our mission

TO INSPIRE & PREPARE YOUNG PEOPLE TO SUCCEED IN A GLOBAL ECONOMY

our core values

Belief in the boundless potential of young people

Commitment to the principles of market-based economics and entrepreneurship

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

Belief in the power of partnership and collaboration

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

Conviction in the educational and motivational impact of relevant, hands-on learning
The solutions to many of today’s economic challenges are tied to the aspirations and skills of tomorrow’s workforce. But for many young people in Kansas City, it can be hard to think beyond what’s right in front of them and imagine a future of infinite possibilities and great success. That’s why Junior Achievement of Greater Kansas City empowers students to expand their thinking and design a new story where their potential has no bounds. By providing real-world opportunities that show today’s youth how money, careers, and business ownership work, Junior Achievement is creating a pathway to fuel tomorrow’s economic engine.

This year’s annual report is a thank you to YOU – our champions, supporters, and friends who advance the mission of Junior Achievement every day.

There are many challenges in our community that we can only solve by working together. Thank you for supporting Junior Achievement to lead the solution for the success of our next generation.

Sincerely,

Matt Clark
Chairman of the Board | Junior Achievement of Greater Kansas City
24,377 STUDENTS SERVED

985 VOLUNTEER-MENTORS

148,968 STUDENT INSTRUCTIONAL CONTACT HOURS

24,377 STUDENTS SERVED

OUR FOOTPRINT

ACHISON
JOHNSON
LEAVENWORTH
MIAMI
WYANDOTTE
BUCHANAN
CASS
CLAY
DEKALB
JACKSON
NODAWAY
PLATTE

STUDENT ETHNICITY BREAKDOWN

BLACK
28%
HISPANIC
26%
ASIAN
9%
MULTI-RACIAL
4%
WHITE
38%

OUTREACH FOCUS

SECONDARY STUDENTS

ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

87% of SCHOOLS ARE TITLE I*

93% of STUDENTS ARE TITLE I*

*Title One designation is determined by the percentage of students eligible for the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program.
“I welcome Junior Achievement in my classroom because the content is in line with 21st century learning and employability skills in more than merely an academic sense. There is practical, useful, and relevant information across the spectrum of Junior Achievement material and activities.”

NATHAN A.
High School Educator
PROGRAM OUTCOMES

85% of students reported an ability to connect classroom learning to the real world.

91% of students had an increase in knowledge about money management & personal finance.

61% of students indicated JA helped reinforce the value of education & staying in school.
“I jumped into the Junior Achievement volunteer opportunity not quite knowing what I was signing up for, and I have to admit, I was a little intimidated. These children made an impact on my life almost instantly. We learned about wants and needs, how we earn money, and why we spend and save money. It was so gratifying to see the students absorb the information, and then put it into practice with group activities. When I announced to the kids that we were finished, they all gave me a huge group hug - some hanging on and not letting go. I went from a stranger to a role model for these kids in just a matter of a few hours. Walking out of the building, I couldn’t help but cry as a wave of emotions swept over me. I’m hopeful that I was able to make a positive impact on them, as they definitely made one on me.”

MOLLY MAGNUSON
JAKC Volunteer, CBIZ
SPECIAL EVENTS

Junior Achievement Business Hall of Fame

The Junior Achievement Business Hall of Fame honors extraordinary business leaders who shape Kansas City as a community of innovation, entrepreneurship, and a valuable place to live and work.
Bowl-a-Thon

The Junior Achievement Bowl-A-Thon is a fun, team-building event that supports the delivery of JA programs for over 24,000 students in our footprint.

401K Race for Financial Fitness

2018 marked the second year for the 401K Race for Financial Fitness. This year’s race was an online, virtual race of tracking intentional fitness activities, converting those activities into miles, and making way around a virtual Kansas City racecourse. A Well-A-Bration™ (celebration of financial wellness) culminated at the KC Live! event space in the Power & Light District.
The most valuable aspect of volunteering with Junior Achievement is being able to directly engage the youth. JA provides life lessons that aren’t taught in everyday curriculum. These lessons help mold and shape young minds for the future. JA offers an alternative future for those that want to step outside the “conventional box” of college or trade school as well as providing steps for students with aspirations of higher learning or entering the workforce.”

**LAMONTE**

**JAKC Volunteer, Quality Engineer**

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**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

**JA It’s My Business**

Junior Achievement partnered with Shawnee Mission School District and Apache Elementary 6th grade students to consider innovative opportunities and make decisions about how to best prepare for their educational and professional future. **JA It’s My Business** offers students an opportunity to engage in design thinking and experience the initial steps of a business startup. While working in teams, students apply 21st century career-ready skills as they generate solutions to real-world problems, design innovative products and services and create business plans in preparation for a pitch competition to a panel of Kansas City entrepreneurs and business leaders.

Animal health trackers, apps to support individuals with vision impairments, and social innovation ideas to feed the homeless and hungry were developed and pitched. The winning group received $600,000 “JA bucks”, and bragging rights, to support 3. Learning, an educational app designed to help students from bilingual or multilingual households as well as young people with disabilities.
JA Job Shadow

The JA Job Shadow program gives students a firsthand glimpse into a professional career, including how to identify a career based on interests, steps in researching potential jobs and developing job-hunting skills like networking and interviewing. The program culminates with intentional workplace visits to gain first-hand experience in what life “on the job” is all about.

“It is especially challenging to teach a generation concepts of the “Real World” [that] seem arbitrary or unimportant to students’ situations. Since Fairfax Learning Center (FLC) has partnered with Junior Achievement, many students have been exposed to programs, ideas, and direction that lay beyond the walls of the school. Many of the values taught by FLC have been reinforced by these companies such as work ethic, dedication and independence.” - Tyler Blackburn, Fairfax Learning Center

Future Women’s Leadership Forum

The inaugural Future Women’s Leadership Forum program launched in December 2017 in partnership with Youth Entrepreneurs of Kansas (Central Region). The workshop hosted 75 teen girls who were matched with a professional female mentor to share ideas on leadership, contributing to our community, and career preparation, as well as provide a voice to women’s empowerment and authenticity. “I always had been a good student but then my grades started slipping…I knew I wanted to go to college, but I knew I wasn’t going to be able to do that if I continued down that path,” Felina told her mentor. In a safe space, mentors and mentees shared valuable advice and gleaned reassurance through other’s testimony. “We can’t always control what happens to us, but we can control how we react to it, and instead of seeing it as a scary new challenge, seeing it as an opportunity” was the advice of Felina’s mentor.
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-$499, 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.

**$50,000 & ABOVE**
Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation

**$25,000-$49,999**
American Century Investments Foundation
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$2,500 - $4,999

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### $500-$999

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Our donor list reflects cash gifts received during the 2018 fiscal year (7/1/2017-6/30/2018). If you find an error in your listing or have been inadvertently omitted, please accept our apologies and contact our office at 816.561.3558.
FREE ENTERPRISE SOCIETY

Established in 2000, the Free Enterprise Society recognizes individuals from around the world who demonstrate outstanding support in helping Junior Achievement inspire and prepare young people to succeed in a global economy. Recognition is provided to individuals and families who have made gifts of $10,000 or more between July 1 and June 30 each year to any JA affiliate.

2017-2018 Members

Tim Barton
Scott Ferguson
Jeffrey Greig

MONTHLY4KIDS MONTHLY GIVING PROGRAM

JA Visionaries make their impact to Junior Achievement of Greater Kansas City all year long through a monthly donation. A new giving program this year, thank you to our inaugural JA Visionaries

Month4KIDS
2017-2018 Members

Carson Andreoli
James Steimer
Julie Schaller
Kasey Anderson
Kristi Fike
Megan Sturges Stanfield
Meredith Suarez
Michael Walden
Molly Flood
Nickalas Collins
Paul Schultz
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Sara Wergin
Stephen Bledsoe
Tamora Kapeller
67% OF JA ALUMNI 
more likely 
to have an 
ADVANCED DEGREE 

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SCOR

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Saadia Mahmood
Sara Jo Wergin
Selena Corpuz
“When volunteering with Junior Achievement, so many of the students I interact with are born into situations out of their control that puts them at an immediate disadvantage compared to their more affluent peers. Junior Achievement levels the playing field by instilling confidence in these kids to dream big, teaches them the importance of establishing smart financial habits that aren’t necessarily being modeled at home, and encourages them to recognize their worth and potential when envisioning the future.”

MATT MUCHIRI
JAKC Volunteer, Cerner