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**THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF LONG BEACH TO HONOR MEMBER**  
**JANIS KLEINBERG WITH ITS 2016 HELEN D. NEWCOMB LEADERSHIP AWARD**  
**AT ITS ANNUAL AWARDS AND INSTALLATION DINNER ON MAY 21**  
**AT THE VIRGINIA COUNTRY CLUB IN LONG BEACH**

**May 19, 2016 (Long Beach, Calif.)** The Junior League of Long Beach (JLLB) has selected long-time member Janis Kleinberg as the 2016 honoree for its Helen D. Newcomb Leadership Award. She will receive the award at the organization's Annual Awards and Installation Dinner this Saturday, May 21 at the Virginia Country Club in Long Beach.

For the past 20 years, this prestigious award has been given annually to a Junior League of Long Beach member who embodies the organization's mission and serves as a mentor and role model to others. Helen Dutton Newcomb served as the first president of JLLB in 1931 which at that time was called the Junior Charity League.

Janis joined the Junior League of Long Beach in 1983 and has been a committed member for 33 years. During her active years she served on numerous committees and was chairperson of several of them. As a sustaining member she has continued to be active serving on multiple committees and has been an advisor to many committees including the Lunafest Film Festival Committee which held its recent fundraising event at the Art Theater in Long Beach. Janis says, "I believe in the Junior League's mission of promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving the community through effective action and leadership of trained volunteers."

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In addition to numerous volunteer activities with the JLLB, Janis was also selected for her selfless giving of time to a number of causes. For the last 12 years, Janis has been actively mentoring high school and college students through Cameo, an auxiliary of the Assistance League. This past summer she worked with a variety of businesses and government offices to place 22 students in paid internship positions. This next summer she will be in charge of the summer internship program continuing to work with Cameo to give students a unique opportunity to work and gain experience in their community. Mentoring students includes participating in group meetings together to learn about a variety of topics including preparing for college, career paths, cultural activities, summer internships, dressing for success, and more.

In addition to the group workshops, Janis meets individually with her student on a regular basis to develop a personal relationship. This one-on-one contact provides help and guidance that the student may need with issues that are specific just to them. "Developing relationships with students at this critical time in their development and helping provide some guidance and assistance in seeking the best path for them has been very rewarding," said Janis when asked why she volunteered as a mentor. She is also active with the annual spring fashion show that Cameo produces to raise funds for the organization and support the mentoring program.

Janis is also a volunteer in the Long Beach Unified School District at Smith Elementary School assisting the librarian with the school's reading program. Every week she collects data and reports the statistics for this program in a graph for the teachers and students to monitor the progress on the reading program on a weekly basis.

For many years Janis volunteered with Food Finders with a regular pick-up of food items from a local Ralph's grocery market until mid-2015. Food Finders' mission, to eliminate hunger and food waste while improving nutrition in the community, was a cause that Janis has always been committed to. She has also been an advocate of Habitat for Humanity by seeking contributions, providing community education and organizing volunteers for a build day in north Long Beach.

Her commitment to voluntarism is evident through her extensive involvement throughout Long Beach. She has been helping to better the community through her fundraising efforts, mentoring students, and commitment to causes she's passionate about. She embodies compassion, humility and honesty; all good traits of an effective leader and advocate. Born and raised in Long Beach, Janis and her husband Richard now live in Rossmoor. They have one son, a daughter-in-law and two grandsons.

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Established in 1931, the Junior League of Long Beach has been a driving force behind the kinds of initiatives and institutions that make the Long Beach community a healthier, more vital place to live. Throughout its history, JLLB has developed, supported and launched more than 60 projects into the community – making a measurable, positive impact on the welfare of greater Long Beach children and their families.

The Junior League of Long Beach is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit volunteer organization with over 450 members. JLLB is a member of the Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI). JLLB is now one of over 290 Junior Leagues throughout the United States, Mexico, Canada, and Great Britain. AJLI's member leagues encompass over 155,000 members worldwide.

For more information, to become a sponsor, make a donation, or to become a member, visit [www.jllb.org](http://www.jllb.org).

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