



THE

# INSIGHT

A PUBLICATION OF THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF PASADENA, INC.



JUNIOR LEAGUE



1926-2016  
OF PASADENA



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Celebrating 90 years making a difference in our community

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**INSIGHT**

A publication of the  
Junior League of Pasadena, Inc.

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## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Since our founding 90 years ago, we have been dedicated to affecting positive change in the community and committed to the belief that volunteer service is an essential part of responsible citizenship.

This year we are celebrating the JLP's 90th Anniversary. After training thousands of volunteers in Pasadena, creating sustainable service projects, and joining forces with a countless number of community partners, I am proud to say that we are still going strong!

As you know, our theme for the year is "Make it Matter" where all are called to action by making all that they do in connection with their service matter. "It" is our extensive membership, history and network; a powerful group working together to move our mission forward. "It" is sound financial stewardship, engaging fundraising efforts and community collaborations to leverage our resources for the benefit of others. "It" is leading with determination and smiling in the face of a challenge knowing full well that we may be tested and pushed, but we will succeed. "It" is stepping up and saying yes, we're the Junior League, and we can do that!

And now we chart a new course. Following an extensive period of investigation and community research, we have taken another step toward its future by adopting a new issue area for the "Support and Development of Women." Our 2015-2016 pilot program centers center on "Business, Entrepreneurship and Leadership Skills" for women. Through direct service, advocacy and community collaborations, we meet a need which is currently lacking sufficient resources in Pasadena. By combining the time and talents of our membership with existing community infrastructure we look forward to creating positive support for women from all walks of life in Pasadena.

Our organization's mission is unique, with focus both upon volunteer service in the community as well as training and developing the potential of each member so she becomes stronger equipped to carry the mission forward throughout her life. The Junior League of Pasadena embraces diverse perspectives, builds partnerships and inspires shared solutions. Our members make a difference in areas which are essential to the development and growth of our community.

Thank you for your commitment to making a difference in Pasadena and beyond!

Robyn (Grandy) Roesner  
President, 2015-2016  
The Junior League of Pasadena, Inc.



*Photo courtesy of Nick Boswell*



**Robyn (Grandy) Roesner**  
President 2015-2016

"I am excited to support our members and Make it Matter"



**Jennifer Allan Goldman**  
President-Elect 2015-2016

"This year, I want to make all members know **THEY** matter."



**Lauren Hooten**  
Community Director

"I am excited to make our new issue area matter for our members and the women of our community."



**Brooke Bennett**  
Finance Director

"I am making it matter by refining JLP's internal operating procedures. By addressing our own needs, we will be better able to meet the needs of those in our community."



**Dana Jones**  
Fundraising Director

"I am making it matter this year because the women of Pasadena are relying on the JLP"



**Kim Ferreira**  
Marketing Director

"I am making it matter this year, and every year, by celebrating the JLP's past accomplishments, present projects, and future adventures."



**Amy Onderdonk**  
Membership Director

"I am honored to be a part of this group of women who passionately 'Make it Matter' in our community while continuing the proud heritage of the JLP."



**Anna Agadjanyan**  
Program Development Director

"I am making it matter by developing trainings and programs that encourage our members and women in our community to think possible, set & achieve personal goals, and thrive."



**Daryl Synowiec**  
Recorder

"I am making it matter this year by remembering the JLP legacy, adapting in the moment, and celebrating our future!"



**Kathryn Enright**  
SPAC Senior

"I am making it matter by strengthening the JLP's advocacy role within the Junior League"



## 2015 - 2016 Council



“THE ABILITY TO SYNTHESIZE THE BEST OF A GROUP TO MOVE A GOAL FORWARD SOUNDS LIKE A WONDERFUL THING TO BE INVOLVED IN - AND THAT IS WHAT I SEE AS SO UNIQUE ABOUT THE JLP - THIS NETWORK OF “US” ALWAYS GIVING OUR BEST, AND MAKING WHAT WE DO MATTER.”

**- ROBYN (GRANDY) ROESNER**

## SIMPLY SPEAKING



Fun was had by all at the Junior League of Pasadena's second annual Simply Speaking luncheon last Spring. We honored Mayor Bill Bogaard with the inaugural Junior League of Pasadena Community Impact Award, and Civic leader Jane Popovich, was recognized with the 2015 Nancy Reed Payne Achievement Award. This year's event was held at the University Club in Pasadena and drew over 150 attendees.

Our keynote speaker was Jane Olson, known for her work in international justice and humanitarian causes. The event included a silent auction with items ranging from island getaways to couture treasures. Participants also had the opportunity to enter a donation drawing for six \$1,000 gift certificates to local fine jewelry store, Place Vendome. Congratulations to all drawing winners and to the

successful bidders on our silent auction items. We would also like to extend a special thank you to all of our Simply Speaking patrons and donors. A full list of all of our supporters is on the following page. All funds raised at Simply Speaking each year go to the Junior League of Pasadena and our community projects. **(Full list of donors and patrons can be found on the next page)**

## NANCY REED PAYNE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



The Nancy Reed Payne Achievement Award plaque reads: "This award is

given to a Sustainer who has made an exceptional contribution throughout her League career and has made a significant difference in the community." Jane Popovich, recipient of the 2015 award, was a most deserving recipient, far exceeding the definition and qualifications for the award.

Jane's League membership began in the 1970s. In 1978-79 she arguably made her most outstanding contribution to the JLP as co-chair of a new fundraising event - a fun-filled circus complete with elephants, tigers, trapeze acts, and clowns. Over two days, more than 10,000 children and adults attended the event. The success

of the circus brought the League's programs to the attention of the community, brought our members closer together, and raised \$82,604 (\$300,378 in today's dollars) to fund the JLP's community projects and programs.

In the years following her Active years in the League, Jane served on various boards, including the USC Board of Trustees, Kidspace, Huntington Hospital, Westridge School, and she also chaired the NCL Debutante Ball. The 2016 recipient of the Nancy Reed Payne Achievement Award will be announced at this year's Simply Speaking event on April 30th at San

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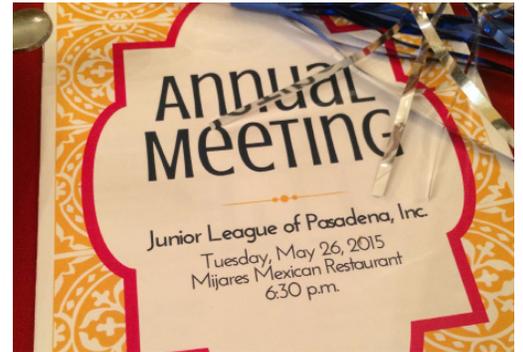
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simply  
speaking

# ANNUAL MEETING



On May 26, the JLP held its Annual Meeting to honor member achievements and reveal a new community focus area - the Support and Development of Women. This meeting was full of member pride and excitement as all reflected on the past year in the JLP.

In her remarks, 2015-2016 President, Robyn (Grandy) Roesner, spoke about

what makes the JLP different, and how our membership can "Make it Matter" this year and every year. She said, "It is in our compassion for others where we are called to act - individually and together. The sum of our many small impacts will create our greatest moments, and we make it matter!" The JLP celebrated seven women moving to Sustaining membership

after their many years of Active service to the League and welcomed twenty women who moved from Provisional to Active membership. Two new active members, Sarah Hatch and Jessica Stoller-Conrad, were awarded the Annual Rosebud Award in recognition of their outstanding service during their Provisional year. The event was a wonderful celebration for all involved.

# VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Each year, the Junior League of Pasadena's Volunteer Award for Excellence is given to one member who has made an exceptional contribution to the League and the community during her career as a JLP volunteer.

As many of you witnessed at the Annual Meeting in May, the award was presented to Katie Enney, a woman with a long list of outstanding accomplishments as a member of the JLP and far beyond.

Katie's extensive JLP resume dates back to 2005. For over 10 years, the JLP has been fortunate enough to feel the far-reaching effects of Katie's presence. She has served on committees such as Center Stage Productions and the Side by Side Committee, and has served on



the Board of Directors numerous times. The praise given for Katie during the nomination process was abundant. Members are consistently impressed with her commitment to her role in the League, and with her dedication to those she volunteers alongside.

Past President Marah Lyvers had this to say about Katie's dedication: "Katie has played a significant role in the lives of those she has volunteered with. Her quiet and capable commitment to Pasadena has until now been unsung. She is incredibly deserving of the Junior League of Pasadena's highest honor." Outside the League, Katie is a devoted wife to husband John and mother to son James and daughter Ella. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Harvard University, a Master's Degree in Educational Psychology from USC, and a Doctorate in Psychology from Aliant International University. She is the Administrative Director of the BLAST program, a social skills program for children.



## THIS YEAR'S NEW SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Jenny Chavez  
Elizabeth Dever  
Molly Girardi  
Leah Mason  
Margarita Munoz  
Jessica Samuels  
Kristen Schwarz

## WELCOME OUR TRANSFER MEMBERS!

Charlotte Miles  
from the Junior League of Champaign-Urbana, IL  
Current assignment : Provisional Committee Assistant Chair

Meshell Holdo  
from the Junior League of Orange County  
Current assignment : Sustaining Member

Kristina Del Vecchio  
from the Junior League of Santa Barbara  
Current assignment : Fundraising Logistics Committee Member

Vivian Long  
from the Junior League of New York, NY  
Current assignment : Provisional Committee Member

Julie Gosling  
from the Junior League of Bakersfield  
Current assignment : League Events Committee Member

# WELCOME OUR 2015-2016 PROVISIONAL CLASS

Katy Allamong  
Meredith Bagdazian  
Kendra Burks  
Deborah Bush  
Swestha Dutt  
Katie Gallagher  
Cindy Kwan  
Angela Liang  
Jessica Lowe  
Nicole Madden  
Lacey Maurer

Laura Musicaro  
Julia Musker  
Julie Nhan  
Laura Nunnelly  
Sarah Owen  
Madeline Secundy  
Michelle Simonsen  
Julie Tichon  
Jessica Torres  
Alexandria Wood



The 2015 - 2016 Provisional class is looking forward to the remainder of the year as they prepare to announce the completion of their class project - the BELS Resource Guide. This will be a website full of resources for women in our community looking to start their first job, a new career, or looking for help re-entering the workforce. The resources in this site will be vast; from

resume writing and career mapping to finding affordable childcare and dressing for success. Through this project, the Provisional class has researched many local non-profits, met with organizations that support local women, and have worked together to build a coherent and easy website that will be accessible to all. The Provisionals have learned

how they can work in conjunction with other groups that have a common goal to build a better community. Their dream is to support the Junior League of Pasadena in the coming years and to help grow this project with more resource connections, and hopefully one day, a brick and mortar resource center.

## SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN

### **BELS** Business, Entrepreneurship, & Leadership Skills *for women*

The League is delighted to have turned this new page: the membership has spoken and the area of Support and Development of Women was chosen on May 21, 2015 after a fantastic voter turnout. The 2015-2016 year will focus on the details and pilot roll out of a wrap around program centered on BELS, a term coined by the current Program Development and Support (PD&S) committee chair to stand for Business, Entrepreneurship and Leadership Skills for Women.

The PD&S Committee left no stone unturned last year while researching the community need in two issues areas: Support and Development of Women and Youth Wellness and Mental Health. It was important that members saw the impact of both issues before voting. Information was presented during neighborhood meetings in the Winter and Spring via guest speaker panels during several General Membership Meetings, a Town Hall meeting shortly before the vote, as well as in comprehensive documents. The documents were made available prior to the vote, summarized the findings and outlined the research conducted and organizations contacted so that all

members were connected to each issue throughout the research process and could ultimately make an informed decision on their preference.

The selection of BELS is unique in that 80% of active members already feel equipped to provide training and mentoring to other women in a similar age group. They are excited to both share their collective skill sets and learn new skills to share with others. The JLP, devoted to developing the potential of women, is delighted to both tap into the incredible resources already on hand through membership as well as forge collaborative relationships with community stakeholders. One of the most important committee findings last year was that no matter the project, the end result has to be a wrap around approach. The program ultimately has to have breadth to be impactful. Thus, the BELS pilot program will incorporate things like direct service, a resource center, advocacy, collaborations and more.

Building on the legacy of incredible women pioneers who built the

and Leadership Skills for Women to the forefront in Pasadena and in the greater San Gabriel Valley. Statistics show that women in Pasadena earn .91 cents on the dollar compared to their male counterparts.

ONLY  
**3%**  
OF CALIFORNIA'S  
CEOs ARE WOMEN

Out of 400 CEOs of public corporations in California, only 3% are women. Also, the number of women owned businesses in California is only 30%. While women earn 58% of all degrees in California, they only earn 10% of technology degrees and 13% of computer science degrees. There are apprenticeship training programs, and other resources available to women, but they remain underutilized in our community.

The JLP envisions becoming a place that empowers women, a place that allows women to think, to connect with each other, and to flourish. Working on projects like career guidance and support, personal finance training, fostering better use of local, state and federal resources and advocating in areas such as employer awareness, the JLP is looking to drive change. This strategy will provide women with the tools they need to break barriers, achieve their highest personal goals and thrive.

**RESOURCES  
REMAIN  
UNDERUSED  
IN OUR  
COMMUNITY**

organization, the JLP is absolutely thrilled to be working on BELS and bringing Business, Entrepreneurship

# COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MOBILIZES VOLUNTEERS



JLP Members love to volunteer! The Community Committee has been working to schedule a mix of BELS (Business, Entrepreneurship, and Leadership Skills) related service opportunities while still providing JLP volunteers with the League's standby favorites. Here's what the committee has been up to so far this year:

In June, JLP volunteers helped with games and served food for the Elizabeth House summer picnic at Pasadena Covenant Church. The Elizabeth House provides shelter and support to homeless pregnant women and their children. The kids loved the ice cream and prizes!

In August, members helped celebrate the Pasadena Senior Center's

Open House and 55th Anniversary. Volunteers prepared a craft and staffed a craft table during the event, watching the kids personalize the craft to their own tastes and experiences. This was a great way for the League to continue its lasting relationship with the Pasadena Senior Center and the community.

In September, several JLP members picked oranges with Food Forward at Huntington Gardens. Food Forward is an organization that rescues fresh local produce which would otherwise go to waste and gets it to people in need. Ants and hot weather couldn't hold back the group from collecting over 65 boxes of fruit!

In October, the autumn spirit inspired

a group of JLP volunteers to help out at the 21st Annual Pumpkin Festival at Kidspace Children's Museum. Volunteers helped with games, face painting, and more during the two day festival. It's a fall favorite among JLP Members!

In November, the JLP organized and hosted a BELS workshop with Elizabeth House residents and alumni. The successful workshop gave the women of Elizabeth House opportunity for personalized professional development training and resources. This workshop was in such high demand that the Community Committee is developing a second workshop for Spring 2016.



## PASADENA SENIOR CENTER : A SYMBOL OF HOPE



This year celebrates the 55th anniversary of the Pasadena Senior Center, a nonprofit organization that offers recreational, educational, wellness, and social services to people in the Pasadena area aged 50 and older.

In the late 1950s and 1960s, The Junior League of Pasadena played a pivotal role in the beginnings of the Pasadena Senior Center. JLP Members provided the necessary funding and volunteer support so that those behind the Center's creation could achieve a long-held goal of developing the first independent nonprofit center in Southern California to provide recreational and social services to senior citizens.

JLP members were foresighted and generous with their time, money, and commitment to this project - a

tradition that has continued since the organization's founding in 1926 through community projects today.

The grand opening of the Pasadena Senior Center in May of 1960 was a grand affair with over 2,000 people in attendance. The Pasadena Star News proclaimed that the Center was "A Symbol of Hope" for Pasadena's senior citizens.

For 10 years after the Center's opening, members of the JLP contributed thousands of volunteer hours to staff the new facility. As a result of JLP Member efforts, and those of countless other volunteers, the Pasadena Senior Center continues to provide a broad range of life-enriching programs and services that are important to the senior population of our community.

The Junior League of Pasadena was recognized for contributions

to the Pasadena Senior Center at their annual gala this September. The gala was an elegant, fun-filled evening complete with a silent auction and Fritz Coleman, comedian and weathercaster for KNBC-TV, serving as master of ceremonies.

Elsie Saddler, long time member of the Junior League of Pasadena, and key figure in the Pasadena community, spoke at the gala on behalf of the Center. She told lovely stories of the joint history, and stated that the Pasadena Senior Center was "honoring the Junior League of Pasadena for this visionary work and for their continuing powerful presence in Pasadena."

The JLP is proud to be a part of the Pasadena Senior Center's 55 year legacy and looks forward to partnership in the next 55 years!

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF PASADENA'S INCREDIBLE LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP IS SOMETHING WE HONOR EVERY DAY AT THE PASADENA SENIOR CENTER, NOW WE WANT TO FORMALLY RECOGNIZE THE ONGOING VALUE OF THIS IMPORTANT PARTNERSHIP AT THE 2015 ZEST GALA.

**- AKILA GIBBS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PASADENA SENIOR CENTER**

# CELEBRATING 90 YEARS : 1926-2016



Since its founding 90 years ago, the Junior League of Pasadena has partnered with hundreds of community organizations, volunteering time and often providing financial support these organizations need. As celebrations begin for the 90th Anniversary, it's time to reflect back on how the League began and remember the Legacy that members have left over the years.

It all began in 1926, a time when so many in the nation were in need. A group of women in the Pasadena area knew that they could work together to help members of their community. They not only created the League, but they stepped up and took on their first big project - the Visiting Nurses Association, which provided healthcare to those in need.

In the 1930s, the JLP continued to serve the community, this time by creating the Huntington Library Guides program. Over the years, this program provided tours to thousands of visiting schoolchildren.

During the 1940s, the JLP assisted in the campaign for war bond sales at the same time that our members helped open the Junior Museum at the Pasadena Art Institute.

In the 1950s, the JLP utilized member talents to create the now infamous fund-raising Pasadena Pops concerts at the Santa Anita Turf Club. These

concerts provided much needed financial support for non-profits in the community.

The 1960s brought national recognition to the JLP. Members spent countless hours volunteering and assisting relatives of the mentally ill at Camarillo State Mental Hospital. It was also at this time that the JLP published its first cookbook - Pasadena Prefers.

The 1970s was a busy time for the JLP. The League published its award-winning California Heritage Cookbook, which was later elected to the Tabasco Community Cookbook Hall of Fame with over 250,000 copies sold. The JLP formed a research and development group to study cultural heritage and historic preservation in the Pasadena area, and raised \$82,000 with the "Circus Under the Big Top" fundraiser held in the Rose Bowl!

The tides began to change in the 1980s. Gone were the days of daytime meetings. Members were moving into the workforce, raising families, and still dedicating their precious time to the JLP and its programs. It was in the 80s



that the JLP founded Kidspace, published the book, "Talking About Pasadena; Selections from Oral Histories" with the Pasadena Oral History Project, and developed the Done in a Day volunteer project format

that is still used by the League today. In the 1990s, the JLP began work at James Madison Elementary School - making it the center community program, and the League also formed a commercial recycling committee to help implement recycling programs at



Pasadena area businesses.

The early 2000s, the League further developed its focus on the Madison Elementary project to support families and children in the community. The JLP made a commitment to support the Young and Healthy Dental Van, a yearly event where thousands of children are treated.

After a three year investigation and research period the JLP has once again adjusted its focus to best serve the needs of our community.

The League's new issue area, "The Support and Development of Women" is ambitious, but with the skill set and dedication of JLP members, and the legacy of the Junior League of Pasadena, the organization can become the "go to" resource center for women in need.

*We would like to extend our thanks to Elsie Saddler for providing much of the timeline we have shared with you*

## THE JLP'S GARDEN CLUB



In September, the JLP's Garden Club Committee enjoyed another gorgeous tour of the Thorton Gardens. The estate has been beautifully expanded, keeping with the original designs.

On October 15th, the Garden Club and guests had a delicious dinner at the home of Rose Nielsen, followed by the Rise of the Jack O'Lanterns walking tour at Descanso Gardens.

Members kicked off the holidays on November 12th with a floral arranging class at Jacob Maarse Florists, with

coaching by Hank Maarse and Tommy Farmer.

Members rang in the new year in style with a Transitional Gastronomy event - Dining as a Reflection of Nature, on January 26th and 28th. Members took a guided plant identification walk with a workshop on fermentation of spice blends, followed by lunch. On March 29th, the Garden Club Committee and guests will visit a lemon farm in Oxnard and learn how Sunkist products get from field to store. Russ Hanlin, former

CEO of Sunkist, will lead the tour. Lunch and a tour of the Tierra Sur Winery will follow.

To end the year in style, Garden Club supporters are invited to enjoy dinner in Lynda Patton's beautiful home and gardens with a celebrity chef. Special invitations will be mailed in May to members who have made a \$25 donation to the JLP's Garden Club Committee. Reservations and payment will be taken at that time.



# THE JLP'S STATE PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (SPAC)



♡ We are excited to educate membership on the important work carried out by CalSPAC and engage members in advocacy related to the Support and Development of Women. ♡

- Kathryn Enright,  
SPAC Senior Delegate



The Junior Leagues of California State Public Affairs Committee (CalSPAC) held three great conferences last year which brought together delegates from 17 Junior Leagues across the state.

At the 2015 AJLI annual conference, CalSPAC was honored with the inaugural AJLI Public Policy and Advocacy Award. The delegation concluded their weekend by voting to support several pieces of legislation pending in Sacramento. Of the 46 bills supported by CalSPAC, 20 were signed into law by Governor Brown.

25 became two-year bills and will be considered by the legislature in the next legislative cycle.

The conference was followed by CalSPAC's annual Day at the Capitol, which brought delegates and public officials together. Speakers included city councilmembers, Assemblymembers, the Governor's Appointment Secretary, and the Assembly's Minority Leader. Topics included issues within the JLP's main focus areas, the unique advantage women have in politics, and tips on

how to become part of a solution to local community challenges.

This year, JLP CalSPAC delegates are hard at work representing the JLP and the new issue area. CalSPAC delegates Kathryn Enright and Jennifer Quintanilla attended both the summer and fall conferences, where they explored ways to bring SPAC home to the JLP. They are excited to educate membership on the important work carried out by CalSPAC and engage members in advocacy related to the Support and Development of Women.



## THE JLP'S SUSTAINING MEMBERS



### 2015-2016 SUSTAINER BOARD

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Wow! The Sustaining members had such a great year last year - so many great events and new faces at every event! The Sustaining members pulled out all the stops with a calendar full of fun events and have an even more jam packed calendar this year. Kudos to Barbara Baptie who led the Sustainer Board for the past two years - thank you for all your hard work!

At the start of 2015, Sustaining members ventured out to tour the Nixon Presidential Library. A bus took the group to the library so that participants would have plenty of time to get to know each other better before touring the library and getting a glimpse of their beautiful gardens.

The "50 Shades of Grey, oops!- Pink" event was held in February at the Town Club. Members were decked-out in pink and toasting each other with delicious champagne and cocktails - a good time was definitely had by all!

In April, the late Jane Popovich was presented with the Nancy Payne Achievement award. She gave so much to the League and her community throughout her life. Jane will be sorely missed.

Santa Anita Park hosted the annual Kentucky Derby event. Gorgeous hats were abundant, and even a few husbands were spotted in attendance! The 2015-2016 League year began with the "Fall Into the JLP" event

at Cathy Woolway's gorgeous home. Guests enjoyed beautiful Fall decor, wonderful food, and had a great time catching up with friends old and new. JLP Members celebrated the holiday season this year with a luncheon at Mary Serles' beautiful home. Mary graciously hosted the event with all proceeds directly benefiting the JLP. Attendees took time out of their busy schedules to share a delicious lunch catered by Bistro 45 and tour Mary's beautiful Art-Deco style home in La Canada-Flintridge.

The Sustainer Board is hard at work planning events in 2016 and hope to see you there.



# In Memoriam



## MARGARET DUQUE MARBLE

Past President (1973-1974)

Margaret Duque Marble passed away in early July.

She was known as a born leader, as she has also served as President of the Town Club and Dame of the Royal Institute. Margaret was involved in countless organizations in both the Santa Barbara and Pasadena communities. She published a book called "Seeing the Elephant". Margaret is survived by her six children, ten grandchildren, and three great grandchildren. The JLP extends condolences to Margaret's family.



## JANE POPOVICH

The Junior League of Pasadena was saddened by the passing Jane Popovich in early August. Jane was a founding board member and played a very significant role in the creation of Kidspace Children's Museum in Pasadena. She was recently honored with the 2015 Nancy Reed Payne award at the Junior League of Pasadena's Simply Speaking event in April. The JLP's hearts and thoughts are with the Popovich family.

## THANKS TO OUR 2014-2015 ANNUAL FUND DONORS

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THIS YEAR, THE BOARD WILL CONTINUE TO MEET AND DISCUSS THE JLP STRATEGIC PLAN AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS.

THE JLP THANKS THE COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS FOR THEIR ONGOING SUPPORT.

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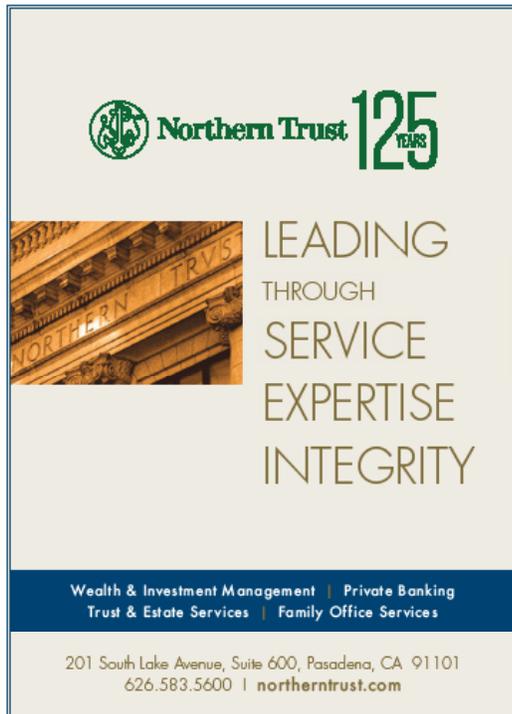
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