



**JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
BOCA RATON**

Women building better communities

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**Junior League of Boca Raton Announces the Unveiling of
Enhanced Milagro Center for Children**

The Junior League of Boca Raton provides state-of-the art playground renovations to Delray Beach nonprofit arts education after-school program for disadvantaged children

January 30, 2008 Boca Raton, FL – The Junior League of Boca Raton (JLBR) is pleased to announce the unveiling of state-of-the-art enhancements to one of the organization’s community projects and one of Delray Beach's most important children’s after school programs, the Milagro Center. The JLBR provided renovations throughout the last year and have added a new basketball court, playground equipment, new landscaping, a sink, a new fence and a garden at the Center.

The unveiling ceremony and ribbon cutting will take place at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 28, 2008 at the Milagro Center, located at 340 S.W. 6th Avenue.

“The Junior League of Boca Raton is thrilled to have helped transform the Milagro Center’s backyard into a much-needed recreation area for the children,” said Kristin Calder, JLBR President. “This new play area will not only provide a space for fun and games for the children, but will also contribute to their overall health and happiness. We are excited to see the instant impact this effort will have on the community and the children,” she added.

The Milagro Center provides superior arts education to the children of Palm Beach County’s

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most disadvantaged populations. Milagro, which means “miracle” in Spanish, creates a unique – community context in which students, families, and schools cooperate to achieve mutual success. The Center’s goals are to ensure academic success, teach inclusion, embrace diversity and promote the arts. The Center also strives to develop strong individuals who positively impact their communities. Located in bustling downtown Delray Beach, the Center provides for children grades 1-5. The Milagro Center recently won the Cultural Council Muse Award for Cultural Arts Organization and was a Finalist for the Cultural Leader award.

“We’re blessed to have community support,” said Marlo Belkin, Milagro Center Executive Director and a recent recipient of the Award of Excellence from the Florida After School Alliance. “This Center has struggled and now it is thriving thanks to organizations like the Junior League of Boca Raton,” she added.

“When I first came to the Milagro Center, the kids were playing basketball using a milk crate tied to a tree and climbing on old equipment,” said Linda Gunn, chairman of the JLBR Milagro Center committee. “Now they have a real basketball court, amazing playground equipment and a peaceful garden for reading and relaxing.”

The Milagro Center is one of dozens of community projects and initiatives supported by the JLBR. Other businesses that contributed to the success of the project include the Delray Garden Center, SportCourt and Highland Products Group.

The Junior League of Boca Raton is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable. Since 1971, the JLBR has been an integral part of our community. This year, JLBR members will contribute more than 35,000 volunteer hours and donate more than \$250,000 to support our mission in the South Florida community. The Junior League of Boca Raton is part of the Association of Junior Leagues International, which is comprised of 293 Junior Leagues -- across the United States and in four countries. For more information on the Junior League of Boca Raton, please contact the JLBR office at 561-620-2553, or visit www.JLBR.org.

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