



# SOUTH SUBURBAN CHICAGO CHAPTER *Newsletter*

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**President's Letter**

Dear Moms,

December brings celebrations for many across the spectrum of faiths. When I was researching this I found that, at some point in the month, there was a celebration or recognition that was focused on family, hope, charity, love, or giving. Of course, in South Suburban we do it all!

Over the last two months you have been stepping up and showing out and I love it.

Thanks to the Membership Committee who presented two fabulous events. If you missed the Prospective Member Tea, you missed a wonderfully engaging opportunity to meet the women who would like to join us. When it was all said and done, I wanted to join all over again. At our Mother's Social we sipped wine and painted wine glasses. It was a relaxing and fun time shared also with some of our Associates. I remembered why I fell in **Love** with Jack and Jill.

Our teens, along with the Community Service Committee, represented us well in the **Charity** level with two events. In November they gave out Thanksgiving Dinners to families in need. This week, they brought joy and Hope to the children of the Boys and Girls Club of Ford Heights as they distributed gifts collected at the Holiday Party.

It was all about **Family** at our Holiday Party. Thanks to the Holiday Committee for creating such a warm and fun Signature event. There was so much going on, I had to look at the pictures just to see what I missed. We were bursting at the seams and I am being told that we may need a bigger venue soon. Awesome!

Enjoy the holidays as you engage with family and friends. Be safe in your travels or at home.

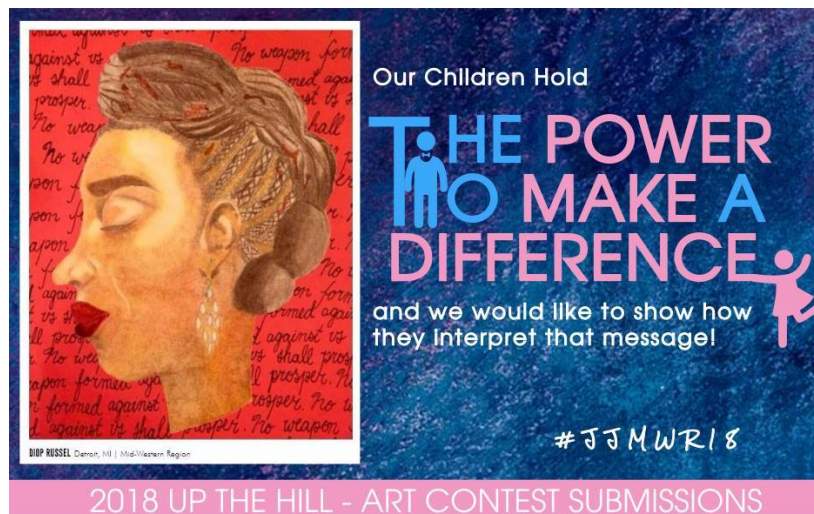
On Fire for South Suburban,

Dr. Tonya Coats,  
President  
Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated  
South Suburban Chicago Chapter



*Mom, Dad...Look its Santa! My Parents joined us at the Holiday Party and when Santa came by, I was a kid all over again.*

# 2018 Up the Hill Art Contest Submissions



MID-WESTERN REGION  
*living the Jack & Jill experience*  
MISSION MINDED . DREAM DRIVEN

Submit your non-digital artwork interpretations to the National Office by **January 15, 2018** for a chance to win! Include Name, Chapter, Region and contact number on the back of the artwork.

Jack and Jill of America, Inc.  
Up The Hill Art Contest  
1930 17th Street NW  
Washington, DC 20009

Submit **digital artwork** to Editor Legardy (Editor@jackandjillsscc.com) by **January 5, 2018!**

Artwork criteria are as follows:

- The artwork must fit on an 8.5" x 11" piece of paper
- Artwork can be in color or black and white
- Digital artwork is now allowed as well as traditional media such as crayons, pencils and markers.

First Place: \$250 with artwork displayed in the book

Second Place: \$150 with artwork displayed in the book

Third Place: \$100 with artwork displayed in the book.

## Winter Mother's Social



On Sunday, December 10th JJSSCC moms enjoyed a wonderful evening of relaxation, fellowship and fun. The event was held at Bottle and Bottega in Homewood, IL and JJSSCC moms expressed their creativity by painting holiday-themed wine glasses while also partaking in a excellent wine selection. A great time was had by all!

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## Featured Activity - Holiday Party

The annual JJSSCC Holiday Party was a smashing success, and a great time was had by JJSSCC families and guests! The vibrant lights, ornately decorated trees and, of course, Mr. Claus himself set the scene at the Olympia Fields Country Club and evoked the spirit of the season. The hardworking holiday party committee, spearheaded by Chair Daleta Mitchell and Co-Chair Danielle Broadwater, ensured that no stone was left unturned - there were multiple age-group holiday-themed activities, a live DJ, a magician, dancing, a fun photo booth and a beautiful backdrop for families to take their holiday photos. What a wonderful way to kick off the holiday season!




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## MLK Day of Service, Founders' Day, and Associates Appreciation



Jack and Jill South Suburban Chicago Chapter invites you to our event combining MLK Day of Service, Founders' Day, and Associates Appreciation at the Holiday Inn Matteson on **January 21, 2018**.

4:00p Founders Recognition

4:30p Associates Appreciation

5:00p Join us for a light meal and fellowship

5:30p Participate in 140 hours of combined service projects **DESIGNED TO BE APPROPRIATE FOR ALL AGES AND GROUPS**

This event is for South Suburban Moms, children, teens (The monthly Teen Meeting will be held in Salon D. Then they will join us for service and fellowship.),



Associates and guests. Please [RSVP](#) by January 7th - The event is free for all active South Suburban Moms, children, teens, and Associates.

The cost for guests is \$15/person. Please mail your payment to PO Box 887, Flossmoor, IL 60422 or pay your sponsor by January 7th.

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## Kudos Corner



*"Her Rite of Passage"*

Congratulations to Mother Member Kimberly Mitchell, whose photographic artwork was accepted into the 2018 Black Creativity Juried Art Exhibition at the Museum of Science and Industry, the longest running exhibition of African-American art in the country. The exhibit will run from Jan 15-Feb 21, 2018. The artwork that will be featured on display is this photograph of Group 2 Jill Kathleen Mitchell. Click [here](#) for more information about MSI's Black Creativity program.

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## Chaplain's Corner



It's hard to believe we are closing out 2017! Wasn't it just yesterday that we were all running around trying to get the kids settled into a new school year? We seemed to have just blinked our eyes and the first semester has already ended!

At our last Mother's Meeting children's names were distributed with their top three Christmas gift wishes. Many of us have participated in similar gift-giving initiatives over the years, and are usually humbled by the simple requests made by some of the children. However this year, I think we were all caught off guard by the request for toothpaste that was listed as one child's first choice. Toothpaste... something that none of our own children would ever need to ask for! Yet another child, living not that far from us, views it as a first prize gift. Talk about having a serious reality check and putting life into proper perspective.

I know that it can be very exciting to get caught up in all the holiday festivities. In our excitement we sometimes forget that everyone is not "cheerful" this time of year. For some, this can be the most overwhelming and depressing time of year due to the loss of a loved one, personal health issues, financial challenges, or any other number of issues. So I challenge you to be conscious of the fact that the holidays may not be joyous for everyone and look for opportunities to be a blessing wherever and whenever you can during this season. Remember the reality check we all received from a child's wish list... "there but the grace of God, go I."

No matter how you celebrate this season, I wish you a "Merry Everything and Happy Always!" I look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting in the New Year!

Chaplain Lunceford

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Do you have information or news to share with our chapter?

If you'd like to contribute to the monthly JJSSCC newsletter, please send your information to [editor@jackandjillsscc.com](mailto:editor@jackandjillsscc.com).

Missed a newsletter? Archived newsletters can be found [here](#) in the Members Only Section of our website.



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