# **Meeting Workforce Needs:**

and Career Ready with Junior **Achievement** Preparing Students to be Work





#### Today's Facilitators



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#### Agenda

- What is Junior Achievement
- State of the Workplace
- What are Businesses Looking For?
- Junior Achievement as Part of the Solution

# What is Junior Achievement?

- economy Inspire and prepare young people to succeed in a global
- Focus on Financial Literacy, Work and Career Readiness and Entrepreneurship
- Emphasis on 21st Century Skills: Collaboration, Communication, Critical Thinking, Creativity and Technology
- Programs for Kindergarten through 12th grade students
- community business mentor JA Learning Experiences are presented/supported by a
- Partnership between School & Business/Community
- Reaches 4.8 million students across the U.S. annually



# State of the U.S. Workforce

- Job openings reach high of 10.9 million in July 2021 (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)
- 92% of hiring managers say that soft skills are as important/more important than hard skills (Linked In Global Talent Report)
- Some estimate that 42% of jobs lost in the COVID shutdown may never come back (COVID-19 Is Also a Reallocation Shock, University of Chicago, May 2020)
- 32.8 % of teens (ages 16-19) filled recent job vacancies the highest it's been since 2008
- April 2021, 256,000 of these teens gained employment





#### State of Diversity in the U.S. Workforce

- People of color make up 37% of the labor force
- Census data tells us that by 2050 there will be no racial or ethnic majority in our country
- By the year 2050 new immigrants and their children will account for 83% of the growth in the working age population (Center for American Progress)
- 41% of white Americans have at least a Bachelors degree, 31 % of Black Americans, 21% of Latinos
- Still a considerable income gap between ethnic groups





#### changes include: Monster Future of Work 2021 Global Outlook Special due to the pandemic. Some of the most notable **Report** states companies have changed their policies

- remote work flexibility (43%),
- adaptable offsite work schedules (40%),
- updated health policies and protocols (36%),
- and staff skills training (34%).
- 46% of hiring managers globally expect for these changes to become permanent

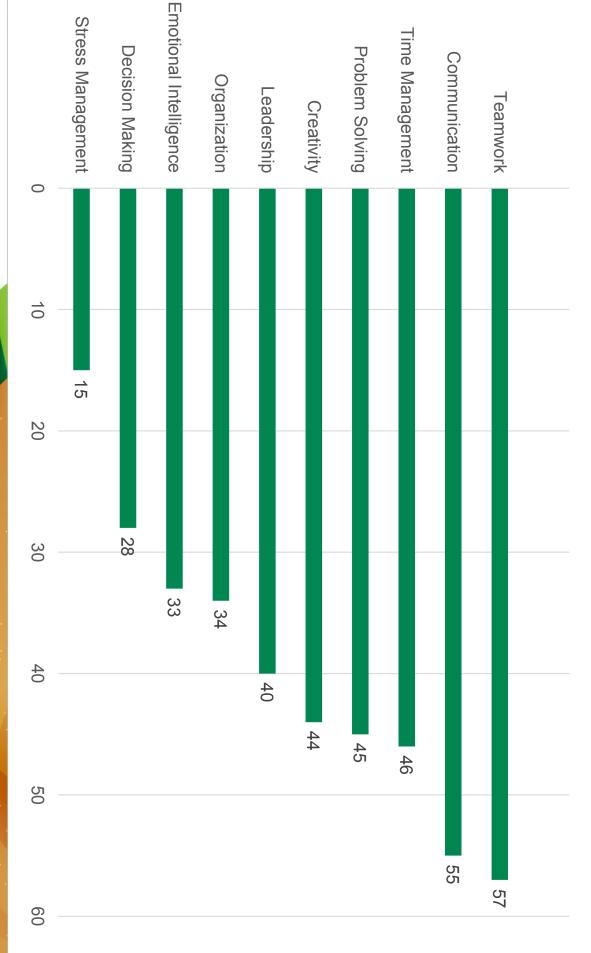
How will our students fare in this new type of work environments?



#### Achievement

# Most Important Soft Skills

as chosen by recruiters and hiring managers







empowerthefuture®

## Technical Skills

Vs.

Soft Skills

When did you learn these skills? How?

### Academic/Experience That Makes for a Strong Candidate



Moderately to Extremely Valuable



# What do these have in Common?

 A supportive mentor/role model/Real-world connection

 Engaging, experiential learning opportunities

 Supportive peer environment





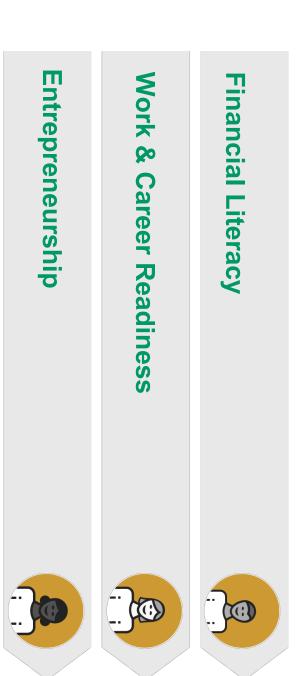
# **About Junior Achievement of WNY**

#### **Footprint: All 8 Counties of WNY**

Students Served	2018-2019 16089	2019-2020 7552	2020-2021
School Partners	174	139	85
Volunteers	745	298	134
Corporate Partners 190	190	96	80

## **About Junior Achievement**

# Junior Achievement offers three Pathways





	JA Our Community JA Our City JA Our Region JA Our Nation JA More than Money	JA Ourselves JA Our Families	K-5 Programs
Entrepre- neurship	Work and Career Readines s	Financial Literacy	Pathway
	JA Inspire		Inspire Introductory lears experiences that develop an intere
JA Launch Lesson	JA Career Speaker Series JA Career Exploratio		Inspire Introductory learning experiences that develop an interest
JA BizTown	JA BizTown	JA BizTown	
JA It's My Business!	JA It's My Future	JA Global Marketplac	Inspire + Prepare Core learning experiences that k skills, behaviors, and ultimately competencies
JA Excellenc   E e Through Ethics	JA Economic s for Success	JA Economics for Success	Inspire + Prepare Core learning experiences that build skills, behaviors, and ultimately competencies
JA Be Entrepre- neurial	JA Ny Job	JA Finance Park	iid
JA Titan	JA Career Succes	JA	For
JA   Company   Jo	JA High School Heroes	JA   Persona     Financ	progr v.jawi
JA Job Shadow	JA Excellenc   Jo Through   Ethics	JA   Exploring Economics	For program de
JA Entrepre- En neurial Mindset	JA Job Shadow  Economics	JA	escri
JA B S	+	JA – –	For program descriptions:
J B B Intro to Co Business and Technology Sem 1 & 2	J B B Intro to Co Business and Technology Sem 1 & 2	J A Literacy	97
JA Business   M. Communica   g - tions   s   2	JA Business M. Communica g - tions s 2	JA Financia Capabilit   y Sem 1   & 2	
JA Marketin g Principle s Sem 1 &	JA Marketin g Principle s Sem 1 & 2		

## Who Volunteers?



60 YEARS LOCAL. 100 YEARS NATIONAL. 100% READY.

- Top 5 Volunteer Companies
- 112 Volunteers

M&T Bank

**Travelers** 

**48 Volunteers** 

- Independent Health **Northwest Bank** 31 Volunteers
- **Community Volunteers** 29 Volunteers
- **HSBC Bank, N.A.** 28 Volunteers

- developing our future workforce Companies with an interest in
- their communities Companies working to strengthen
- Companies from all types of industries, large & small!

#### JA Works for our Students Return on Investment:

- 93% of JA alumni have a HS diploma or GED
- **58 percent** of Black alumni, **51 percent** of Hispanic alumni, and **45 percent** of white alumni say Junior Achievement influenced their decision to pursue further education
- 55% of JA Alumni say JA gave them an understanding of how business works
- 88% of JA alumni are satisfied with their career
- 45% say JA influenced the way they manage money
- 85% say JA played an important role in fostering a belief they could achieve their goals
- 51 % say they have worked in the same job/career as their JA volunteer



## Ways to Get Involved: Programs & Student Learning Experiences

- program/learning experience Teachers/Counselors Contact JA to request
- Volunteers are paired with teachers/schools that request
- Volunteers and teachers determine the schedule of sessions
- Volunteer models include:
- In-person
- Virtual
- Recorded videos







## JA Inspire Virtual Career Expo

- Brand new event in partnership with JA of Central New York
- Virtual Career Expo featuring 100+ businesses, rep. 16 career clusters
- Includes a curriculum component and culminating virtual simulation
- Designed for Middle and High School students
- Will be available November  $\mathbf{1}^{\mathrm{st}}$  through end of school year & Summer 2022
- Perfect for Whole Grade Levels (i.e. Career Week, Career Day)
- Use in conjunction with other in-person Events or other JA programs
- DEMO





## JA Inspire Virtual Career Expo

- Website Info: https://westernnewyork.ja.org/events/ja-inspire-virtual
- To Register: <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YZ8NCDM">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YZ8NCDM</a>





## **Additional WCR Resources**

- JA Digital Career Book and JA Connect: connect.ja.org
- sV20TOFLQ7DEvFYyg soon!) https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWJEy-JAWNY Career Speakers Series (more being added
- JA Stock Market Challenge to be held Nov 2021 & April 2021 https://westernnewyork.ja.org/events/ja-stockmarket-challenge-2021-2022



#### **Next Steps**

- Share this information at your school and within your district!
- etc.) year (i.e. Career exploration activities, Career Week, Consider implementing JA during the 2021-22 school
- Contact JA (Alycia Ivancie, aivancie@jawny.org) to request program or for additional details
- Program Request can also be complete here: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PGKZ5KB



## **JAWNY Education Department Contacts** website: www.jawny.org

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## Thank You

Pathway Sponsor:

