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**JUNIOR LEAGUE LEADERS ATTENDED INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
CELEBRATING THE POWER OF WOMEN  
VOLUNTEERS IN BOSTON APRIL 18-22, 2007**

***85<sup>th</sup> Annual Association of Junior Leagues International Conference  
Provided a Forum for Women Volunteer Leaders from Four Countries; Keynote  
Speakers Included Ambassador Swanee Hunt and  
Marian Heard, CEO of Oxen Hill Partners***

**April 22, 2007** – The power of women’s volunteer leadership and the ability to transform local communities through voluntarism were the themes behind the 85th Annual Association of Junior Leagues International Inc. (AJLI) Conference held at the Boston Marriott Copley Place that took place April 18-22, 2007. Over 700 delegates from the Association’s 292 Leagues in four countries gathered to share ideas, recognize accomplishments and develop leadership skills – all focused on The Junior League Mission of providing volunteer support to local communities.

“For more than one hundred years The Junior League has been a powerful training ground for women leaders who are committed to making their communities better, safer and healthier places to live,” said Sandi Kemmish, 2006-2008 AJLI President. “Providing training and recognizing members’ accomplishments at our Annual Conference lets us further build the integral role women play in strengthening social services, raising awareness of key issues and funding important community initiatives.”

Highlights of this year’s conference included keynote addresses by Ambassador Swanee Hunt, former U.S. Ambassador to Austria and Director of the Women and Public Policy Program at Harvard’s Kennedy School, and Marian Heard, President and CEO of the nationally renowned Leadership Development organization, Oxen Hill Partners. In addition, AJLI presented an estimated \$90,000 in awards to Junior Leagues in recognition for programs focusing on collaboration, volunteer training and community impact. Award sponsors included Anheuser-Busch, Inc., Talbots and Favorite Recipes Press (FRP); event sponsors included Electrolux ICON, Spanx, Digital Cheetah, Pria Powerbar, Lean Cuisine, Marsh, Emer’gen-C and Premium Knowledge Group.

Other highlights of the conference were workshops on topics ranging from growing leaders through service to being a civic leader to strategic fund development, as well as exhibits from numerous nonprofit organizations.

One of the most prestigious awards, the Mary Harriman Community Leadership Award, which is named after the founder of the Junior League Movement, recognizes one Junior League member whose ability to motivate volunteers, overcome challenges and create

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positive change is an inspiration to women everywhere. This year's award was presented to Junior League of Dallas member, Jan Langbein at a luncheon on April 20, underwritten by Talbots. Past recipients have included the Honorable Sandra Day O'Connor, U.S. Supreme Court Justice; Martha Rivers Ingram, chairman of Ingram Industries, Inc.; and former Missouri State Senator Betty Sims.

The annual Association of Junior Leagues International conferences provide an occasion to spotlight the widespread impact of the network of 292 Junior Leagues' volunteer efforts and share the contributions of individual Leagues to their communities.

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