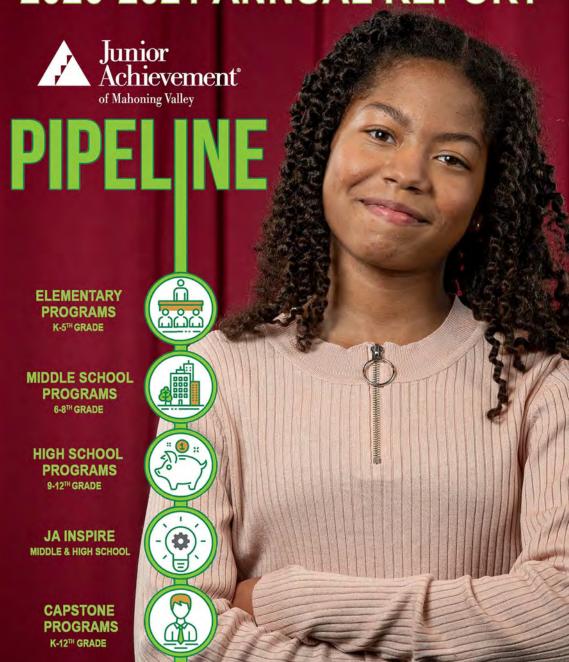
# 2020-2021 ANNUAL REPORT





Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley thanks those that provided support during the 2020-2021 school year!

### Platinum Supportors









## **Gold Supportors**

















William M. Neckerman Jr. Foundation

Aimee and Lulu Seidel Foundation

Senator Maurice & Florence Lipscher Fund

**The Pollock Company Foundation** 



# Inspiring Tomorrows Tomorrows Tomorrows

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#### Junior Achievement Staff

Michele Merkel, President Nicole Fond, Program Director Heather Anderson, Development Coordinator Anthony Pascarella, Program Manager Morgan Conley, Intern

September 27,2021

Dear Junior Achievement Supporters,

As our community continues to navigate a global pandemic, we are more resolved than ever to provide access to Junior Achievement's life-changing learning experiences to all students in our four-county service area. Our practical learning programs encourage young people to discover their potential and develop tangible skills to move toward their goals with confidence.

We believe tremendous opportunities for growth continue to exist amidst the challenges we face, with JA of Mahoning Valley uniquely positioned to deliver impactful solutions across our diverse community. Our vision is a dynamic, prosperous, and inclusive economy with JA committed to empowering our young people through practical programs that expand awareness, enhance access to opportunity, and drive personal accountability for career and economic success.

While we're proud of what we have done this past year, we have accepted the challenge to do more. We hope you'll join us in our mission of getting our youth ready to succeed in our communities, regardless of where they're from, their economic background, or color of their skin.

We're grateful to the hundreds of partners, investors, educators, and families who continue to support Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley and the work we do in Ashtabula, Columbiana, Mahoning and Trumbull Counties. The work isn't done...so neither are we.

With Gratitude,

Michele L. Merkel

Michele Merkel President

Melissa Maki **Board Chair** 





Junior Achievement is one of the world's largest nonprofits dedicated to addressing fundamental social and economic challenges of young people by educating and empowering them to transform their future and own their economic succes.

Through the delivery of cutting-edge, experiential education in financial literacy, college and career readiness and entrepreneurship, JA enriches the ability of today's youth to both engage in their own economic development and contribute to the strength of their families, communities and economies.

At Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley, our vision is to give the next generation hope for the future. We connect our region's young people with volunteer role models who guide them through relevant, hands-on learning experiences. We equip them with skills needed to navigate success in an increasingly complex economy, like how to manage money, how to prepare for a career, and how to open and run a business.

Together we can help prepare the next generation to succeed.

Visit **mahoningvalley.ja.org** to learn more about our mission, vision, and purpose

# **Our Impact**

6,731 ######

CLASSES
233 ######

VOLUNTEERS
234 ######

\*OVER 56% OF STUDENTS SERVED RECEIVE A FREE LUNCH

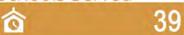
### Mentorship Hours



### Community Partners



### Schools Served



## JA'S VALUES

35,964

- Belief in the boundless potential of young people
- Commitment to the principles of economics & entrepreneurship
- Passion for what we do & honesty, integrity, & excellence in how we do it
- Respect for talent, creativity, perspectives, 8 backgrounds of all individuals
- Conviction in the educational and motivational impact of relevant, hands-on learning

### VISION



We want to be the partner of choice for businesses, educators, and policymakers around the globe seeking to expand youth education and economic development. At JA, we're laying the groundwork to serve students by supporting innovation throughout our network, making investments in technology and human capital, and executing partnerships with organizations that benefit from our unparalleled access to schools and students.



# Donors

We would like to thank all of our donors, volunteers, educators, board of directors and special event participants for helping to make our program year a success. We are grateful for the volunteers who devoted time and resources out of their busy work schedules to make a connection from the business world to the classroom and of course, a very special thank you to all of our donors who made a financial contribution to Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley!

Levels are determined by contributions received through Personal Contributions, Grants, Special Events, Sponsorships, and Volunteer Support July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021

#### Platinum \$10,000+.

Burton D. Morgan Foundation Community Fnd. of Western PA & Eastern OH Ohio Department of Commerce The Youngstown Foundation

#### Gold \$5,000-\$9,999

Aimee and Lulu Seidel Foundation
Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley
Farmers National Bank
KeyBank Foundation
Lake City Plating
Nordson Corporation Foundation
PNC Foundation
Premier Bank Foundation
Senator Maurice & Florence Lipscher Fund

TCF Bank
The Pollock Company Foundation
William M. Neckerman Jr. Foundation

#### Silver \$1,000-\$4,999

7 17 Credit Union
Akron Children's Hospital
Anne K. Christman Fund
Aqua Ohio
Butech Bliss
Centofanti Charitable Foundation
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Walmart #2197 Cortland Worhatch, Kathleen

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Apicella, Dr. Salvatore and Mrs. Alma

Armstrong

Ashtabula County Auditor

Ashtabula County Bar Association

Ashtabula County Board of Commissioners

Ashtabula County Bridge

Associated School Employees Credit Union

Awad, Tarik Basista, Cheryl Bechky, Ron Bendis, Cynthia

Bendis, Todd

Better Business Bureau of Mahoning Valley

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Flake, Col. Mark
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Frazier, Christine
French, David and Patty
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Giant Eagle #4018 Boardman

Giant Eagle #4075 Boardman Community

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Jet Stream International

Jones, Temi

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Tarr, Debbie

Taylor Auto Group

Terry, Catherine

The Healthy Smile Center

The Helen L. Nassief Family Trust

The Links, Inc. Youngstown Chapter

The Shelly Holding Company Stoneco Inc.

Thomas Fence Co., Inc.

UTI Universal Technical Institute

Valley College

Vavpetic, Nick & Christine

Vector Security

Vinkler, Justin

Vioilillo, Michael

Wagner-Buckley, Megan E.

Wall St. Coffee Company

Warner, Gregory

Warren, Bonnie

Welch, Holly Whitacre-Charles, Veronica Wintz, Ryan and Amber Wludyga, Scott Zorn, William and Barbara

#### Friends < \$99

Barca, Katie

Bowman, Allana

Bruce, Dr. Martha Irene

Coleman, Anne

Conley, Lena

Conley, Morgan

Coutwright, Laura

Cox, Kimberly

Deltondo, Denise

DeLucia, Kari

Demshar Eaton CPA

Doliber, William

Fauvie, Jonathon

Gladding, Morgan

Hamper, Carmen

Huggins, Emily

larocci, Atty. Nicholas

ID Networks

Kalil, Eli

Leadership Astabula County, Inc.

Leonard, Felicia

Loftus, Gaylenne.

Luhta, Jenny

Macioge, Ali

Marshall's Tire & Automotive, Inc.

Merkel, Michele

Miliken-Dixon, Marti

Mosio, Rebecca Myers, Ashley

Pilger, Mercedes

Schaab, Barbara

Schoonover, Mike

Smith, Melanie

Solvesky, Katie

Summers, Judy

Sweeny, Marilyn

Sybelnik III, Frank J

Tee's Dental Laboratory

Tipton, Lindsay

Whittington, Kathryn

Youngstown Physical Therapists, Inc.







Achievement Aspiring Toporrows





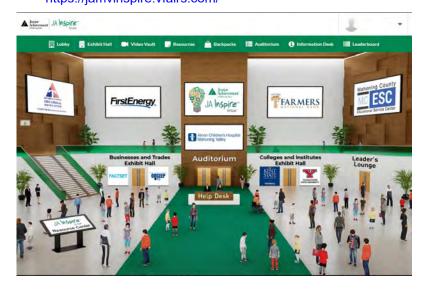




JA Inspire Virtual is a one-of-a-kind college, career and trades exploration platform for middle and high school students. Local businesses from across the area can showcase what a day in the life of someone with their job looks like, how students can get that job, and what students need to do to be successful in that job. JA Inspire Virtual also features colleges, universities, apprenticeship programs, trade schools and internships, so once a student is "inspired" they can gather the information they need to achieve their goals. Website: https://jamvinspire.vfairs.com/

## **Event Highlights:**

- <u>76</u> exhibitors from local businesses, colleges, and trade industries offering "Ask an Expert"
- <u>20</u> live webinars on soft skills, college, trades & apprenticeships, entrepreneurship and financial literacy
- 1 College Credit Plus parent information session
- More than <u>7,000</u> sixth-twelfth grade students across multiple regions registered
- 17,520 career information documents and videos saved to students virtual backpacks
- Student Digital Career Guidebook & post-test
- Unlimited free access to the platform https://jamvinspire.vfairs.com/





# What I learned from JA Inspire...

"I learned about jobs I didn't know existed but I would like to pursue."

"I learned how to make a good first impression."

"I learned Manufacturing is not a bad industry."

"Being ready financially is just as important as being ready mentally. Also there are a lot of programs to help with finances if needed."

"I learned what soft skills were; attitude, communication skills, problem solving skills, and being a team player."

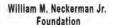
"Some jobs I previously thought were in lower demand are actually in pretty high demand. The career I would like to pursue does not have much of a projected increase in demand therefore, I need to work even harder than before to get a job in the career I would like."

# Thank you to all of our event sponsors who made JA Inspire Virtual possible!















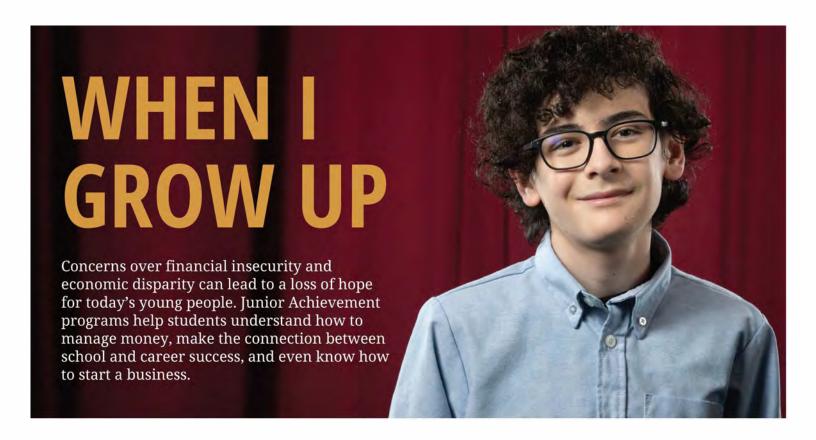












We have all seen the statistics:

of Americans are living paycheck-to-paycheck (Highlands Solutions)

have less than \$1,000 in savings (GoBanking Rates)

of new businesses fail in the first five years (Bureau of Labor Statistics)

of college graduates find work in a field related to their major (Federal Reserve Bank of New York)

JA equips young people with the employment and entrepreneurship skill sets and mindsets they need to succeed. By building abilities and nurturing selfbelief, JA prepares youth for the future of work, ensures they have the tools to be financially capable adults, and teaches them to think entrepreneurially.

Supported by hundreds of volunteers, and reaching thousands of students each year, JA is one of few organizations with the scale, experience, and passion to build a brighter future for the next generation of innovators, entrepreneurs, makers, and managers.

Our research shows that students who have been through our educational experiences:

- Credit |A for their career choices
- Are more confident in managing money
- Are more likely to have started, owned, or partnered in a business
- Have a higher level of educational attainment than the general public
- Have a greater sense of self-confidence and self-belief

Junior Achievement makes a difference, but we can't do it alone. Tomorrow needs you today!

# **Get Involved!**

## **Donate**

Your donation to Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley will directly impact the lives of local students.



### Volunteer

In-person or Virtual you can volunteer with Junior Achievement and make a profound difference in the youth of our community.



## Request A Program

After school, Classroom-based, JA Capstone, or Virtual!

