

Junior League *Journal*



The Junior League of Miami, Inc. Membership Newsletter

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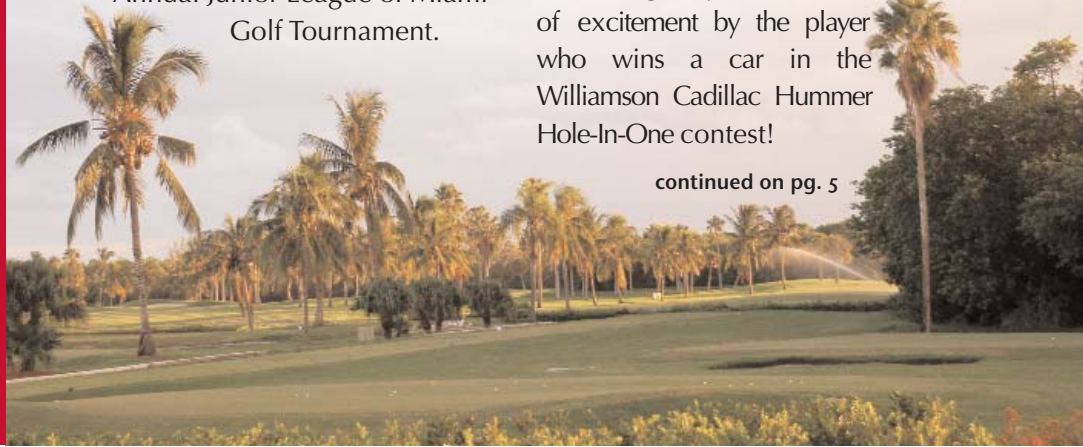
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Tournament Prep in FULL SWING!

Could there be any better way of spending an afternoon than by joining us in playing 18 holes on a championship golf course located on a breathtaking barrier island enveloped by water, mangrove forests and lush tropical foliage? Crandon Golf Key Biscayne is the place to be Thursday, October 2, 2008, for the Annual Junior League of Miami Golf Tournament.



Junior League of Miami

GOLF TOURNAMENT

For the fifth consecutive year, The Junior League of Miami is taking over the course – this year for a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start. Players will be challenged to stay focused, no small feat when considering the distractions of the roving Mojito cart or the screams of excitement by the player who wins a car in the Williamson Cadillac Hummer Hole-In-One contest!

continued on pg. 5

Congratulations, Annual Award Winners!

Bonita Whytehead–Volunteer of the Year • Lucy Ulmer–Rebecca Herndon Bush Award
Natalie Brown–Sustainer of the Year • Vivian Rodriguez–Provisional of the Year



Susan Lerner presents Volunteer of the Year Award to Bonita Whytehead



Susan Lerner presents Rebecca Herndon Bush Award to Lucy Ulmer



Julia Bianchi presents Sustainer of the Year Award to Natalie Brown



Elvira Larrain presents Provisional of the Year to Vivian Rodriguez

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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 Sustaining Advisor.....Julia Bianchi

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 Brigid Cech Samole
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 CAB LiaisonAniella Gonzalez
 Children's BereavementChristina Hudson
 Jennifer Wilson
 Community Partners....Bibi Cruz-Ledon Sears
 Community Service Award ..Kendall Pryles
 Done In A DayBonita Whytehead
 Fund Development.....Lorrie Martin
 Golf TournamentKim Sarkisian
 Maria Maloof
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 H.E.A.R.T.....Mallorie Berger
 Inn Transition NorthKim Kanoff
 Inn Transition SouthMary Cadman
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 Nordstrom.....Erin Knight
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 Provisionals.....Bibi Cruz-Ledon Sears
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 Christie Wolfe
 Sundari FoundationAlise Johnson
 Sustainer.....Morgan Park Smith
 Sondra Space
 Transfer/Mentor CoordinatorJana Hertz
 WWMD LuncheonMelissa Tolmach
 Lauren Billingslea

2008-09 General Membership Meetings

Tuesday, September 9, AM & PM
 Tuesday, October 14, AM & PM
 Tuesday, November 11, Area Meetings PM
 Tuesday, January 13, AM & PM
 Tuesday, February 10, AM & PM
 Tuesday, March 10, Area Meetings PM
 Tuesday, April 14, AM & PM

Morning (AM) meetings: 9:30 Social; 10:00 Meeting
 At JLM Headquarters, 713 Biltmore Way

Evening (PM) meetings: 6:15 Social; 7:00 Meeting
 Rivera Country Club, 1155 Blue Road, Coral Gables 33146

The Junior League of Miami is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

Our Vision is to empower Miami's women, children, and families to conquer tomorrow's challenges and to build a united community.

COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

Leona Ferguson Cooper
 Thomasina Turner Diggs
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 Dr. Pedro Greer
 Dr. Nilza Kallos

Ann Kashmer
 Israel Kreps
 David Lawrence, Jr.
 Judge Cindy Lederman
 Dr. Leda Perez

Thomas M. Rozek
 Judge Deborah White-
 Labora

To Contact Us

The Junior League of Miami headquarters is located at 713 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL 33134. Sondra Space, Office Manager.

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On the Web: www.jlmiami.org

Junior League
Journal

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**A member of The Association
 of Junior Leagues International Inc.**

JLM Volunteers Make a Difference in 2007-08

Community Highlights

- 20 Done In a Day events
- 12 grants to community organizations
- 3 college scholarships to high school girls.
- Total JLM Community Contributions: \$248,175
- 99 Moms received Mother's Day gifts
- 450 children received holiday gifts
- 2,000 meals served
- Improved literacy of 638 children and adults
- Assisted 15 homeless families to permanent homes
- Mentored 20 young women "aging out" of foster care
- Provided an estimated 3,000 volunteer hours in the community



**The
Passing of
the Gavel**

Community Projects & Grants

All-Aboard Family Literacy
Children's Bereavement Center
Done In A Day
H.E.A.R.T. (Health Education Awareness
Resources & Teaching)
Miami Lighthouse for the Blind
Sundari Foundation
Inn Transition North
Inn Transition South
Kathryn Menke Miller Community Service Awards

Fundraisers Make It All Possible

JLM Golf Tournament — \$41,073
Miami Magic — \$123,156
Women Who Make a Difference — \$68,000
Inside InStyle — \$24,000
Nordstrom Grand Opening — \$69,995
Community Partners — \$12,410
Meeting Sponsorships — \$9,518
Holiday Market — \$500
Total NET Funds Raised: \$348,652

A Salute to JLM Board of Directors 2007-08



Betty Lopez-Castro, Julia Bianchi, Barbara Oikle, Leanne Tellam, Candace Vassillion, Maria Figueroa Byrd, Loretta Nido, Christina Ureña, Kara Sharp, Caroline Blake, Mary Killeen Griffith, Katie Lane Arriola, Dana Martorella, Michelle Ramirez-Patricios, Lauren Harrison Genovese. Not pictured Betsy Harper.

President 2008-09

Message from Michelle Ramirez-Patricios

May I have this dance?

A few weeks ago, I returned from the Annual Meeting for the Association of Junior Leagues International in San Diego, California. I was fortunate to travel with Erin Knight, our President-Elect, and the trip gave us the opportunity to reflect on our hopes and aspirations for the future of our League. We also participated in amazing training on topics such as promoting our mission through advocacy, servant leadership, and celebrating diversity. We met remarkable women from over 290 other leagues in the United States, England, Mexico and Canada, all "building better communities" wherever it is they call home.

One of the highlights of the conference was to listen to and meet our keynote speaker, Academy Award winning actress and recent "Dancing with the Stars" contestant Marlee Matlin,and her ballroom dancing partner Fabian Sanchez!! (Erin, not having watched the show was somewhat perplexed, and by perplexed, I mean laughing at how starstruck I was.) I'm not sure what was more impressive to me about Marlee... the fact that a profoundly deaf girl grew up to win an oscar, or that she was able to participate in a ballroom dancing competition when she couldn't hear the music!

As Marlee told us her life story it became clear that her success came out of not viewing her disability as a disadvantage but as a difference to be embraced, and in her ability to adapt to the changing world around her. Most of all, she said, she learned to break out of her comfort zone, and

enjoy "the dance" of life, every step, ...and mis-step along the way.

At one point during Marlee's speech, Fabian attempted to jokingly take the credit for their success in the competition. Marlee responded that things are often more difficult for women in society, and that even in dancing, the woman has to do everything the man does, but has to do it backwards and in high heels!

This past year has been distinguished by amazing levels of commitment and enthusiasm. Through the leadership of Lauren Harrison Genovese and the work of our volunteers, the Junior League of Miami has made a dramatic and lasting impact throughout our community. With these achievements come aspirations to propel JLM to even higher levels of excellence. We should continue to demand more of ourselves and our organization in order to meet the needs of the populations we serve.

There are exciting times ahead and the leadership team has already been busy laying the groundwork for the year. We have implemented a diversity council, committed to recruiting and retaining the best volunteers in our community. We have officially launched a capital campaign for our beloved and historic headquarters, led skillfully by Past President Julia Bianchi, to guarantee our League will have a home in which to foster its mission. We have merged fund development with community partners in an effort to create a long term and long lasting development plan to



ensure the future of our League for decades to come.

We will concentrate on being more results oriented in implementing our strategic plan. We will continue to work on member training and leadership development through core competencies, with our Board of Directors serving as facilitators of this process. We will build on the successes of the past, getting our members focused and engaged more than ever in our mission. My wish is that by the end of the year every member will be able to recite our mission, even while dancing backwards and in heels!

It is my hope this year that we will all take some risks, step out of our comfort zones, embrace the strength that comes from our differences, taking both the good and the bad as learning experiences, knowing all the while that the Junior League of Miami's ability to adapt has and will continue to ensure our success. Most of all, when given the choice to "sit it out or dance," ...I hope you dance!

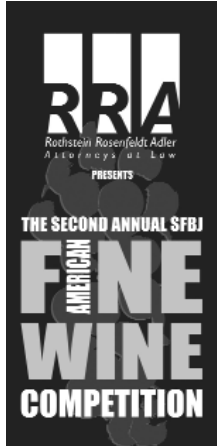
Thank you for the privilege to serve,

*Yours truly,
Michelle Ramirez-Patricios,
JLM President 2008-09*

Save the Date

Calling All Wine Lovers!

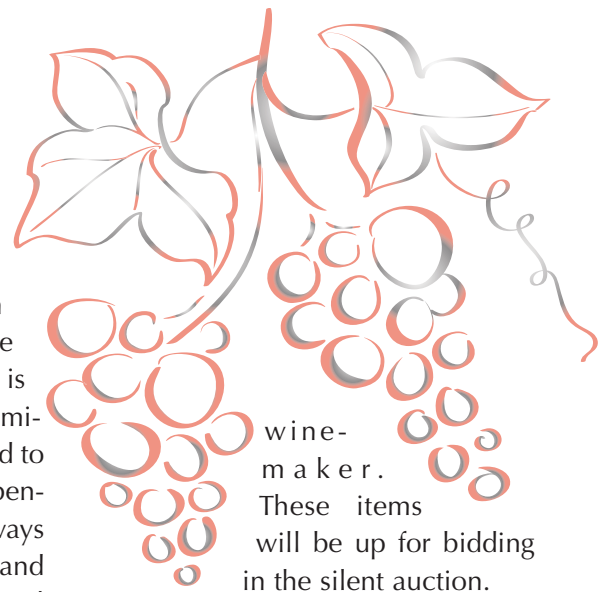
The Junior League of Miami is thrilled to partner with the South Florida Business Journal for their Second Annual American Fine Wine Competition Gala Dinner in Miami-Dade **Friday, November 21, 2008 at the Four Seasons Hotel on Brickell.**



This event is a first for the League and has become the most prestigious wine competition in the country. More than 500 American wines will compete to be the Best of the Best at the Boca Raton Resort & Club on November 3 and 4. The competition will feature a "dream team" of 20 judges who possess a wide variety of wine expertise and knowledge.


The American Fine Wine Competition and Gala Dinner is in its second year and this year, the South Florida Business Journal is bringing this great event to Miami-Dade. The Junior League is honored to have been chosen as sole charity beneficiary in our region. JLM is always striving to join forces with new and influential organizations to offer novel and exciting fundraising events for our members, families and friends to enjoy so that we may continue to make an impact in our community. This promises to be just that.

The Junior League of Miami will receive all the proceeds collected from the live auction and silent auction. Of particular interest to devout wine connoisseurs, some of the most exclusive wineries participating in this competition have graciously donated bottles of wine to be signed by the



wine-maker. These items will be up for bidding in the silent auction.

At the evening extravaganza November 21, the winners of the wine competition will be honored. Guests will not only enjoy 500 of the most celebrated wines in the country, but also a four-course gourmet dinner, live entertainment and two complimentary Scott Zwiesel wine glasses. Tickets will be \$350 per person or \$3,500 for a table of 10.

Save the date on your calendar and please stay tuned for more fabulous details and surprises. 

Golf Tournament continued from page 1

Following the competition, the players will return to The Links restaurant to

enjoy a cocktail reception hosted by Rums of Puerto Rico as well as a light buffet. Guests and League members are invited to join the reception for the awards ceremony and celebration.

The Golf Committee is currently searching for monetary and in-kind sponsorships. If you have any suggestions for individuals, companies or organizations to approach for sponsorships, please contact Loretta Nido at (305) 255-1388 or Lauren Hunt at (305) 458-5878 as soon as possible. Our sponsor levels range from "Ace Sponsor" at a donation of \$10,000 to a "Par" Sponsor at \$1,000. Sponsor benefits vary with value of sponsorship. We are also collecting raffle

items and golf-related goodie bag items.

If you are a golfer, this is one tournament you cannot miss. If you are not a player, there are a variety of ways to support this exciting event including buying raffle tickets, purchasing a "Mulligan" (free do-over) for your favorite player and attending our cocktail reception! 




Provisional Wrap-Up

By Bibi Cruz-Ledón Sears, Provisional Chair



Wow! They made it! On April 16th, the JLM 2007-08 Provisional Class graduated. The class attended an amazing Commencement at Lucky Strike Miami Beach where they had an extraordinary celebration that included much socializing, bonding and bowling! Everyone had a good time and it was a great way to end their

provisional experience. The ladies all received their certificates and membership pins to wear with pride. What an incredible experience it has been this year to help these new members learn about the League! A special thanks goes to all of the provisional mentors who made this amazing year possible – Jamie Adams, Maggie Cruz-Ledón, Monisha Dequadros, Marlene

Fernandez, Aniella Gonzalez, Betty Lopez-Castro, Ana Rosa Ramirez, Migna Sanchez-Llorens, Melissa Schumacher, and Lucy Ulmer. Congratulations and welcome to our 85 new active members! 



More photos of Provisional Commencement on the JLM Web site:
www.jlmiami.org/gallery

Congratulations New Actives

Carol Abrams-Trueba	Katie Grossman	Dixie McDaniel de Andrade	Jody Reid
Juliette Antoine	Janelle Hall	Regina Mendoza	Luly Rivero
Ana Apfel	Beth Halm	Ashley Miller	Ivon Rodriguez
Amy Arriaga	Heather Harris	Kellie Andrea Montoya	Vivian Rodriguez
Cassandra Auzenne	Jodi Hernandez	Nikki Murphy	Daniela Rodriguez
Annie Bensuaski	Aly Holob	Aliki Nathenas	Carla Ruhl-Romero
Michelle Castro	Nicola Hudson	Tara O'Brien	Courtney Rutherford
Victoria Corrigan Fine	Kati Janda Foley	Gabrielle O'Quinn	Fernande Saintilis
Lee Crabtree	Daphne Kailas	Sienna Owens	Aliza Samuels
Michael de Armas	Iris Guzman Kolaya	Alexandra Page	Chanel Smith
Erin Degnan	Stacey Koster	Tania Paredes	Mary Snow
Rose Dorsainville	Kate Kyle	Melanie Paredes	Jocelyn Springstun
Victoria Tyler Downey	Meg Lee	Kadisha Phelps	Erin Stencil
Cori Du Quesne	Ashley Loeb	Gina Polo	Courtney Stiefel
Christy Edens	Sandra Loji Hui	Tracy Pottker-Fishel	Diana Stiefel
Annette Figueredo	Gloria Lerma Lopez	Robin Preston	Brenda Torres
Julie Fishman	Kim Lucas	Kristen Quintana	Betty Valdes Valenti
Wilca Gallagher	Cia Mackle	Carolina Ramirez	Paola Villafana
Anaysa Gallardo	Carolina Maharbiz	Mary Ann Ramirez	Raymie Walsh
Meg Garrison Ibrahim	Amy Maida	Olga Ramos	Jackie Winter
Andrea Graham	Heather Martin	Gabrielle Rappe	Ronnie Xiques
Pam Groom	Sheri Mazariegos		Heather Yearwood

Sustainer Wrap-Up

By Morgan Park Smith & Sondra Christiansen Space, Sustainer Co-Chairs

JLM Sustainers had a fabulous year! Our mission this year was to incorporate as many volunteer activities into the Sustainer schedule as possible. We found that when many women go from Active to Sustainer, what is missed the most about the League is the opportunity to help our community become a better place for women, children, and families. But we had many remedies! Through Done In A Day activities as well as our community projects, we had many chances to jump back into volunteer mode and get involved again—even if only for an hour or two! It was awesome to see Sustainers at many of these events.

In addition, of course, were many social events! We would not be Sustainers if we did not enjoy seeing our JLM friends in a variety of settings. Listed below are highlights of where we got together:

- Sustainer Coffee, at the home of Allison Freeland, September 25
- Sustainer Wine & Cheese at the home of Lauren Harrison Genovese, September 27
- 4th Annual JLM Golf Tournament, Key Biscayne, October 12
- JLM Foundation, Wine & Cheese Reception, October 18
- Race for the Cure, Downtown Miami, October 20
- Fall Trends Fashion Show, Merrick Park, October 25
- Biscayne Nature Center Tour, October 28
- Miami Magic, Biltmore Hotel, November 16
- Holiday Teddy Bear Event at JLM HQ, December 8
- Sustainer Holiday Party, home of Betty Park, December 13
- The Grand Opening Gala for Nordstrom Aventura February 13
- Trip to the Palm Beach Antique and Jewelry Show, February 16
- Spring Fling at the home of Amy Sussman, March 7
- Wine Tasting: Girls Wine Out at the home of Allison Holly, April 10
- 7th Annual Women Who Make a Difference Awards Luncheon, Ritz Carlton Coconut Grove, April 13
- In Style on Miami Beach, April 19-20
- Book Clubs run by Margaret Nee and Anna Ehlert and Bridge Club by Nancy Sabia



Congratulations New Sustainers

Thank you to the following JLM members who have given 80 years and countless hours of volunteer service to our organization as they join the ranks of Sustainers!

Maria Beguiristain 2000
Jennifer Davison Earle 2000
Cristina M. Guerra 2000
Melanie Gutierrez 2000
Andria Hanley* 1997
Katie Landsea 1998
Hadley Elizabeth Nichols 2000
Helen Patricia O'Connell 2000
Kristin A. Pearce 1997

We were privileged to oversee Sustainer activities for the 2007-08 Junior League of Miami year. We wish Sustainers a safe and enjoyable summer, and we look forward to seeing you next fall at our first JLM Sustainer event!

—Morgan & Sondra

The Junior League of Miami extends its deepest condolences to the family of Shawnn Ehrman Wieder, JLM Sustainer and beloved friend to many. Shawnn died May 1, 2008, after a year-long battle with Leukemia. She will be sadly missed.

Kristi House Children's Advocacy Center seeks a half-time Volunteer Coordinator to work with volunteers who assist the agency's children and professional staff in many ways. Job includes some community events and light human resources tasks. Flexible hours, great working environment. Send inquiries or letters of interest to Dawn Thompson at dthompson@kristihouse.org or call her at (305) 547-6834.

More photos of Sustainer events on the JLM Web site: www.jlmiami.org/gallery

FERTILITY COUNSELING CENTER of South Florida

**Confidential Counseling
Comprehensive Support Services
for people experiencing infertility**

**Call to see how we can help you.
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www.dealingwithinfertility.com

Our Historic JLM Headquarters

Phase IV Renovations Underway

By Jana Hertz, JLM HQ Inc. President and Julia Bianchi, Renovation Chair



Work has commenced and the additional restoration of our historic headquarters is underway. The windows will be replaced with impact resistant glass and the building will be sealed and painted. John Zinzell of SouthBay Builders and his team of sub-contractors have taken great care to not let the construction interfere with the daily operations of the Junior League.

We have barricades in the alley and many of the windows have been removed. Do not fret, the wall that has been constructed upstairs in the Board room is only temporary so that structural reinforcements can be made to the current window openings so that they will be able to support the new impact resistant glass windows.

We expect the project to be completed by September 1, 2008 just in time for the beginning of a new JLM year. Also remember, that JLM HQ is available for a modest donation of \$100 to



other non-profits who need meeting space. Contact Sondra Space at JLM HQ for more info.

Your HQ team has launched a special campaign to help us pay for this effort. You should have received it in your mail in June. Every dollar that we raise between now and August 25 will be applied toward a Miami-Dade Historic Preservation matching grant for which we are applying. All donations of \$2,000 and greater will be permanently recognized on our Donor Wall of Fame inside the main reception area.

Thank you for your support of this initiative to preserve both our JLM "home" and

also an important part of Coral Gables' heritage. 



Since 1992 JoAnna's Marketplace has been providing great food, excellent service and unique gourmet foods to Miami.

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- N.Y. Style Delicatessen
- Fresh Baked Artisan Breads
- Pastries, Cakes & Cookies
- Gourmet Gift Baskets
- Imported Wines & Beers
- Fine Cheeses, Pates & Caviar
- Full Service Catering & Delivery

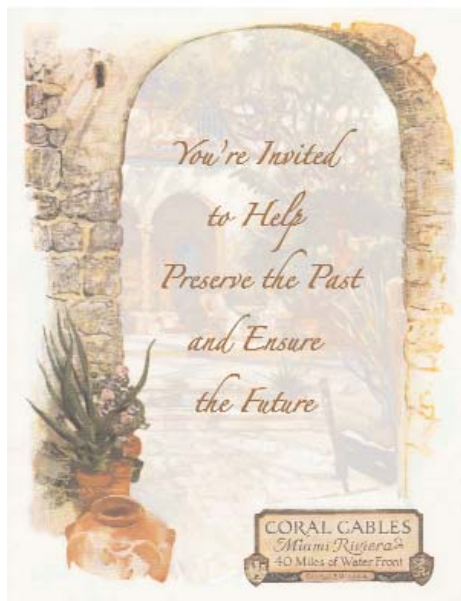
8247 South Dixie Highway, Miami, Florida 33143
Half Block East of US-1 on Ludlam Road

Phone 305-661-5777

Fax 305-661-9025

www.JoAnnasMarketplace.com

joanna's
marketplace



Shopping *Card for a Cause* coming soon to a store near you!

Committee members have been hard at work to launch the JLM Shopping Card for a Cause this fall. Shoppers will be invited to buy a \$50 card which will enable them to save 20% at participating retail stores, spas and restaurants throughout Miami-Dade from October 25th though November 2nd.

Cards will go on sale this summer, and will be available online, from JLM volunteers, and by phone order. (Mail, phone and online orders will be charged a \$2.50 shipping and handling fee.) During the nine days of the card offer,

participating merchants will offer 20% discount to cardholders.

While cardholders reap great savings, all proceeds from card sales will benefit JLM community projects. One JLM Card for a Cause purchase can provide five books for impoverished elementary school children in our literacy programs, three school uniform sets for a child in transitional housing as a result of domestic violence, or two holiday gifts for a child in need.

The Committee invites all JLM members to support this fundraiser and the participating merchants, a partial list of which follows. The committee is striving to sign up 150 stores in this inaugural year!

shopping
card
for a cause




 Junior League of Miami

-Miami Beach
Condos and Homes.com




Alexandra Page
Realtor Associate

America Real Estate Group
Phone: 954-592-9193
Fax: 305-397-2177
Email: Alex@MiamiBeachCondosandHomes.com
Web: www.MiamiBeachCondosandHomes.com


Preschool through Grade 5

Now Accepting Applications
for the 2008-09 School Year



Kris Matteson Charlton - Head of School
5692 North Kendall Drive, Coral Gables, FL 33156
305.665.4851 Fax 305.669.9449 www.stepsmia.org

Participating Stores*

Absolutely Needlepoint	Joanna Paige
The Allergy Free Shop	Just LX - Group LX
Anthropologie	Kiehl's Since 1851
Assure-A-Smile	Lacoste
Books & Books	Little Dreamers
Books & Books Café	Margaux Home
Boy Meets Girl	Muse
Brenda's Boutique	Nikki's Beachhouse Boutique
Brooks Brothers	Olian
Brooks Brothers Factory Outlet	The Paper Boutique
Capretto	Paper Emporium
Cavanaugh's Men's Shoe Fitters	Pink Blush Boutique
The Container Store	Rebellion
Chuao	Safer Kids & Homes
Clarke's Pub	Scrapbooks & Stuff
Do Me a Favour	Shoe Heaven
Donald J. Pliner	Skoon Aveda
Eanie Meanie Children's Boutique	Snow's Jewelers
Elements of Time	SouthBeachTies.com
Extreme Fitness Studio	Steve Madden
Five Cent Lemonade	Stitching Around
Footworks	Stuart Weitzman
Forever in Blue Jeans	Sunset Chiropractor
G by Guess	Sunset Gallery & Framing
Gables Shoes	Tina B
H&H Jewels	Tommy Bahama
Hip Mama Couture	Trendy Jendy
House and Paper	Trivillage
Housefly	Tula and Tupi Children's Boutique
Impulse Boutique	Vigi
Ivan Apfel Photography	Vogue Couture
J. Crew	Wolfe's Wine Shoppe
Jake's Grove	

*As of June 12, 2008; subject to change and many additions

Building Your Food I.Q. By Kathleen Bordonali Duran



I had a childhood friend, whose name I shall not divulge, who once said something to me about potatoes coming from a box! I was just a child myself so my memory is somewhat faint, but I know that my face must have wore an eye-popping, incredulous look, and I probably thought something along the lines of, "Are you nuts?"


Dispelling misinformation such as this is one of the goals of the League's new food literacy project, Step Up to the Plate, our local expansion of the Association of Junior Leagues International's Kids in the Kitchen program. The committee will be working with Girl Scouts and their families to provide education, advocacy, and hands-on training on food and their health. During the course of the year we will explore many issues that are strands in the web of our complex food system. Camp Mahachie will host most of our monthly meetings and topics explored will include: the role of advertising, community, culture, history, manufacturing and nutrition. Field trips to Publix and the Redland farming community are planned as well.

Step Up TO THE Plate



A Junior League of Miami Project

The Step Up to the Plate committee will also be providing education and advocacy opportunities to League members and the community through three initiatives: Family Day – A Day to Eat Dinner with Your Kids, Two Angry Moms – The Movie and the Movement (What are our children eating in school?), and The Food Stamp Challenge. The third initiative is intended as a consciousness-raising experience for League members. Briefly, The Food Stamp Challenge is this: for one week make food purchases based on an average individual food stamp allotment of \$21.

Maureen Vissat, my college art history professor, stated repeatedly, "Art reflects a people, time, and place." In the many years that I have worked in the food industry I have come to believe that the words "food" or "cuisine" could easily replace the word "art" for an equally compelling statement. We're looking forward to sharing all the wonders of that new statement, "Food reflects a people, time and place," with our South Florida community. 

PUTTING OUR HEADS TOGETHER FOR A BETTER TOMORROW



St. Philip's is open to children of any race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin.

St. Philip's Episcopal School



St. Philip's Episcopal School is a closely knit community rich in traditions. Our strong academic program and commitment to character development prepare nursery through sixth-grade students to face the challenges of the future.

1142 Coral Way, Coral Gables, FL 33134
305.444.6366
www.saintphilips.net


High School Girls Receive JLM Service Award

By Helen Picard



The Junior League of Miami honored three outstanding high schools seniors with the Kathryn Menke Miller Community Service Scholarship during the April General Membership meeting. These three young women were selected from a pool of finalists for outstanding academic performance and community service. Each recipient received a \$2,000 college scholarship and a \$200 American Express gift card to be used at their discretion.

This year, we received a record 28 nominations from Miami-Dade County High Schools. According to Kendall Pryles, chair of the 2007-2008 Kathryn Miller Menke Community Service Scholarship Committee, choosing three winners was an arduous task. "This year's nominees demonstrated exceptional service to their community, both in and outside of school, while excelling in their academics," Kendall said.

The recipients honored were Avantika Handa of Palmetto Senior High, who accumulated over 1,500 community service hours with the American Red Cross, plans to study Medicine; Beatriz Carricaburu of Coral Park Senior High, who dedicated her time to working with children with Down Syndrome at the Marian Center, plans to major in education at Florida State University; and Chimene Mathurin of Homestead Senior High, who spent her community service at Homestead Hospital, plans to study Medicine at University of Miami. All three of this year's recipients were in attendance along with their families to receive their awards. 

Thank You to Our Community Partners 2007-08

CHAMPION (\$50,000-75,000)

AROD Family Foundation
Nordstrom

BENEFACTOR (\$7,500-10,000)

InStyle Magazine
WalMart Corporation

VISIONARY (\$5,000-7,499)

Jennifer Stearns Buttrick Betty Lopez-Castro

PROMOTER (\$2,500-4,999)

Genovese Joblove & Battista LLC
Inktel Direct KPMG LMC Roofing
Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A

SUPPORTER (\$1,000-2,499)

BNY Mellon	Newport Property Ventures
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Bermont	Ocean Bank
Paula Brockway	Pinnacle Housing, Betty & Michael Wohl
Business Centers International	Podhurst Orseck
Donald Pliner	Southeastern Trailer & Container
Gibraltar Bank	Tamiami Chrysler
Commissioner Carlos A. Gimenez	Jennifer Tingle
Richman Greer	Transatlantic Investment Management
James Heilman, SunTrust Bank	TotalBank
Holly Real Estate	Wadsworth & King, LLP
Keen Battle Mead	White & Case
Kenneth Weston & Associates, Inc.	White Star Farms
L Designs	Worth

In-Kind Community Partners

BENEFACTOR—IN-KIND (OVER \$10,000)

Celebrity Cruises
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Inside In Style is a Sell Out!

By Teresa Occelli Thornburg

What's more enjoyable than South Florida in the springtime, except South Florida in the springtime plus fashion, live music, fine foods and cocktails at *In Style Magazine's* fourth annual Inside In Style Miami Beach bash on Ocean Drive? This year's event took place on the weekend of April 19-20, and was graced with a sea of JLM volunteers donning their cherry red JLM t-shirts and polos.

In Style chose JLM for the fourth year



in a row to be the primary beneficiary of ticket sale proceeds and JLM was given \$24,000. In addition to this generous donation, the League was also given in kind donations by many of the sponsors, including 70+ Keds tennis shoes and espadrilles, gift bags from Kmart, skin care products from both Sephora and Shisheido, and Crest. All of these in kind donations will benefit Inn Transition North and South and Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired/Blind Babies Program.

Festivities included live music from a hot, up-and-coming new group called D.E.Y. (think Black-Eyed Peas

meets South Beach), a ready to wear fashion show and bridal show, beauty services from sponsors such as Sephora, Shisheido, Conair, and Esso Nails, plentiful giveaways, the latest style trends from In Style Magazine, bridal gowns,

cakes, and flowers, gift bags, and more!

A special thank you goes out to the In Style Committee members (A.K.A. In Style Divas), Betty Lopez-Castro (generous host and sponsor of the Taste of In Style Pre-Party), Elvira Larrain, Sheffield MacIntyre, Jamie Adams Bonham and Maria Beguiristain, as well as the top ticket seller in the League, Aniella Gonzalez (a title she holds since the inception of Inside In Style!) Also, a special thank you to the 100+ JLM volunteers that braved the heat and South Beach traffic and showed up to make In Style a great success. The In Style staff continuously lauded the efforts and contributions given by the JLM volunteers all throughout the weekend, and that could not have made me a happier Inside In Style Chair! 🍷

In Style, a celebrity, lifestyle and fashion magazine, was launched in June 1994 by Time Inc. and within 10 years has emerged as one of the most successful magazines on newsstands today. In Style takes a uniquely fun and inviting attitude toward style in all its forms which include special issues, international editions, television programming, books, and Instyle.com which receives over 15 million monthly page views. The magazine inspires readers to express their individual style and shows the personal side of celebrity!



Projects & Grants for 2008-09

By Loretta Nido

Special recognition goes out to the 2007-08 Program Development Committee led by Co-chairs Catherine Grieve and Bonnie Young for their work in bringing forth this great line up of community involvement: Melissa Bonafonte, Heather Curtis, Mary Claire Espenkotter, Kathleen Kauffman, Jennifer Poole, Catherine Woods.

The committee reviewed a record number of proposals to determine those projects and grant proposals which best fit within the Junior League's focus areas and addressed community needs. We thank the committee for its diligence.

Finally, we welcome two members filling positions recently established by the 2007-08 Board of Directors: Grant Managers Leanne Tellam and Kimberly Thomson. Their current position evolved out of the need for additional oversight for those recipients of our grant funding which has experienced growth year to year since JLM began making grants in 2002. They will serve on the Planning Council with Dana Martorella, VP Planning, 2008-09 and work alongside 2008-09 Program Development Chair, Kathleen Kauffman.

Below is a summary of what JLM volunteers will be working on in the community this year.

All-Aboard Family Literacy

this program provides comprehensive family literacy curriculum to families with children ages 0 to 7 in the Riverside Elementary School boundaries. The JLM funds will enable existing program to continue monthly literacy-based family nights with volunteers paired with families for storytelling and activities. *Chairs Marcia Koo (Chair); Terra Smith (Chair-Elect)*

Done In A Day

This committee provides trained volunteers in response to requests from the community for short term service by volunteers for special events. The committee's primary focus is to assist in community events within the League's focus areas. *Elena Luca (Chair); Elvira Larrain (Chair-Elect)*



Hurwit Teen Moms

Trained League volunteers will engage in hands-on mentoring of teen mothers in the Hurwit Foster Homes including sessions to teach the teen mothers parenting skills, assist those who are in school with homework, facilitate playgroups for the children and facilitate programs with a focus on the practical reality of becoming trained for the job market. *Chairs Melissa Tolmach & Cecilia Slesnick*

Inn Transition North

The League's flagship project for the past 17 years provides housing and resources to women and children who are victims of domestic violence as part of a public-private partnership with Miami-Dade County. League volunteers mentor a family and participate in regular outings with the families in residence. *Brooke Roberts-Webb (Chair); Shaila Silverio Patel (Chair-Elect)*

Inn Transition South

JLM will continue to provide trained volunteers who will provide monthly sessions on life skills, parenting skills and special holiday events for the women and children residing the 56 unit complex in South Dade serving victims of domestic violence. *Co-Chairs Veronica Ramirez & Helen Picard*

Kathryn Menke Miller Community Service Awards

JLM awards college scholarships to high school senior girls for outstanding academic performance and community service. Every spring senior high school girls who demonstrated exceptional service to their community, both in and outside of school, while excelling in their academics are honored. *Chair LaVonia Martin-Chambers*

Miami Lighthouse for the Blind — "Little Lighthouses"

Now in its second year, this popular community project will continue to provide League volunteers to facilitate playgroups and activities to further develop the skills of the children and parents in the Blind Babies program. League volunteers will also provide social support through weekly sessions with blind and severely visually impaired children. *Chairs Claudia Alegrett & Gina Gardner*

Lotus House—The Sundari Fdn.

The Lotus House, operated by the Sundari Foundation, provides housing for homeless women for up to one year, along with meals, support services and referrals to community resources. Project Lift is designed to assist women who have completed the Lotus House Program in transitioning to new homes. For a second year, League volunteers will coordinate donations of furniture and furnishings and will deliver and set-up the women's new homes on moving day. No moving companies – just League members! *Chairs Marcia Monserrat & Shawn Libman*

Step Up to the Plate

An expansion of AJLI's "Kids in the Kitchen" initiative, this program will offer interactive ways to improve food

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And the Survey Says... *By Lorrie Martin*



Five new fundraising ideas for 2009-10 were submitted by members during this year's Fund Development process: a Fishing Tournament, Tennis Tournament, Wedding Expo, JLM Calendar, and an additional event that was considered further by Member Events. A big thank you to those members who took their time to do this research!

At the February GMM, attendees had the opportunity to give feedback regarding new fundraising ideas. We received 88 total responses. The Fund Development Committee met to further review the applications, consider the results of the survey, and make recommendations to the Board for their final approval. Their decision will be announced at a later date.

The results show that that between the three tournament-style events surveyed, the Fishing Tournament had the best overall rank, and highest number of #1 ratings. It is interesting to note that most members ranking either Tennis or Fishing #1 ranked the other #3, with Golf being more "neutral."

Members were also asked whether they liked, would attend, or would promote the three event-type fundraisers; the event-style fundraisers received more favorable responses than the calendar item.

The survey also allowed for some general comments and questions. Below are some frequently asked.

Q. Have we ever "surveyed" other Leagues on what their big fundraiser is – no need to reinvent the wheel?

A. Yes. One of the jobs of the Fund

Development Committee is to look at what other Leagues do best, and to help determine if that would fit into our Greater Miami marketplace. For example, the Wedding Expo idea submitted this year is one of the signature projects of JL New York. The Shopping Card fundraiser that kicks off in the Fall is already established in the Dallas and Atlanta markets.

On the other hand, some Leagues do continue to have success with a holiday market (like Golden Palm) or a thrift store (like Encore Shop), while in our area it was becoming increasingly difficult for these fundraisers to bring in a net revenue that justified the overhead, liability and number of volunteer hours.

Q. Don't you think we need more moderately priced events/family-oriented events?

A. We try to schedule a variety of events that balance membership with the purpose of a fundraiser, which is to maximize revenue to fund our Community Projects. There does need to be enough of a difference between the cost of an event and the ticket price, along with other opportunities for donors to contribute. Members are not required to buy tickets to every event, and a shift does fulfill the shift/ticket requirement of membership. Also consider the audience of the various fundraisers that JLM has today – encourage a spouse or co-worker to participate in the Golf Tournament, encourage your corporation to participate in the South Florida Business Journal event. This past year, a Member Events Committee was also created to fill a

We do have an interesting variety of views on this matter, including:

"We should gear our fundraisers toward those our members can enjoy."

"Members forget that our fundraisers are there to make money for our projects & grants. We're not in the business of having a party for ourselves - we're in the business of raising money for underprivileged women and children."

"We lose momentum if we change fundraisers every year."

Q. Why don't we do a cookbook?

A. An application must be submitted for a fundraiser to be formally considered, but this idea has been researched by JLM in the past. At that time, the fundraiser was not approved, with some of the following considerations: There is a great deal of startup cost and labor involved in producing a high-quality cookbook. Many Leagues (and other local charities) do produce cookbooks, but dedicate much their fundraising time into this one task. Two or more years of R&D of the recipes can be required, as well as the cost to photograph and produce the book, before a single dollar in revenue is generated.

Q. Can we bring back Chili in the Village?

A. From a fundraising perspective, the volunteer hours required to put on this event did not produce the kinds of net revenue that we see from some of the events and other fundraising efforts that are done in JLM today.

Thank you all for taking the time to participate in the survey. Membership input is greatly valued and appreciated! 🍷

Rank of Tournaments	Avg. Rank	Total #1s	Total #2s	Total #3s
Golf (existing)	1.97	22	34	20
Fishing (new)	1.96	32	14	29
Tennis (new)	1.99	26	26	25

need for membership events that were not associated with fundraising.


"Community Projects" continued from page 13

literacy with target populations of several community groups and centers already served by JLM volunteers. League members will assist the chairs in the DIAD component: the Kids in the Kitchen events including the JLM Fitness Adventure and JLM Nutrition Adventures; the Advocacy Component: National Hunger Awareness Day, Family Day, and Food Stamp Literacy; and the Interactive Component which includes various programs for pre-school, elementary and teenagers. *Chairs Kathleen Duran & Mara Karlinsky*

JLM Therapy Dogs

League members will undergo testing and registration with their eligible dogs to participate in therapy sessions with children and the elderly at local hospitals, special needs centers, nursing homes and schools. *Chairs Nicole Brown & Tania Paredes; Robin Preston (chair-elect)*

Community Grants

Grants were awarded to Thomas Armour Youth Ballet, America SCORES Miami, Voices for Children Foundation, Miami Beach Police Athletic League, Kristi House and The Sundari Foundation. Please see the next issue of the *Journal* for details of those grant projects, or read more online at www.jlmiami.org. 

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Help Us Identify Potential JLM Community Partners!

The Junior League of Miami is supported through our fundraising events, dues and through the generous donations of our Community Partners.

As a member please help us in identifying companies that will make a good fit with the Junior League. Maybe it's your employer, a colleague, a friend. Our League leaders are ready to make a presentation about the League to your prospective donor!

For more information or to find out how you can help, please contact Fund Development/Community Partners Chair, Elizabeth Vargas at elizmurray@prodigy.net.



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Getting to Know Erin Knight

President-Elect 2008-09

By Kimberly Dodd and Michelle Ramirez

Michelle Ramirez-Patricios was recently able to sit down with Erin Knight, our President Elect, for a get-to-know-you interview. For those of you who may already know Erin, you will perhaps find some interesting background information you did not know about her. For those of you in our membership who don't know Erin yet, we hope this provides you with an introduction until such time you get to meet her in person.

Erin was born in Tallahassee where she lived with her family until the age of four. At that time, her mother received a job offer she couldn't refuse and the family relocated to California. Erin lived in California until the age of eight. At that time, she moved back to Florida and spent the

rest of her youth in Miami. She finished elementary school at Riviera Day School, attended Ransom Junior High and graduated from Westminster Christian High School. In her spare time when she wasn't studying, Erin loved to go to the beach.

After high school, Erin moved back to Tallahassee and attended Florida State University. Go Noles! Her major was Political Science and she earned a minor in Business. As it turns out, her minor in college became her springboard for a life in the business world. While at FSU, she became a member of Pi Phi sorority where she met other like-minded young women with whom she created a special bond. Erin enjoyed attending football games while at FSU and shared that interest

with her father, who lives in Tallahassee.

Erin used her minor in business as a starting point to get where she is today. She is currently working as a Senior Vice President at Regions Morgan Keegan Private Banking in Coral Gables. She manages the Private Banking Division at Regions Bank for Miami Dade. There, she is able to provide wealth management services for high net worth individuals which encompasses, financial planning, trust and investment management, lending and traditional banking services.

Before holding her current position, she began her career in a commercial lending training program with SunTrust Bank. She felt lucky to be

continued on page 15



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"Erin Knight" continued

hired with a political science degree. She was actually hired by, and worked with, Katie Lane, now Katie Lane-Ariola. Katie was working for SunTrust in Human Resources when Erin met her a career fair in Tallahassee. Katie and Erin reconnected in the League several years later after both ladies had moved on from SunTrust Bank. What a small world. While at SunTrust, she was fortunate to have a wonderful boss and mentor from the start who encouraged and motivated her to continue her studies and earn a Series 7 License, Insurance Licenses and Certified Financial Planner designation.

In her personal life, Erin met Chris, her now husband (a native of Miami) with whom she started a family. They have a beautiful two-and-a-half-year-old son, Raines, with whom they have a lot of fun. Erin is able to share her son with her mother, who lives nearby in Coral Gables. Grandpa is a quick trip away in Tallahassee. Erin has also formed lifelong bonds with some girlfriends who she considers as close to her as if they were her sisters.

When she has some time for leisure, Erin loves to read books, ride her bike, go for a run, dance, socialize with friends, have a great glass of wine or even catch up on some much needed sleep. She enjoys the ocean, waterways and even the mountains, so being outdoors in nature strikes the perfect balance in her life.

In order to achieve such a balance, Erin has learned how to maximize her time management skills. Since there will always be a to-do list, she has become a big fan of technology and all the ways it can help her to maximize her efficiency to allow for some much needed "down time." She has learned to weed out the less important things and focus on those which she is most passionate about. This allows her to pay the most attention to the things which matter most, while at the same time really enjoying what she is doing.


Speaking of which, she was a natural for League membership with a passion for volunteerism instilled at an early age. Erin's mother was on the Board of the Children's Home Society. Erin was nine years old when the McLamore Center opened, and she fondly recalls the ribbon cutting ceremony, which was performed by none other than "Mr. T"! From that point on, she told us, she volunteered with the children at the center at least twice a month for several years to come. It was something she looked forward to and truly enjoyed. What a rewarding experience for a her at such a young age.

While she was in college, through her sorority she continued her active volunteer efforts. When she moved back to Miami after graduating from FSU, she started volunteering with Hands On Miami. At the same time, she returned to the McLamore Center weekly to play with the kids. It was then that she decided to join the League because she knew it was a place when she could grow and volunteer in many different capacities. And she has! She became a provisional in 1999. She worked on the ITN committee for three years, was Assistant

Treasurer, served on the Nominating Committee, was the Fund Development Chair, CAB Liaison, chair of Nordstrom Grand Opening Galas at Dadeland and Aventura, on the Blind Babies Committee and was VP of Development. She told us that she believes leadership is defined by the work that you do, not the title you hold. She stated "we have hundreds of leaders in the League ranging from committee members, to committee chairs to VPs to anyone who is asked to help and does so with passion." Erin told us that committing to a leadership role as President Elect was truly something that evolved out of her love for the League.

Her vision for the membership of the League is for everyone to find a commitment they love to do and that the members enjoy one another while they learn along the way. "A result of all of that are the lives we are able to change." She hopes to continue to lead the League to its fullest potential.

"I want to share our story and the amazing work we do with anyone who will listen and take our fund raising efforts to a new high and put all of that money back into the projects we love and support," Erin said. She wants to help every member feel connected in some way and ensure they enjoy the time they spent doing it.

We look forward to the strong leadership Erin will surely provide. Her enthusiasm and passion for JLM will likely be an inspiration for all of our membership, provisionals to sustainers. 



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Public Affairs Committee Geared Up

By Mary Snow and Kathleen Duran

The Public Affairs Committee is excited for the upcoming JLM year! The Committee's projects promise to be educational and innovative as community issues are at the forefront of our agenda for the year. One of our goals is to collaborate with the Step Up to the Plate Committee to highlight the importance of sitting down for dinner as a family by promoting Family Day – A Day to Eat Dinner With Your Children on September 22, 2008!

The Family Day movement was launched by The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University in 2001 to remind parents that the most important items served at the dinner table are relationships and values. When a family takes the time to eat together, members have an opportunity to explore such civic virtues as moderation, conversation, tolerance, generosity and conviviality. It has been proven that children who have frequent family dinners reap the long-standing benefits and positive impacts of this often forgotten tradition, such as being less likely to smoke, drink, or use drugs.

The Public Affairs Committee together with the Step Up to the Plate Committee will be working to raise awareness of Family Day – A Day to Eat Dinner With Your Children – prior to September 22, 2008, through the circulation of flyers, all-member e-mails, public service announcements and civic proclamations. JLM members, JLM community project participants, and the community at large are encouraged to observe Family Day by having dinner together with loved ones. To tracking participation, those who observe Family Day will be invited to complete a short survey. 

Vote YES for The Children's Trust Aug. 26!

By Mary Snow



JLM members are encouraged to vote YES on August 26th to renew funding to keep the Miami-Dade Children's Trust. The decision is in the hands of voters. The Children's Trust contributes approximately \$100 million annually to ensure the health, development and safety of children who would otherwise not receive it. The Trust's investments and contributions to the community are considerable and far-reaching. Losing The Children's Trust would impact our community significantly. This is too important an issue to ignore!

At the April General Membership Meeting, David Lawrence, Jr., Chairman of the Children's Trust and JLM Community Advisory Board Member, spoke of some program accomplishments, including putting health teams in public schools and funding after-school programs that would otherwise not be available. He encouraged members to help simply by telling a friend that this issue is on the ballot and help get out the vote in an election that may bring less people to the polls than the Presidential election in November.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact me, Mary Snow at marysnow@gmail.com or (305) 606-6279. The Campaign will need volunteers for the following:

Phone Bank. Beginning in mid to late July, the Campaign will be running phone banks (primarily in the evenings and on weekends). They are looking for volunteers in three hour blocks (i.e. every Tuesday from 6-9 p.m. or on a Saturday from 9 to noon, etc.).

Location. Beginning in mid-July, the campaign is looking for an office (preferably in Coral Gables) with lots of available phone lines. Volunteers would work there in the evening and on weekends. The Campaign is looking for multiple sites so as not to place an undue burden on any one business. If you have or know of an office that could be used for campaign phones, please let me know!

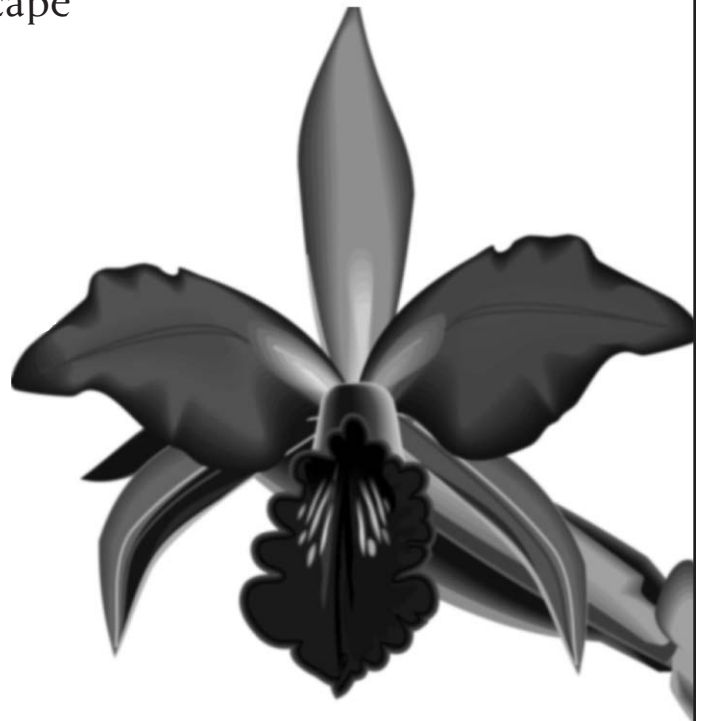
Yard Signs/Business Signs. Beginning in early August, the Children's Trust Campaign will begin placing yard signs in residential homes as well as businesses that have prominent locations, high-traffic, good visibility, etc. around the County. The signs will be available for pick up at JLM headquarters, so please let me know how many signs you will need!

It's Not Too Late to Vote Absentee!

For those of you interested in voting by Absentee Ballot please visit the Florida Division of Elections website for more information: <http://election.dos.state.fl.us/absenteevoting.shtml>

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