



# LIFELINE

 Fall 2023 Edition



## Welcome Provisional Class of 2023-2024

### NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

Stand Beside Her Award

Fall Celebration

Challenge of Champions: A/L  
Member Project Partnership

BankFirst Partners with JA  
for Reality Fair





# Junior Auxiliary of Columbus 2023-2024 Provisional Class



Brittney Legg



Ana Bonetti



Shelly Blaise



Megan McCoy



Lisa Read



Rachel Truesdale



Leigh Holt



Arie Carlton



Ashley McDaniel



KK Gillespie

## Well, Hello There!

The newest provisional class of Junior Auxiliary of Columbus is full of exceptional women that we know will continue our traditions of service with dedication and zeal! This year's diverse set of ladies were handpicked based on their servant's hearts and devotion to the children of our county. We're sure that each of them will bring their own brand of personality and altruism to our chapter's projects and legacy.



Jordyn Gill



# Fall Celebration



Junior Auxiliary of Columbus always strives to stay connected with our abundant Associate and Life Members through consistent communication and presenting events several times a year for our beloved past members to attend. One such opportunity for fellowship is the annual Sherry Party and November Luncheon. This year our chapter decided to explore a new event format to great success. What has traditionally been two separate events, a late morning Sherry Party followed by a formal seated luncheon, was combined into one celebration highlighting our chapter's accomplishments from the year, announcing our provisional members, detailing upcoming plans, and presenting the official November chapter meeting. The change garnered rave reviews and resulted in record attendance on the part of our Active, Associate, and Life Members.

*Thank you for your continued support of our chapter!*







# Stand Beside Her Award

**Congratulations, Jamie Davidson and Beth Imes!**

Each year, Junior Auxiliary of Columbus has the honor of participating with the Girl Scouts of America in celebrating the National Stand Beside Her movement. Created in 2015 and described on their website, “Stand Beside Her is a rallying cry to inspire girls and women to stand up for each other and commit to ending unhealthy comparisons that divide and tear us down... By celebrating each other’s talents and successes, we all rise - one courageous, confident girl and woman at a time.”

Recognized for their dedication and service to the community through founding the “100 Women Who Care-Lowndes County” organization, Life Member Jamie Davidson and Beth Imes were selected as this year’s award recipients. Davidson and Imes both addressed the chapter and Associate/Life Members in attendance at Fall Celebration and spoke briefly about their organization and appreciation of the award.



# Fall Project Overview

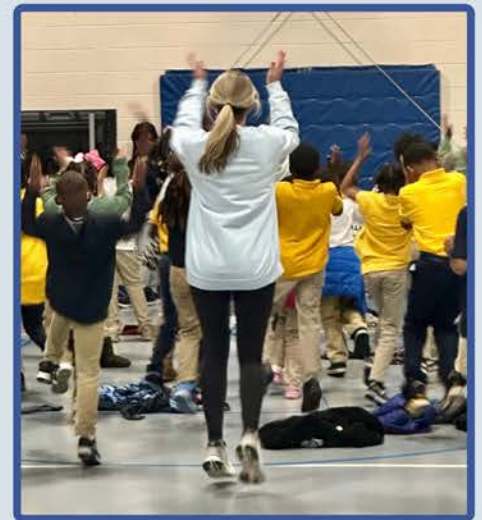
**3,622**  
HOURS SERVED  
SINCE AUGUST

We've been busy! The fall season has been full of heartfelt JAM sessions, thrilling F3 activities, and Kindness chains. It seems as though all of our endeavors have a new energy since this summer, when our chapter worked to reinvigorate and round out our projects to elevate impact and provide more comprehensive coverage of welfare needs.

Anecdotes from members and feedback from schools have made it clear that we made the right choices! In our service projects, Choose Kindness graphics were updated, along with the addition of a new board detailing online safety and what to do about cyber-bullying. Reality Fair also received a graphics update and a much needed budget overhaul to reflect more realistic costs of living expenses.

We're excited to say that welfare projects have also been performing above and beyond expectations. We have fully clothed 258 children since the start of the school year. Feed to Succeed has also provided Thanksgiving meals to 64 local families, bringing our total to 870 meals this year.

At this rate, our end of year service numbers should be off the charts!





# BankFirst & JA Invest in Partnership



## Reality Fair, But Better!

This year's Revamped Reality Fair project has been turning heads! Bankfirst of Columbus recently reached out to our chapter looking for a partnership. Their request came surreptitiously on the heels of our Reality Fair committee members executing a full overhaul of our project materials to ensure they were reflective of our current economy. We recognized that the investment portion of the activity might benefit from actual banking professionals! The partnership has been a great success! Now when the kids have money management questions, experts are there to help, while JA members lead the students through each category of their budgeting activity. While JA members earnestly study their project materials to ensure that we are educated enough to present our material, having experts on hand turned out to be just what we and the students needed to make Reality Fair as impactful as possible.



# CHALLENGE OF CHAMPIONS

## Associate/Life Member Sponsored Project

March 7, 2024

Challenge of Champions is a field day for special education students and JA of Columbus is honored to invite our Associate & Life Members to participate in a special presentation of this project on Thursday, March 7, 2024 at West Lowndes Elementary School!

There are several ways to get involved in the Challenge of Champions project. Associate and Life Members may sponsor an athlete for \$25, which will help provide a t-shirt, medal and snack for each participant. There is also an option to get hands on and participate in the project on March 7!

For more information and to sign up, visit [www.jacolumbus.org/challenge-of-champions-al](http://www.jacolumbus.org/challenge-of-champions-al).

Questions? You can also email [associatelifelife@jacolumbus.org](mailto:associatelifelife@jacolumbus.org).





# Crown Club

## JUNIOR AUXILIARY OF COLUMBUS

The ladies of Crown Club hit the ground running in August with monthly meetings and brainstorming sessions for the next Crown Club project!

Recently, Crown Club ladies collected hygiene products for their Essentials 2 Go campaign to be distributed to local schools.

In September, Crown Club ladies were introduced to Students Talking and Rehearsing for Success, coined S.T.A.R.S., by JA of Columbus active members. Topics of resume building and interviewing skills were targeted. In October and November, STARS committee members were partnered with Crown Club Juniors to conduct mock interviews. It was great to see JA's STARS project revitalized and presented to these young ladies.

### DID YOU HEAR THE NEWS?

JA of Columbus has established a one-time scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 to be given to a graduating senior who was a member of JA of Columbus Crown Club.



Clothes 2 Go bags decorated with sweet words



Essentials 2 Go



Face Painting at the Farmer's Market



Mock Interviews





# Tis the season to be jolly!

## HEARTS AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING CENTER CHRISTMAS PARTY



Children enjoyed an afternoon of festive music, snacks, games, cookie decorating, and the ever so popular hot chocolate station!

## FESTIVAL OF TREES AT THE COLUMBUS-LOWNDES PUBLIC LIBRARY



A fun and festive gathering was held with Crown Club members filled with sorting candles from their annual fundraiser and delighting in holiday treats.



Provisional members carry on the tradition of decorating the JA tree.

## FEED TO SUCCEED CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS



Feed to Succeed committee members assembled and delivered 89 Christmas stockings to students at local elementary and middle schools before students were dismissed for the holiday break.



# Save the Date



**The Junior Auxiliary of Columbus 74th Annual Charity Ball** will be held on Saturday, April 6, 2024 at the Trotter Convention Center in downtown Columbus.

2024 Charity Ball Chair Alison Alexander has selected the theme "Rooted In Love with JA" to celebrate the rich history of the organization.

"I am excited for the opportunity to showcase our impact on the community while thanking our sponsors at the 74th Annual Charity Ball. Without our deep roots in the community, we would not be able to serve so many deserving children in Lowndes County."

## Ticket Update

**NEW THIS YEAR!** Tickets for the Charity Ball will be \$100 per person and will be all inclusive.

Each ticket will include:

Admission, Savory & Sweet Appetizers,  
Royalty Breakfast, Snacks, Ice Buckets,  
Soft Drinks & Cups

For more information, visit  
[www.jacolumbus.org/charityball](http://www.jacolumbus.org/charityball).





# Ways to Support Junior Auxiliary of Columbus

## Charity Ball & General Donations

Donations can be made to the chapter in honor of the 74th Annual Charity Ball.

All donations made in honor of Charity Ball will be listed in the official Playbill, unless noted otherwise.

Donations can be made by visiting our website at [www.jacolumbus.org/donate](http://www.jacolumbus.org/donate).

You may also mail a check to:

Junior Auxiliary of Columbus  
Attn: Treasurer  
Post Office Box 11  
Columbus, MS 39703-0011



Donations can be directed to a particular project or need. For additional information or to request a call from a chapter representative, please email [jacolumbus@jacolumbus.org](mailto:jacolumbus@jacolumbus.org).



### Guess what???

Junior Auxiliary of Columbus is now a proud member of the Columbus Lowndes Chamber of Commerce!



### Connect with Us!

Be in the know! Follow Junior Auxiliary of Columbus on social media! You can find us on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and the World Wide Web!



[jacolumbus@jacolumbus.org](mailto:jacolumbus@jacolumbus.org)  
[www.jacolumbus.org](http://www.jacolumbus.org)

