



JUNIOR PLAYERS

2023
FUTURE
STARS
GALA

A Space
to Heal

MARCH 4, 2023 | 6:00 PM CST
ON THE LEVEE

About Junior Players

Junior Players was founded in 1955, and is the oldest non-profit children's theater organization in Dallas. Over its existence, Junior Players has striven to meet the changing needs of the community. From 1955 to 1989, Junior Players presented traditional children's theater productions performed entirely by children and teenagers. In 1989, the Board of

Directors changed the focus of Junior Players activities, deciding that, Junior Players can best serve the youth of Dallas by providing free programming accessible to all the children of North Texas. Junior Players, therefore, exclusively provides free arts education programs in local recreation and cultural centers, low-income housing developments, elementary and middle schools, and through social service agencies serving youth at risk.

The mission of Junior Players is to encourage intellectual growth, mental well-being and the development of life skills in youth through mentoring, creative expression, and participation in the fine arts.

The vision is to be at the forefront of developing and delivering innovative youth arts education that celebrates diversity, promotes thought leadership, and meets communities' needs.

This mission is accomplished through:

- Narrowing the arts education gap between low-income partner schools/neighborhoods and their nearby higher-income peers by providing 6,000 hours of arts education programming.
- Teaching youth to resolve conflicts using non-violent communication strategies such as listening skills, identifying feelings and brainstorming non-violent solution options.
- Allowing students to participate in high quality arts programming, which expand communication skills, increase self-confidence and increase self-esteem

Junior Players Programs

Junior Players Discover Theater Summer Camps and Discover Ourselves After School Workshops focus on children ages 5 to 18 in underserved areas of the community. Junior Players Discover Shakespeare program combines the best of local high-school acting talent with the professional skills of the Shakespeare Dallas staff in a teen production of Shakespeare presented in performances at Samuell-Grand Park Amphitheatre.

In collaboration with a variety of organizations, including Letot, Promise House and the Dallas Independent School District, Junior Players teen and Visions of Peace programs work with high-risk teens who are challenged to write about their life experiences, create and perform their own productions and resolve their conflicts through communication in a non-violent manner. Junior Players' Advanced Acting Workshops and PUP Fest and the D-PAC collaboration (Dallas - Playwriting Arts Collective) programs offer professional training in acting and playwriting for area high school students. 2019 was the third year of the Junior Players' Youth in Arts Student Council with a focus on preparing our youth to become the next generation of arts and civic leaders with an emphasis on representation in the arts. Junior Players also offers its Fall Dance Production and Winter Musical Production to North Texas teens with the opportunity to perform at the Moody Performance Hall. In 2019, Junior Players was excited to introduce a project in collaboration with MOPAI China Dreams titled Discover Runway Dreams, a brand new runway show featuring students from a Junior Players runway modeling masterclass.

2023 Future Stars Emcee



Elizabeth Evans is proud to be a part of the growing Junior Players family. She started as a teaching artist in 2013 and shared JP's mission to educate the youth of Dallas through the arts. She continues to support as a member of the Future Stars Gala committee. Her career on stage has spanned over 10 years and continues to thrive in the Dallas arts and music scene. She has worked with theaters across the metroplex including Shakespeare Dallas, Second Thought Theatre, Flamenco DNA, Kitchen Dog Theatre, and The Ochre House theatre where she is a company member. In 2012 she received the Best Actress award for her role as Frida Kahlo in "Ex Voto: The Immaculate Conceptions of Frida Kahlo" from D Magazine and The Dallas Observer. She joined the Dallas native band The Polyphonic Spree in 2012 and continues to perform and tour with the robe wearing members. Elizabeth has had the privilege to perform with TPS at Radio City Music Hall for the David Bowie Tribute in 2016, shared the stage in England with The Monkees, and toured the album "Yes It's True" over an international tour.

2023 Future Stars Auctioneer



Lane Conner is a technology entrepreneur and investor, payments industry expert, and philanthropist based in Dallas, Texas. He currently serves as President of Payments at Parkhub. His most recent venture, Fuzse, united the firm's proprietary gateway technology with various processing platforms to create an all-in-one solution aimed at independent software vendors (ISVs) and developers. Prior to launching Fuzse, Lane was a co-founder of the Jerry Jones-backed Blue Star Payments.

Lane gained early experience as a fintech leader at a pair of Dallas-based payments companies. After a stint where Century's growth was recognized among the Inc. 500 fastest-growing, privately-owned businesses in the country for three years running, Lane joined First American Payments, a merchant acquirer notable for owning all of its core products and services, as Director of Strategic Partnerships.

Conner has served as a mentor to multiple cohorts in the United Way's Social Innovation Accelerator as well as companies showcased in Tech Wildcatters. He has also advised student-led companies at Cube, Southern Methodist University's startup accelerator. Lane is proudest of his involvement in organizations that will leave a lasting legacy in his hometown of Dallas for generations to come. He currently serves as a political appointee as the District 12 representative on the city's Parks and Recreation Board, chairing the planning and design committee.

Lane has also enjoyed making an impact on the city in the Mayor's Star Council, an innovative emerging leaders forum for sparking civic engagement and citywide transformation through young professionals. Lane is also a member of the Host Committee for the Taste of the NFL Benefit for the North Texas Food Bank and is President of the *Dallas Business Journal* 40 Under 40 Alumni Association.

A fervent supporter of education, Lane is the President of the Board of Directors for the Alumni association at Trinity Christian Academy and the Board of Directors of the SMU Mustang Club. Lane also serves on the Board of Directors of Big Brothers Big Sisters International.

2023 Future Stars Honorary Chair



Emily Bywaters' long history and devotion to Junior Players began as a participant in the Junior Players High School Shakespeare productions of *Twelfth Night* and *As You Like It* and remains strong to this day.

As someone who is passionate about the arts, helping people and making a difference in the community, Emily's first job after college was with Junior Players.

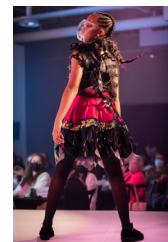
She remained in youth arts advocacy for 15 before transitioning into marketing and communications in a university setting, first at the UT Dallas Center for BrainHealth and later in alumni relations at SMU. She has also advocated in the veteran nonprofit space with Boot Campaign, raising awareness about the mental health needs of our nation's military service men and women.

A lover of the arts and sciences, Emily was premed and graduated with a degree in Arts & Performance from UT Dallas. She has remained active as a Dallas actress for most of her life, even appearing in and co-producing the award-winning independent film *Element* (2016).

Today she is the marketing director for Exceed Healthcare, a management service organization that supports business operations for healthcare companies. She most recently helped launch Birch Medical & Wellness in Bedford, TX.

Emily is married to Ashburn "Hunter" Bywaters III. They have two daughters, Parker and Juliet, who enjoy participating in many arts and athletic activities, especially painting (Parker) and drumming (Juliet). In her free time, Emily likes yoga, hiking, relaxing alone or with loved ones, and having adventures with her family.

2023 Future Stars Fireside Chat Participants



Addison Tomlinson is a current Junior Players participant! Addison has performed in Junior Players annual fashion runway show, *Discover Runway Dreams*, for the past two years. Addison also participated in Junior Players mask design contest and her design won!

Addison in Junior Players 2022 production, Discover Runway Dreams

Sanjna Kalisetty is a current Junior Players participant! Sanjna has participated in 2 different Junior Players productions: *12th Night: A Rock Musical* and *Be More Chill*! Some of her favorite other shows she has performed in include *Legally Blonde* (Garland Summer Musicals), *Twelfth Night* (Junior Players), Ken Ludwig's *Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery* (Greenhill School), and *Into the Woods* (Young Artist Training Program).



Sanjna in Junior Players 2023 production, Be More Chill

2023 Future Stars Celebration

Saturday, March 4, 2023

6:00 pm Cocktail Hour

Enjoy libations and a variety of raffles, games, photo spots and more! Use your mobile device to bid on our silent auction items featuring a wide variety of enticing items, including restaurants, sports tickets, and vacation packages!

7:00 p.m. Dinner

7:30 p.m. Programming Begins

WELCOME

Don Herring and Bryan Tony, *Gala Co-Chairs* | Elizabeth Evans, *Emcee*

OPENING REMARKS

Liz D'Aloia, *Junior Players Board President*

FIRESIDE CHAT

Liz D'Aloia, *Junior Players Board President*

Addison Tomlinson and Sanjna Kalisetty, *Junior Players Participants*

TRAGEDY AND COMEDY AMUSEMENTS

Elizabeth Evans, *Emcee* | Lane Conner, *Auctioneer*

JUNIOR PLAYERS REMARKS

Rosaura Cruz, *Junior Players Executive Director*

HONORING JUNIOR PLAYERS SUPPORTER EMILY BYWATERS

Emily Bywaters, *Honorary Chair*

8:30 pm Live Entertainment

Please enjoy a live performance from our 2023 Season of Healing opener, *Be More Chill*!

8:45 p.m. Live Auction

A variety of items will be auctioned, including vacation packages, sports packages, wine packages, and more!

Auction Check-Out Begins

Patrons will not be allowed to check out before the end of Live Auction.

Wine Pull - \$100 for 3

All bottles have a retail value of \$35 or higher -
this wine pull is a guaranteed win!

All wine bottles may be collected at the end of the night after check out.

Comedy/ Tragedy Game -\$25

Play for a chance to win some incredible prizes! The prize for game #1 will be our famous lotto basket and the prize for game #2 is a large Kate Weiser chocolate basket!

Raffle Baskets - 1 ticket for \$25, 5 tickets for \$100

Visit our raffle table for your chance to win big! We have 6 incredible items to be raffled including Texas Rangers tickets, a Kate Weiser chocolate tower, and a trip to the brand new Meow Wolf in Grapevine!

Best of North Texas - \$20

Be a guaranteed winner with our Best of North Texas pull! \$20 makes you an automatic winner of one of our Best of North Texas restaurants, entertainment centers, and experiences - all with a value of \$25 or MORE!

Jewelry Pull - \$100

You won't need a telescope to see something sparkle here! \$100 gets you a random piece from our jewelry pull, where each piece has a value of at least \$250!

NASA - \$25

What does NASA stand for? National Aeronautic *Selfie* Administration, of course! \$25 gets you unlimited access to our out-of-this world pop-up photo experience. Trust us, you want to leave Mission Control behind and join us in outer space!

Signature Cocktail - \$20 for 3

Feeling thirsty? Buy in to our signature cocktail for three drink tickets for \$20! This year's signature cocktail is a Botanist Star Healer - delicious AND for a good cause!

Silent Auction

But that's not all! We also have a completely virtual silent auction! Bid on travel, food, jewelry, entertainment, and art packages all from your own personal device!

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2023 Big Dipper Sponsors



2023 Dinner Sponsor



2023 Wine Pull Sponsor



2023 Takeaway Sponsor



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2023 Signature Cocktail Sponsor

Rémy Cointreau Ambassador

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2023 Star Sponsors



*Emily
Bywaters*



*Jennifer L. Wood,
Esq.*

*Melissa and Lee
Ward*

*Nicole Williams
& Christopher George*



*Rosanne Messineo Mills
and Rex C. Mills*

Rosaura Cruz



TOTAL IT
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



2023 Photobooth Sponsor





Sponsor a Junior Player

Tonight you will have the opportunity to Sponsor a Junior Player. Raise your paddle when our auctioneer calls for sponsor a Junior Player participant to make a difference in the lives of over 15,000 kids and teens. Your donation transforms kids' lives.

\$1,000 - Sponsors a college scholarship for a participant

\$500 - Sponsors one week of summer theater camp

\$250 - Sponsors summer camp t-shirts for 50 youth

\$100 - Sponsors a master dance class for ages 12 - 18



Thompson Coburn
is proud to support
the outstanding
arts programming
that **Junior Players**
provides to the
youth of Dallas

TOTAL COMMITMENT® TO OUR COMMUNITIES

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2023 Auction Donors

Acre Distilling	Drury Hotels	Kit Rocha
Al Biernat's	Elizabeth Myers	Kitchen Dog Theater
Alcatraz East	Epic Waters Indoor Waterpark	Landry's Restaurant Group
Angie Parra	Five Guys	LEGOLAND Discovery Center DFW
Arlington Museum of Art	Four Sisters Collection	Liz D'Aloia
Armstrong Family Estate & Antiques	Friends of Fair Park	Liz Sankarsingh
ASI Gymnastics	Frisco RoughRiders	Loro Asian Smokehouse & Bar
Beauty by Apothecary	Frontiers of Flight Museum	Mad Duck Cyclery
Benihana	Ft. Worth Museum Science & History	Mark Rado
Billy Bob's Texas	Ft. Worth Zoo	Meow Wolf
Braum's	Gargiulo Winery	Monster Yogurt
Broadway Dallas	Gingr Spice Salon	Ms Neena Wiora
Brookhaven Country Club	Grand Lux Cafe	Ms. Amy Jackson
Camp Homework	Gupta & Wiora, P.C.	Nicole Williams and Christopher George
Celebration Restaurant	i Fratelli Pizza	Paul Stafford
Chamberlain's Restaurant	Jennifer Ecklund	Perot Museum
Cherie Braaten	Jennifer Pearce	Perry's Steakhouse
Dakota's Steakhouse	Jewels with a Purpose	Rosanne & Rex Mills
Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum	John Avila	Salesmanship Club
Dallas Wings	Junior Players	Sammons Center for the Arts
Don & Stacy Herring	K1 Speed	Sand Cloud
Don Herring	Karen Currie	SEALIFE Aquarium
	Kate Weiser Chocolate	
	Kirstine Rogers	

2023 Auction Donors

Shannon Fant	The Classic at Roanoke	Trova Wine + Market
Six Flags	The Cookery Dallas	Undermain Theatre
Spring Creek BBQ	The Lumen Hotel	Uptown Players
State Fair of Texas	The Modern	Vandelay Hospitality Group
Stephen Tordella	Thompson Coburn LLP	WaterTower Theatre
STK Steakhouse	Tiff's Treats	Well Grounded Coffee Community
Terilli's	times ten cellars	WFAA
Texas Legends	Titan Comics	
The Buckhorn Saloon & Museum	Total Wine & More	Ziziki's Restaurant
The Capital Grille	Trinity Aesthetics & Laser	<i>*List as of 2/28/2023</i>

Wine Pull Sponsors

Cherie Braaten, Franceanna Campagna, Greg Franklin, Isabelle Morgan, Jill Penn, Katie Clark, Liz D'Aloia, Melissa Ward, Nicole Williams, Pogo's Wine & Spirits, Rosanne Messineo Mills, Stephanie Montgomery

Follow us on Social Media to stay up-to-date with Junior Players!



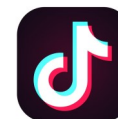
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HOLLOWAY FAMILY FOUNDATION



**The Holloway Family Foundation
is proud to support
Junior Players, the arts,
and the youth of North Texas!**

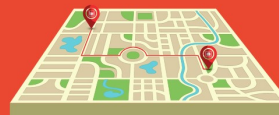
www.hollowayfamilyfoundation.org



DiAnn L'Roy has been a proud supporter of Junior Players and the youth of North Texas for over 20 years.

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Don Herring Mitsubishi has been supporting the Dallas community for over 40 years and is proud to support Junior Players, the arts, and the youth of North Texas

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GENERAL AUCTION GUIDELINES

- ♦ All guests will receive a bidder number at the registration table. Use this number to bid on silent or live auction items.
- ♦ **All items are sold “as is” and are not exchangeable.** The donors have provided values associated with the items. Junior Players has accepted these items in good faith and does not accept responsibility for the validity of prices. Junior Players makes no warranties, expressed or implied, or representation in connection with this sale. In particular, the implied warranty of merchantability and the implied warranty of fitness for a particular purpose are expressly excluded from this sale.
- ♦ All items are subject to the donor’s restrictions and applicable tax requirements. AUCTION PACKAGES must be used within one year of the auction, NO EXCEPTIONS, unless otherwise specified. Trip certificates expire as indicated. Services, facilities and certificates expire as indicated.
- ♦ **All sales are final.** There will be no exchanges or refunds on any item. Checkout will be available after the final section is closed. Present your bidder number at the cashier’s table to complete the transaction.
- ♦ All payment is due tonight. **Acceptable forms of payment include cash, check, Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express.** The cashier will provide a receipt for each item purchased.
- ♦ All auction items must be removed tonight. To claim your items present the receipt to the table monitor.
- ♦ Auction items may not be collected until after purchase at checkout. This includes items won at the Wine Pull and Liquor Raffle.
- ♦ Junior Players is not responsible for any lost or damaged items after the auction.

LIVE AUCTION RULES

- ♦ All rules apply for the Live Auction as listed in the General Auction Guidelines.
- ♦ All descriptions and restrictions for the Live Auction are listed on the Live Auction program insert.
- ♦ To place a bid raise your paddle with bid number to be recognized by the auctioneer or his/her assistants.
- ♦ Once the auctioneer says “sold” the merchandise becomes the property of the winning bidder and must be paid for this evening as stated in the General Auction Rules.
- ♦ If you are the winner of a live auction item, you may not check-out until the live auction is finished. However, you may use the VIP line to check out after the auction.

SILENT AUCTION RULES

- ♦ All rules apply for the Silent Auction as listed in the General Guidelines.
- ♦ All bids will be made using the guest’s assigned bidder number, through personal mobile devices.



TRAGEDY OR COMEDY MASK GAME

Here is how it works:



- ♦ Those who wish to participate must purchase a paddle. Paddles are only \$25 and on sale all-night until the end of the game!
- ♦ Our auctioneer will ask that all Tragedy & Comedy participants stand and choose either “Tragedy” or “Comedy”. Our emcee will then toss a coin and will call out “Tragedy” or “Comedy”.
- ♦ Those whose paddles are placed to match the side called out, remain standing. All others must sit as they have been eliminated.
- ♦ The presenter will again repeat the instructions and will flip the coin again.
- ♦ This is done until there is one remaining guest standing who will be deemed the winner.



2023 Future Stars Committee Chairs

Emcee: Elizabeth Evans
Auctioneer: Lane Conner
Gala Co-Chairs: Bryan Tony and Don Herring

2023 Future Stars Gala Director

Cherie Braaten

2023 Board of Directors

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Vice President: Greg Franklin, *Greenberg Traurig, LLP*
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Junior Players Staff

Rosaura Cruz <i>Executive Director</i>	Abigail Bouska <i>Program Manager</i>
Anthony Pound <i>Program Director</i>	Dhruv Iyengar <i>Events and Productions Manager</i>
Kate Simmons <i>Development Director</i>	Elizabeth Evans <i>Office Coordinator</i>
Abby Stigler <i>Communications Director</i>	

Special Thanks

Addison Tomlinson, Annette Gadberry, Cherie Braaten, Diedra Chapman, Elizabeth Evans, Girls Who Twirl LLC, Hailey Trupp, Jamie Martin, John Martin, Jordan Webb, Junior Players Staff, Junior Players Volunteers, Lane Conner, Mark Maguire, Mark Wade, Michael Cohen, Neena Wiora, Nicole Williams, Ochre House Theater, On the Levee, Phil Vilar, Rachel Harrah LLC, Renee Hart Kurtz, Sanjna Kalisetty, Stef Kiesz, Taylor and Aaron Matthews, Teri Potts, Todd Gilbert, Trova Wine and Market, University of Texas at Dallas' Theater Department, Venita, Viviana Servin

2023 Gala Committee Members

Abby Stigler, Andrea Winn, Andrew Milke, Angie Para, Anthony Pound, Bryan Tony, Cherie Braaten, Dhruv Iyengar, Don Herring, Elizabeth Evans, Franceanna Campagna, Gregg Franklin, Kate Simmons, Katie Clark, Kirsten Swanson, Liz D'Aloia, Neena Wiora, Nicole Williams, Rosanne Mills, Rosaura Cruz



Venetta Petties

Owner & Founder of Girls Who Twirl

Venetta started Girls Who Twirl after coordinating a Quinceañera event – where the cotton candy vendor showed up an hour late and wasn't dressed in the correct attire for a beautiful Quinceañera at a country club!

Venetta is passionate about customer service and hospitality and wanted to provide clients with a WOW experience (as well as the best cotton candy they would ever taste!) After months of research and testing, she found the best sugar supplier (who happened to live in Hawaii) and partnered with an expert carpenter to build a custom cart. She even tested out alcohol-infused cotton candy (a product we now offer).

On the weekends, you can find us twirling at a birthday party, cocktail hour at a wedding or at a festival. Let's twirl!

Cotton Candy | Coffee & Hot Cocoa Bar | Popcorn Bar
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Phone | (469) 360-9935

Email | info@girlswhotwirlcc.com



Be More Chill

January 5 - 8, 2023 | Moody Performance Hall | 8:00 pm & 2:30 pm

Jeremy Heere is just an average teenager. That is, until he finds out about "The Squip" - a tiny supercomputer that promises to bring him everything he desires most. But is being the most popular guy in school worth the risk? Blending the contemporary with retro sci-fi, "Be More Chill" takes on the competing voices in all our heads. And ultimately proves, there's never been a better time in history to be yourself.

PUP Fest 2023

June 10, 2023, Booker T. Washington HSPVA | 1:00 pm & 4:00 pm

PUP Fest is a collaborative program with Junior Players, Kitchen Dog Theater, and Dallas ISD - Playwriting Arts Collective (D-PAC) for high school playwrights, where we bring 6 incredible scripts written by teens to life.

Crowns of Power: Henry IV

August 1 - 6, 2023 | Samuell-Grand Park Amphitheatre | Gates open at 7:30 pm; Curtain at 8:15 pm

Set in a kingdom plagued with rebellion, treachery, and shifting alliances in the period following the deposition of King Richard II, the two parts of Henry IV focus especially on the development of Prince Hal (later Henry V) from wastrel to ruler rather than on the title character. Shakespeare presents an all-encompassing thematic exploration of family, honor, power, and warfare through this historical tale.

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

August 10 - 19, 2023 | University of Texas at Dallas

Thursday – Friday nights at 8 pm | Saturdays at 2 pm and 8 pm

Fifteen-year-old math whiz Christopher Boone lives with his divorced dad in Swindon, a working-class town west of London. After being falsely accused of killing a neighbor's dog,

Christopher - who is brilliant but has difficulty dealing with the sounds and stresses of everyday life due to his Asperger's Syndrome - decides to investigate the crime. Based on Mark Haddon's best-selling 2003 novel, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* is a thrilling and heartwarming adventure story featuring an unforgettable young hero.