



Applications are open through March 30 for Next Generation 2022

“NextGen was one of the most enlightening and eye opening experiences.”



Next Generation is a rewarding summer leadership program for young adults interested in gaining increased community knowledge, making connections and having a greater impact on their communities.

Next Generation 2022 will take place June 2 through July 30, 2022. The program fee is \$500 and limited financial assistance is available by application.

For complete details and eligibility, visit the [Next Gen program page](#).

Questions? Contact Programs Director, Meg Folds: meg@leadershipjax.org.



Celebration 2022 May 17

Now in its 27th year, join us for Celebration 2022! This year's annual event will honor outstanding community leaders, Patrick Geraghty, Julia Taylor and Leon Haley, while raising funds for Youth Leadership Jacksonville.

For reservations and sponsorship opportunities, click [here](#).

LJ Class of 2022 Health Day

Leadership Jacksonville Class of 2022 participated in Health Day on February 10 at UF Health Jacksonville. The class heard from various speakers and panels and learned about Stop the Bleed, NARCAN training and Hands-Only CPR. A health care showcase offered an opportunity to meet various service providers. A very special thanks to the program day sponsor, Availity and to UF Health for hosting and sponsoring meals and snacks.

For the complete photo gallery, visit our Leadership Jacksonville [Facebook group](#).



**LEADERSHIP
JACKSONVILLE**



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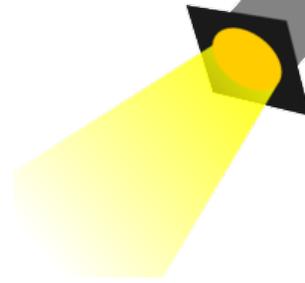
YLJ Class of 2022 Are We Our Brothers' and Sisters' Keeper?

Youth Leadership Jacksonville, Class of 2022, enjoyed Are We Our Brothers' and Sisters' Keeper Day on February 17. The day included a boat ride featuring several historical sites and a visit to Brooks. A special thanks to Brooks Rehab for sponsoring the program day, Firehouse Subs for lunch and The Harvey Firm PLLC for snacks.



Alumni Spotlight

Pete Helow
LJ 1995



Pete Helow likes to call himself a serial entrepreneur. Since enrolling in the Leadership Jacksonville program in 1995, Pete has owned businesses in varying industries – most recently, he is the owner of the barbershop franchise, Roosters Men’s Grooming Center. “As a Jacksonville native, the LJ program days were incredible in many ways - you gained knowledge you would not have otherwise; you experienced views from classmates from all walks of life – an opportunity that I consider unique to LJ and you built invaluable connections with classmates from networking and philanthropic causes to volunteer opportunities. I still maintain connections with class members.”

Pete shares how Education Day changed the course of his family. “Our three girls were attending elementary and middle private schools and we intended to put them in a private high school. Our class day featured three public school tours including Douglas Anderson School of the Arts. Without LJ, we would never have known about this school. All three have since graduated from DA and look back on their experience there as gratifying and rewarding. My ad agency designed the logo the school currently uses - another L J connection.”

“I treasured my L J experience so much and continue to volunteer with the organization, my favorite is facilitating Opening Retreat. It’s great to see a class come together as they meet for their first sessions.” Pete also assists with program days and served on the Program Committee for three years. “I talk about my LJ year with friends and business associates all the time. To anyone who has an interest in community involvement - apply for this program! It’s the only way to understand the interconnectivity of the many facets of our remarkable city.”

2022 UPCOMING EVENTS

LJ 2022 Program Day
Thursdays, March 3 & March 31
Economy, Growth and Preservation Days

YLJ 2022 Closing Retreat
Saturday, March 26

Next Generation 2022 Applications are open through
March 30

Celebration 2022, May 17
Reservations and Sponsorships

STAY IN TOUCH!

Click the links to follow Leadership Jacksonville on our social media platforms:

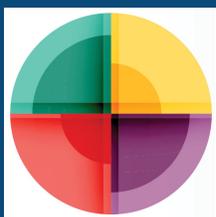
[LinkedIn](#)

[Facebook page](#)

[LJ Alumni Facebook Group](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Twitter](#)



CLASS NOTES

Submit your accomplishments to manisha@leadershipjax.org

LEADERSHIP JACKSONVILLE

1989

Audrey Moran has filed to run for Duval County Court Judge in Group 5.

1990

Carlton Jones has been appointed to the North Florida Land Trust board of directors for a three year term.

1994

A current exhibit highlighting Jacksonville and its natural beauty at the Jessie Ball duPont Center, includes park paintings by **Kathy Stark**. The thousands of acres of preserved land that inspired this exhibit make Jacksonville's parks the largest urban park system in the U.S. Stop by the Great Hall to enjoy her work.



1995

Bob White has accepted an offer from the Asheville Community Theatre in Asheville, NC to serve as its Artistic Director.

2019

Congratulations to **Lakesha Burton** on her retirement after serving the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office for 23 years! We wish her all the best on her next chapter.

2000

To celebrate her birthday, **Marsha Phelts** gave the American Beach community a gift of art; she commissioned an outdoor sculpture entitled "Cycling at 5400 Ocean Blvd American Beach" in honor of Black History Month.

2002

Cheryl Brown retired from the City of Jacksonville after 31 years. Cheryl has started her own business, CLBrown Business and Management Consulting LLC where she will teach team building, training, leadership and the use of technology to increase performance.

2008

Charles Moreland has assumed the role of Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for the City of Jacksonville.



2012

Brenda Ezell received CREW Jacksonville's Beth Lipko Sprit Award, given to a member who consistently demonstrates a commitment to provide referrals, member recruitment, committee and community involvement.

2014

Ken Jefferson has filed to run for Duval County Sheriff.

2015

Congratulations to **Ann McCullen** on her retirement as Vice President, University Development & Alumni Engagement at UNF.



Joe Snowberger is serving as Director, Mission United for United Way of Northeast Florida. In this role, Joe will be responsible for the overall implementation and success of Mission United, connecting military, veterans and their families with health, human and social services.

2016

John Brigman has started a new position with Seacoast Bank as Senior Commercial Banker.

Jock Cockrell has been elected Vice Chairman of the newly created Public Nuisance Abatement Board.

2017

Michelle Braun is retiring from United Way of Northeast Florida. She will remain as President and CEO until the end of April.

2018

Jessica Cummings was honored as a 2022 Women with Heart Honoree during a virtual ceremony by Volunteers in Medicine, honoring Northeast Florida's most philanthropic women for their dedication and service to the community.



2019

Pilar Dixon is serving on the CREW Jacksonville Board of Directors as Director of Philanthropic Outreach.

Nader Farhat has been appointed a Tax Partner in the Jacksonville office of PwC.

Congratulations to **Kemal Gasper** who was appointed Chair of the KingSoutel Crossing CRA Advisory Board in January 2022.

2020

Amanda Crawford has joined Jacksonville University as the Director Admission Events & Engagement.



2021

Rudy Jamison has been named the new Director of the Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations at the University of North Florida.

2022

Greer Gillis assumed chairmanship of the City of Jacksonville's Finance and Project Administration (FACPA) Committee. "We have the opportunity to lead the quarterly meetings and provide updates to the committees regarding the final projects under the COJ's Better Jacksonville Plan and the Jacksonville Transportation Authority's MobilityWorks projects."

Nicole Hamm successfully completed the National Urban League Washington Bureau's Certification in Advocacy program.

Chelsea Harris will be inducted into the International Society of Barristers in early March.

Nelrae Pasha Ali been listed on the Forbes 2022 America's Top Women Wealth Advisor Nationally and Best-In-State.

NEW LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

Aundra Wallace (NLS 2014) has joined the Jacksonville Transportation Authority board.

Tia Washington (NLS 2022) is leaving Jacksonville to head to Atlanta where she has taken a position as Sr. Manager of Global Partnerships with the Atlanta Hawks.



COMBINED CLASSES

Nelrae Pasha Ali and **Nicole Hamm** (both LJ 2022) have been nominated for the Go Red for Woman of Impact campaign. The initiative is designed to increase women's heart health awareness and serve as a catalyst for change to improve the lives of women globally.

Laura Bennett (LJ 2020) has joined the board of Weave Tales, Inc., a nonprofit that humanizes the stories of refugees by giving them a voice to correct misconceptions about refugees by spreading the truth in their own words. Weave Tales was co-founded by **Basma Alawee** (LJ 2022) who serves as Executive Director. **JuJu Taylor** (LJ 1978) is also a board member.

The 2nd Annual Agape Awards Breakfast Fundraiser recognized two LJ alumni as Jacksonville Community Health Heroes: **Nathaniel Ford** (LJ 2014) and **Kevin Hyde** (LJ 2005).

Aundra Wallace (NLS 2014), **Jim Gilmore** (LJ 1981) and **Kirk Wendland** (LJ2005) are

participating in NAIOP Northeast Florida Chapter's panel on opportunity zones, tax credits and other incentives for commercial real estate projects.

Nat Glover (LJ 1989), **Alvin Brown** (NLS 2003), **Diana Green** (Honorary), **Corrine Brown** (LJ 1979) and **Cheryl Brown** (LJ 2002) were recognized by the Sherwood Forest/Paradise Park Community Association and the Northeast Florida Accountability Forum Corporation as community heroes who have paved the way for Duval County in politics, education, health and law enforcement.

NEXTGEN

Pascal Rathle (NextGen 2019) was selected to participate in the American Enterprise Institute's Millenium Leadership Network.

Nicole Saunders (NextGen 2013) is the newest Deputy General Counsel at the Florida Department of Education as of February 2022.



Ashley Strickland (NextGen 2013) served as a panelist on Jacksonville University's annual Black Professionals Panel on February 2.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP JACKSONVILLE



Matthew Salek (YLJ 2021) from Episcopal School of Jacksonville was chosen at the Northeast Florida Regional Science Fair to represent the region at the State Science Fair of Florida.

NOTES OF SYMPATHY

Our condolences to **Steve Pajcic** (Honorary) and his family upon the passing of his wife, Anne Kelley Pajcic on November 13, 2021.

Our condolences to **Jametoria Burton** (LJ 2019) and her family upon the passing of her father, the Reverend James Houston of Ocala, Florida on February 2, 2022.

Our condolences to **Alvin Kennedy** (LJ 2021) and his family upon the passing of his father, Dr. Alvin P. Kennedy, Sr. on February 7, 2022.

Our condolences to **Robin Patton** (LJ 2003) and her family upon the death of her brother Benjamin Houston Hughes on February 14, 2022.

MAKE A LJ DONATION

**DONATE
NOW**

Many companies sponsor matching gift programs that match the charitable contributions made by their employees. Check with your employer for details.

This is a **great** way to enhance the impact of your giving.

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