

National Charity Leagues

Katy debutantes bond together while giving back to their community

Written by Kirsten Cornell | Select photography by See What Develops

For half a century, the National Charity League (NCL) has presented itself as one of the most well-respected mother-daughter membership organizations. With four active chapters in the Katy community, members bond together while pouring their time into a variety of local philanthropies. “The Katy Chapter gives back by volunteering in 27 different philanthropies,” says chapter President Cara Sliva.

“NCL helps build stronger bonds between mothers and daughters as they work together helping others,” adds Debra Massey, Star Chapter’s senior presentation co-chair.

Joining a Legacy

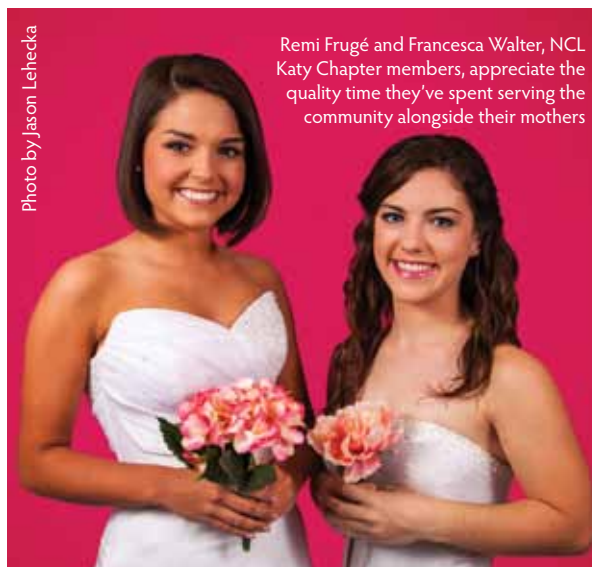
The NCL is a six-year program that begins accepting inductees in the seventh grade. Daughters are referred to as Ticktockers and partner alongside each other and Patronesses, their mothers, to learn core values that will sustain them long after their time with NCL is done. “The NCL experience inspires and empowers women to succeed as confident, well-rounded, and socially aware contributors in their communities,” says Andrea Perez, a member of the Ladybird Chapter’s publicity committee.

Members are encouraged to join for a variety of reasons including strengthening their bond with their mother, learning to serve the needs of their community, knowledge of social etiquette, and acquiring skills such as event planning. “I have gotten to spend quality time with my mom, and she has become even more of a role model to me,” says Katy Chapter Ticktockter Francesca Walter.

Caring for the Community

Of course a primary goal of any NCL chapter is getting involved in the community. “Every time I can do any type of philanthropy, I feel so grateful and blessed to be a part of National Charity League,” says Katy Chapter Ticktockter Mackenzie Porter.

“I believe that the most rewarding aspect is the knowledge that individually as members, and collectively as an organization, we made an overwhelming difference in the lives of so many people,” adds Azalea Chapter President Teri Ward. When a parent takes time and energy to invest in volunteering, it shows their child in a very tangible way that it is important and worthwhile.



Remi Frugé and Francesca Walter, NCL Katy Chapter members, appreciate the quality time they’ve spent serving the community alongside their mothers

Unforgettable Experiences

In addition to events, social networking, community service, and serving side-by-side in the community with their mothers, Ticktockers are able to gain many positive experiences that they will not soon forget. “I’ve learned that to give back to the community and helping others is the most rewarding experience,” says Ticktockter Remi Frugé. “I advise younger NCL Ticktockters to cherish their time in the NCL.”

“I personally am inspired by the women I serve with in the Azalea Chapter,” says Ward. “There is so much to be gained from planning and executing successful programs for our daughters and for the community.”

Commitment to Service

Membership requires a commitment of time, service, and financial obligations, but ask any NCL member and they will tell you, the investment is well worth it. “You will definitely make lifelong friends, and it is an incredible bonding experience with your mom,” says Porter. “I am so glad I was able to experience this for so long and that I have met so many people that I will never forget.” **KM**



KIRSTEN CORNELL enjoys being an associate editor for Katy Magazine and applauds the Katy NCL chapters for their incredible drive to serve the Katy community.

Katy Chapter member Mackenzie Porter feels grateful to have been a part of NCL, which taught her the value of serving others

“NCL helps build stronger bonds between mothers and daughters as they work together helping others.”

- Star Chapter's Senior Presentation Co-chair, Debra Massey

Photo by Jason Lehecka

Not pictured in this article are National Charity League Ladybird Chapter seniors Meredith Bunning, Presley Taylor, and Sarah Dicken



National Charity League Katy Chapter

Pictured are (front row) Maddie Droog, Megan Loch, Rachel Work, Adrienne Perkins, (second row) Taylor Leiby, Lylah Nassar, Candice Reilly, Kristin Chiara, Amanda Melvin, (third row) Francesca Walter, Remi Frugé, Brittany Marshall, Kennedy McKern, Lindsay Fenton, Shanna Balke, Mackenzie Porter, Callie Puffer, (back row) Kirby Clifford, Rachel Klein, Elizabeth Basler, Bailey Hall, Marcy Mahon, Natalie Romero, and Kasey Palfreyman.



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National Charity League Azalea Chapter

Pictured are (front row) Holly McAteer, Heidi Karp, Merideth Stuart, Alison Kelly, (second row) Ashlyn Wagner, Paige Arneson, Molly Garner, Maddi Mackey, Allie Liles, Piper Argo, Ashley Kirby, (third row) Lindy Davis, Cassidy Nessen, Morgan Hasting, Kelsey Harper, Carly Martin, Lexi Karpuk, Lori Schaefer, Katelyn Simmons, (back row) Madison Barnard, Danielle Russell, Sarah Gillooly, Victoria Holsey, Taylor Snyder, Emily Richard, Abby Glova, Olivia Despard, and Alison Haddix.



National Charity League Star Chapter

Pictured are (front row) Megan Simmons, Maranda Becci, (second row) Rebecca Goenner, Gabrielle Deckelman, Caroline Lynch, Sadie Butler, Valerie Giles, Kylie Cole, (third row) Jaylee Inlow, Kendall McElhaney, Madison Scott, Lauren Huisman, Christen Inman, Aubrey Baker, Courtney Lovett, (back row) Camille Brooks, Kristen Sides, Madeline Harkins, Elisabeth Hill, Marly Adams, and Mikayla Sheppard.