

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Junior League of Atlanta Announces 2025 -2026 Board of Directors

Macie Thompson Named President as Organization Advances Literacy and Leadership in Atlanta

ATLANTA, GA — The Junior League of Atlanta, Inc. (JLA) proudly announces its 2025-2026 Board of Directors, led by President Macie Thompson. The JLA enters the new League year with renewed momentum and a continued commitment to addressing Atlanta’s most pressing challenges, beginning with literacy.

For over 109 years, JLA has been at the forefront of positive change in Atlanta. This year’s leadership will carry forward the League’s signature initiative, *Every Child Reads: The Junior League of Atlanta’s Journey to Literacy for All*. This multi-year commitment aims to help make metro Atlanta a national model for literacy equity by ensuring every child—regardless of zip code—has access to the language and literacy skills needed to thrive.

“Our League is where service-minded women come to lead,” said Thompson, an Atlanta native who steps into the role after 18 years of service within the organization. “We don’t just imagine a better Atlanta—we help build it. And this year, we’re focused on building that future through literacy, leadership, and deep community partnership.”

Thompson brings a deeply personal connection to service and the League’s mission, shaped by a family legacy of civic leadership and volunteerism. She reflects on her early days as a member, noting how the League helped her find her voice, build community, and grow into the leader she is today.

The 2024-2025 Board of Directors includes:

- **Macie Thompson** – President
- **Kristen Settlemire Fuller** – President-Elect
- **Lauren Parkerson** – Executive Vice-President-Elect
- **Laura Wagner** – Recording Secretary
- **Courtney Davis** – Assistant to the President
- **Anne Brody** – Parliamentarian

- **Ashley Smoots** – DEI Director
- **Sarah Anne Smith** – Vice-President of Membership
- **Tabitha Perez** – Vice-President of Operations
- **Shawnell Johnson** – Vice-President of Community Impact
- **Jenna Watson** – Vice-President of Fund Development
- **Olivia Langevine** – Nominating Chair
- **Deanna Anderson** – Sustainer Representative
- **Nancy Thigpen** – Sustainer Endowment Representative
- **Carey Merritt** – Director of Operations

In the past year alone, JLA’s impact included:

- **Donor Advised Fund Grant Awarded** to Page Turners Make Great Learners, Inc. to further its mission of inspiring a love of reading among elementary school students in underserved communities.
- Books distributed through *Journey to Literacy* programming at four Atlanta-Fulton Public Library branches (Kirkwood, College Park, East Atlanta, and West End), where families participated in monthly storytime sessions and hands-on craft activities—with each family receiving a free book to help build their home libraries and nurture a lifelong love of reading.
- **2,000+ essential items collected** by the 2024–25 Provisional Class in partnership with Midtown Assistance Center (MAC) to support women experiencing immediate need in Metro Atlanta.
Donations included feminine hygiene products, hair care items, undergarments, and clothing.
- **11 active community placements** served across metro Atlanta, not including signature projects such as Handmade by JLA, Journey to Literacy (JTL), or The Sampler.
- **9 positive legislative outcomes** achieved through direct advocacy and sustained civic engagement:

“As we begin this new chapter, we remain steadfast in our mission to develop trained volunteer leaders who address the root causes of inequity,” said Thompson. “Through our work with literacy, advocacy, and direct service, we are building a city where every woman, child, and family can chart their own path to self-determination.”

As the Junior League of Atlanta embarks on another transformative year, it calls on all Atlantans to join in advancing a shared vision: a city where *Every Child Reads*, and every leader is equipped to make a difference.

About The Junior League of Atlanta, Inc.

The Junior League of Atlanta, Inc. (JLA) is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. JLA supports nonprofits throughout Atlanta with volunteer hours, strategic partnerships, and funding, and its members serve as catalysts for lasting community change.