

News Release

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Junior Achievement turns 100 in 2019!

Junior Achievement of Western New York kicked off year-long celebration during recent BNSME Golf Outing.

BUFFALO, N.Y.– Junior Achievement (JA) is currently celebrating its Centennial. JA was started in 1919 in Springfield, Massachusetts by Strathmore Paper Founder Horace Moses, AT&T Chairman Theodore Vail and U.S. Senator from Massachusetts Murray Crane. JA’s founding was in response to families moving from farms to the growing industrial cities. The goal was to provide young people with the skills they would need to be successful adults in their new communities.

JAWNY kicked-off its Centennial year with long-time partner, Buffalo Niagara Sales & Marketing Executives

(BNSME) at their annual Golf Outing to benefit JA held on June 17 at the Orchard Park Country Club. A celebratory cake donated by Tops Friendly Markets was cut by Francine Brooks of FB Displays & Designs, Title Sponsor of the Golf Outing. “Very few organizations make it to 100 years, much less continue to grow and thrive like Junior Achievement has,” said Francine. “We are taking this opportunity to celebrate and honor what’s come before, but also look toward the future as we work to inspire and prepare our young people to succeed in our ever-changing world,” said Laurie Mahoney, JA President.

During the course of the past 100 years, JA has evolved from an organization operating primarily in the Northeastern United States and teaching teens how to start a business



Pictured above are Francine Brooks, President, FB Displays & Designs along with JA President, Laurie Mahoney.
Photo by Onion Studio

into a multinational organization reaching more than 10 million students in 100 countries with programs that promote entrepreneurship, career and work readiness and financial literacy. In the United States, JA reaches nearly 5 million students in grades K-12. Locally, Junior Achievement of Western New York has been in existence for 60 years serving the eight counties of WNY and reaching more than 16,000 students.

Locally, Junior Achievement of Western New York will continue to celebrate this milestone throughout the 2019-2020 fiscal year with a culminating event in May of 2020. On a national level, in January Junior Achievement kicked off its *100 Years, 100% Ready™* awareness campaign, which was developed by ad agency Publicis Hawkeye. In February of 2019, a JA documentary was available on PBS and will be aired locally on WNET in the coming months. In March of 2019, Junior Achievement rung the bell at the New York Stock Exchange. And in September of 2019, there will be a Junior Achievement Day at the Eastern States Exposition (“The Big E”) in Springfield, Massachusetts, where JA was started.

For more information on the culmination event, contact Laurie Mahoney at lmahoney@jawny.org.

About Junior Achievement USA® (JA)

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 more than 4.8 million students per year in 109 markets across the United States, with an additional 5.2 million students served by operations in 100 other countries worldwide. Junior Achievement USA is a member of JA Worldwide.

About Junior Achievement of Western New York

During the 2017-2018 school year, Junior Achievement of WNY enriched the lives of 15,751 students in 161 schools and community organizations throughout the eight counties of Western New York. JA’s success is due to its many generous supporters and more than 783 classroom volunteers. For more information about Junior Achievement and how you can make a difference in a child’s life, visit our Web site at www.jawny.org, follow us on Twitter at @JAofWNY, or like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/jaofwny.