

**Melinda Rome**  
**MBA Association Elections**  
**Platform for Philanthropy**

The Philanthropy Chair shall have the following duties according to the MBAA Constitution:

1. Organize and be responsible for all philanthropic activities of the Association, excluding the MBAA Charity Golf Tournament
2. Select one main service project per semester for membership
3. Work with the treasurer to maintain accurate accounting of any funds that are collected for such purposes
4. Make contacts with organizations from both a philanthropic standpoint and a networking standpoint
5. Serve as a liaison to the Junior Achievement Organization
6. Strive to meet the objectives of the MBAA as stated in Article II, Section I of the MBAA Constitution

**Leadership Experience**

I feel my experience in other organizations has helped me develop the skills I need to fulfill the role of Philanthropy Chair for the MBA Association. My involvement in LSU's Student Government and Sigma Alpha Sorority, a professional and social organization, has not only increased my ability to work with others, but has also helped me learn valuable networking skills. As President of the LSU Homecoming Committee, I learned how to be a positive leader that enables everyone to be involved and take part in the organizations goals.

**My Goals**

I feel this year the MBA has been very involved in the community; however, I would like to try to expand this involvement. Currently, the MBA participates in events for many organizations, which I have listed below along with my goals for increased involvement.

**Boys Hope Girls Hope** - The MBA has been very involved with Boys Hope Girls Hope, which I plan to continue next year. Also, we are given the opportunity to have multiple MBA students sit on the Associate Board. By having several students involved, I hope to increase our attendance at their events, as well as offer more fundraising ideas and ways for students to get involved.

**Toys for Tots** - Currently, we have a collection competition in December to donate a large amount of toys to Toys for Tots. I plan to continue this competition, as well as look into other ways we might be able to donate to the organization.

**Junior Achievement** - Junior Achievement helps educate students by having community volunteers teach them the curriculum. The volunteers use real world experiences to teach the children, which allows the students to apply their teachings and relate to an individual and their experience. The past philanthropy chair has increased our involvement in this program, which I plan on continuing.

**Habitat for Humanity** - Habitat for Humanity assists individuals in building their homes, as well as helps rebuild neighborhoods. The MBA has participated in various builds this year. Habitat for Humanity has been very involved in rebuilding New Orleans and the surrounding areas. As a resident of this area, along with some of my peers, I hope to increase the MBAA's overall involvement in this mission.

To help increase our presence in the community, I will work with Volunteer LSU and check [volunteerbr.org](http://volunteerbr.org) to determine new organizations the MBA Association can get involved with, for example creating Thanksgiving baskets for the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank. I am also always open to anyone's ideas.

Philanthropic events are great way to get involved and give back to the community. They also allow us to take an active role in developing our networking skills outside of the classroom. As Philanthropy Chair, I plan on taking an active role in the MBAA and in the community. I will also always be available to assist my fellow chairs when needed, and look forward to being an integral part of the MBAA's continued success.