

# About Junior Achievement

Junior Achievement's mission is to inspire and prepare young people to succeed in a global economy. The "inspire" concept comes from community volunteers who not only deliver our lessons but share their experience. In the process, these volunteers serve as role models helping to positively impact young people's perceptions about the importance of education, as well as critical life skills. Preparation involves our proven lessons that promote financial capability, work and career readiness, and entrepreneurship.



## 2021 Message

Many will describe 2020-21 as unprecedented and challenging.



At JA, we chose to be inspired. Amid evolving guidelines, our staff chose to continue doing what we do best: preparing students to succeed. Why? Because we were inspired by the resiliency

of students, schools, and corporate partners across our 15 counties.

- 69 schools from nine counties embraced JA Virtual Inspire, a virtual career exploration event for teens
- 6,879 6th-12th grade students explored 80 company booths with over 600 videos, resulting in local business connections and the setting of career goals
- 12 teams of high school juniors and seniors were empowered to create their own businesses as part of the JA Company Program. Two teams, finlit and Fulfilled, were invited to participate in the JA National Student Leadership Summit where finlit took home JA Company of the Year as well as the Ernst & Young Innovation and FedEx Global Possibilities Awards
- 196 golfers participated in the JA Golf Classic outing at Shady Hollow Country Club raising \$42,175 – a new fundraising record

The challenges of the past year inspired us to look for the opportunities we can take together.

*Yvonne McCluse*



## By the Numbers

	Educator Partners	113
	Districts Served	80
	Students	14,450
	JA Classes	930
	Student Contact Hours	65,027
	JA Virtual Inspire Student Participants	6,879
	Students Served Since 1954	1,094,688
	Unique Volunteers	117
	Volunteer Videos	653
	Counties Served	15
	Corporate Partners	209



## JA Virtual Inspire

JA's capstone career exploration program for 6th-12th grade students, JA Virtual Inspire, was brought to life by community employers. Using virtual technology, the mega online career exploration event JA Virtual Inspire 2021 featured 70 local business exhibits providing downloadable career information and exhibitor videos.

Students begin their career exploration with mostly abstract notions. By watching videos from a variety of professionals in their community, each student's career journey became more focused and activated with real insights into which industries interest them, what specific jobs are like, and what education is required for a specific career pathway.

Inspire launched on March 10 and was opened for student participation through June 10, 2021. Students participated in a six-lesson curriculum; four of the lessons were set up to be completed prior to students visiting the event and two lessons are set up to be completed after the students have spent time participating in the event.

## Virtual Career Results



- 6,879 6th-12th grade students from 69 schools in nine counties participated in 2020-21
- 81% of students reported being aware of high-wage/high-demand jobs in the NE Ohio area
- 58% wanted further career exploration options; the two highest areas of interest were Health Sciences (20%) and STEM (15%)
- 91% reported knowing the skills needed to make a strong first impression during an interview
- 59% of students plan to pursue higher education while 16% plan to become an entrepreneur



**FirstEnergy**  
Foundation

Thank you to all our sponsors, especially our presenting sponsor, FirstEnergy Foundation, for helping us continue our mission of inspiring and preparing young people to succeed in a global economy. Together we were able to impact more than 6,879 learners and direct them in a more educated and strategic pathway toward their future careers.

## Virtual Career Event Highlights

- Interactive career exhibits from organizations that students recognize in their community
- Virtual swag and downloadable career information
- Engaging video presentations featuring industry experts
- Online platform compatible with multiple devices
- Gamification Leaderboard and prizes to increase student engagement
- Content supports Ohio Department of Education Career-Connections framework
- Online student self-guided or teacher-led curriculum
- Extended student access to career materials, 24/7 for three months
- Post-event job shadow potential



## JA Virtual Inspire Exhibitors

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| FirstEnergy                                | Meaden & Moore                                 |
| Akron Brass                                | MK Morse                                       |
| Akron Children's Museum                    | MOOG   |
| Akron Urban League                         | MTD Products                                   |
| Ashland University                         | North Central State College                    |
| AultCare                                   | Ohio Contractor's Association                  |
| Aultman College                            | Ohio Mutual Insurance Group                    |
| Aultman Hospital Foundation                | Open M   |
| Beaver Companies                           | Park National Bank                             |
| Bounce Innovation Hub                      | PATHworks!                                     |
| Bridgestone Americas                       | Rayco  |
| Buckeye Corrugated                         | Richland County Foundation                     |
| Buckingham, Doolittle & Burroughs, LLC     | Stark Education Partnership                    |
| Building Industry Association Stark & ECO  | Stark Parks                                    |
| Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce        | Stark State College                            |
| Charter Next Generation                    | State Farm                                     |
| CISCO                                      | STEERE Enterprises                             |
| Citizens                                   | Swagelok                                       |
| City of Mansfield Police & Fire Department | Synthomer                                      |
| Civista Bank                               | Team NEO                                       |
| Clifton Larson Allen                       | The ACE Mentor Program of Greater Akron-Canton |
| Firelands Electric Co-Op                   | The Ohio State University at Mansfield         |
| The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company         | The University of Akron                        |
| Hamilton Insurance                         | The University of Akron - College of Business  |
| Hattie Larlham                             | Transformation Network                         |
| Hord Family Farms                          | United Titanium                                |
| International Institute of Akron           | US Airforce                                    |
| John Carroll University                    | Valvoline                                      |
| KSU Stark, Geauga & Tuscarawas             | Venture Products/Ventrac                       |
| Labor Union                                | Verizon  |
| Apprenticeship Program                     | Victim's Assistance                            |
| LaunchNet at Kent State University         | Visiting Angels                                |
| Lockheed Martin                            | Walsh University                               |
| Malone University                          | Western Reserve Hospital                       |
| McWane Ductile                             | Young Entrepreneur Institute                   |



# JA Company Program

The JA Company Program helps student entrepreneurs launch an actual business from idea generation, product development, capitalization of the venture, marketing and sales strategies, supply chain, and financial reporting all with the mentorship of a JA business volunteer.

While building their own company, students learn to:

- Collaborate with team members
- Make crucial business decisions
- Communicate with multiple stakeholders
- Develop entrepreneurial knowledge and skills

**Total Companies Launched**                    **12**  
**Total JA Company Sales**                    **\$50,000+**

## 2021 JA Company Program Teams

- 1 Ambiton – Barberton, Norton & Copley High Schools
- 2 Disease Defense – GlenOak High School  
*1st Place in JA Entrepreneurship Challenge*
- 3 Easy on the Ears – Jackson High School
- 4 finlit\* – Hoover High School  
*2nd Place in JA Entrepreneurship Challenge & 2021 JA Company of the Year*
- 5 FlexFit – Hoover High School
- 6 Fulfilled\* – Lake High School
- 7 IceBreaker – GlenOak High School  
*3rd Place in JA Entrepreneurship Challenge*
- 8 NeuroNotes – Hoover High School
- 9 The Sweetest Box – Lake High School
- 10 Topanga – Jackson High School
- 11 Trash Stash – Lake High School
- 12 Whole House – GlenOak High School

\*Selected to participate in the national competition

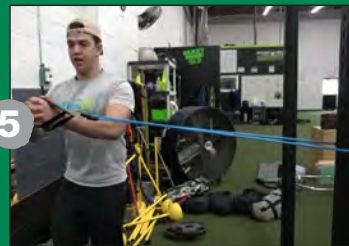


Scan to see the 2020-2021 JA Company Program teams, information about their products, commercials, and annual reports.

JA alumni are 143% more likely to start their own businesses.



## EDUCATION



## SCHOOL

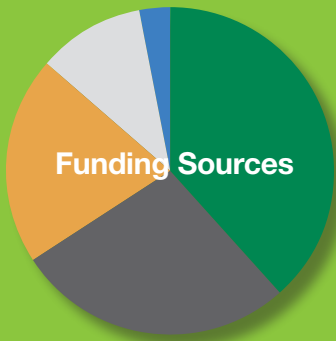


# Community Partners

## Where Your Dollars Go



JA does not charge schools, educators, or students for our programming. One hundred percent of the funding for programs comes from the financial support and generosity of our foundation partners and donors. Program delivery includes: program materials, curriculum research and development, program evaluation, volunteer recruitment and training, teacher orientation, and program confirmation. We pride ourselves on being cognizant of every donor dollar, and currently 82% of our resources are used directly on program implementation.



### Funding Sources

- Foundations 42%
- Corporations 39%
- Individuals 9%
- Special Events 7%
- Investments, Government, Other 3%

### Expenses

- Program Services 82%
- Administration/ Operating Expenses 18%



# Our Sponsors

## \$25,000 and Above

- FirstEnergy Foundation
- Gannett Foundation
- GAR Foundation
- Huntington National Bank
- Burton D. Morgan Foundation

## \$10,000 to \$25,000

- Akron Community Foundation
- CISCO
- Citizens
- CLA Foundation
- The George H. Deuble Foundation
- The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company
- The Hoover Foundation
- The Jochum – Moll Foundation
- Richard & Ruth Niemiec
- The J.M. Smucker Company
- Stark Community Foundation
- Steere Enterprises

## \$5,000 to \$10,000

- Akron Community Foundation – Emerging Philanthropists
- Allstate Foundation
- Aultman Health Foundation
- The Community Foundation for Crawford County
- The Mary S. and David C. Corbin Foundation
- Emerson Charitable Trust
- Ernst & Young
- FedEx Corporation
- Fifth Third Bank
- Laura B. Frick Charitable Trust
- Erwin and Katherine Geis Charitable Foundation
- Jay Griffith
- Meaden & Moore
- Phillips Family Foundation
- The Charles E. and Mabel M. Ritchie Memorial Foundation
- Charles Schwab Foundation

## \$5,000 to \$10,000

- Continued*
- State Farm Foundation
  - Swagelok Foundation
  - Sisler McFawn Foundation
  - Synthomer Foundation
  - Venture Products/Ventrac
  - Westfield Insurance Foundation

## \$2,500 to \$5,000

- AA Hammersmith Insurance Inc.
- Apple Growth Partners
- Barnhart Crane & Rigging
- Belden Brick
- Bridgestone Americas
- Buckingham, Doolittle & Burroughs, LLC
- Kenneth L. Calhoun Charitable Trust
- Charter Next Generation, Inc.
- Dollar Bank
- ExxonMobil Chemical Company
- Fresh Mark, Inc.
- Gorman-Rupp Company
- Hudson Extrusions Inc.
- Robin & Randolph Kilbride Charitable Fund
- The House of LaRose, Inc.
- Lockheed Martin
- McMaster-Carr
- McWane Ductile
- North Central Ohio Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association
- Ohio Mutual Insurance Group
- Peters Charitable Trust
- Schooler Family Foundation
- Brian Steere
- Jim & Kathy Stout
- The University of Akron
- Walsh University
- The Clara Weiss Fund
- Welty Building Company
- Gabrielle Whittaker



## Volunteers

Junior Achievement's volunteer-delivered, kindergarten-12th grade programs foster work readiness, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy skills, and use experiential learning to inspire students in our community to dream big and reach their potential. Junior Achievement's classroom volunteers come from all walks of life including: businesspeople, college students, parents, and retirees. These dedicated individuals are the backbone of our organization.

## Volunteer Spotlight

At her first experience with JA, Carolyn Lee wanted to lead the classroom by providing JA Programs in an exciting and passionate way. The response from the students was overwhelming and impressive. She wanted to make a difference in the Akron community and felt JA was a great forum to facilitate her goals.



Carolyn was outstanding at recruiting volunteers and epitomizing the Huntington Bank culture of serving the community. Huntington encourages their management team – from executives to regional teams – to volunteer for JA's programs.

She joined the Junior Achievement of North Central Ohio board on July 1, 2018, and made a significant impact over the past three years including recruiting 155 unique volunteers who have taught 191 JA programs reaching more than

4,000 students. During her time on the board, Huntington Bank Foundation has also supported JA programming with an investment of more than \$101,000!

During the 2020/2021 school year, Carolyn was inspired by how JA pivoted in the new pandemic environment. She was pleased to see the shift to more flexible program materials as well as program delivery methods. Carolyn was excited by the success of the inaugural JA Virtual Inspire and its ability to provide an engaging experience for students to be able to research and learn about 760 career pathways.

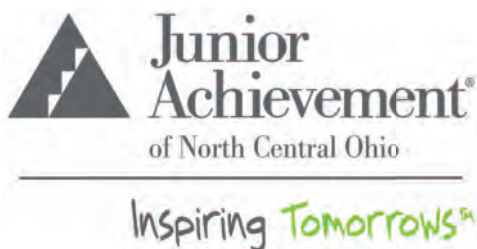
Carolyn, we thank you for your board service and will miss your dedication and commitment to forwarding the mission of Junior Achievement. We wish you well in your retirement.

## JA Pillars

- Financial Literacy
- Entrepreneurship
- Work & Career Readiness

## Mission

To inspire and prepare young people to succeed in a global economy.



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#JANCOOhio | #WhereIsJAToday

