

Entre Nous

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF GREATER COVINGTON



JLGC GODDESSES RIDE IN THE BOGUE FALAYA MARDI GRAS PARADE

THE FEBRUARY 2024 ISSUE

Letter From the President

ENTRE NOUS | FEBRUARY 2024

Dear Members and Friends of the Junior League of Greater Covington,

What an exciting time of year for our community! Little compares to the shimmering of purple, green and gold, the cinnamon swirl of King Cakes, and the percussion of parades and mambo that marshal in the season of Mardi Gras. It's a special way of life in Southeast Louisiana!

At the Junior League of Greater Covington, it's also a way of life for us to celebrate women's leadership making a positive community impact as we bring women of diverse backgrounds together to serve with a united passion toward our mission.

It is with that spirit that JLGC takes special pride in honoring womanhood each spring as we dedicate our focus toward our community programs aimed at empowering girls through health, wellness and positive behavior.

I am excited to share the upcoming 18th anniversary of **Project Prom** on March 3, 2024, gifted with a new venue location at The Greenwood, a Southern Hotel Property.

This event has become a cornerstone of our efforts to equitably support young women in our community as they prepare for an important milestone in their lives, in whatever unique style they chose, at NO COST to them!

Additionally, I am thrilled to announce we will be celebrating the 20th Anniversary of **Girls Health Day**, a signature community event, once again hosted by our venue partner, Lakeview Hospital LCMC Health.

This momentous anniversary serves as a testament to our unwavering commitment to the well-being of girls in our community, providing them and their guardians with the timely resources and support they need to "Be Healthy. Be Happy. Be You!"

In keeping with our mission to support our community, we are proud to announce our annual **Community Assistance Grants** program is on the horizon.

These grants provide vital support to local west St. Tammany Parish nonprofits in need, and like our members, I am profoundly moved by the positive impact these grants have yearly in supporting our community.

Finally, I am pleased to share that JLGC will once again be participating in the annual **GiveNOLA Day** social media campaign on May 7, 2024.

The funds raised during this area-wide event will directly support our mission and 2024-2025 community programs, allowing us to continue our important work in the months and years to come.

Let us celebrate womanhood as we celebrate Mardi Gras, coloring the town with community and leadership, showering gifts of philanthropy and service to those in need, and reveling in the power we hold as women to effect positive change.

"Laissez les bons temps rouler!"

Carpe Diem,

*Amy A.
Puerto, D.D.*



February General Membership Meeting

DATE

Monday, February 19

TIME

social 6p

meeting 7p-8:30p

PLACE

Hybrid Meeting: Dogwood Cottage & Zoom.

See Digital Cheetah for sign up & Zoom link.

ON THE AGENDA

Bylaws

Elections

Spring Business Meeting Prep

Spring Placement Fair

Spring Placement Fair

Come learn from our committee leaders about the duties, responsibilities and time commitments of their roles:

- Membership
- Community
- Administrative
- Communications
- Finance

Upcoming League Meetings

Check Digital Cheetah for updates

February GMM

Monday, Feb. 19
Dogwood Cottage/
Zoom hybrid

Provisional Meeting

Monday, Feb. 26
Dogwood Cottage

Spring Business Meeting/March GMM

Monday, Mar. 18

Provisional Meeting

Monday, Mar. 25
Dogwood Cottage

SAVE THE DATE!

Installation Banquet

Sunday, May 19

Benedict's Plantation

Join us as our outgoing President Amy Puerto reflects on the past year and we welcome incoming President Bernie Taylor and the 2024-2025 Board and Management team!

Also featuring:

- Recognition of this year's Community Grant Recipients
- Provisional Class Project Overview
- Installation of the 2023-2024 Provisional Class

More details will be available soon.

Be Healthy. Be Happy. Be You!

Celebrating 20th Girls Health Day at Lakeview Hospital LCMC Health



JLGC in partnership with Lakeview Hospital LCMC Health will host the 20th annual Girls Health Day Saturday, April 13, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on the LCMC Health campus.

- Mother/Guardian & Daughter Day Out for Girls ages 8-13
- Register for \$5 per girl
- Registration is required

[click here](#)

to buy or donate tickets

Free Health Screenings
Vision, Scoliosis, Dental Hygiene

Health Talks & Demonstrations

Yoga & Zumba, Healthy Eating, Tobacco Hazards, Safe Dating, Puberty, Internet Safety, Sexual Health, Social Media Education

Plus

Glitter Bar, Door Prizes & Giveaways!



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
GREATER
COVINGTON



Calling All Local Non-Profits!

JLGC will be awarding community grants to recognize organizations making an impact in St. Tammany!

Community Assistance Grant Applications will be OPEN from Friday, March 1 through Friday, April 12.

Community Assistance Grants open March 1st

The Community Assistance Grant application must be filled out in full and should benefit non-profit organizations that match JLGC's impact areas of social services, education, community awareness and/or cultural enrichment.

The funds must be used in the West St. Tammany area, and all funds must benefit the community at large.

The following will not be considered for funding: religious instruction or teaching, political activities, fundraising expenses, contributions to capital drives or salary/overhead expenses. For-profit organizations will not be considered.

Project Prom

Will You Go to Prom With Us?

Junior League of Greater Covington will host our 18th Annual Project Prom on Sunday, March 3, 2024 at The Greenwood - A Southern Hotel Property.

The event boasts a boutique complete with several hundred size-inclusive dresses along with dressing rooms, shoes, accessories and a JLGC personal shopper to assist in the shopping experience.

Project Prom is free and open to all female high school students. Proof of income is not required. But appointments are!

If you know any area Juniors or Seniors in need share this info with them. They can register for an appointment to shop for a free prom dress, accessories & shoes bit.ly/ProjectProm_appt



JLGC Project Prom sponsorships are still available at Givebutter.com/projectprom

Project Prom

Sunday, March 3

10a-4p

The Greenwood

A Southern Hotel Property

Volunteer Ops

Shifts are available now in Digital Cheetah!



NOTE: Project Prom is no longer accepting dresses for this year.

Thank you to our 2024 Project Prom Supporters!



Amy Puerto, Bernie Taylor, Josh Kelley

Nominations for Spring Elections are Now Open!

It's time to prepare for Spring Elections, to be held March 18 at the Spring Business Meeting.

Do you have an interest in leading a committee? Do you know another member who would also effectively lead?

Consider a self- or peer-nomination!

All Active or Lagniappe Actives in good standing are eligible to run and to vote.

Any member - Provisionals , Actives, Lagniappe Actives & Sustainers - can peer-nominate!

Peer- and self-nominations will be accepted until midnight Feb 20, 2024.

See the list of open positions on the right.

Detailed descriptions of the open positions are available on Digital Cheetah under Resources > Nominating.

Open Positions

Chief Operating Officer (COO)

1 term ('24-'25)

COO-Elect

2 terms (Elect '24-'25, COO '25-'26)

Treasurer

1 term ('24-'25)

Asst. Treasurer

2 terms (Asst '24-'25, Treasurer '25-'26)

Asst Recording Secretary

2 terms (Asst '24-'25, Recording Secretary '25-'26)

Membership VP

1 term ('24-'25)

Membership Asst VP

2 terms (Asst '24-'25; VP '25-'26)

Asst Corresponding Secretary

2 terms (Asst '24-'25; Corresponding Sec '25-'26)

Nominating Committee

2 slots available
2 terms ('24-'26)

[PEER NOMINATE HERE](#)

[SELF NOMINATE HERE](#)



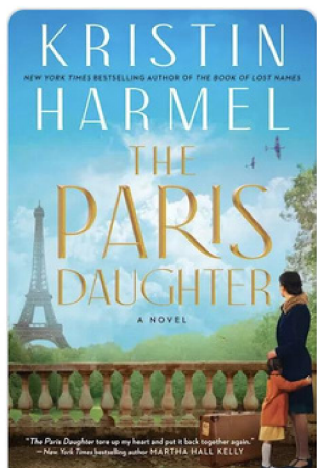
FEBRUARY

Sustainers Social

Wednesday, Feb 21, 2pm

Haven Coffee and Cocktails

534 New Hampshire St, Covington



MARCH

Book Club

Thursday, Mar 21, 6p

Dogwood Cottage

Potluck: Bring a Dish!

Sign up in Digital Cheetah

Book: *The Paris Daughter* by Kristin Harmel

JLGC Sustainers invite **all members** to join our new Book Club! Potluck meetings will be held the third Thursday of the month, 6-8p at Dogwood Cottage. All members are invited to participate!

AJLI Announces 40 Under 40 & 40 Over 40 Awards

AJLI recently announced its inaugural 40 Under 40 and 40 Over 40 biennial recognitions.

This initiative aims to celebrate and honor outstanding Junior League members who have demonstrated exceptional achievements in various fields and careers.

We believe in acknowledging and highlighting the accomplishments of women who have made a significant impact on their professions and communities.

Both awards will be given every two years. Starting in 2024, 40 Under 40 will be awarded. 40 Over 40 applications will open in the winter of 2025.

To be eligible for consideration, nominees should be Junior League members for at least two active years and embody the following criteria:

Empowerment

The nominee, through her work and community involvement, empowers both herself and others. Examples may include initiatives that uplift and inspire individuals to reach their full potential.



Leadership

The nominee demonstrates outstanding leadership in her profession or area of service through accomplishments, innovations, or a demonstrated commitment to drive positive change.

Community Impact

The nominee is actively creating a positive impact on her community. This can encompass contributions to local organizations, volunteer work, or initiatives that address community needs.

Nomination forms are available in Digital Cheetah under Resources > Nominating and must be submitted to our nominating committee at nominating@jlgc.net by Feb. 19.

Those selected and their League will be notified by April 15.

40 Under 40 winners will be recognized at the AJLI Annual Conference's opening event.

2024-2025 Financial Obligations are due by March 15!

Watch your email for spring dues invoices. Dues for 2024-25 can be paid with a check mailed to Dogwood Cottage or by credit card through the Quickbooks invoice.

There will be a \$15 late fee for dues not received by March 15, 2024. Payment plans are available and encouraged for any member needing accommodations. Email treasurer@jlgc.net.

Training Two Cents



Presented monthly by JLGC Training & Development Committee

According to Harvard Business School, someone with a **growth mindset** views intelligence, abilities and talents as learnable and capable of improvement through effort.

On the other hand, someone with a **fixed mindset** views those same traits as inherently stable and unchangeable over time.

For example, an aspiring entrepreneur needs basic financial skills to create budgets and prepare financial statements.

If you have a fixed mindset, you may think, "I've never been good with math, let alone financial statements. I'm not cut out to run my own business."

Now imagine you approach the situation with a growth mindset. You would think, "I don't have a background in finance, but I can learn and practice those skills until I feel capable."

Developing a growth mindset takes practice and requires you to think of challenges and failures in a different light.

When challenges arise, use this quick checklist to help shift your mindset, one thought at a time:

- Embrace your imperfections
- Upload a new personal belief
- Persist in the face of setbacks
- See effort as a path to mastery
- Turn a mistake around
- Practice Gratitude

Learn More on Growth Mindset at

hbr.org/2016/01/what-having-a-growth-mindset-actually-means

What will you Accomplish?

Training and Development Co-Chair **Jessica Glass** hosted our third annual JLGC Vision Board Workshop in January.

The class is always popular and this year we had representation from active, provisional class and sustainers!

photo credit: Jacquie Freeman



Provisional Project Meets Samaritan Center's Wendy Papis

By Rachel Stafford, Committee Chair

The 2023-2024 Provisional Class started off the new year strong, jumping headfirst into planning for their upcoming project. The Provisional class is partnering with the Samaritan Center to provide support through financial and physical volunteer efforts, to aid both the Cancer Assistance program and the Food Bank.

The Provisional class leaders met virtually on Jan. 24 to discuss the overall project goals and the direction in which each committee is headed. The following Monday, the Provisional Class gathered at Dogwood for their January meeting, to further discuss JLGC events, goals and to continue planning the Provisional Project.

The class was honored to have Wendy Papis, Assistant Director, The Samaritan Center,



Members of the Provisional Project's Fundraising Committee kick off their project with The Samaritan Center. Front Row: Kirsten Valerio (Project Co-Chair), Trollie Estes. Back Row: Katherine Riecke, Wendy Papis (Assistant Director, The Samaritan Center), Katie Roberson (Committee Chair), Cindy Nichols and Paula Mahne

Mandeville, attend the meeting and speak in more detail about The Center and how JLGC can help assist their efforts to provide much-needed services to the community.

In next steps, the Provisional class plans to begin the active project work, sharing information about Samaritan Center's work, and organizing fund-raising events.

Next Provisional Meeting:



Galentine's Day!

Monday, Feb 26
Dogwood Cottage

Social 6:30 pm
Meeting 7 pm

Dogwood Cottage Fund Campaign Ends February 29th

For nearly half a century, the Junior League of Greater Covington has advanced women's leadership through transformative community impact. In 2024, JLGC will celebrate the 20th anniversary of our historic downtown Covington headquarters, Dogwood Cottage. We are asking Members and Friends of the League to support JLGC with a tax-deductible contribution to the Dogwood Cottage Fund.

The funds raised during this campaign will go exclusively toward replenishing the league's fund to maintain our beautiful headquarters, allowing the money earned through fundraising and membership dues to better serve and support our many mission-based community projects.

"I am so proud of the accomplishments of all your volunteers, and am happy to help with the maintenance of Dogwood Cottage. Keep it up, ladies!"

- League founder & anonymous donor

Your gracious gift will be recognized at the following giving levels:

Dogwood Society (>\$400)

- Invited to Dogwood Cottage History Day Brunch, March 23
- Exclusive Dogwood flower pin
- Dogwood Cottage 20th anniversary ornament
- Recognition on JLGC website, social media, Installation Banquet program and Annual Report

Legacy Builder (\$200)

- Invited to Dogwood Cottage History Day Brunch, March 23
- Dogwood Cottage 20th anniversary ornament
- Recognition on JLGC website, social media, Installation Banquet program and Annual Report

Lagniappe Circle (>\$100)

- Dogwood Cottage 20th anniversary ornament
- Recognition on JLGC website, social media, Installation Banquet program and Annual Report

Club '20 (\$20)

- Recognition on JLGC website, social media, Installation Banquet program and Annual Report



Your tax-deductible donation to the Annual Campaign can be paid in one sum or in planned-giving amounts invoiced throughout the year. Campaign ends February 29, 2024. Please make checks payable to JLGC and note "2023 Annual Campaign" in the memo. Checks can be mailed to The Junior League of Greater Covington, 529 N. Columbia Street, Covington, La. 70433





Congratulations

to Tiffany VanHazebroeck on the birth of her son, Graham James who arrived on King's Day January 6!



Please welcome **Dorothy Childress** as our Interim Treasurer in Tiffany's absence. You can make her job smooth by getting your Spring Financial Obligations in by March 15!

And welcome back to our COO **Casey Tusa** who is resuming her role back from leave. Please resume using the coo@jlgc.net email for management council/committee inquires and updates.



Congratulations to Provisional Member **Ali LaBorde** for her nomination to the Professional Women of St. Tammany (PWST) Women's Choice Awards!

Ali is the driving force behind HOTWORX Covington, where she combines heat, exercise and infrared energy in a beneficial workout program.

In addition to her work on Carnival Couture this year, Ali is also involved in St. Tammany Chamber's Southern Nights Soiree and is an active member of PWST.

She is also the mother of twins, who delights in creating unforgettable experiences with her children.

Congratulations to Ali for being recognized for her commitment to our community!

League Birthdays

FEBRUARY

- Stephanie Doorwar 2
- Rachel Stafford 3
- Melinda Carmeli 8
- Rachel Hryniewich 8
- Cyndi Belina 10
- Robin Eckert 12
- Cindy Petry 12
- Melissa Foster 19
- Shelley Romero 20
- Kaitlyn Seiler 22
- Kelly Anne Beile 23
- Shannon Capouch 23
- Lisa Rivere 24
- Lindsey Chevalier 28
- Trisha Glover 29

MARCH

- Nicole Gonzales 4
- Caitlyn Hurstell 5
- Molly Burns 5
- Leigh Anne Wall 7
- Phyllis Distefano 9
- Trollie Estes 12
- Robin Lewis 12
- Mandy Green 12
- Andrea Pacaccio-Arceneaux 16
- Sheryl Durrett 20
- Katherine Riecke 22
- Misty Levy 23
- Dona Kiesel 28
- Kellie Cutrera Huval 29
- Margaret Burns 29





February GMM

Monday, Feb 19, 6:00p

Dogwood Cottage & Zoom



Sustainer Social

Wednesday, Feb 21, 2pm

Haven Coffee & Cocktails, 534 New Hampshire St, Covington



February Provisional Meeting

RTD Shifts Available

Monday, Feb 26, 6:30p

Dogwood Cottage



Project Prom

Volunteer Shifts Available

Sunday, Mar 3, 9:30a

The Greenwood, 75082 LA25 Covington



March Book Club Potluck

RTD Shifts Available

Thursday, March 21, 6 pm

Dogwood Cottage



Junior League Day at the Capitol

DATE TBA

Join JLGC and other Leagues across the state to tour the Capitol, meet legislators and discuss the issues affecting our impact areas. Contact **Anna Kornick** for more information.

Mardi Gras Mambo

ENTRE NOUS | FEBRUARY 2024



Bon Temps Rouler!

