

RTD CELEBRATIONS

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JUNIOR ASSEMBLY COTILLION 73RD HOLLY BALL DANCES

CONTENT PROVIDED BY JUNIOR ASSEMBLY COTILLION

The 73rd Holly Balls for Junior Assembly Cotillion were held Dec. 1–3, 2017, at The Woman's Club. Mothers and fathers attended to enjoy the festivities and dance with their son or daughter. Junior Assembly Cotillion is the oldest and largest cotillion in the South and is honored to carry on a uniquely Richmond tradition that is still relevant today. Owners and sisters Liz Williams and Katherine Byer direct with their dear friend, Alfreda Beach. Greg Thorp has been their highly qualified and well-respected dance instructor for more than 30 years. Music for the Holly Balls was provided by the talented Gray McCalley Quartet.

Students and families donated \$7,765 to support three of our local Christmas Mother programs. Hanover Christmas Mother Cindy Balderson attended on Dec. 1; Richmond Christmas Mother Ann Parker Gottwald attended on Dec. 2; and Henrico Christmas Mother Gay Rudis attended on Dec. 3.

Junior Assembly Cotillion is a highly anticipated event for hundreds of sixth through ninth graders in the Richmond and surrounding areas. In a time when technology is pervasive and inescapable, JAC brings tweens and teens face to face and one on one with each other in an exciting, inclusive and entertaining ballroom dance setting that builds confidence, poise, maturity and better decision-making skills. For the past 73 years, Junior Assembly has led tween and teen students through social, manners and contemporary etiquette training over a four-year, integrated program where each year builds on the last.



▲ Ninth grade March leaders Grace Stocks, Ryan Henry, Emma Reed and Alec Conley



▲ Sixth graders Ava Lester and Brody Quinn with 2017 Henrico Christmas Mother Gay Rudis



◀ Katherine Pollard with dad Chuck Pollard

Marci, Matt and Molly Foote



▲ Ninth graders Joey Edwards and Cassidy Macklin with 2017 Richmond Christmas Mother Ann Parker Gottwald



◀ Junior assistant Caroline Willhite and dance instructor Greg Thorp



▲ Jeff, Lisa, Grace and Jack Marshall



▲ Ned, Lizzie, Bennett and Kristie Herod



▲ 2017 Hanover Christmas Mother Cindy Balderson with sixth graders Will Cox and Tierney Ciaverelli

{ DEADLINE }

We're currently taking announcements for the Celebrations edition: **Sunday, Feb. 18.** Visit the Celebrations office Mon.–Fri. from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 300 E. Franklin St., Richmond, VA 23219. Call (804) 649-6825 or email Celebrations@timesdispatch.com by **5 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 1** to make the deadline.