

December 2023



**REMINDER!**  
**Nominations for the Leadership  
Jacksonville Class of 2025 close on  
Friday, December 15 at midnight.**

**To nominate a friend or colleague, [click here](#).**

## LJ Matching Gift Opportunity



## We are more than halfway to our goal! Help us maximize a \$12,500 dollar-for-dollar match!

Because LJ Team Member Manisha Joshi participated in the Lightful Academy BRIDGE program in partnership with the Jessie Ball duPont Fund, Leadership Jacksonville is now eligible for one-to-one matching dollars up to \$12,500 through December 31st.

Gifts of all sizes are welcomed, and online gifts will be matched up to \$500 per donor.

[Click here to donate.](#)

Each dollar raised ensures we develop strong leaders through each of our programs, positively impacting our Northeast Florida region.

## RECAP: The 2023 Annual Alumni Luncheon celebrating our newest Honorary Alumni member, Dr. Johnnetta B. Cole.

More than 300 Alumni members gathered to celebrate 2023 Honorary Alumni member Dr. Johnnetta B. Cole on her achievements both locally, nationally and internationally in

education, philanthropy, and social justice. And congratulations to this year's "Best Class", LJ 2022!

Full event photos can be found [here](#).

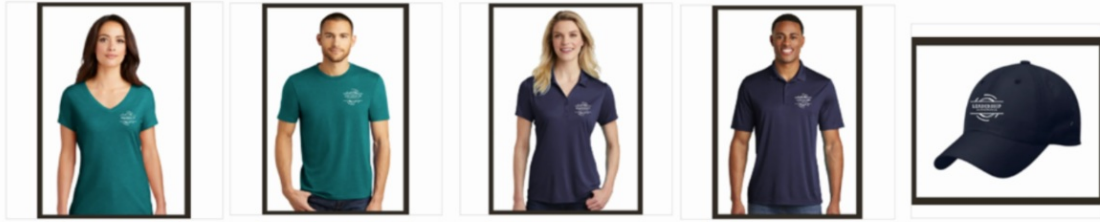
P.S. Did you leave with an LJ Alumni Contact card? Circle back and let us know if you connect with a fellow alumni for a call or coffee.



## Capture the spirit of LJ!

Limited chance to order LJ apparel by December 10 for a pre-holiday pickup. Choose the **Group Distribution Pickup** option when ordering, and we will coordinate delivery with you.

[Click here to order.](#)



Leadership Jacksonville Ladies Triblend T-shirt  
From \$20.00

Leadership Jacksonville Triblend T-shirt  
From \$20.00

Leadership Jacksonville Ladies Performance Polo  
From \$30.00

Leadership Jacksonville Performance Polo  
From \$30.00

Leadership Jacksonville Perforated Performance Cap  
\$20.00



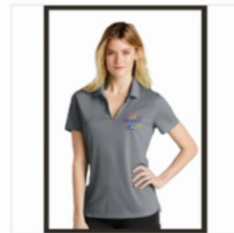
Leadership Jacksonville Ladies Performance 1/4 Zip  
From \$32.50



Leadership Jacksonville Performance 1/4 Zip  
From \$32.50



Leadership Jacksonville Nike Performance Polo  
From \$55.00



Leadership Jacksonville Ladies Nike Performance Polo  
From \$55.00



**LEADERSHIP**  
JACKSONVILLE

## Leadership Jacksonville 2024 Justice Day

Sponsored by [Rogers Towers, P.A.](#), LJ 2024 participated in Justice Day on November 9 at the State Attorney's Office and the Federal Courthouse. The class developed a better understanding of various criminal and civil components of the justice system.





## Youth Leadership Jacksonville 2024 "Leading for A Lifetime" and "Everyday Creativity" Program Days



Sponsored by [Fidelity Investments](#), YLJ 2024 participated in "Leading for A Lifetime" Program Day on November 2, which introduced the students to local government and the legislative process, and connected them with several elected officials. The participants learned the importance of public service, passion, and community involvement.

On November 30, the YLJ students participated in "Everyday Creativity" Day which gave them an opportunity to explore and experience arts and culture in Jacksonville.





## LJ Alumni Spotlight: Conrad Jennings (NextGen 2022)

**Conrad Jennings** (NextGen 2022) was relatively new to the Jacksonville area when he participated in the NextGen young professional program. "Several elements of the program have had a profound impact on my personal and professional development - from insights about the city to professional connections and friendship. NextGen allowed me to engage with fellow emerging leaders whose passion lie in positively impacting the community and fostering a supportive environment. I did not know that there were four Fortune 500 companies headquartered in Jacksonville, and that it is the largest city by landmass!

"I recommend the NextGen program to any young professional who wants to get involved in Jacksonville and make a difference. It has furthered my drive to keep striving to refine and improve my leadership skills. I enjoy staying in touch my with my fellow alumni members at in-person events and through the Leadership Connect gatherings," said Conrad.

**Next Generation 2024 applications will be available February 8, 2024 for the summer program.**

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## Upcoming Leadership Connect Dates

**Leadership Connect** builds relationships and fosters new alumni connections across Alumni members. Reserve your spot for an upcoming Leadership Connect breakfast, lunch, or happy hour meetup.

### **Upcoming Alumni Gatherings:**

**Dawn Lockhart (Honorary), December 14**

**LeAnn Daddario (LJ 2017), January 18**

**Sunil Ancha (LJ 2020), January 23**



## 2023 LJ Events & Program Days

### LJ 2025 Online Nominations

Open now through midnight, Friday, December 15

### NextGen and YLJ Alumni Reconnect 2024

Thursday, January 4

YLJ 2024 "Are We Our Brother's/Sister's Keeper" Day

Thursday, January 11

LJ 2024 Health Day

Thursday, January 18

YLJ 2024 "Dollars and Sense" Day

Thursday, February 1

LJ 2024 Leading with Equity Day

Thursday, February 15

### Save the date: Celebration 2024

Tuesday, April 23

## Upcoming Class Socials

*Do you have an upcoming LJ Class social? Please email Manisha Joshi at [manisha@leadershipjax.org](mailto:manisha@leadershipjax.org) and we will include it in the monthly newsletter.*

**LJ 2021** is hosting a Ladies' Holiday Lunch with a gift exchange (a \$10 gift that can be used in the kitchen during the holidays), on Tuesday, December 19 at 12:00 pm. RSVP to Madelen Salter at [msalter@oesjax.com](mailto:msalter@oesjax.com).

**LJ 2020** is hosting a holiday celebration and a White Elephant gift swap on Wednesday, December 20 from 4:30 - 7:30 pm. RSVP to Dawn Alexander at [dawn.alexander@morganstanley.com](mailto:dawn.alexander@morganstanley.com).

Haskell alumni members enjoyed lunch at their employer's Quarterly LJ Alumni Lunch on November 6 .

L to R: **Mike Huskey** (LJ 2016), **Kurt Caywood**



(NLS 2013), **Janel Legard** (LJ 2018), **Denise Ramsey** (LJ 1999), **Anton Whiteford** (NextGen 2021), **Maria Ruiz** (NextGen 2017), and **Robert Jackson** (LJ 2022).

**LJ 2021** hosted a Friendsgiving gathering at Office Environments and Services on November 2.



**LJ 2023** enjoyed a Friendsgiving with family at the Overalls Farm in Springfield on November 18.



## Alumni Class Notes

Submit your news to  
[manisha@leadershipjax.org](mailto:manisha@leadershipjax.org)

### 1999

Congratulations to **Cindy Stover** (LJ 1999) for being honored as the 2023 Women with Heart Honoree with Volunteers in Medicine Jacksonville.

### 2001

Congratulations to **Brandie Stallings** (YLJ 2001) on receiving the Duval County Public School Assistant Principal of the Year 2023-2024 award. Brandie is Assistant Principal at William Raines High School.



### 2005

**Jackie Rowland** (YLJ 2005) was named a 2023 Outstanding Women In Construction finalist by CBO Magazine.

### 2008

**David Miller** received the Outstanding Philanthropist Award at the Association of



### 2009

**Anna Brosche** (LJ 2009) was confirmed to serve as the City of Jacksonville's Chief Financial Officer on November 14.

### 2010

**Crystal Broughan** (LJ 2010) was appointed to the Copyright Committee for the 2024-2025 term by the International Trademark Association.

**Crystal Rountree** (LJ 2010) was named CEO of Jumpstart effective January 2024.

### 2012

**Michael Mayo** (NLS 2012) was named as one of the state's 500 most influential business leaders across 60 sectors in Florida Trend Media Company's "Florida 500" list.

### 2013

**Jamie Shelton** (LJ 2013) was appointed to the Citizens Property Insurance Corporation Board of Governors by Governor Ron DeSantis.

**Pat Geraghty** (NLS 2013) was elected to serve as the 2024 Board Chair for America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP).

### 2014

**Nat Ford** (LJ 2014) received the 2023 Sharon Banks Award for Humanitarian Leadership in Transportation. The distinction recognizes individuals who have shown dedication to enhancing transportation services with compassion and innovation.

**Alex Sifakis** (LJ 2014) received Downtown Vision's Downtown Achievement Award on November 30.

### 2015

**Bill Laird** (LJ 2015) announced the establishment of his own independent advisory firm, Riverside Wealth Partners.

### 2016

**Ali Kasraeian** (LJ 2016) was inducted as President-Elect for the Duval County Medical Society at the UNF Brooks College of Health Healthcare Symposium in October.

**Darryl Willie** (LJ 2016) was elected as the 2023-2024 Board Chair for Duval County Public Schools.



### 2018

Congratulations to **Ruple Galani** (LJ 2018) on receiving Dr. Trotter Founder's Award for Physician Service.

**Matthew A. Zuino** (NLS 2018) was recognized by Becker's Hospital Review on its 75-strong list of "Hospital and Health System COO's to Know" for 2023.

**Ashleigh Brooks** (NextGen 2018) joined Hall Booth Smith, P.C. as an Associate focusing on general liability and medical malpractice defense.

## 2019

**Leigh Rosenbloom** (LJ 2019) joined Marks Gray, P.A. as a Partner.

## 2020

**Sunil Ancha** (LJ 2020) joined the Delores Barr Weaver Policy Center board.

**Wendy Norfleet** (LJ 2020) has written her second leadership book, *[I'm a Leader, Now What?: A Handbook for the New Leader.](#)*

**Leah Palestrant** (LJ 2020) was awarded the 2023 Jewish Federation and Foundation Young Leadership Award in honor of Ilene Sari Seleven.

## 2021

**Laura Dadowski** (NextGen 2021) joined Boyd & Jenerette as an Associate.

## 2022

**Kenzie Horton** was inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society.

## 2023

**Leonard Chatman, Jr.** (LJ 2023) joined the Elevate Jacksonville Board of Directors.

**Frank Moya** (LJ 2023) joined Adams and Reese LLP as a Partner.

## 2023

**Kari Bates** (NLS 2023) was [featured in the Jacksonville Business Journal](#) discussing the benefits of workforce inclusion in Jacksonville.

**Charles Frazier** (NLS 2023) joined the Chattanooga Area Regional Transportation Authority as the Chief Executive Officer.

**Moez Limayem** (NLS 2023) was named one of the Ultimate CEO's by Jacksonville Business Journal and also served as an ambassador for the American Cancer Society's Men Wear Pink campaign.



**LJ 2023** alumni members were spotted at Jacksonville Arts and Music School's third annual 'What A Leader' Competition.

**LJ 2023** alumni members attended the Association of Fundraising Professionals Luncheon on National Philanthropy Day, November 2.



Congratulations to **Zack Buchillon** (NextGen 2023) on his promotion to a Management Development Program Associate at VyStar Credit Union.

**Millie Leeds** (NextGen 2023) joined David Gray Plumbing as a Marketing Manager.

### 2024

**Laura Phillips Edgecombe** (LJ 2024) joined the Jessie Ball duPont Fund as Principal of Downtown Public Spaces. She is an executive on loan to the City of Jacksonville and will work with the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services.

**Ashantae Green** (LJ 2024) joined the City of Jacksonville as a Sustainability Manager.

**Desiree Jones** (LJ 2024) has written a new book, *[ADHD DOES NOT HAVE ME!](#)*. Desiree also recently received the Community Excellence award by the City of Jacksonville's Citizen Planning Advisory Committee.



**LJ 2024** alumni members were spotted at JAX Chamber's Longest Table event on November 15.

## Honorary

**Susan Towler** was recognized by Florida Trend as a Florida 500 - Florida's Most Influential Business Leaders. Susan was also featured on the [Florida Chamber of Commerce website](#) sharing about her time as Foundation Chair.

## Combined Classes and Events

**NextGen 2022** and **2023** alumni members enjoyed a tour with **Linda Stein** (Honorary) and **David Stein** (Honorary) at the Jacksonville Humane Society.



Alumni members **Leonard Chatman, Jr.** (LJ 2023), **Pepper Lindsey** (LJ 2011), and **Michael Stewart** (LJ 1993) were [featured in First Coast Senior Living](#).

Congratulations to alumni members **Cindy Stover** (LJ 1999) and **Aundra Wallace** (NLS 2014) on their induction to the First Coast Business Hall of Fame hosted by the The Florida Council on Economic Education. The event was emceed by **Debbie Buckland** (LJ 2009), and honors those who have made a significant impact in the First Coast region through their business and civic achievements.

Alumni members **Adam Chaskin** (LJ 2021) and **Eric Mann** (NLS 2012) have partnered together to take an active role in educating and inspiring our neighbors to build a more inclusive Northeast Florida. Together Against Hate: Promoting Unity in Our Community is a speaker series that will address topics impacting our area including prejudices in faith, race, antisemitism, ethnicity, LGBTQ+, gender, and diverse abilities. The next session of the series will take place on January 18. For more information, [click here](#).

## In Sympathy

Our thoughts are with **Daniel Davis** (LJ 2015) on the passing of his mother, Karen Davis on November 11.

Our sympathy is with **Jason Gabriel** (LJ 2017) on the passing of his father Jack Joseph Gabriel on November 30.

## Stay connected!

[LinkedIn](#)

[Facebook](#)

[LJ Alumni Facebook Group](#)

[NextGen Alumni Facebook Group](#)

[YLJ Alumni Facebook Group](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Twitter](#)



## Make a Donation to Leadership Jacksonville

Many companies sponsor matching gift programs that match the

**charitable contributions made by their employees. This is a great way  
to enhance the impact of your giving.**

**[Donate today.](#)**

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