

September 2026

President's Note

"As we begin a new school year, I'm excited to share our latest Impact Report and celebrate the incredible difference our supporters make in the lives of students across North Central Ohio. Together, we're helping young people gain the confidence, knowledge, and real-world experiences they need to achieve academically today and economically tomorrow.

This year is especially exciting as we launch a new Experiential Learning Center program called JA BizTown. Through this immersive experience, students run a simulated city for a day and learn how their skills and interests align to local careers. We're thrilled to provide even more opportunities for students to connect classroom learning to future success and discover what's possible for their lives.

Thank you for investing in the next generation of leaders, entrepreneurs, and our workforce."



Josh Lehman

See the Impact You Made Possible

Thanks to the support of our volunteers, educators, business partners, and community members, thousands of students across North Central Ohio gained access to meaningful learning experiences during the 2025-26 school year. Here's a look at the impact we made together.



2025-2026 IMPACT REPORT

JA is reimagining education so every student can envision and pursue a successful future. Through **real-world** learning experiences, we help young people build durable skills, **discover opportunity**, and become confident, capable, and **connected**. In doing so, we drive lasting economic mobility and **prepare students for what's next**.



WHY JA? WHY NOW?



AMPLIFYING EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING WITH REAL-WORLD APPLICATION.



CATALYZING MULTI-SECTOR COLLABORATIONS.



EQUIPPING STUDENTS WITH DURABLE SKILLS & COMPETENCIES.



ACTIVATING INFRASTRUCTURE FOR INNOVATION.



32,358
STUDENTS IMPACTED



403,009
INSTRUCTIONAL CONTACT HOURS



154
SCHOOLS SERVED



941
VOLUNTEERS ENGAGED



455
COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Junior Achievement of North Central Ohio | 4353 Executive Cir NW, Canton, OH 44718 | jaofnco.ja.org

BUILDING FINANCIAL CONFIDENCE

4,102

9-12 GRADE STUDENTS

gained financial literacy skills by completing the semester course

94%

of students gained a strong foundation of financial knowledge to help build future wealth

96%

of students say they know at least one step they can take right now that will help them avoid debt

CONNECTING EDUCATION TO CAREERS

5,743

8-12 GRADE STUDENTS

participated in JA Inspire career exploration experiences

160

COMMUNITY PARTNERS provided students with hands-on exposure to local careers and opportunities

86%

of participating students felt encouraged to pursue employment opportunities in Ohio after completing JA Inspire

EMPOWERING FUTURE ENTREPRENEURS

314

FUTURE ENTREPRENEURS

created their own business through JA Company Program

21,774

HOURS

dedicated to developing entrepreneurial skillsets and mindsets to thrive in any path

4

NATIONAL AWARDS celebrated innovation and impact of Hoover and Jackson High School student run companies

"Junior Achievement helped me become more responsible, aware, and prepared for life beyond high school. Because of JA, I feel better equipped to contribute positively to my community and society as a whole."
-JA ALUM, Hoover High School

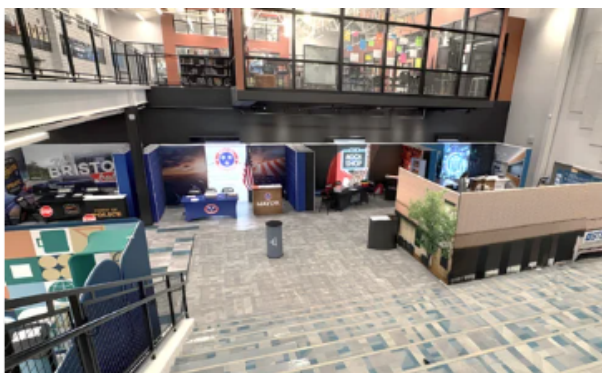


GET A CLOSER LOOK AT THE IMPACT

New Program Spotlight: JA BizTown

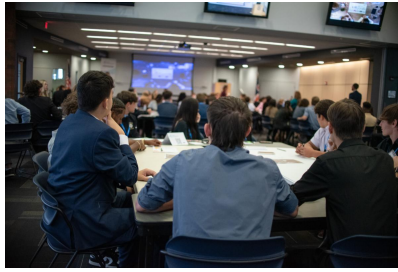
We're excited to pilot **JA BizTown** this year, expanding opportunities for students through a new mobile experiential learning experience. With early support secured from the **Stark Community Foundation**, **Taco Bell Foundation**, and **IDEX Foundation**, this innovative program will travel throughout our service area, bringing hands-on learning directly to students. Participants will step into real-world roles, make business decisions, and develop critical workforce, financial literacy, and career readiness skills through engaging, immersive activities.

LEARN MORE



Upcoming Events

We're excited for another school year filled with opportunities to inspire and prepare students for success.



JA Company - Start Up Conference
Stark State College - Business & Entrepreneurial Center
Thursday, October 16, 2026

Interested? Contact us!
Jenn Scheeser, Jenn.Scheeser@ja.org



JA Inspire - Wooster
Wayne County Fairgrounds - Event Center
Wednesday, October 28, 2026

Interested? Contact us!
Businesses: Sara Vavrik, Sara.Vavrik@ja.org
Educators: Molly Shaw, Molly.Shaw@ja.org



JA Inspire - Mansfield
Richland County Fairgrounds - Fairhaven Hall
Thursday, February 18, 2027

Interested? Contact us!
Businesses: Holly Dawson, Holly.Dawson@ja.org
Educators: Hailey Kinnamon, Hailey.Kinnamon@ja.org



JA Inspire - Canton
Hall of Fame Village - Center for Performance
Thursday, March 18, 2027

Interested? Contact us!
Businesses: Susan Koosh, Susan.Koosh@ja.org
Educators: Kristin Paumier, Kristin.Paumier@ja.org



Stark Tank High School Edition
March 2027 (Official dates coming soon!)

Interested? Contact us!
Jenn Scheeser, Jenn.Scheeser@ja.org



JA Company - Entrepreneurship Expo
Walsh University - Barrette Center
Thursday, April 22, 2027

Interested? Contact us!
Jenn Scheeser, Jenn.Scheeser@ja.org



JA Inspire - Ashland

Ashland University - Niss Athletic Center

Thursday, May 13, 2027

Interested? Contact us!

Businesses: Holly Dawson, Holly.Dawson@ja.org

Educators: Hailey Kinnamon, Hailey.Kinnamon@ja.org



Annual Golf Classic

Shady Hollow County Club

Monday, May 24, 2027

Interested? Contact us!

Susan Koosh, Susan.Koosh@ja.org



Annual Golf Classic

Deer Ridge Golf Club

Monday, August 30, 2027

Interested? Contact us!

Holly Dawson, Holly.Dawson@ja.org

[VIEW ALL EVENTS](#)

Volunteer With Us

Students don't just need information about careers, money, and life after graduation. They need caring adults who can bring those lessons to life.

Last school year, 941 volunteers helped students across North Central Ohio explore careers, build financial literacy skills, and see what's possible for their futures. Join us in making an impact this year.

Seeking Volunteers at JA Inspire!

Help students explore careers and connect classroom learning to future opportunities. Whether assisting with exhibits or guiding student conversations, your time can make a lasting difference.

[SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER HERE!](#)

Seeking Classroom Volunteers!

Step into the classroom to spark curiosity, guide learning, and inspire the next generation.

[CLICK TO VIEW VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES](#)

Support What's Next

Your support helps create opportunity-filled futures for students across North Central Ohio.

By helping students become **Confident. Capable. Connected.**, you're helping them achieve academically today and economically tomorrow.

[MAKE A GIFT!](#)

Making Impact Possible

Thanks to our donors from 7/1/2026 - 8/27/2026, you're empowering future leaders, entrepreneurs, and innovators!

- Barberton Community Foundation
- Glenn R. & Alice V. Boggess Memorial Foundation
- Ralph E. Boyd Foundation
- Columbia Gas of Ohio
- Coshocton Foundation
- The George H. Deuble Foundation
- Emerson Automation Solutions
- Evelyn E. Walter Foundation
- FedEx Services
- Mario Giganti
- Herbert C. Ziegler Foundation
- Hudson Extrusions, Inc.
- Huntington Foundation
- Mechanics Bank
- Laura R. & Lucian Q. Moffitt Foundation
- Modern Woodmen Fraternal Financial
- Ohio Department of Education
- John Pizzino
- PRC-Salttillo
- Charles E. & Mabel M. Ritchie Memorial Foundation
- Schaeffler
- Avita Health System
- Weizhong Wang
- Welty Family Foundation

**List reflects contributions of \$1,000 or more received between July 1, 2026 and August 27, 2026.*

[DONATE TODAY!](#)

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