

The Junior League of Akron
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THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF AKRON ANNOUNCES 2014 AWARD RECIPIENTS

Akron, Ohio; February 11, 2015: The Junior League of Akron Sustainer Inspiration Award is presented to a woman who embodies The Junior League of Akron's mission of empowering women for positive change in the community. It is given to a sustaining member of the League whose League and community service have inspired other League members, and whose league experience served as a springboard for greater positive impact on the Akron community. The recipient of the President's Sustainer Inspiration Award is **Rebecca Considine** of Akron. Considine joined the Junior League of Akron in May of 1982. She served in a variety of capacities and leadership positions in the league, such as Placement Chairman, Board Member and ShowHouse Operations Chairman. She was the President of the Seedlings Garden Club from 2003-2005. Mrs. Considine is actively involved in the Children's Hospital Medical Center of Akron, as she is married to the CEO, Mr. Bill Considine. Mrs. Considine funded "The Rebecca D. Considine Research Institute" at the hospital in 2009. Other notable community involvement includes Alpha Delta Pi Sorority, The American Red Cross and Grace Church.

The President's Award is a highly prestigious award given to a member who has not only shown outstanding commitment to the League and to the community, but has also demonstrated a willingness to assume responsibility and take leadership in these roles. This member has and continues to be a positive influence on others, as she is both an exemplary volunteer, role model for members and a leader in the league. The winner of the 2014 President's Award is **Emily Fernandez** of Akron. Fernandez currently works for FirstEnergy Solutions as a Senior Governmental Aggregation Representative. She joined the Junior League of Akron in 2008 and has been involved in countless committees and served the league in the leadership roles of Assistant Membership Chair, Demonstration Committee Chair for the 2011 Kitchen Tour event and Program Committee Chair for the 2013 ShowHouse. Most recently, Fernandez has served the league as the Vice President of Membership. Mrs. Fernandez is in charge of bringing new members into the league, training new members, planning social events for league members and organizing monthly membership meetings. Fernandez has been elected to be one of the three co-chairs for the 2016 ShowHouse event, the Junior League of Akron's signature fundraiser.

The Rookie of the Year is an honor bestowed to a New Member in her first year of Active membership who has been an inspiration and mentor to the rest of the New Member class. She is involved in other JLA projects or fundraisers and has demonstrated the willingness to take on other projects or tasks, and is considered consistently dependable. The winner of the Rookie of the Year Award is **Jacqui Flaherty-Ricchiuti** of Akron. Flaherty-Ricchiuti is the Executive Director & CEO of Keep Akron Beautiful and she joined the Junior League of Akron in June of 2012, following in the footsteps of her then boss and current mentor, Paula P. Davis. She has been involved in a variety of councils including Membership Council, Communications Council and has served the league as the Public Relations Coordinator for the signature event, Show House in 2013. Flaherty-Ricchiuti most recently served the league as an event co-chair of the Early Bird Bustle run and has been elected to be one of the three co-chairs for the 2016 ShowHouse event.

The Junior League of Akron is a nonprofit organization formed in 1926 that provides opportunities for women to gain valuable volunteer expertise as well as professional skills while working on vital community projects. The Junior League of Akron empowers women for positive change in our community. The Junior League of Akron is proud of the ventures its members have started or participated in including Junior Leadership Akron, Family TIES, The Volunteer Center, Child Guidance Centers, Akron Artfest, Immunization Coalition of Summit County, The Community Wish List, Oral Health Initiative, Health Education Center, Battered Women's Shelter, Safe Landing Runaway Shelter, Guardian Ad Litem, and Mary Day Nursery (currently the Akron Children's Hospital).

To learn more information about The Junior League of Akron, please call 330.836.4905 or visit www.juniorleagueakron.org.

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