



**New Release
For Immediate Release**

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Photographed with JA student ambassadors from left to right standing: Nellie Borrero, Managing Director, Global Inclusion & Diversity, Accenture; Catherine Milone, President, JANJ; and Dawn Schwartz, Vice President, Development & Communications, JANJ. From left to right sitting: Meghan A. Henson, Chief Human Resources Officer, Chubb Group of Insurance Co.; Kathleen Larkin, Vice President, Human Resources, AT&T; Eboneé Hamilton Lewis, Shareholder, Littler Mendelson; Rita Mitjans, Chief Diversity & Corporate Social Responsibility Officer, ADP, Inc.; and Shannon S. Warren, Managing Director & Chief Control Officer, JPMorgan Chase.

Women's Forum Inspires Promising High School Girls

Princeton, NJ – On December 6th at AT&T, Bedminster, nearly one hundred of New Jersey's top female executives and business leaders from various industries came together to support some of New Jersey's most promising high school-age girls from Linden, Newark, Orange and Morristown at JA's Annual North Jersey Women's Future Leadership Forum, the first of their three regional Forum events being held this school-year. The December 6th event was sponsored by Accenture and was also supported by Chubb Group of Insurance Co and JPMorgan Chase, also serving as breakout session leads.

The Forum kicked off with panel discussions led by moderator Nellie Borrero, Managing Director, Global Inclusion & Diversity, Accenture. The panel of executives included Meghan A. Henson, Chief Human Resources Officer, Chubb Group of Insurance Co.; Kathleen Larkin, Vice President, Human Resources, AT&T; Eboneé Hamilton Lewis, Shareholder, Littler Mendelson; Rita Mitjans, Chief Diversity & Corporate Social Responsibility Officer, ADP, Inc.; and Shannon S. Warren, Managing Director & Chief Control Officer, JPMorgan Chase.

The esteemed panel shared their personal stories through an exciting and informative question and answer session that included sharing their top teachable and most courageous professional moments in their lives. The discussions were also around a variety of topics relevant to the girls around the importance of an education, building their network and the value of owning their personal economic success as it relates to their future.

The panel discussions were followed by one-on-one mentoring sessions that helped the young ladies build self-confidence by crafting their first-ever personal bios and practicing their elevator pitches. Also, when in pairs, the students received further guidance on the relevance of getting a secondary education.

The day also featured a hands-on, team building lesson from the JA Career Success® program in small group breakout sessions, and concluded with a large group discussion in the auditorium, where the students shared their takeaways and hugged their mentors goodbye.

Catherine Milone, JANJ's president shared, "The December 6th Women's Future Leadership Forum was truly an inspirational day. JA was so honored to work with such an incredibly successful and dedicated group of women who took the time out of their busy schedules to help us educate and empower some of our finest JA student ambassadors to own their economic success! And, it sounded like we made a difference."

Here's what some of the young ladies had to say . . .

- "I received a life lesson today. I've seen so many powerful women here, and I can now see myself like this. You can make your way to the top no matter what you go through in life." –Bloomfield Tech Student

- “The panelists were so inspiring and knowledgeable. They taught me to persevere and work hard to reach my goals. I enjoyed hearing their stories and learning from their experiences. And I really connected with my mentor- she was so wonderful. Thank you so much.” –Morristown HS Student
- “Today I learned to look at the glass half full. Whatever your situation is, there are always choices and opportunities you can take. I’m inspired.” –Orange HS Student
- “My mentor gave me confidence- because of her, I was able to present to the group today.” -Bloomfield Tech Student
- “I learned to be prepared to go to greater heights than I’m expecting.” –Linden HS Student
- “I enjoyed the building exercise. I learned from my teammates that we can work together to get things done. Six hands are better than one!” -Rahway HS Student
- “The women today taught me that your past and your background don’t define you. Whatever’s important to you, you have to pursue it, and take pride in the things you do.” –Christ the King Prep Student

Other event sponsors included: AT&T, Cogen Technologies Linden Venture L.P., DuPont, Kearny Federal Savings Bank, Phillips 66 Bayway Refinery and Realogy.

About Junior Achievement of New Jersey

Junior Achievement of New Jersey (JANJ) is dedicated to giving young people the knowledge and skills they need to own their economic success, plan for their future, and make smart academic and economic choices. JA programs are delivered by corporate and community volunteers. They provide relevant, hands-on experiences that give students from kindergarten through high school knowledge and skills in financial literacy, work readiness and entrepreneurship. During the 2012-13 school year, JANJ reached 44,799 students in more than 71 school districts across the New Jersey. For more information visit us at www.janj.org. Follow us on Twitter and like us on Facebook.