



## The League Letter

A Monthly Letter From Amber Hubbs Golegos  
President Of The Junior League of Evanston- North Shore

### A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear JLE-NS Members,

We have a fabulous February ahead! Despite the accumulating snow and chilly temperatures, our members haven't let it stop them from doing great things in our community. I admire the dedication, hard work and generosity our members have shown this year. Our Annual Fund Campaign has received significant donations which allows our League the ability to advance employment, develop the potential of women through training, and further support community impact projects. With these generous donations we can continue to be a force of positivity for our community and stay relevant.

THANK YOU for everything you do to support our League!

February is **Black History Month**. In 1976, President Gerald Ford urged Americans to “seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history.” That year, the association held the first African American History Month. By this time, the entire nation had come to recognize the importance of Black history in the American story. As we strive within our League to live up to our commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), we honor and celebrate the struggles, the history and the leaders of our ever-changing world.

At our February 17, 2021 GMM, we will be hosting Tiffany Blackman as our guest speaker. Tiffany serves on the Council of Junior Leagues regarding DEI. She is also the founder and first acting President of the AJLI Women of Color Affinity group which was established in 2017. This will also be our Neighborhood meeting. In years past, this was an opportunity for our League to gather at a member's home. Since we will be meeting virtually this year, we encourage everyone to join the meeting via video from your favorite room of your home. Despite being apart, we can still feel connected and learn more about our fellow members.

Best,

*Amber Hubbs Golegos*

President, Junior League of Evanston - North Shore

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# JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

## *Volunteer Excellence Awards*



*Dina Mead*

For her tireless work as  
Nominating & Placement chair



*Nicole Roberts*

For her work on the  
DIAD Committee



*Katy Leydon*

For her volunteerism and dedication to  
JLE-NS as a transfer

## *Community Grant fund Ad-Hoc Committee:*



*Kris Hagen*



*Betsy Turvitz*



*Karen Burchell*



*Melanie Glass*



*Lyn Aleshire*



*Nicole Bogdanovich*



*Elizabeth Osborne*



*Amber Galegas*

This group of amazing women have been nominated for their time and thorough analysis of community partners to be selected to receive a portion of the \$100k grant fund. We appreciate that they stepped up when the President asked for volunteers and completed the task thoughtfully and quickly.

## *Virtual New Year's Celebration & Flower Arranging Class*



Thank you to all of our members that joined us for our Virtual New Year's Celebration on January 14th. We enjoyed learning from Flowers for Dreams on how to create our own beautiful flower arrangements.

# **2020-2021 ANNUAL FUND DONORS**

The Junior League of Evanston-North Shore continues to be a vibrant contributing part of our community with your help through the Annual Fund Drive. Your contribution to the JLE-NS Annual Fund can make a real difference in our ability to advance employment, advance education and support families. Thank you to the generous members who donated to the 2020-2021 Annual Fund this year!

# *Thank You*

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER WITH YOUR SUPPORT!

★ **Diane Beemer**

★ **Beverly Birck**

★ **Constance Casey**

★ **Michele Dunard**

★ **Libby Graham**

★ **Ann Brown Hartman**

★ **Katie Hicks**

★ **Pamela Kerr**

★ **Emily Marshall**

★ **Mary McNutt**

★ **Elizabeth Mikel**

★ **Susan Moran**

★ **Susan C. Peterson**

★ **Ann Potter**

★ **Tish Robinson**

★ **Roberta Olsen Siegfriedt**

★ **Sally Volkert-Bissell**

★ **Linda Weber**

★ **Cynthia Willis**

Interested in making a donation? Please visit our website at [www.jle-ns.org/support-us](http://www.jle-ns.org/support-us)

Thank you for your support!

# MEMBER IN THE SPOTLIGHT

## MELANIE GLASS

*Sustainer Director - Sustainer*



*"It has been an amazing ride!"*

### What's your "why" for being in the Junior League?

It all started with a house walk in Kenilworth and Karen Miller. I didn't know her at the time but her house was on the tour and of course, she had JLE-NS information brochures displayed. My mom suggested that I take one and look into joining. My initial reason for joining was to hopefully make a few new friends and have some opportunities to volunteer. I attended an information meeting at Champion House and was warmly welcomed by past President, Theresa Gernand. I am happy to say that over the past 17 years I have surpassed my goal of making a few new friends and doing a little volunteer work. It has been an amazing ride!

### How many years have you been in the JLE-NS?

I joined in 2004 along with 20+ new members. I am the remaining member of my class.

### What has been one of your favorite placements?

I have loved Thrift House from the very beginning. It serves so many people on so many different platforms. It's our 'little engine that can'. I've watched it transform both physically and with our fabulous staff, who keep the store running smoothly and looking beautiful. I've served as a co-Chair twice; once with Dina Mead and once again with Tammy Mitchell and have had the honor of serving on the Board of Directors for the past four years.



## What is one of your favorite JLE-NS memories?

I truly have so many great memories over the years, but I can say my favorite times have been when I have done research on our League for our milestone anniversaries. When JLE-NS still had the attic at Champion House I can remember digging through endless boxes, scrap books and photo albums on a Saturday afternoon with Rebecca Garces. We were looking for photos for our 85th anniversary and found so many amazing treasures dating all the way back to the 1920's. With the help of the Evanston History Center's Archives, there were more great news clippings and articles to be found which were used for the 95th anniversary history tour. Being able to review these treasures really helped me to better understand what an amazing organization I am a part of and the countless number of people our League has served over the years.

## Tell us about yourself:

I live in Wilmette where I am self-employed as an interior design project manager. I am passionate about architecture/design and historic preservation and served on the Wilmette Historical Preservation Commission for 8 years.

I love playing in the dirt in both my vegetable and flower gardens and being in the kitchen where I enjoy cooking, canning and preserving. I guess all of those years in FHA (Future Homemakers of America) stuck with me.

I also spend much of my time with my boyfriend Mark, whom many of you have met at JLE-NS functions over the years. We love to go exploring out-of-the-way places, long hikes on beautiful trails, listening to live music at small venues and trying out the many great restaurants in/around Chicago. If we are not here you will find us 'Up North' in Land O' Lakes Wisconsin enjoying pure nature, clean air, a cocktail on the beach and the gorgeous sunsets over Big Portage Lake.



If you would like to be the next Member In The Spotlight, please attend our next GMM meeting on 2/17/2021 and your name could be randomly selected as the next member featured!

# IMPORTANT DATES



We are excited to share upcoming events. Each month will ladder back to a theme rooted in our mission and values. Please save these dates in your calendar but always check Digital Cheetah for the most current schedule as these events are subject to change. Due to COVID to ensure the safety of our members, we will adhere to state guidelines in regards to group gatherings. For in-person events proper PPE will be enforced and we will always offer a virtual or call-in method for attendance to ensure our members feel safe and comfortable.



## FEBRUARY: BLACK HISTORY MONTH

- 2/3 (7:00-9:00): Management Board Meeting
- 2/6 (10:00-2:00): JLE-NS Members-Only Shopping Day at Thrift House
- 2/9 (6:55-8:00): Galentine's Day Yoga Social on Zoom
- 2/10 (7:00-9:00): Policy Board Meeting
- 2/14 Valentine's Day
- 2/17 (6:30-9:00): February GMM
- 2/20 (7:00-9:00): Trivia Night "Cook Along" with Gale Gand
- 2/27 (9:00-11:30): DIAD Northern IL Food Bank



**You Are Invited!**

**FEBRUARY 20, 2021**

**JLE-NS TRIVIA NIGHT COMMITTEE  
PRESENTS A**

**"Cook Along"**

**WITH**

**Chef Gale Gand**



Tickets start at \$40. To purchase, please visit: <https://www.jle-ns.org/cook-along>

**BETTER** THE JUNIOR LEAGUE  
**TOGETHER**

The Junior League of Evanston – North Shore