



NEWS RELEASE

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JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF CENTRAL UPSTATE NEW YORK RECEIVES NATIONAL HONOR

Junior Achievement of Central Upstate New York, Inc. (JACUNY) has been awarded one of Junior Achievement USA®'s highest honors: the Five Star Award. The purpose of the Star Award is to recognize staff and boards of JA Areas that meet Junior Achievement's national standards in operational efficiency and through strong representation of the JA brand. Recipients must demonstrate growth in student impact and superior fiscal performance. Achievement against these criteria is certified through JA USA and audited financial statements.

Junior Achievement of Central Upstate New York annually serves more than 14,700 students in a 25 county region that spans from the North Country through Rochester, Syracuse, the Twin Tiers and the Binghamton region. JACUNY is headquartered in Rochester, with offices in Syracuse and Elmira.

"These Five Star Award winners represent the best Junior Achievement has to offer," said Jack E. Kosakowski, president and chief executive officer of Junior Achievement USA. "They set the standard by which Junior Achievement's success is measured at the local level. Their commitment and dedication to young people is reflected in their achieving this honor."

As an organization, Junior Achievement understands that its effectiveness depends on how well JA Areas deliver the organization's financial literacy, work-readiness, and entrepreneurship programs in local communities.

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“We are proud to receive the Five Star Award,” said Patricia Leva, president & CEO of Junior Achievement of Central Upstate New York. “We thank our 700 classroom volunteers and corporate partners who joined with our board of directors and staff to empower thousands of young people to own their economic success, plan for their future, and make smart academic and economic choices.”

About Junior Achievement

Junior Achievement is the world's largest organization 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, and provide relevant, hands-on experiences that give students from kindergarten through high school knowledge and skills in financial literacy, work readiness and entrepreneurship. Today, JA reaches 4.5 million students per year in 115 markets across the United States. To learn more about Junior Achievement of Central Upstate New York, please visit www.jacuny.org.

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