Guild Gazette



2022-2023 OFFICERS



President - Melanie Townsend

Melanie Townsend joined the Guild when she moved to Rocky Mount in 2016. She has always devoted most of her free time to community service, which prompted her to obtain her Ph.D. in Nonprofit Leadership & Management. In addition to serving as the President of the Junior Guild of Rocky Mount, she currently serves as a Finance Committee Member and Sustainer for the Junior League of Raleigh, the Co-Chair for the Leadership Institute of the Mid Atlantic Region of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, a Board Member of IVY, Incorporated, and a member of the National Silhouetttes of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated. Professionally, she teaches business, logistics, and supply chain management for multiple higher education institutions and manages multiple short & long term rental properties. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling and spending tine with friends and family.



<u>Vice President - Ashley Newman</u>

Ashley L. Newman has been an active member of the Junior Guild since 2020. She is passionate about giving back to her community and developing the potential of women civic leaders. Ashley is the Culture and Engagement manager at Bridgestone Americas Wilson plant. She earned a BS in Business Administration from the University of South Carolina- Aiken and a MBA in Project Management from East Carolina University. In her free time, you can find her traveling the world or brunching with her friends around the area.



<u>Corresponding Secretary - Crystal Belfield</u>

Crystal Belfield is a first year active member of the Guild. She was born in Edenton, NC. She is a graduate of Elizabeth City State University, and a member of Mount Zion First Baptist Church. She also belongs to several civic organizations. By day, Crystal is a second grade teacher with Edgecombe County Public Schools.

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<u>Recording Secretary - Sherri Bryant</u>

Sherri Bryant joined Junior Guild in 2020, previously serving as the Communications Committee Chair. Sherri has been working in healthcare for over 11 years and serves as the Chief Health Operations Officer at OIC, Rocky Mount where she is responsible for the healthcare division of OIC. Sherri is also a Adjunct Professor in Healthcare Administration at North Carolina Wesleyan University. Sherri loves her family and giving to the community.



<u>Treasurer - Keyana Walston</u>

Keyana Walston grew up in Virginia Beach, VA. Keyana received her Bachelor of Science in Accounting from NC Wesleyan College and later received her Masters in Business Administration from Univ. of Phoenix. She has worked in accounting and finance for over 15 years. Keyana is currently employed as a Program Manager-Management Analyst with the City of Rocky Mount. Keyana loves being a mom to an awesome 7-year-old son. Her hobbies include cooking, shopping, and reading. Keyana's parents are from New Orleans which explains why she lives in NC and is a Saints football fan! Keyana enjoys the summer months (Summer baby) and fall only because she likes to decorate for fall and fall is boot season!



<u>Parliamentarian - Michandy Lee</u>

Michandy Lee was born in Nash County and spent some of her childhood in New York before returning to North Carolina. She received a bachelor's degree from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a master's degree from University of North Texas. Michandy currently works as a Vocational Evaluator for the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. She is a member of several civic organizations. She is also a leader at Word Tabernacle Church, and a die hard Tar Heels and Dallas Cowboys fan.

Featured Scholarship Recipient



2022 Scholarship Recipient Haley Holland

Haley has been chosen as the 2022 recipient of the Junior Guild of Rocky Mount Scholarship. Haley is a graduate of North East Carolina Prep School of Tarboro with a 4.4 GPA. She has also graduated with an Associate in Science from Edgecombe Community College as a dual-enrolled student. Along with volunteering at local community events and organizations, Haley was a member of the National Honor Society, Academic Scholar, and

National Senior Beta Club. While in high school, Haley was a varsity volleyball team member and captain her senior year. She accomplished all this while working full and part-time.

This fall Haley is attending the honors program at Western Carolina University where she will be majoring in Biology. She plans to attend medical school to become an OB-GYN, and her future goals include opening a practice in an underserved area in North Carolina to help make holistic medical practices accessible to all.

She also plans to further her learning in speaking the Spanish language in order to better serve the Spanish-speaking community. In her free time, Haley enjoys camping and hiking and spending time with her family and friends.

Congratulations Haley!

National Hispanic Heritage Month

September 15 - October 15 is National Hispanic



Hispanic Heritage Month (HHM) takes place September 15 to October 15 every year as a time to recognize and celebrate the many contributions, diverse cultures, and extensive histories of the American Latino community.

Beginning in 1968, Hispanic Heritage Month was originally observed as "Hispanic Heritage

Week", but it was later extended to a month in 1988. Since then HHM has been celebrated nationwide through festivals, art shows, conferences, community gatherings, and much more. Source:

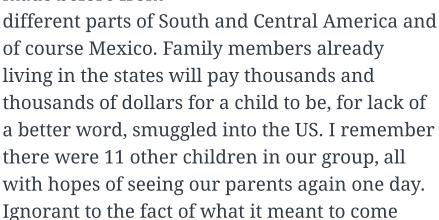
https://sites.ed.gov/hispanic-initiatives/national-hispanic-heritage-month/

A personal story from Guild Member, Maria Chavez:

"For Hispanic Heritage Month, I would like to share an insight on what it means to be a child immigrant. I was 8 years old when my sister and I arrived in the US. It was the completion of an 8-day journey. A journey



many, many children made before from



here and everything we would have to go through. My adult self would not be brave enough to make that 8 day journey. Many people die in search of their American dream before they ever make it here."

(Maria pictured above with sisters & cousins)



Community & Business Spotlight

Check out the ventures of these current & former Guild members.



Elite Overhead Garage Doors Inc is a woman owned company, assisting with commercial & residential garage door repairs, maintenance and installation.

For more information, visit: www.eogdinc.com OR find us on social media: Facebook- Elite Overhead Garage Doors Inc and Instagram @EOGDinc.

Jessica Poindexter Hatu- Owner Operator/Marketing 336.504.5200 AJ Hatu- Technician- 252.885.6075



Know someone interested in joining the Junior Guild?



Interest Form:

https://forms.gle/jpq4QMahC3JNhh5R6

Stay in Touch

Items for newsletter?

We would love to hear your ideas!

Items for correspondence?

Please help keep us informed of births, deaths, and marriages involving our members and Sustainers.

Address change?

Contact us at juniorguildrockymount@gmail.com





Check social media for pop-up socials throughout the year.

www.facebook.com/jgrockymount @JGROCKYMOUNT on Instagram

And be sure to tag "Junior Guild of Rocky Mount" in any posts you make of JG events or photos!

For more information, go to http://www.jgrockymount.org

Treasurer's Report as of August 31, 2022

Administrative Balance: \$17,733.64

Fundraising: \$8,369.71

Discretionary Fund: \$9,040.33

Community Trust: \$3,033.44

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Post Office Box 7564
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