



THE LEAD STORY

NEWSLETTER FOR LEADERSHIP JACKSONVILLE

www.leadershipjax.org

November 2014

The Leadership Jacksonville office will be CLOSED Thursday and Friday, November 27-28, 2014 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.



Watch your e-mail in the next week for an important survey.



The LJ board, staff and strategic planning committee are busy planning for the future. We are asking for input from our most important stakeholders - our alumni.

We hope you will respond and thank you in advance for your contribution to this important work!

Nominations continue to be accepted
for the **Leadership Jacksonville Class of 2016**
and **Collegiate Leadership Experience Class of 2015**

For program information and selection criteria click on the program name above. Please remember the incredible value that diversity brings to our programs and help us reach widely to spread the word about our programs. You may nominate more than one qualified candidate.

Click [here](#) to submit your Nomination.

Remember, nominations are just the first step. Nominees will be invited later in the year to complete an application.



Youth Leadership Jacksonville Class XXVI application information will be in area high schools the first week of November. Forty accredited high schools in Duval, Clay, Baker and St. Johns counties participate by submitting up to six current sophomores as candidates for selection to the program, for their junior year. Since 1989 more than 1,100 students have participated in YLJ.

If you need the name of a particular school contact, please email Meg Folds at meg@leadershipjax.org.

This holiday season give Leadership Jacksonville something to smile about.

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Thank you for thinking of LJ each time you purchase from Amazon!

Leadership Jacksonville alumni joined members of the **Class of 2015** at Mark's Jacksonville on October 9, 2014, for a fun-filled happy hour! Thank you Kenneth Reddick, LJ 1989 for arriving early to help with set-up and greet the class.



LJ 2015 Steffani Fletcher, Tanya Johnson-Coomes, Steve Rawlins, Jason Spence, Michael Barker



LJ 2015 Betzy Santiago, Eric Sandler, John Walz, Jacqueline Rudloff



LJ 2015 Lauren Butler, Erin Skinner, Jeff Winkler, Becky Steele, Joanne Robertson



LJ 2014 alums Karen Estella Smith, Hugh Middlebrooks, Tameka Gaines Holly, Nat Ford and Tonya Seigler with Tiffany Galvin Green LJ 2015 (fourth from left)



LJ 2014 alums Steve Gilbert, Gordon Bailey and Rick Schart with Rick Moyer LJ 2015 (second from left)



Bill Sorenson LJ 2015 and Clark Robertson LJ 2012



LJ 2015 Joanelle Mulrain and Julie McNeil



LJ 2015 Deb Hardman and Stephanie Cost

Upcoming events:

LJ 2015 Program Day

Thursday, November 6, 2014
Social Responsibility & Sustainability Day 3

YLJ XXV Program Day

Thursday, November 13, 2014
"Inside the System"

LJ Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

Thursday and Friday, November 27-28, 2014

Nominations Deadline - LJ Class of 2016

Friday, January 9, 2015

Nominations Deadline - CLE Class of 2015

Friday, February 20, 2015

CELEBRATION 2015

Thursday, April 9, 2015
6:00 p.m., Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront

Class Notes

1989

The JAX Chamber's board of directors has selected **Audrey Moran** as the 2016 Chamber Chair. She will begin as chair-elect in January 2015 and in the chair-elect role will lead the Chamber's Board of Governors in 2015 and the 2015 Leadership Trip.

1992

Susan Main received the Early Learning Champion Award from the Association of Early Learning Coalitions for her work leading the Early Learning Coalition of Duval. Congratulations Susan!

1997

Frank Mackesy is the new chief of police directing campus safety and security operations at the University of North Florida.

1999

Meg Folds has been nominated for membership in Jacksonville University's Omicron Delta Kappa circle. Omicron Delta Kappa is a 100 year old national leadership honor society which recognizes and encourages superior leadership, scholarship, and exemplary character among college students. Membership in the society is a mark of the highest distinction and honor. Along with honoring top student leaders, Omicron Delta Kappa also recognizes faculty, alumni, and community leaders that have made a significant difference at a given college or in the area of the college. The Jacksonville University circle is recognizing Meg for all that she does in the Jacksonville area and especially for her work with Collegiate Leadership Experience.

2007

Macky Weaver has embarked on a new business venture where he will be Managing director of RDW Professional Staffing providing organizations with customized staffing solutions.



Ben Bishop LJ 2005
Deborah Moore LJ 2003

2008

Odette Struys has been named to the board of directors for GlobalJax.

2009

Dave Balz has been named to the advisory board of The Salvation Army.

2010

Crystal T. Broughan has been selected for the 2014 Florida Leadership Award by the US Institute for the Advancement of Trade & Commerce (USIATC). Each year the USIATC conducts business surveys and industry research to identify executives at certain companies that have achieved demonstrable success in their local business environment and industry category. They are recognized as having enhanced the commitment and contribution of companies through their customers and community.

2012

Terri Davlantes is joining Jacksonville University as the inaugural executive director of its Entrepreneurism, Policy, Innovation and Commerce Initiative.



Joe Snowberger, LJ
2014 and Cindy
Watson, LJ 2014

2013

Neil Powell has been named to the board of directors for Family Foundations.

R. Troy Smith has joined GrayRobinson PA as a shareholder.

2014

Rick Schart has joined the board of directors of Communities in Schools of Jacksonville.

2015

Congratulations to **Christina Schwing** and her husband Danny on the birth of their daughter Madison Taylor.

New Leadership Summit

Bob Brigham (NLS III) will be leaving his post as Mayo Clinic Florida Chief Administrative Officer at the end of the year to take a position at the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.

Honorary

J.F. Bryan has been honored by Episcopal Children's Services as its 2014 Children's Champion in the Volunteer/Philanthropist Category. ECS defines a Children's Champion as someone whose work is sustainable reaches far beyond their own community and has a lasting positive effect on the lives of children and their families. Congratulations J.F.

Various

Congratulations to **Gary Chartrand** (Honorary) and **Trey Csar** (LJ 2011) who were recently honored by WJCT with American Graduate Champion Awards for their impact on the quality of education on the First Coast.

Stephanie Cost (LJ 2015) and **Scott Wooten** (NLS XII) are serving on the board of The Cathedral Arts Project.

Hispanic community leaders recently honored by Mayor Alvin Brown for their contributions to Jacksonville included **Roberto Arias** (LJ 1994), **Andrew Russell** (NLS XI) and **Clark Vargas** (LJ 1989). This honor was a part of local Hispanic Heritage Month celebrations.

Congratulations to **Melissa Adams** (LJ 2014), **Greg Bruce** (LJ 2007) and **Tra'Chella Foy** (LJ 2007) who have been named to the First Coast Black Pages & Florida Black Expo Inaugural Class of Top 20 Under 40.

The Jacksonville Business Journal's 2014 Health-Care Heroes include:
Cardiology - **Saumil Oza** (YLJ IV); Community Service - **William Cody** (LJ 2008);
Pediatrics - **Eric Sandler** (LJ 2015) and Health Driven Public Policy Maker or
Advocate - **Moody Chisholm** (NLS IX).



Your LJ staff enjoyed being fashion queens this Halloween with their festive party hats. Debbie Calhoun, Yvonne Moore, Meg Folds, Barbara Moulding and Jill Dame.

Another list of Jacksonville's Top Lawyers for 2014 includes many LJ alumni. This list utilizes ratings from Avvo, a Seattle based company. Included are:
Admiralty & Maritime - **Jim Moseley** (LJ 1998) and **Bob Parrish** (LJ 1986);
Appeals - **Bryan Gowdy** (LJ2012); Banking - **Chuck Hedrick** (LJ 2006) and
Matt McAfee (LJ 2006); Business - **Gardner Davis** (LJ 1992), **Ray Driver**
(LJ 2007), **Braxton Gillam** (LJ 2002), and **Charles Jimerson** (LJ 2013); Civil Rights - **Jim Rinaman**
(Honorary); Commercial - **Fred Franklin** (LJ 1998); Construction - **Joby Birr** (LJ 2011) and **Lynn Pappas**
(Honorary); Corporate - **Ann Bittinger** (LJ 2008); Elder Law - **Mike Jorgensen** (LJ 2005);
Employment & Labor - **Tom Brice** (LJ 2010), **Scott Cairns** (LJ 2002, **Pat Coleman** (LJ 2000), **Eric Holshouser**
(LJ 2009), **John Evan Gibbs** (CLE 2010), **Mike Prendergast** (LJ 2006), **Bob Riegel** (LJ 2004);
Estate Planning - **Ham Cooke** (LJ 2000), **Kirsten Doolittle** (LJ 2014), **Lee Mercier** (LJ 1982),
Mike Duncan (LJ 2013); Health Care - **Mark Alexander** (LJ 2001); Immigration - **Giselle Carson** (LJ 2005);
Insurance - **Crystal Broughan** (LJ 2010, **Bill Corley** (LJ 1992) and **Stephen Day** (LJ 1980);
Land Use & Zoning - **Brenna Durden** (LJ 1998) and **Bill Birchfield** (Honorary); Lawsuits & Disputes -
Larry Hamilton (LJ 1996); Litigation - **Bill Adams** (LJ 2014), **Graham Allen** (LJ 1981), **Jep Barbour**
(LJ 1991), **Daniel Bean** (LJ 2010), **Bill Brinton** (LJ 1983), **Michael Freed** (LJ 2008), **Courtney Grimm**
(LJ 2012), **Chris Hazelip** (LJ 2000), **Dominic MacKenzie** (LJ 1998), **Ed McCarthy** (LJ 1995)
and **Jerry Weedon** (LJ 1985); Mergers & Acquisitions - **Kin Cannon** (LJ 2004) and **Kirby Chritton**
(LJ 1993); Public Finance - **Jack McWilliams** (LJ 1980); Real Estate - **Adrian Rust** (LJ 2007) and
Bill Scheu (LJ 1981); and White Collar Criminal Defense - **Harry Shorstein** (Honorary).

Collegiate Leadership Experience

Chase Harris (CLE 2008) recently passed the bar exam and is an Assistant State Attorney with Jacksonville's State Attorney's Office.

Kalli Unthank (CLE 2013) is currently the president of Jacksonville University's Omicron Delta Kappa circle.

Youth Leadership Jacksonville

Sarit Sandler (YLJ XXIV), a Douglas Anderson School of the Arts Cinematic Arts senior, was chosen to have her documentary shown at the internationally renowned Austin Film Festival in Texas. Her documentary "Fred" will compete with other young filmmakers' for the honor of being named one of the best in the nation. Doug Crabb, director of the Young Filmmakers Program states: "It was so hard to select films this year. There were gorgeous films shot beautifully with perfect sound - without a good story. ["Fred" was selected] because it exemplified great storytelling." Sarit traveled to the festival at the end of October to compete as a semi-finalist and watch her film at the Galaxy Highland Theatre.

Congratulations to Lee-Catherine and **Deno Hicks** (YLJ II) on the birth of their daughter Melina Marie.



Melina Marie Hicks

Notes of Sympathy

Our condolences to the family and friends of **Clifford Mendoza** (LJ 1981) who passed away on June 3.

Our condolences to **Lewis** (1990) and **Barbara** (LJ 1987) **Hunter** on the death on October 1 of Lewis' father.

Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of **Raymond Makowski** (LJ 2002) who passed away on October 13. Ray was a dedicated volunteer in the School Leadership Connection program.

Our condolences to **Pete Dearing** (LJ 1988) on the death of his wife Norma on October 14.

Our thoughts are with the family and friends of **Roberta Zipperer** (LJ 1998) who passed away on October 17. Roberta improved the lives of many children, most recently through her work with Family Support Services North Florida.

Our condolences to **Kristie Kirschner Naines** (LJ 2002) and her family upon the death of her mother Audrey Kirschner on October 21.

Make a LJ Donation

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