

Enjoy this second e-blast of The Lead Story as Leadership Jacksonville continues to get LJ information to you more often. Please send your comments (and news) for future editions.



www.leadershipjax.org

August 2013

Make plans now to attend the Annual Reunion Luncheon

for LJ Adult Program and New Leadership Summit
Alumni and Honorary Lifetime Members

September 25, 2013
Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront
11:30 a.m.

Details and reservation information to follow.



A WORD FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Jill Langford Dame

Leadership Jacksonville is a proud member of the Association of Leadership Programs (ALP). Through sharing best practices, facilitating educational training and development and building networks, ALP advances the effectiveness of community leadership programs and their professionals. In June I had the opportunity to attend the 2013 National Conference in Arlington, VA. Periodically the Lead Story will include information from this 203 member group so that you can see what is happening across the U.S.

From a recent ALP survey:

Like us:

- 94% of Leadership programs offer an adult program.
- 39% offer a high school program like YLJ.
- 21% offer an executive program, some similar to our New Leadership Summit.
- 6% offer a college program like our successful Collegiate Leadership Experience.

But, unlike us:

- 19% offer a young professional program.
- 8% offer a senior program.

While we are similar to our peers, we all do some things differently. Just like LJ alumni benefit from our network, LJ benefits from the network of ALP members.

Thank you to our many alumni who responded so quickly to pay their LJ dues. If you have not already paid your dues for the period July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, you may do so online at the **Payment Center**.

Please also consider including a **donation** with your dues. Alumni dues and contributions sustain our ability to provide high quality leadership programming for youth and adults in our community. We love it when you write a check and save LJ money. The [Dues and Contribution Form](#) has the information you need.

Thank you for your support!
Make a Donation

Reflections of Collegiate Leadership Experience Class 2013

by Aubrey Smith (YLJ XX and CLE 2013)

What does leadership mean to Jacksonville? Well, to the organization Leadership Jacksonville it includes educating and exposing the youth of our community to our city's finest professional, entrepreneurial, and philanthropic leaders.

Students taking part in Collegiate Leadership Experience (CLE) learn firsthand the issues that come with leadership. The CLE Class of 2013 heard Howard Kelley and Ju'Coby Pittman-Peele outline the history of Jacksonville and the leaders who effectively made Jacksonville what it is today. Alton Yates spoke of his personal journey to bring equality for all. Audrey Moran reminded students that trusteeship is a responsibility to act selflessly and for the greater good.

CLE members participated in many activities: visited the Jail, Sulzbacher Center, Duval County court, met with Duval County School Superintendent Dr. Nikolai P. Vitti and much more. Students were encouraged to engage with speakers and explore their impact on our community. CLE participants heard from an inmate what "one mistake can do to your life," and the principle and conviction that a courtroom judge must use. The class felt what it was like to live in need through the Poverty Simulation. At the Sulzbacher Center they learned the reality of running a homeless shelter and heard stories of its clients.

CLE also gave the students a chance to have some fun in our city. Meg Folds, Program Director, realizes that if we want our city to keep our youth, we have to show them why they should use their leadership skills here in the first place. What better way to do that than with tickets to MOSH, a Sharks Game, a Suns Game, and a Jaguars Game?

After graduating from CLE, students have a grasp of why Jacksonville is a community on the cusp of a breakthrough. Students were exposed to its potential at every turn. They came to realize that they are the citizens who will be responsible for Jacksonville as, once again, the Bold New City of the South, and want to fully be a part of this upsurge.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRADUATES OF COLLEGIATE LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE CLASS OF 2013



CLE at the Jacksonville Suns Game on July 10.

CLE on the
Jacksonville Sharks Field



Great news from the LJ Class of 2013

Each year the Leadership Jacksonville graduating class does a fundraising project at its Closing Retreat. The event is planned by a class committee. The 2013 committee consisted of Jess Heustis, Lisa Hayes, Angela Gieras, Trina Medarev, Doug Coleman, Sherry Murray, Crystal Freed and Jamie Shelton.

The creativity flowed and a new focus was employed for LJ 2013. At a silent auction, each item auctioned was an event hosted by a class member. The intent of each event hosted was for class members who purchased and participated in the event to continue to get to know each other better. In keeping with the Friday evening party theme of the "Derby," events were given the names of horses. For example, Abel Harding, Pat Kilbane and Charlie Jimerson hosted "Wild Thing You Make My Heart Sing", box seats and food at the Jacksonville Suns for 10 people. Margie Seaman's "St. Johns Watering Hole" was a wine and cheese party at her home. In her case, the number of bids was open so all class members who bid could attend. Continued interactions and class member connections were facilitated in an innovative and clever way.

LJ Class 2013 raised \$12,185 for Leadership Jacksonville! Thank you.



Hats off to the creative and enthusiastic **LJ Class of 2013**.

CLASS NOTES

1977

Congratulations to **Wayne Wood** who was presented The Starr Bishop Award for "unsung community service" by an individual or organization at the 2013-14 City Council Installation.

1985

Nina Sasser is president of the Rotary Club of West Jacksonville for 2013-14.

The Jacksonville Public Library board of trustees has elected **Brenda Simmons-Hutchins** to serve a second term as chair.

1986

John Delaney has been appointed to the independent board of directors of Jacksonville Bancorp Inc.

1994

Amy Rankin has joined AntonWest Advertising as senior vice president/public relations.

David Robertson has announced that he will retire from his positions as president and chief operating officer of Reynolds Smith & Hills at the end of the year.

1995

Congratulations to **Jerry Mallot** who will receive the 2013 Florence N. Davis Award for Community Achievement from Community Connections of Jacksonville on October 3.

1998

Lisa Daniel has recently been appointed vice president of marketing and communications at United Way of Northeast Florida.

Dominic (Donny) MacKenzie has been elected second vice president of The Florida Bar Foundation, a statewide charitable organization that provides leadership and funding for justice in Florida.

2000

Hamilton Cooke, as president of Florida Legal Services, has joined Donny MacKenzie on The Florida Bar Foundation.

Sandy Barata retired from her post as Administrative Director of the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Florida's Community Medicine Program in Jacksonville.

2003

Philip Green is now chief development officer of Community Connections of Jacksonville. Philip is currently the membership co-chair of Leadership Florida.

2005

Congratulations to **Jon Heymann** on his selection as executive director of the Jacksonville Children's Commission.

Janet Reagor is president of the Rotary Club of San Marco for 2013-2014.

2006

David Sweeney will replace David Robertson as COO of RS&H starting January 1.

2008

Fred 'Fel' Lee is the Rotary District 6970 District Governor nominee.

2011

Andrew King has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Florida State College at Jacksonville Foundation.

2012

Meredith Guess is president of the Junior League of Jacksonville for 2013-2014.

2013

Charles Jimerson has been named a 2013 Rising Star by Florida Super Lawyers magazine, a peer-nominated recognition designating the top attorneys in the state under the age of 40.

Best wishes to **Angela Gieras** as she leaves Jacksonville to become the executive director of the Kansas City Repertory Theatre.

Honorary

Susan Towler has been reappointed by Governor Rick Scott to the Florida Commission on Community Service.

William Mason, III is serving as president of the Rotary Club of Jacksonville.

Various

Bill Scheu (LJ 1981) was tapped by Mayor **Alvin Brown** (NLS I) to lead an 11 member Jacksonville Retirement Reform Task Force. Members of the task force included **Kirsten Doolittle** (LJ 2014), **William Rupp** (NLS VIII), **Bob Shircliff** (Honorary), **Greg Smith** (NLS V) and **John Wilbanks** (LJ 1993).

Congratulations to the Jacksonville Business Journal's 2013 Ultimate CEOs **Jerry Mallot** (LJ 1995) and **Fred Franklin** (LJ 1998).

Martha Pellino (LJ 2006), **Sandy Barata** (LJ 2000), **Greg Burton** (LJ 2011), **Patricia Hill** (LJ 2003), and **Ronnie King** (LJ 2011) have been appointed to the 2013-14 Hubbard House board of directors. **Rebecca Berg** (LJ 1988) and **Nelson Bradshaw** (NLS VIII) serve on the Hubbard House Foundation board.

Jackie Perry (LJ 2011) was recently honored by The El-Beth-El Development Center at its 4th Annual Stop The Violence Recognition Banquet as among a group of leaders in the community who have touched lives in and out of their professions. Judge **Gary Flower** (LJ 1992) was guest speaker for the event.

Jeanne Miller (LJ 1999) will become executive director of the Jacksonville Civic Council at the end of September. Jeanne succeeds **Don Shea** (NLS X) who is moving to Louisiana.

Youth Leadership Jacksonville

Stephanie Almond (YLJ XXII) was the 2013 Salutatorian of Forrest High School.

Olajuwon Harris (YLJ XXII) was Senior Speaker for Englewood High School Commencement.

Andrew Blocker (YLJ XXII) and **Natalie Cleghorn** (YLJ XXII) were Florida Times Union 'All Star' nominees.

Caitlyn Considine (YLJ XXII) was the 2013 Co-Salutatorian of St. Joseph Academy.

Tuongvan Le (YLJ XXII) was the 2013 Valedictorian of Stanton College Preparatory School.

Steven Matos-Torres (YLJ XXII) was named 'Leader of Tomorrow' by the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce. Steven signed with Swarthmore College for baseball.

Avi Rubin (YLJ XXII) was the 2013 Valedictorian of Paxon School for Advanced Studies.

Caroline Snowden (YLJ XXII) was the 2013 Valedictorian of Ponte Vedra High School.

Kevin Weaver (YLJ XXII) was named 'Best All Around Young Man' at St. Johns Country Day School.

Collegiate Leadership Experience

After spending her summer as an intern for Ready4Work, **Angelina Thomas** (CLE 2012) will head to Penn State for her Masters.

Katherine Thomas (CLE 2012) received Jacksonville University's Outstanding Service and Co-Curricular Involvement Award and has been named a Presidential Fellow.

Jesse Wilson (CLE 2012) is writing a History Column in *Void* magazine.

Notes of Sympathy

Our sympathies to **Hans G. Tanzler, III** (LJ 1984) and his family on the death of his father, former Jacksonville Mayor Hans Tanzler.

Condolences are extended to **Nancy Soderberg** (NLS IV) on the death of her father.

Sympathy is extended to **Joe Lemire** (LJ 2014) on the death of his brother.

Sympathy is extended to the family of **Albert Wilkinson, Jr.** (LJ Honorary) who passed away July 10.

Albert was a Jacksonville native who became the first pediatric surgeon in Florida, conducting his practice and continuing his research here in his hometown. He is the patriarch of a family of numerous LJ alumni that spans three programs and three generations. He is survived by his wife **Linda Wilkinson** (LJ 1998); sons **Albert 'Sonny' Wilkinson** (LJ 2007) and **Gary Wilkinson** (LJ 2006); daughter **Leslie Brotman** (LJ 1994); sons-in-law **Sol Brotman** (LJ 1992) and **Todd Snowden** (LJ 2013); and grandchildren **Alex Wilkinson** (YLJ XIX), **Jennifer Wilkinson** (CLE 2007), **Jessica Wilkinson** (YLJ XIV and CLE 2006), **Elizabeth Brotman** (YLJ XI), and **Caroline Snowden** (YLJ XXII).

Make a Donation
