



# JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MINNEAPOLIS

## Joining The Junior League of Minneapolis 2020 Prospective Member Packet

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

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### Follow Us on Social Media

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## Who is the Junior League of Minneapolis?

Established in 1923 by a small group of women, the Junior League of Minneapolis is a volunteer organization committed to the philosophy of community service. This spirit of social concern and community action prevails throughout our history. While the issues and our society may have changed significantly since our inaugural year, the commitment and dedication of the women who volunteer in the Junior League of Minneapolis has remained the same.

In our more than 95 years of service, our history has remained rich and our impact in the community is meaningful. The community projects established by the Junior League of Minneapolis have been diverse and far-reaching. Today, the Junior League of Minneapolis focuses its volunteer and advocacy efforts on the achievement gap, one of the worst in the country.

In addition to improving our community, the Junior League of Minneapolis' commitment to promoting voluntarism and developing the potential of women leaders has created a lasting legacy. The impact of the training and leadership experiences offered by the Junior League of Minneapolis are visible in nonprofit organizations; businesses; and nonprofit and for-profit boards.



## Strategic Plan for 2018-2023

The Junior League of Minneapolis commits to the following strategic initiatives to ensure the viability of our organization, contribute to the success of our members and serve the community, now and in the future:

<h3>Lifelong Membership</h3> <p>Inspire lifelong commitment from our members by creating an engaging and flexible membership experience that offers opportunities to sharpen skills, forge connections and make a positive impact on the community.</p>	<h3>Continuity of Service</h3> <p>Continue building on our strong foundation to ensure the necessary infrastructure and funding are in place to serve the needs of our members and the Minneapolis community.</p>	<h3>Community Impact</h3> <p>Offer learning, mentoring and leadership opportunities that equip our members to make an important difference in the community through non-profit service and volunteerism.</p>	<h3>Culture of Storytelling</h3> <p>Create a culture of transparency and knowledge-sharing among our members and actively seek opportunities to story-tell inside and out around our heritage, commitments and community impact.</p>
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A flexible membership model offering choices for participation and how members fulfill their financial contribution.</li> <li>A more robust member recognition program.</li> <li>Ample offerings of to make a community impact through effectively-managed community volunteer shifts.</li> <li>Clear communication around how members' financial contributions further the JLM mission.</li> <li>Increased opportunities for networking and making connections.</li> <li>Opportunities to bring the AJLI diversity and inclusion initiative to life in JLM.</li> </ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Financial management practices that emphasize controlling costs, increasing accountability and educating members.</li> <li>Diversification of revenue sources.</li> <li>A quantifiable breakdown of the cost of membership and return for members.</li> <li>A more actionable process for knowledge retention that takes into account the volunteer-led nature of our organization while preserving intellectual capital.</li> <li>A robust member and program data collection across all pillars of JLM.</li> <li>Regular evaluation of our project portfolio.</li> </ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relevant, outcome driven project portfolio that offers hands-on volunteer and learning opportunities for members and creates a positive impact in our community.</li> <li>Defined training and ongoing experiential learning to prepare members to serve in leadership roles in the JLM and other non-profit organizations.</li> <li>Create opportunities for knowledge transfer and experience sharing between seasoned and newer members.</li> <li>A more robust Legacy of Leadership Award program to celebrate significant community contributions.</li> </ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Localize the AJLI external branding campaign.</li> <li>An enhanced marketing program to support member recruitment, fund development and other needs.</li> <li>An Advocacy program that aligns with AJLI initiatives, educates members on public policy issues and delivers the JLM point of view on key community issues.</li> <li>Defined measurement process to track brand awareness, external impressions and JLM net promoter score.</li> <li>A suite of member-facing communication vehicles and member advisor resources that ensure our members are well-informed and have the right tools to talk about their JLM experience.</li> </ul>

**Mission:** The Junior League of Minneapolis is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.  
**Vision:** Women Around the World as Catalysts for Lasting Community Change

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## How We Support our Community

### Community Impact

Our community projects are focused on addressing the underlying issues that contribute to the Twin Cities opportunity gap, one of the worst in the nation. Specifically, we address the literacy gap with our Between the Lines and 30 Million Words projects. We reduce the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) literacy gap with our HOMES (Hands-on Math, Engineering and Science) project. And we support non-profit partners & past projects in our local community who are also working to narrow the opportunity gap with our Helping Hands project.

#### 30 Million Words

Close the gap in number of words (30 million words, by age 4) heard by low-income children, increase the presence of books in the children's lives (0.4 in low-income homes vs 199 in affluent homes), and create a positive experience related to reading.

#### Between The Lines

Increase learning and literacy for children of an incarcerated female parent/caregiver while strengthening the bond between child and parent/caretaker during a potentially lengthy separation.

#### H.O.M.E.S (Hands-on Math, Engineering and Science)

Narrow the gap in STEM (Science Technology, Engineering, Math) competency by strengthening children and caregivers' ability to apply STEM skills to daily & real-life situations.

#### Helping Hands

Support local non-profit partners, with a like-minded mission of closing the opportunity gap, to meet discrete and short-term needs.

#### Leagueaires

The mission of LeagueAires is to bring the joy and healing power of music to older adults and to those with special needs.

#### Wallin Scholarship

Junior League of Minneapolis supports this mission by financially supporting one female high school senior annually in her quest for higher education. Scholarship recipients are selected on the basis of academic rigor, commitment to the community, and being the first generation in her family to attend college or university.

For a list of Historical Projects the JLM has initiated or supported review our [website](#).

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## **JLM Fundraisers**

Since 1923, the Junior League of Minneapolis has had a tradition of improving the lives of those in Minneapolis and its surrounding area. This commitment to our community could not be complete without financial support through various fundraising activities. We invite the community and our membership to support the mission of the Junior League of Minneapolis. Please click on any of our events that take place throughout the year to learn more about them.

### **Bottles Bags and Bingo**

Bottles, Bags & Bingo is the JLM's signature fall fundraiser. Funds raised through this event will help the JLM continue its mission to promote voluntarism, develop leaders, and support various community projects which are focused on addressing the underlying issues that contribute to the achievement gap in Minneapolis.

### **JLM FitRaisers**

A series of FITness inspired fundRAISERS for you to attend from August through May with your fellow JLMers and friends! Each event will give you the opportunity to try out different fitness regimens all over the Twin Cities metro area. Bring your family and/or friends to join in the fun.

### **Little Black Dress Initiative**

Our members are wearing the same black dress or outfit for five consecutive days. Wearing an outfit for five straight days draws attention to the opportunity gap by symbolizing one of the many barriers to learning for high mobility students – not having consistent access to their own clothes, toys and books. LBDI gives us an opportunity to celebrate and fund JLM's projects that inspire a love of learning, which can help kids who face these kinds of pressures. Thank you in advance for supporting the Junior League of Minneapolis.

### **Men In The Kitchen**

The Junior League of Minneapolis' annual Men in the Kitchen is the tastiest fundraising event of the year. The event cook-off is structured similarly to the popular TV show Top Chef; featuring 15 amateur chefs (or teams of chefs) "competing" against one another with the objective of being chosen as the fan favorite. A fun event all around with great food, drinks, silent auction, music and more! All proceeds from this fundraising event support JLM's mission driven community projects while also promoting voluntarism and developing the potential of women in leadership roles.

### **Annual Fund**

The JLM's annual fund-raising campaign supports our mission to train women to become community and civic leaders through JLM-led community programs which help to close the opportunity gap.

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## How We Support our Members

### Developing the Potential of Women

#### Training & Leadership Development

The Junior League provides skills-based training and facilitates leadership development. These experiences help members strengthen their skills and empower them to transform the community. We do this by:

- Building a project portfolio that offers hands-on volunteer and learning opportunities for members and creates a positive impact in our community
- Providing training and ongoing experiential learning to prepare members to serve in leadership roles in the JLM and other non-profit organizations
- Creating opportunities for knowledge transfer and experience sharing between seasoned and newer members
- Developing opportunities for networking and making connections

#### Social

Social development and events are a primary reason why so many Women are interested in joining the League! The Junior League offers many fun opportunities to get to know fellow members and volunteers. Social events, such as the monthly dinner club, happy hours and other fun events which build camaraderie and enhance volunteer experiences. Provisional members will automatically be enrolled in a small group to enhance networking and connection to the League.



New Member Ugly Sweater Party and Cookie Exchange to celebrate the Holiday Season!



FitRaiser at the Bar Method with a celebratory glass of Champagne after class!

## 2020-2021 Provisional Year Requirements

Obligations	Provisional Requirements
Register for your Prospective Member Year	To become a member of the Junior League of Minneapolis, please fill out our <a href="#">Prospective Member Registration</a> to secure your spot for the upcoming New Member Class
2020-2021 Dues + Course fee <b>Due November 1, 2020</b>	\$240 \$200 Membership Dues + \$40 one-time Provisional Course fee <small>*A payment plan is offered</small>
Advisor Check-In	Meet once with your New Member Advisor in the Fall or Spring to discuss how your League year is going
Hands-On Experience	Attend one committee meeting as a guest to see how the committee operates and learn about committee structure
League Overview Training	Attend one VP Panel to learn about league structure and prepare for Committee Placement for the next League year
New Member Social	Attend one of our New Member Kick off events, New Member Holiday Party or End of Year party
General Membership Meeting	Join us for one of our General Membership Meetings where we discuss strategic volunteer impact, multiple are offered throughout the year
Membership Points	Attend ~4 of any of our GMM's, Community, or Fundraising shifts/events throughout the year
Community Points	Participate in ~3 Community Volunteer shifts throughout the year
Fundraising Points	Participate in ~3 Fundraising Shifts or attend any of our Fundraising events we offer in the year

\*\*Due to COVID, a revised membership requirement outline will be provided during the Provisional Member Kick Off which will allow for additional membership flexibility to support our community in a virtual / distant environment\*\*

## Benefits of Membership



- Attend trainings
- Volunteer
- Connect to the community
- Develop civic leadership skills
- Meet like-minded women
- Attend social events
- Collaborate with a mentor
- Develop your skills
- Network



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## Frequently Asked Questions: About Your Provisional Year

### What will my Provisional year look like?

The Provisional year is purposefully designed to introduce and educate you on The Junior League of Minneapolis, while providing opportunities to socialize, create new connections, gain access to valuable training, learn about our mission and community impact, and serve with our community agencies and programs.

### What does the application process look like?

All a potential Provisional member needs to do is:

- 1) Log onto [www.jlminneapolis.org](http://www.jlminneapolis.org) and proceed to the registration page
- 2) Complete membership registration
- 3) Pay dues and the Provisional Course Fee

Once your application and dues have been successfully submitted, you will officially be a Prospective Member of the Junior League of Minneapolis! After you are fully registered you will receive a welcome e-mail that outlines additional details for your Prospective year.

### With an organization so big how will I make friends?

Like any other large organization, you'll often find you gain from your experience what you put into it. We often find women who simply show up and attend, whether a social, fundraiser, GMM meeting, etc. will start to recognize the same faces and develop relationships. There will always be busier seasons in life and meeting the requirements will still allow a member to meet and make connections, but often that is up to her. If you are here to make connections, we encourage you to take the social time before meetings to reach out and speak with a new person.

### Do I need a Sponsor?

No! Other Junior Leagues around the world require a 'sponsor,' or a current member who can vouch for the prospective member, for a new member to join. JLM wants women who want to raise their hands to serve the needs of our community without barriers.

### What do the social aspects of JLM Membership look like?

The Provisional program is designed with the intent of combining education and training with socializing and meeting fellow Provisionals. The year will provide you with both formal and informal settings to socialize with the Provisional class as a whole and Provisional Committee leadership, your small group consisting of other Provisional women.

### What types of women make up the typical Provisional class?

The Provisional class has ranged from 50-100 women the last few League years. While our members are diverse in their age, backgrounds, skillsets, race, ethnicity, religion, political affiliations, vocations, etc., we typically find the commonality that all members have a strong desire to carry out our mission while becoming a trained volunteer.

### What is the Small Group?

In order to better serve the Provisional class, women are placed into a Provisional Small Group of approximately 10 women with a Provisional Advisor to serve as a point of contact as women navigate their Provisional year.

### How are small groups created?

Our New Member Advising Committee creates our small groups sorting by area of town to better promote commonalities with the women in that group. You will be assigned to your small group after your course fee and 2020- 2021 dues are paid.

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### **What do I do if I can't make one of the required events for my Provisional year?**

JLM understands how busy our members are and how unforeseen circumstances arise. We are here to help you succeed and have a valuable membership experience. The best thing to do is to communicate with your New Member Advisor should you not be able to attend to get any information you've missed and find out about make-up opportunities if applicable. We understand family obligations, conflicts, work schedules, and travel are part of your day to day life, and we are happy to work with you on a case by case basis. Our flexible membership points scale also offers added flexibility around personal schedules and time commitments.

### **What is a Committee Placement?**

After completing your New Member Year and paying dues, you will become an Active Member of the Junior League of Minneapolis on June 1. As an Active Member, you will be placed on a committee and complete committee-specific tasks (this replaces the small group meetings/training from the New Member year). Active members give anywhere from 50-150+ hours to the JLM each year based on individual preferences and availability. Membership is designed to be flexible and accommodate the experiences and balance each member is seeking.

### **What are the other different membership levels?**

**Active Member:** Granted to members who have completed the Provisional Program

As an Active Member, your commitment will include the following requirements:

- Pay Active dues
- Meet all placement requirements of Active membership
- Earn membership points per year to meet membership requirement

**Sustainer:** Granted to members who have completed 7 active years of Service