

73,000 NJ students will experience JA this year.

#changingkidslives



JA volunteers serve as mentors and coaches to students as they participate in JA Programs.

Program Overview 2017-2018

JA is New Jersey's no-cost solution to K-12 career-readiness and financial literacy education. We provide experiential programs that are correlated to NJ Educational Standards for 21st Century Life and Careers. JA's innovative business-education partnerships help prepare young people for the real world by connecting them with volunteer role models, inspiring students to dream big and reach their full potential.

JA BizTown is an innovative educational opportunity for 5th and 6th grade students to learn about economics and business. The program starts with teacher-led lessons in the classroom and culminates with a fully interactive, day-long visit to the JA BizTown simulated community. Students role play as CEOs, CFOs, bankers, sales managers, engineers and technicians, while practicing entrepreneurship, business and money management, and wise consumerism.

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JA Finance Park is a hands-on financial literacy education program for students in grades 7-12 that fully meets NJ's graduation requirement. The program begins in the classroom with teacher-led curriculum covering credit scores, savings, investing, insurance, and risk management. Students understand salary, taxes, and net monthly income. The program concludes with a volunteer-assisted simulation field trip to JA Finance Park. Students create a realistic family budget and gain invaluable experiences related to personal finances and smart money management.

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JA Career Success Workshops are held in corporate facilities and college campuses statewide. This one-day event prepares high school students for college and career, and equips them with the tools and skills required to earn and keep a job: Critical thinking, collaboration, communication, and creativity. In addition, students explore career paths in STEM and other high-growth industries, and participate in a mock job interview.

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JA High School Heroes Initiative is a unique, empowering leadership program that lets high school students serve as role models to children in their school district. High School Heroes build valuable employability skills like teamwork, presentation, and time management while presenting JA's 21st century curriculum to an elementary school classroom. Heroes are trained by JA staff, serve as ambassadors at JA's special events and the NJ Business Hall of Fame, and are eligible for JA's annual scholarship.

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JA Titan Competition puts students in the role of corporate business leaders as they make decisions to steer their business to success. Teams make decisions that affect the profitability and sustainability to their virtual company and outperform competitors in profit, sales, and market share. Competition rounds are held in various NJ corporate headquarters.

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JA Hackathon is a two-day, exciting, and innovative experience that tests students' IT and computer science skills. Planned by high school students for high school students, the JA Hackathon challenges participants to work in teams to compete in a cyber-security and/or computer science challenge. Corporate mentors provide students the guidance they need to perfect their projects while imagining their future in a STEM career.

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JA Women's Future Leadership Forum brings together professional women from all career stages and backgrounds to serve as mentors to high school girls in this powerful day of inspiration and leadership. Held regionally, each forum includes executive panel discussions, one-on-one mentoring sessions, and small group activities with networking and lunch.

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