

June 2026

Thank You for an Incredible Year!

What a remarkable year! Our impact is a direct result of you—our partners, volunteers, and community. Your generosity of time, talent, and resources makes everything we do possible. Thank you for helping us reach more students and create lasting opportunities.

Together this year, we:

- Served **31,000 students**
- Reached **209 schools** across **16 counties**
- Delivered **300,000 contact hours** across **1,111 learning experiences**
- Hosted **4 in-person JA Inspire events**, impacting **6,078 students**
- Supported **333 young entrepreneurs** through the JA Company program, with 5 teams submitting to JA USA's National Future Bound Competition.

Since 1953, we have now reached over **1.1 million students**—a milestone made possible by your continued support.

Will You Join Us?

As we close out the year, your donation helps fuel JA's mission to empower the next generation through financial literacy, career readiness, and entrepreneurship. Every gift goes directly to student programming. Please consider donating today and help us inspire even more young people to succeed.

INVEST IN IMPACT - DONATE NOW!

Entrepreneurship

Stark Tank Inspires Future Entrepreneurs

Stark Tank continues to empower Stark County students to turn their ideas into reality. Open to those who completed JA's entrepreneurial course, the program gives students the chance to pitch innovative business concepts for cash prizes up to \$2,000. This year, **eight districts** submitted **90 entries**, with **28 finalists** advancing.

Congratulations to this year's winners:

- Conceptual Night #1: East Canton, GlenOak, Hoover, Lake
- Conceptual Night #2: Hoover, Lake, Louisville, Perry
- Established: Jackson, Hoover, GlenOak, Lake

Thank you to our incredible Sharks:

Zach Coblentz (HRM Enterprises), NaSheka Combs-Lemon (Strengthening Stark), George Rosche (Chick-fil-A), Ken Brott (Sgt. Clean Car Wash), Brad Belden (The Belden Brick

Company), Sue Grabowski (Desidara), Chris Remark (Vistage Worldwide, Inc.), and Charles Mullen (Eide Bailly).

Stark Tank remains a powerful platform for building creativity, confidence, and real-world business skills.



Local Student Entrepreneurs Shine on the National Stage

Two outstanding teams from our region took the national stage at the JA Future Bound Competition in Boston, competing alongside 13 of the top teams from across the country and making a big impact.

Sparkbyte (Jackson High School) wowed judges and brought home two major honors: the **FedEx Global Possibilities Award** and the **Citizens Bank Workforce Ready Award**, showcasing both innovation and real world readiness.

Heavy Hugs (Hoover High School) also shined, earning the **Delta Social Impact Award** for their meaningful mission and winning over their peers with the **Student Choice Award**.

We could not be more proud of these incredible students for representing our region with excellence, creativity, and purpose!



Work Readiness

4 events. 6,000+ students. Real impact.

This school year, through **JA Inspire**, thousands of students explored career paths, connected with local employers, and built essential skills for their future.

Explore the full impact report and sign up for next year's events.

JA Inspire

2025-2026 JA Inspire

IMPACT REPORT



6,078
Students

73
Schools

160
Business Partners

960
Volunteers

Students said their favorite part of JA Inspire was...

“Trying hands-on activities that showed what different careers are really like.”

“Learning skills I can use in a future job.”

“Realizing that I can pursue any career I set my mind to.”

“I didn't realize how many paths you can take to reach the same job.”

“Getting experience talking to professionals in the career field I am interested in pursuing.”

“Finding out about jobs I had no idea existed and would've never learned about if I didn't come here.”

“Everything, it was amazing here!”

“Seeing how everything works.”



JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF NORTH CENTRAL OHIO
4353 Executive Cir NW, Canton, OH 44718

Measuring the Impact: Student Survey Results & Insights

How JA Inspire connects classrooms to careers and inspires futures

9 in 10 students said JA Inspire incentivized them to seek employment opportunities in Ohio

Top Career Cluster Interests

- Health Sciences
- Arts, AV Technology & Communications
- Architecture & Construction
- STEM

After attending JA Inspire, students biggest takeaway was...

Percentage	Takeaway
44%	Reinforced career interest
46%	Motivated to pursue educational and/or career interests
36%	Discovered a new career path
36%	Better prepared to explore career opportunities
19%	No significant impact on career interest
18%	Gained confidence in ability to succeed in future workplace

Percentage	Takeaway
40%	Attend college for a bachelor's degree
26%	Work FT or PT while continuing my education
23%	Attend college for an advanced degree
22%	Start my own business
19%	Attend college for an associate degree
17%	Start a career or education in a trade
12%	Work FT or PT instead of pursuing further education
9%	Enlist in the armed forces

SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING NEXT
jaofncoja.org



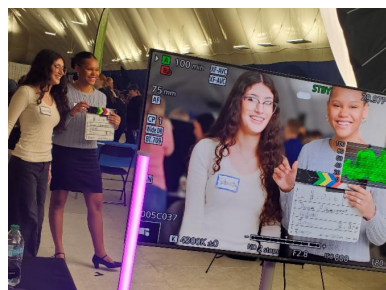
Wooster
Wayne County Fairgrounds - Event Center
Wednesday, October 28, 2026

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



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

Interested? Contact us!
Businesses: Holly Dawson, Holly.Dawson@ja.org
Educators: Brittney Wells, Brittney.Wells@ja.org



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

Ashland
Ashland University - Niss Athletic Center
Thursday, May 13, 2027



Interested? Contact us!

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

Educators: Brittney Wells, Brittney.Wells@ja.org

Financial Literacy

A Goal Exceeded—Thanks to You!

In April, our community came together in a massive way. Thanks to the incredible generosity of local financial leaders, the JANCO Board, and our mission champions, we officially surpassed our Financial Literacy Campaign goal!

We raised **\$18,673.94** toward the \$17,500 match, successfully unlocking a grand total of **\$36,173.94** to directly fund financial literacy programs for the students we serve. To every supporter who shared, gave, and cheered us on: thank you.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the local financial leaders who championed this campaign:

- **Rich Craig**, 415 Group
- **Peter Geise**, Focus CFO
- **Mario C. Giganti**, CAPTRUST
- **Glen Hahlen**, CAPTRUST
- **Brandon Patterson**, Ramsey Financial
- **Tiffany A. Gill- Rockstroh**, The Preferred Legacy National Trust Bank
- **Gary Sirak**, Sirak Financial Services
- **Cassandra (CJ) Waitkunas**, Legacy Wealth Management Group

A special thank you to **Eric Johnson of Stifel**, a JANCO Emeritus Board Member, for bringing these leaders together and steering this campaign to success.

Financial Literacy by the Numbers

This year, our Financial Literacy programs reached **4,214 students** through **240 learning experiences**, totaling **224,636 contact hours**, with the support of **415 volunteers**.

We partnered with **30 schools** for our **semester-long program**, with strong backing from organizations like Citizens Bank, Park National Bank, Ernst & Young, and more. Select schools also served as pilot sites to help test and refine JA USA's new financial literacy curriculum.

- 100% of teachers said JA was supportive
- 92% said the program met their needs
- 93.3% of students understand budgeting
- 89% understand investing

"I've learned how to set financial goals and the best ways to achieve them."

— Natalie, Massillon High School Student

Join Our Team!

We are actively seeking a **Part-Time Program Manager** who is deeply passionate about empowering students and giving back to our local community.

Interested candidates are invited to review the full job description on our website and submit a resume and cover letter directly to **denice.schafer@ja.org**.

[SEE THE FULL JOB DESCRIPTION HERE](#)

Upcoming Events



Annual Golf Classic
Deer Ridge Golf Course
Monday, July 13, 2026

Interested? Contact us!
Holly Dawson, Holly.Dawson@ja.org



Annual Golf Classic
Shady Hollow Country Club
Monday, May 24, 2027

Interested? Contact us!
Nina Alachniewicz, Nina.Alachniewicz@ja.org

Making Impact Possible

Together with our supporters, we're helping students grow into confident leaders, entrepreneurs, and innovators.*

- 415 Group
- AA Hammersmith Insurance Inc.
- AEP Foundation
- Akrochem Corporation
- Akron-Canton Airport
- Akron Community Foundation
- AmbaFlex Manufacturing
- Amy Buehner
- ArcelorMittal Tubular Products LLC
- Ashland County Community Foundation
- Ashland University
- Metallus Inc.
- Modern Woodmen of America
- NJM Insurance Group
- North Central State College
- North Central Workforce Alliance
- Northwest Bank
- Ohio Department of Education
- Ohio Electric Cooperatives
- Ohio Funeral Directors Association
- Ohio Gratings, Inc.
- Ohio Mutual Insurance Group

- Aultman Health Foundation
- Avita Health System
- AWP Safety
- Belden Brick Co. Charitable Trust
- BFG Federal Credit Union
- Bill William Morgenstern
- Brad Scarbrough
- Bridgestone Americas
- Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Carroll County Foundation
- Centerra Co-op
- Charles E. and Mabel M. Ritchie Memorial Foundation
- Charles Mullen
- Charles Schwab Foundation
- Charles W. and Laura B. Frick Charitable Foundation
- CHS, Inc.
- Citizens Bank Charitable Foundation
- CJ & Ryan Waitkunas
- Coshocton Foundation
- Culver's of Canton
- Daisy Brand
- Don Sedlock
- DRM Productions, Inc.
- East Central Ohio Building & Construction Trades Council
- Emerson Automation Solutions
- Erwin and Katherine Geis Charitable Foundation
- Evelyn E. Walter Foundation
- FedEx
- Flagstar Bank
- Focus CFO
- Fred Olivieri Construction Co.
- Gabrielle N. Whittaker
- Gary Schumacher
- Glen Hahlen
- Greater Alliance Foundation, Inc.
- Greater Cleveland & North Central Ohio Chapters, NECA
- Gregory & Darby Buehler
- GRP Wegman
- Huntington National Bank
- Huntington Private Financial Group
- JACK Casino
- Jay Griffith
- Jim LaRose
- Jim Leahy
- John Knops
- John Tucker
- Jonathan Schneider
- Juliann Burnell
- Kenneth L. Calhoun Charitable Trust
- Kevin Tierney
- Liberty Ford
- Lloyd L. & Louise K. Smith Memorial Foundation
- Marathon Petroleum
- Marco's Franchising LLC
- Marion Harding Athletic Boosters

- Ohio State ATI
- Orrvilon Inc.
- Oswald Companies
- Packer Thomas, CPA
- PNC Foundation
- PRC-Salttillo
- ProVia
- Ralph E. Boyd Foundation
- Ramsey Financial
- Richard W. Niemiec
- Robin M. & Randolph H. Kilbride Charitable Fund
- S&T Bank
- Samuel Reese Willis Foundation
- Sayre Hospitality Group
- Schaeffler
- Schafer Family Charitable Trust
- Schmidt Security Pro
- SeibertKeck Insurance
- Sequoia Financial Group
- Shannon English-Hexamer
- Shelby Foundation
- Sirak Insurance
- Sol Harris/Day
- Spherion Mid Ohio
- St. Michael Archangel Legacy Fund
- Stark Community Foundation
- Stark County Manufacturing Workforce Development Partnership
- Stark Truss Company
- State Farm Foundation
- State of Ohio – Department of Commerce
- Strachan Novak Insurance Services
- Synthomer Foundation
- Taco Bell Foundation
- The Clara Weiss Fund
- The Commercial & Savings Bank
- The Community Foundation for Crawford County
- The George H. Deuble Foundation
- The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company
- The Gorman-Rupp Company
- The Henry V. & Frances W. Christenson Foundation
- The Hoover Foundation
- The Huntington Foundation
- The Maynard Family Foundation
- The Milliron Foundation
- The Montgomery Foundation
- The Ohio State University at Mansfield
- The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine
- The Phillips Family Foundation
- The Portage Foundation
- The Sisler McFawn Foundation
- The Welty Family Foundation
- The Wooster Brush Company
- Tractor Supply Company
- United Way of Portage County
- University of Mount Union
- The UPS Store

- Mark Black
- Massillon Construction & Supply LLC
- McLane Foodservice, Inc.
- McWane Ductile
- Mechanics Bank
- Medical Mutual

- Ventrac (Venture Products, Inc.)
- Warren Rupp, Inc.
- Wayne County Community Foundation
- Welty Building Company Ltd.
- Zach Coblenz

**List reflects contributions of \$1,000 or more received between July 1, 2025 and June 10, 2026.*

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WITH US**



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