Elect-Elect) traveled to New Orleans, Louisiana to attend the AJLI Annual Conference in May. They were among 215 Leagues in attendance and brought back new ideas surrounding member engagement, member retention, and how to amplify the image and relevancy of the Junior League.

JLWS New Member Class 2023-2024



The first year of membership with the Junior League of Winston-Salem is spent as a New Member. New Members learn the history and structure of JLWS, receive volunteer training, and attend GMMs. New members are put into small groups led by current Active members, who assist in a personalized transition into the Junior League.

Past Presidents' Luncheon



The Junior League of Winston-Salem held its annual Past Presidents' Luncheon at Forsyth Country Club. The luncheon brought together the presidents from previous years to celebrate the work of the organization in service to the community.

Sustainer Spotlight 2023-2024



Our Sustainers had a busy and fun filled year volunteering alongside Actives, learning more about the community, and celebrating!





JUNIOR LEAGUE OF  
**WINSTON-SALEM**

131 Liberty View Lane, Suite 201  
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

PHONE (336) 722-9681 • FAX (336) 722-2691

E-MAIL [financialadmin@jlws.org](mailto:financialadmin@jlws.org)

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