



Celebrating a Year of Impact **2024**
ANNUAL REPORT

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Invests in Chicago's Future

COST PER STUDENT

EIN 36-2170141

\$16

Operating Support and Revenue

	2023-2024	2022-2023	2021-2022
Contributions	\$ 2,687,850	\$ 2,745,976	\$ 2,624,069
Other Net Income	\$ 3,026,553	\$ 2,472,229	\$ 1,909,230
TOTAL REVENUE & SUPPORT	\$ 5,714,403	\$ 5,218,205	\$ 4,533,299

Operating Expenses

Program Services	\$ 4,054,307	\$ 3,705,356	\$ 2,942,373
Management & General	\$ 908,045	\$ 848,495	\$ 612,466
Development & Fundraising	\$ 750,020	\$ 661,079	\$ 607,416
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 5,712,372	\$ 5,214,930	\$ 4,162,255
Designation of Board-designated Endowments			\$ 350,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 5,712,372	\$ 5,214,930	\$ 4,512,255
Excess of Operating Support & Revenue Over Expenses	\$ 2,031	\$ 3,275	\$ 21,044

*Current year data is extracted from the financial statements audited by Sikich. Copies of the audit are available upon request from Junior Achievement of Chicago.

Junior Achievement of Chicago was founded in 1940 and provides financial education programs at no cost to schools and students in the Chicago area. JA is a not-for-profit tax-exempt corporation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is a publicly supported organization as defined by Sections 170(b) (1) (A) (vi) and 509 (a) (1) of the code. Contributions to Junior Achievement of Chicago are deductible for federal income tax purposes, limited to the excess of any money contributed by the donor over the value of the goods or services received. Junior Achievement of Chicago's total net assets were \$26,783,889 for the year ending June 30, 2024.

We are Grateful...



Thomas P. Staab
President and CEO
Junior Achievement of Chicago



Reflecting on the 2023-2024 school year, we are grateful for the collaborative efforts of our educators, volunteers, board members, donors, parents, students, and the Junior Achievement team. Together, we have impacted the lives of 363,802 students across 12 counties in the Chicago area, exceeding our outreach targets and maintaining our leadership among the 99 JA areas nationwide.

This year underscored the critical role of an educational ecosystem that imparts practical skills and responds to the evolving demands of a dynamic professional landscape. JA's programs and partnerships serve as bridges to achievement, fostering hope for a brighter future by equipping our youth with the necessary tools to succeed in a global economy.

Looking ahead, we are eager to implement our new strategic plan, developed during the 2023-2024 school year. This comprehensive blueprint, set to roll out during the 2024-2025 school year, is guided by the "Inspire, Prepare, Succeed" framework from JA USA and includes the following key initiatives:

- **Program Impact & Evaluation**
- **Digital & Volunteer Initiatives**
- **Fundraising & Structural Redesign**

Student success remains the cornerstone of our efforts, and we recognize that continual improvement as an organization is essential to creating greater impact. Through this annual report, you'll discover how we are evolving and improving in alignment with our 3-Year Strategic Plan, ensuring our students are better prepared for their future.

We are committed to empowering our students with essential skills and mindsets for success through impactful learning experiences. We deeply appreciate the ongoing commitment of our supporters, which fuels our drive to expand our impact.



Katherine M. Scherer
Central Region Market Leader, Chicago Managing Partner
Deloitte LLP
Board Chairperson, Junior Achievement of Chicago

Deloitte.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion



By creating inclusive environments and providing accessible programs, we are working to bridge divides and prepare students for success.

It is important not only for students to know that they have the potential to succeed, but they also need to see it. Our focus on recruiting diverse volunteers who reflect the communities we serve is the cornerstone of our DEI efforts. Through mentorship and real-world experiences, we are equipping young people with the skills and confidence to overcome challenges and to achieve their goals.

Junior Achievement of Chicago continues to foster deeper connections among our community partners, enabling us to integrate in-school learning with real-world applications. At the forefront of our efforts, we are ensuring that our programs are delivered equitably and are accessible to students regardless of their circumstances. This approach aims to provide every student with the opportunity to succeed.

JA remains committed to DEI. We serve students of all gender identities, capabilities, and race/ethnicities. During the 2023-2024 school year, 79% of students we reached came from diverse (non-White) backgrounds.



Additionally, 65% of students participating in JA programs attended schools with 51% or greater low-to-moderate income (LMI) backgrounds. Moreover, our programs serve a predominantly diverse student population, with a strong emphasis on reaching those from low-to-moderate income backgrounds. 90% of Black and Latino Alumni reported that JA inspired their career aspirations, demonstrating the power of representation and mentorship within our communities.

While we celebrate our progress, we recognize that there is still much more that needs to be done. Junior Achievement is dedicated to building a more equitable future for all our young people. These connections and long-lasting partnerships in the community will allow us to continue this important work. With the support of our partners, we can create a more equal world for all.

79%
of students who received
JA programming come from
DIVERSE
BACKGROUNDS

	2023	2024
Total JA of Chicago students reached	306,822	363,802
Estimated % of JAC students reached in schools with a 51% or higher low-to-moderate income population	67%	65%
Estimated % of JAC students reached in schools with a 51% or higher population of diverse (Non-White) students	78%	79%

Digital Transformation @ JA of Chicago

Our transformation journey to becoming JANE (JA of Chicago Next) moved from conception to implementation across our three transformation themes. We are now starting to see our efforts add tangible value to our business.

DIGITIZE THE OPERATIONS AND WORKPLACE

Employee Experience

Making improvements in functions and ways of working

Operational Excellence

- We successfully conducted a Generative AI pilot to explore the responsible use of the technology to drive operational efficiencies.
- We have planned to roll out the technology more broadly next year based on the results from the pilot.

DIGITIZE THE STAKEHOLDER EXPERIENCE

Student, Parent, Volunteer, Volunteer Coordinator, Donor, Teacher, Board Experience

Focus on moments that matter; create integrated experiences; automate

Prioritize Our Volunteers

- The initial version of the volunteer journey that we implemented this year is a great starting point to build out a best in class volunteer experience.
- We are working closely with JA USA to refine the experience and integrate it with other related processes in our business as part of the Level-Up initiative.

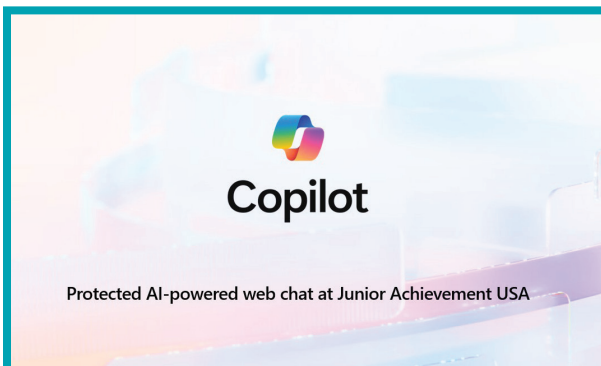
DIGITIZE THE PRODUCT/SERVICE

Digital Services Analytic Insights and Decisions

Launching new products or services beyond the traditional business

Innovative and Impactful Programming

- JAC Metaversity has received positive feedback from early adopters.
- It was a JA Worldwide GLC Bold Tech Award finalist.
- This initiative will enable us to reach more students cost-effectively and creates opportunities for raising funds for our mission.



JA of Chicago's 2025-2027 Strategic Plan

INNOVATING FOR IMPACT

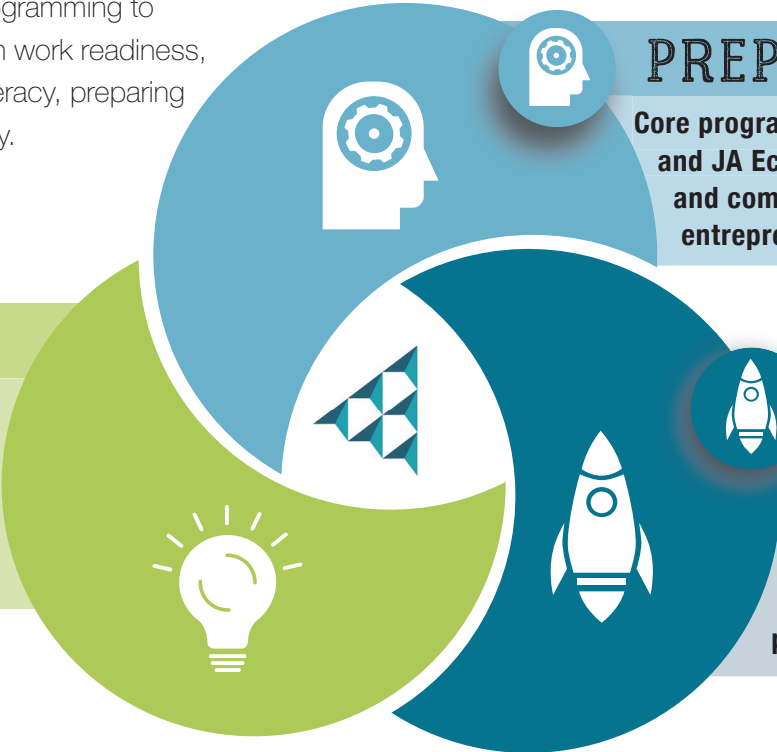
JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF CHICAGO'S THREE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN, INNOVATING FOR IMPACT, AIMS TO EXPAND EDUCATIONAL REACH AND DEEPEN IMPACT ACROSS CHICAGOLAND.

Guided by JA USA's "Inspire, Prepare, Succeed" framework, this plan aligns JA programming to equip students with critical skills in work readiness, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy, preparing them to thrive in a global economy.



INSPIRE

Introductory experiences, such as the JA Career Speaker Series, spark students' interest in various careers and ignite ambitions.



PREPARE

Core programs, including K-12 in-class experiences and JA Economics, build foundational skills and competencies in financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and work readiness.



SUCCEED

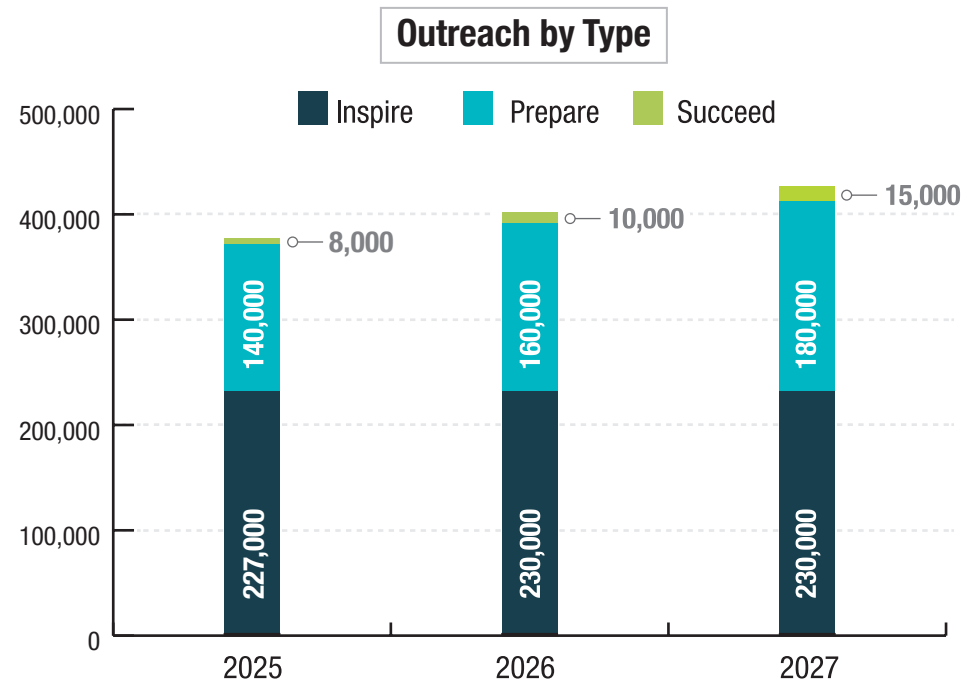
Applied, real-life learning opportunities, like the JA Company Program Competition and JA Stock Market Challenge, enable students to demonstrate mastery in practical, competitive settings.

Strategic Drivers for Sustainable Growth

2025-2027 PRIORITIES

At the core of Junior Achievement of Chicago's strategic plan is a commitment to measurable impact. Developed with extensive feedback from our Executive Committee, Area and Division Boards, educators, supporters, and the national JA network, our plan focuses on balanced growth across all three impact areas.

With ambitious goals to expand outreach by 65,000 experiences (an 18% increase), we're prioritizing "Prepare" and "Succeed" programs to enhance career readiness and deepen our impact. Over the next three years, this targeted approach will build a foundation for sustained success and greater student engagement, with a continued focus on underserved communities.



To achieve these goals, we've outlined four strategic priorities that will drive growth and amplify our impact:

- 1 Driving Impact Measurement:** Partnering with JA USA to assess the JA Career Speaker Series and evaluate Spanish-language program effectiveness
- 2 Accelerating Digital Transformation:** Enhancing AI support, volunteer experience, and product digitalization
- 3 Expanding Fundraising Initiatives:** Scaling Prepare and Succeed programs and boosting grassroots efforts to raise an additional \$1.1M
- 4 Optimizing Organizational Design:** Streamlining donor and volunteer engagement with modern tools and increased Board involvement



Our Programs

JA of Chicago understands the importance of educating students: our future workforce. In 2023-2024, we brought quality economic education programs to 363,802 elementary, middle, and high school students. These programs focus on basic business and economic

principles through volunteers from various businesses, community organizations, and universities.

In 2024-25, JA role models will share their business experiences directly with 375,000 students, through the help of over 4,000 volunteers participating in over 18,500 classes, who complete our partnership.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Junior Achievement elementary school programs include grade-specific lesson themes for kindergarten through fifth-grade students. Elementary school programs teach students the basic concepts of business and economics and how education is relevant to future career aspirations. Students explore the roles that people assume as individuals, consumers, and workers in their family, community, and the world around them. Sequential activities build on studies from each preceding grade and prepare students for secondary and lifelong learning.

Kindergarten: JA Ourselves[®] uses storybook characters in read-aloud and hands-on activities to introduce the role people play in an economy.

Kindergarten-Fifth Grades: JA Our Neighbors[™] is a series of culturally responsive videos designed to help contextualize concepts introduced in JA's elementary school programs.

Kindergarten-Fifth Grades: JA Career Speakers Series[®] introduces students to volunteer guest speakers who share information about their career, work, and education experience.

Kindergarten-Sixth: JAC Metaversity is a career exploration program that uses gaming technology to help students explore career options and develop their aspirations.

First Grade: JA Our Families[®] explains how family members' jobs contribute to the well-being of the family and community.

First-Third Grades: JA Community Coders[™] is a single session that enables early elementary school students to see the importance of digital skills and jobs in the community.

Second Grade: JA Our Community[®] immerses students in the daily life of their community—the people who work there, the money decisions they make, the flow of the community's economy, and the importance of being involved/responsible community members.

Third Grade: JA Our City[®] introduces students to financial literacy, how people manage their money, and the importance of economic exchange within a city.

Third-Fifth: JA More Than Money[®] introduces students to financial literacy and entrepreneurship, and to social studies learning objectives that include money-management skills, goods and services, and global markets.

Fourth Grade: JA Our Region[®] introduces students to entrepreneurship and how entrepreneurs use resources to produce goods and services in a region.

Fifth Grade: JA Our Nation[®] provides information about the need for employees who can meet the demands of the 21st century job market in high-growth, high-demand jobs.

Fourth-Fifth: JA BizTown Adventures[™] is a culminating experience for students that follows the JA BizTown curriculum. Students understand various aspects of running a business and various roles in a business via five online self-guided adventures.



MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Junior Achievement middle school programs build on principles from the elementary school programs, helping students recognize education as a key to success. These programs stress the importance of education and staying in school, while introducing students to more in-depth economic concepts and the world of work.

JA Economics For Success[®] introduces students to initial work and career readiness and personal finance concepts. Students learn the importance of exploring career options based on their skills, interests, and values.

JA Finance Park[®] Virtual is a capstone program for personal financial planning and career exploration. Students experience JA Finance Park, a virtual community, to put into practice what they've learned by developing and committing to a personal budget.

JA Global Marketplace[®] introduces students to the global marketplace and the ways in which countries buy and sell from each other.

JA It's My Business[®] provides the opportunity for students to experience the initial steps necessary to start a business.

JA It's My Future[®] provides practical information to help prepare students for the working world by developing personal-branding and job-hunting skills needed to earn a job.

JA All About Cars[™] introduces students to the essential costs related to buying and operating a first car and offers tips on being smart consumers when purchasing vehicles.

JA It's My Job (Soft Skills)[®] helps students understand the value of professional communication and soft skills, making them more employable to future employers across multiple career clusters.

JA Career Speakers Series[®] introduces students to volunteer guest speakers who share information about their career, work, and education experience.

JA Career Exploration Fair[®] introduces students to a range of career options across multiple career clusters.



JA Excellence through Ethics[®] teaches students about the importance of ethics and ethical decision-making and how ethical and unethical choices affect everyone in a community.

JA Company Program[®] Pop Up teaches students how to plan, launch, and operate their own business venture within a structured, guided experience.

Sixth: JA BizTown Adventures[™] is a culminating experience for students that follows the JA BizTown curriculum. Students understand various aspects of running a business and various roles in a business via five online self-guided adventures.



HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Junior Achievement high school programs give students a practical perspective on handling their finances, understanding the economy, and managing their future educational and career choices. Students participate in hands-on interactive programs where they practice important business concepts. Some of the concepts taught include applying personal values in the workplace, interpersonal skills, problem-solving, personal finance, micro- and macro-economics, and career clusters.

JA Company Program[®] empowers students to fill a need or solve a problem in their community and teaches practical skills required to conceptualize, capitalize, and manage their own business venture.

JA Company Program[®] Pop Up teaches students how to plan, launch, and operate their own business venture within a structured, guided experience.

JA Economics[®] is a one-semester course that connects high school students to the economic principles that influence their daily lives as well as their future.

JA Be Entrepreneurial[®] (Creative Problem Solving, Rapid Business Planning, Think Like an Entrepreneur) teaches students about the mindset and the skills needed for success by aspiring entrepreneurs and innovators who add value to any organization.

JA Career Success[®] is an engaging and comprehensive learning experience that introduces high school students to the workplace through a simulated internship teaching soft skills and business best practices..

JA Finance Park[®] Virtual is a capstone program for personal financial planning and career exploration. Students experience JA Finance Park, a virtual community, to put into practice what they've learned by developing and committing to a personal budget.

JA Job Shadow[®] is a comprehensive experience that helps students design an individualized career path. Supporting blended as well as self-guided activities, JA Job Shadow provides a design-thinking structure for career exploration.

JA Personal Finance[®] allows students to experience the interrelationship between today's financial decisions and future financial freedom.

JA Titan[®] is a simulation-based program in which high school students compete as business CEOs in the phone industry, experiencing firsthand how an organization evaluates alternatives, makes decisions, analyzes the outcomes of those decisions, and then strategizes what to do next.

JA All About Cars[™] introduces students to the essential costs related to buying and operating a first car and offers tips on being smart consumers when purchasing vehicles.

JA It's My Job (Soft Skills)[®] helps students understand the value of professional communication and soft skills, making them more employable to future employers across multiple career clusters.

JA Career Speakers Series[®] introduces students to volunteer guest speakers who share information about their career, work, and education experience.

JA Career Exploration Fair[®] introduces students to a range of career options across multiple career clusters.

JA High School Heroes™ provides leadership development opportunities to high school students who deliver JA programs in elementary schools.

JA Excellence through Ethics® teaches students about the importance of ethics and ethical decision-making and how ethical and unethical choices affect everyone in a community.

JA Business Communications® is a one-semester teacher-led course that equips high school students to focus on communication skills necessary to succeed in business.

JA Financial Literacy® is a one-semester teacher-led course that equips high school students with foundational personal finance skills.

JA Financial Capability® 1 & 2 are one-semester teacher-led courses in which high school students examine financial capabilities from a business perspective, focusing on banking, economics, business planning, and risk management.

JA Marketing Principles® 1 & 2 are one-semester, teacher-led courses that introduce high school students to marketing in the world around them and potential careers in the field.

Thank you

“Through JA, I realized that education is not just about sharing knowledge of our own, but also about influencing young minds and preparing them for the future.”

— Marriah, Senior
Joliet Central High School

JA Introduction to Business and Technology® 1 & 2 are one-semester teacher-led courses that introduce high school students to the basic skills necessary to succeed in business. Themes include teamwork, innovation, decision-making, and ethics.

JA Entrepreneurial Mindset® is a one-semester teacher-led course that introduces high school students to the basics of starting a business.



2024 Special Events



Over
\$1.6M
was raised
for the year

In 2024, our Special Events engaged JA's key partners who provided crucial support for our students' futures. The annual Golf Outing at Medinah Country Club raised over \$375,000, empowering 22,000 students with essential programs for the 2024-2025 school year. The 40th Annual Chicago Business Hall of Fame honored exceptional business leaders and raised over \$824,000. Our Premier Wine Tasting event, supported by sponsors, raised over \$58,000. The Bowl-A-Thons and Trivia events generated over \$338,000, fostering excitement and unity among partner companies. Overall, JA of Chicago's Special Events raised \$1.63 million, extending our reach to an additional 103,000 students, impacting their education and future. Together, we have made a meaningful difference and are excited to continue empowering young people with the skills and mindset to thrive.

40th Annual Chicago Business Hall of Fame

Raised Over **\$824,000**

Held Wednesday, October 11, 2023 at Wintrust's Grand Banking Hall

The Chicago Business Hall of Fame honors the exceptional achievements of business leaders who have made significant contributions to the Chicago community and serve as inspiring role models for the next generation. Nominees are carefully reviewed by the Executive Committee of Junior Achievement of Chicago's Board of Directors, with final selections made by a Blue Ribbon Panel of esteemed former Laureates. We are grateful to our distinguished Co-Chairs, Darrel Hackett of BMO, Chris Leahy of CDW Corporation, and David Marberger of Conagra Brands, for their visionary leadership and dedication, which have been instrumental in raising over \$824,000.



David R. Casper
Former U.S. CEO, BMO Financial Group
Current Chairman, BMO Financial Corp.



Richard H. Lenny
Chairman
Conagra Brands



Jennifer Scanlon
President & CEO
UL Solutions

JA of Chicago Premier Wine Tasting

Held Thursday, May 2, 2024 at River Point



167
Attendees



14
Sponsors



3,700
Students Impacted

Junior Achievement of Chicago's Premier Wine Tasting event provided guests with an evening of networking, fine wines, and a celebration of our mission. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Board Members Bob Chodos and Steve Levitas of Newmark for their outstanding leadership, and to our Presenting Sponsors for their generous support. A special thank you to Hines for offering the beautiful venue, and to all the wineries that contributed their exquisite selections. Your combined efforts made the event truly memorable and impactful, raising over \$58,000.





Golf Outing

Held at Medinah Country Club on Monday, July 15, 2024

Returning to Medinah Country Club for Junior Achievement's 2024 Golf Outing was a great way for our golfers to network while supporting JA's mission. More than 240 golfers attended, making up 63 foursomes hitting the links on Courses 1 & 2. Because of the event's strong donor support, 22,000 students will receive JA's programs during the 2024-2025 school year.

We extend our deepest appreciation to our event chairman, Tom Cahill, the entire Golf Committee, and our major donors for their incredible support in raising over \$375,000 for the 2025 fiscal year. Their dedication to JA's mission has made a significant impact on our local youth, empowering them and shaping a brighter future for our students.

43RD ANNUAL

- 243** Attendees
- 52** Companies
- 22,000** Students Impacted

MAJOR SPONSORS



1,311 Attendees

16 Companies

21,000 Students Impacted

JA's Bowl-A-Thon & Trivia Events

Our Bowl-A-Thons and Trivia events provided a fun and engaging way for our partner companies to support JA's mission. During the 2024 school year, these events collectively raised over \$338,000, enabling JA to empower and enrich the lives of our students. We applaud IDEAL Industries, Inc., for raising over \$118,000 through their Bowl-A-Thon. We are deeply grateful to each of our corporate partners who hosted this year's Bowl-A-Thons and Trivia events.

A Combined
\$338,000 raised



LIFE TRUSTEES, OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

JA's leaders represent a wide range of backgrounds and affiliations. Bringing a wealth of wisdom, insight, and experience, these leaders are at the forefront of our accomplishments and mission.

LIFE TRUSTEES

THOMAS L. BINDLEY
BRYAN C. CRESSEY
SANDY L. DAFFÉ
W. JAMES FARRELL
STEPHEN J. GRABEK
JOHN R. HORNE
LESTER B. KNIGHT
RICHARD H. LENNY
DAVID W. NELMS
FRANK S. PTAK
E. SCOTT SANTI
GARY L. TOOKER
NORMAN H. WESLEY

IN MEMORIAM

ROBERT J. DARNALL
JOHN D. NICHOLS, JR.
THOMAS E. RICHARDS

* Executive Committee Member
** Division Board Chairperson

CHAIRPERSON

Katherine M. Scherer*

Central Region Market Leader
Chicago Managing Partner
Deloitte LLP

PRESIDENT and CEO

Thomas P. Staab*

President and CEO
Junior Achievement of Chicago

TREASURER

Paul Green*

Americas Consumer Products and
Retail Tax Market Segment Leader
Ernst & Young LLP

SECRETARY

Michael M. Froy*

Partner
Dentons US LLP

DIRECTORS

Jeffrey L. Albee

Chief Financial & Investment Officer
ACC, LLC

Brian Barnes

CEO and Founder
M1

Melissa L. Bean*

Former President and CEO
Mesirow Wealth Management

Sean Bentley

Senior Vice President,
Enterprise Transformation
Ulta Beauty

Carolyn Booth*

Head, U.S. Personal and
Business Banking
BMO

Jim Bramblet

Senior Managing Director—
FS Midwest Lead
Accenture

Randy Burt

Partner and Managing Director
AlixPartners

Thomas Cahill

Senior Vice President of Partner
and Alliance Solutions
MGT
*Served as 2024 Chairperson of the
Golf Committee*

Deia Campanelli

Vice President,
Global Communications
Cargill

Alexander G. Campbell

Co-Founder and
Chief Innovation Officer
Vibes

Neal J. Campbell

President & Founder
Fortunate LLC

Robert B. Chodos*

Vice Chairman
Newmark

Jessica Cole*

President & Chief Executive Officer
Becker's Healthcare
*Serves as Co-Chairperson of the
Development Committee*

John J. Compornello

Retired SVP and Market Executive
Bank of America, N.A.

Elle Cordes Radke

Vice President, Director
Starcom USA
*Serves as Co-Chairperson of the
Marketing and Communications
Committee*

Tyson Cornell*

US Advisory Leader
PwC

Randal D. Dawson

Executive Vice President
CBRE

Ghram K. Debes

Managing Director,
Head of Dealer Finance
BMO

Patrice P. DeCorrevont*

Regional President—
Illinois/Wisconsin
Huntington National Bank
*Serves as Chairperson of the
Nominating and Governance
Committee*
*Serves as Co-Chairperson of
the Development Committee*

Douglas Donovan

Vice President—
Chicago Commercial
Banking Leader
Wells Fargo .

Donna Dorsey

Executive Vice President,
Chief People and Culture Officer
Navistar, Inc.

Bob Dutzi**

ITW
*Serves as Northern Division
Board Chairperson*

Charles B. Edelstein

Senior Advisor and
Retired Co-CEO
Apollo Education Group
*Serves as Chairperson of the
Investment Committee*

Paula S. Ferguson

General Counsel and EVP
HSBC North America

Gina Fezler**

BMO
*Serves as Northwest Indiana Division
Board Chairperson*

James D. Fields

Partner & Global Head,
Health Services,
Health & Life Sciences
Oliver Wyman

Joseph Fitzpatrick

Head of Distribution
MSIG Holdings

Sarah Flanagan

Career Ownership Coach
The Entrepreneur's Source

Kristen P. Freund*

Managing Director and
Commercial Banking Group Head
CIBC Bank USA
*Serves as Chairperson of the
Volunteer Committee*

Karen Galivan

Tax Partner, Consumer Products
Senior Analyst
RSM US LLP

Stedman Graham

Chairman & CEO
S. Graham & Associates LLC

Chip W. Hardt

Chief Operating Officer
dscout

D. Grant Harvey**

ITW Automotive
*Serves as Western Division
Board Chairperson*

Jonathan O. Haugeberg

Partner
Grant Thornton LLP

Joan Heggen

SVP and Team Lead—
Commercial Banking
U.S. Bank

Steve Henn*

CEO
IDEAL Industries, Inc.

Roberto R. Herencia*

Chairman and CEO
Byline Bancorp
*Serves as Chairperson of the
Compensation Committee*

Gary E. Holdren

Founder and CEO
Garland Capital

Sinem Hostetter

Partner
McKinsey & Company

Dr. Mark Huntington

Managing Director, North America
PhysicsX

José A. Isasi II

Partner
Jones Day

George E. Johnson

Chairman Emeritus (retired)
Johnson Products Company, Inc.

Jocelyn Jopa*

Vice President,
Head of Claims Quality
Zurich North America

Kip Kelley

Chief Executive Officer
Aon Affinity US

Anthony K. Kesman

Chairman
Kesman Group LLC

Jamie Kieffer

Managing Director, Client Strategy
Edelman Delta
*Serves as Co-Chairperson
of the Marketing and
Communications Committee*

Paul Larson

President, Financial Lines
Liberty Mutual Insurance Company

Katie Lawler*

SVP—Chief Human Resources Officer
ITW

Christine A. Leahy*

Chair and Chief Executive Officer
CDW Corporation
*Served as Event Chair of the 2024
Chicago Business Hall of Fame*

Curtis N. Maas

CEO & Chairman
The RDI Group

Patrick Macellaro

Finance Vice President—360° Finance
Allstate Corporation

David Marberger*

Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer
Conagra Brands, Inc.

Terrance Maxwell

Chief Financial Officer, Managing Director
Baird

Willie Mayberry

Former Executive Vice President,
President of Regional Banking
Busey Bank

Carla R. Michelotti

President
Carla Michelotti LLC

Aaron Miner**

LyondellBassell
*Serves as Will County Division
Board Chairperson*

Thomas Monahan

VP & General Manager,
Greater Lakes Market
AT&T

Heather A. Mooney

President & CEO
Helco Corporation

Brian Morgan

Partner
Plante Moran

Paul Morgan

Chief Operating Officer, Work Dynamics
JLL

Wade Mynatt
Senior Vice President
Dovenmuehle

Stephen R. Nesbitt
EVP—Chief Risk & Administrative
Officer (retired)
HSBC

Larry P. Nieman
Career Ownership Coach
The Entrepreneur's Source

Robert O'Keef
Vice President and Treasurer
GE Healthcare

Edmond F. Opler
Chairman & CEO
World's Finest Chocolate, Inc.

Donald J. Ortegel*
Executive Vice President,
North America
Aon

Charmaine P. Owens**
Verizon
*Serves as Central Division
Board Chairperson*

Alberto Paracchini
President & CEO
Byline Bank

Mordie Pearson
Vice President—Health and Safety
UPS

José Peña*
SVP, Retail Executive
Fifth Third Bank

Scott Ramsbottom
Senior Vice President,
Information Technology
Wesco

John H. Rodi*
Financial Services Audit Partner
and Leader—KPMG Board
Leadership Center
KPMG LLP
*Serves as Chairperson of the
Audit Committee*

Rod Schrader
Chairman & CEO
Komatsu America Corp.

Karl Schulz
Vice President, Product and
Partner Management
CDW Corporation
*Serves as the Chairperson
of the Golf Committee*

Elbert Singleton
Senior Vice President, Chicago
Shapiro+Raj

Mark Skroch
Founder
Marketing Enhanced Strategies

Laura Slagter**
Voya Financial
*Serves as DuPage County
Division Chairperson*

Denis E. Springer
Senior Vice President (retired)
Burlington Northern Santa Fe
Corporation

Bob Stewart
Senior Vice President and
Chief Supply Chain Officer,
North America (retired)
McDonald's Corporation

Dr. Lynette Stokes
President
South Suburban College

Lisa Stuver, CPWA
Senior Vice President,
Senior Managing Director
Northern Trust

Becky Tinkham
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“The mentorship opportunities provided by business professionals give JA students **valuable insights** into career paths and workplace expectations, better preparing them for the challenges they'll face in the future.”

— Carson B. | Volunteer

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At Junior Achievement we believe in "possible."

JA's Educators share that their students were excited to learn from a member of the community and they enjoyed creating and learning about the importance of money.

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A Year of Impact

At Junior Achievement, our programmatic framework — Inspire, Prepare, Succeed — is at the heart of our mission.

Educators play a crucial role in inspiring students and igniting their curiosity and passion for learning. Volunteers bring real-world experience, equipping students with vital skills in work readiness, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship. Our students exemplify success as they apply their learning, positioning themselves to become the next generation of innovators. Our students then transform into JA alumni who make a meaningful difference in their communities, highlighting the lasting impact of the skills and values they gained through JA programs.



INSPIRE



JA programs equip our students with practical knowledge and tools to make informed decisions about their future.

By teaching financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and workforce readiness, JA connects classroom lessons to real-world applications, making learning more engaging. After JA sessions, students are more focused on realistic goals and actively seek advice on planning for them. The program's interactive approach helps educators motivate students by illustrating how their education supports their future success.

— Dr. David Hill | Superintendent of Schools, CCSD93
JA Educator

PREPARE



My favorite lesson in JA Our Region® explores how businesses utilize human, natural, and capital resources to illustrate economic functioning and their interdependencies in producing goods and services. In one class, students drew pictures of themselves with desired resources. One student created a stick figure on a circle, explaining it represented Mars, and they were standing on it because we might need to explore other planets for resources when we use Earth's resources up. **That student is likely a leader today!**

— Scott Ulen, Retired | Motorola Solutions
JA Volunteer

SUCCEED



Through the JA Company Program, I learned essential business principles through hands-on experience, which are vital for navigating the complexities of a modern enterprise... I also gained a deep understanding of what it takes to run a successful business. The principles of market research, financial management, and ethical decision-making are crucial to any enterprise. I am eager to apply these concepts in my neuroscience studies and beyond. **These foundational experiences have equipped me to approach challenges creatively and ethically**, positioning me to make a positive impact in my future academic and professional endeavors.

— Zaki M., Senior | Whitney Young High School | JA Student

“ There's power in an open-ended question. Junior Achievement consistently asks “Why?” allowing students to respond in their own unique ways, free from right or wrong answers. JA provides them with the avenue to answer. **Each student brings different skills and experiences to their responses.** As a judge for the JA Company Competition, I met students from across Chicago and its suburbs and saw how they approached problems and found solutions. Their diverse needs motivated them to explore the reasons behind WHY they created their companies and HOW they would develop their solutions. ”

— Nicole George | UPS Store | JA Alumni

Junior Achievement of Chicago's Mission

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

Fast Facts

84 Years of Inspiring Tomorrows

12 Counties in the Chicago Area and Northwest Indiana

363,802 Students Impacted

17,955 Classrooms Reached

908,625 Hours Delivering JA's Programs

3,694 Volunteers Engaged

659 Education Partners

JA's THREE PILLARS



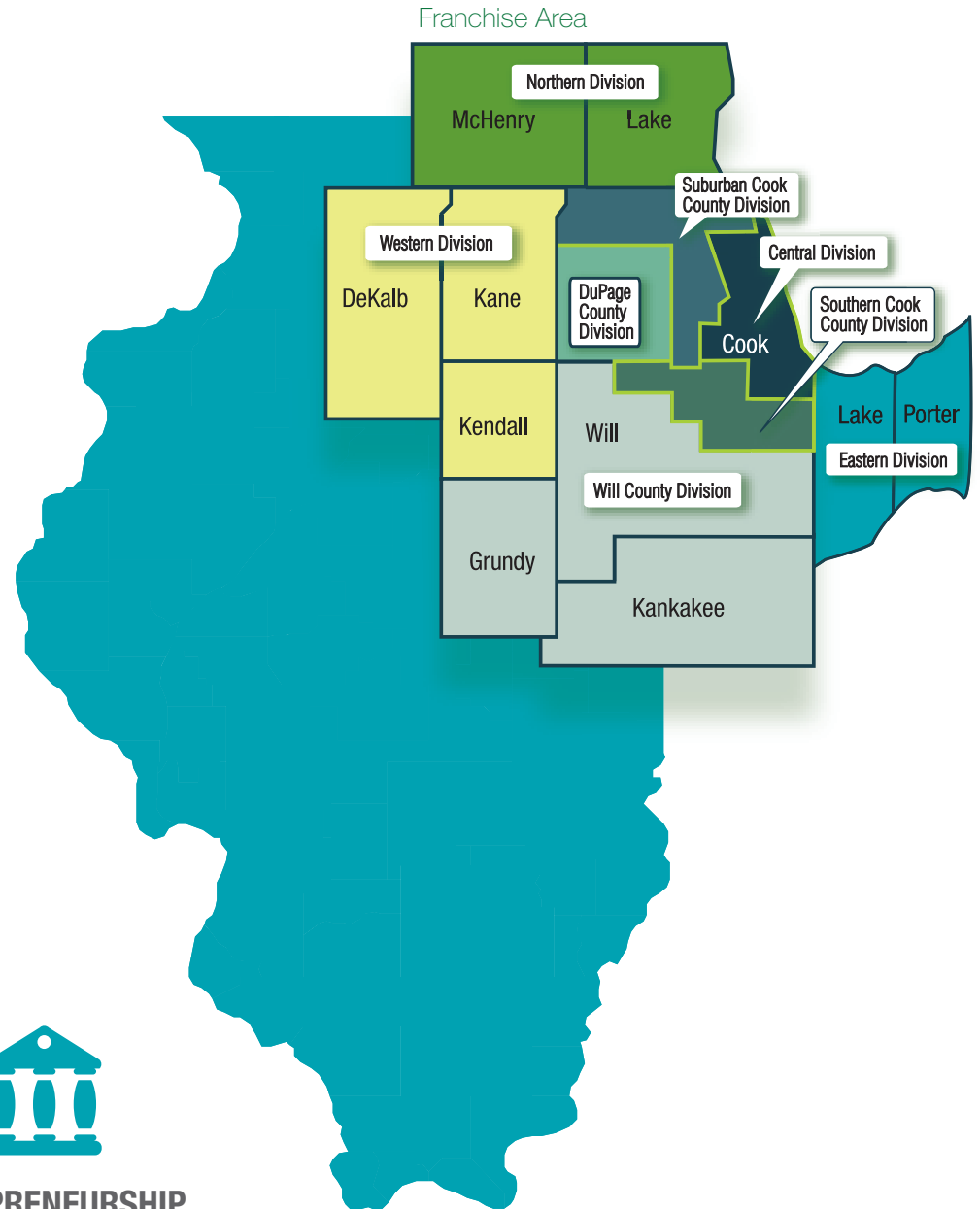
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