Dear JA Champion,

Every child deserves to believe in themselves — and to have the tools to do it. As we reflect on the past year, we are abundantly grateful for the work we’ve done together and how you, our Junior Achievement champion, have propelled our students to new heights.

Because of your support, you have equipped the next generation of leaders with the knowledge, skills and capacity to be successful. Because of you, students are empowered to see opportunities — and equipped to seize opportunities.

This gratitude report is a celebration of YOU and your dedication to lifting up young people in our community. Without you, students would be without a roadmap for the future and unprepared to navigate their next steps to success.

Our impact is shaped by a passionate collective of people - dedicated volunteers, business leaders, community advocates, generous donors, and committed educators and thought leaders who cast a vision for the future and showing students what it looks like to thrive.

Because of you, there is much on the horizon for Junior Achievement, for our community and for our kids. Your partnership with JA powers possibility for our kids, and for that we are beyond grateful.

Sincerely,

Megan Sturges Stanfield
CEO AND PRESIDENT

Matt Clark
IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIRMAN
OF THE BOARD

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OUR CORE VALUES

1. Belief in the boundless potential of young people

2. Passion for what we do and honesty, integrity and excellence in how we do it

3. Respect for the talents, creativity, perspectives and backgrounds of all individuals

4. Commitment to the principles of market-based economics and entrepreneurship

5. Belief in the power of partnership and collaboration

6. Conviction in the educational and motivational impact of relevant, hands-on learning
Before JA, I knew my family and friends believed in me. Now I know Ms. Megan, my JA mentor, believes in me too.

In Junior Achievement, our class had to pick a future career and research more about it. I picked zoologist, because I like learning new things and I like animals. Other kids in my class chose interior designers and lawyers. We also played lots of games and split into teams. JA was a lot of fun!

I was excited and nervous to get up and talk on the stage at the Hall of Fame event. I had to say my name, how old I was and what I wanted to do when I was older. I said zoologist and veterinarian. It was scary going up there, but I learned a lot.

Because of JA, I’m more excited about my future because I understand it more. Other kids should do Junior Achievement so they can learn what I did, about what to do when you’re older.

I’m ready for what’s going to happen after school, and I’m thinking about what colleges I want to go to. I feel like I’m going to do better in life now.
I believe every kid, every family, needs to learn about commerce, finance, and how money works. We feel, as a Foundation, that if we can teach our kids at a young age how to navigate the waters of finance, it will lift all of society. When a student learns a lesson and goes home to share that with mom, maybe they’re able to make smart choices as an adult and start to curtail the cycle of poverty. That child sparks a ripple effect.

It’s incredible to see the impact of Junior Achievement firsthand and the positive influence they have on the next generation. We’re counting on organizations like Junior Achievement to deliver meaningful experiences to these kids and provide critical financial literacy education.
Dr. Trinity Davis is constantly focused on the educational needs of students across the school district.

Junior Achievement brings in the real-world piece that our kids need. Every kid knows about being a doctor, lawyer and a teacher. But they don't know all the other careers you can have as an adult. Junior Achievement helps our kids understand different career pathways.

When implementing new programs in our school district, I'm conscientious to seek out partners who can reach each of the 24 elementary schools we cover. No one has the capacity to work with all those schools except for Junior Achievement. They have the capacity to impact everyone and that makes it easy to say yes.

The partnership between Kansas City Public Schools and JA is so aligned, it's hard to find where our curriculum stops, and Junior Achievement curriculum begins.

Dr. Trinity Davis
Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum
Kansas City, Missouri Public Schools

I don't believe I would be in the position I am today, both personally and professionally, if it wasn't for the Junior Achievement program.

Motivated to give today’s students an experience like the one I had, I now volunteer with Junior Achievement — at the very same high school I attended, a school where students are challenged daily to survive the cycle of poverty.

I use my story to let the students know today is the starting point. I was saddened when one of the students shared a common belief throughout the halls of Northeast, “You don’t graduate from this school.” Stereotypes and certain systems may discourage these young people, and some of these obstacles may cause them to think that achievement can’t be true. I continue to volunteer my time to inspire young people and help them see there is hope if they stay on the right path.

Junior Achievement established the foundation that I’m still building on today. It takes a community to help to build a community and I’m honored to be part of the change.

The partnership is so aligned, it’s hard to find where our curriculum stops, and Junior Achievement curriculum begins.
“My third graders were excited to work with and learn from their JA volunteer each week. They told me that they couldn’t wait to tell their parents what they learned!”

3rd Grade Teacher

Our mission
To inspire & prepare young people to succeed in a global economy
GRATEFUL FOR EVENTFUL MOMENTS

Junior Achievement Business Hall of Fame  November 16, 2018

BOTTOM: 2018 Hall of Fame luncheon at The Gallery Event Space.

Bowl-a-Thon  March 2018

Junior Achievement Champions from Black & Veatch

401K Race for Financial Fitness  May 4, 2019

LEFT: Participants beginning the 4.01K race. RIGHT: First, second and third place winners.
TOP: Morning breakout session, where students are paired with their mentors. BOTTOM LEFT: Spring 2019 panel discussion. BOTTOM RIGHT: Students and mentors dance it out.

“Today I learned that it’s ok to have a voice and get what you want out of something. I learned to be confident in myself. I learned that it’s ok to not be the same as other people around you and to have different thought processes and opinions.”

MENTEE
Future Women’s Leadership Forum

Students learning entrepreneurial skills at the JA It’s My Business Pitch Competition
The most rewarding aspect is seeing the children’s faces light up whenever they understand or ask questions. My sixth graders and freshmen are asking poignant questions that could shape their futures, and that’s rewarding for me.

Jay Currie Campbell
Volunteer
WHAT STUDENTS SAID ABOUT THE JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

70% SAID IT HELPED reinforce THE VALUE OF EDUCATION & STAYING IN SCHOOL

64% AGREE JA HAS INCREASED their CONFIDENCE TO ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS

62% INCREASED KNOWLEDGE ABOUT MONEY & Personal finance

63% AGREED JA connected CLASSROOM LEARNING TO REAL LIFE

OUR COMMUNITY IMPACT

STUDENT ETHNICITY BREAKDOWN

- BLACK: 30%
- HISPANIC: 23%
- ASIAN: 3%
- WHITE: 35%
- N/A: 9%

PERCENTAGE OF FREE & REDUCED LUNCH STUDENTS SERVED BY STATE

- KANSAS: 57%
- MISSOURI: 80%

OUR FOOTPRINT

- ATCHISON
- JOHNSON
- LEAVENWORTH
- MIAMI
- WYANDOTTE

- DURHAM
- CLAY
- BEAUL
- JACKSON
- MOHAWK
- PLATTE

OUTREACH FOCUS

- SECONDARY STUDENTS: 8,389
- MIXED GRADES: 235
- ELEMENTARY STUDENTS: 16,246

24,870 STUDENTS SERVED

1,261 VOLUNTEER-MENTORS

139,976 STUDENT INSTRUCTIONAL CONTACT HOURS
It was interesting to learn how you get a salary and what you need to learn, like a master’s degree or medical degree. I learned what type of degree I need to get so I can plan for my future.

DANIEL GAMBOA
Student
GRATEFUL
FOR YOUR GIFTS

$50,000 & ABOVE
Carter Community Memorial Trust
Cloud L. Cray Foundation

$25,000-$49,999
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CommunityAmerica Credit Union
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Arvest Bank
Bank of America Charitable Foundation
Black & Veatch
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CitiGroup Inc.
Ericsson, Inc.
Evergy
Hallmark Cards
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Leroy McCarty
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As professionals, we have an opportunity to volunteer and pay it forward to save millions of young people like myself. I testify that I wouldn’t be here if it wasn’t for Junior Achievement volunteers and donors.”

T. MALACHI KERN
JA Alumnus, Volunteer & Donor

In order to use our resources wisely and reduce printing costs, we are unable to list the hundreds of dedicated donors who made gifts of $1-$249, as well as the many generous in-kind donors who support us. Although we cannot recognize each of you in print, we deeply appreciate your support of the Junior Achievement mission.
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with the KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS & CAPACITY TO BE SUCCESSFUL

Junior Achievement
of Greater Kansas City

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