



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

August 30, 2017

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Junior Achievement Capital Campaign Gaining Steam

New Markets Tax Credit Pumps in a Projected Benefit of Nearly \$1.4 million to the University Community Development Area for JA Finance Park

*Tampa Bay, FL –August 30, 2017—*Amidst the fundraising for the Junior Achievement “Building Our Future” campaign, which is funding the opening of JA Finance Park, a high impact deal closed on August 18, 2017 resulting in a boost toward the campaign goal of \$8 million.

JA Finance Park presented by SunTrust is currently under construction in the University Community Development Area in Tampa. This 18,000 square feet, state-of-the-art facility will provide all 8th grade Hillsborough County students the opportunity to learn about finances, careers and the experience of being an adult and a leader in his or her household and community. With Junior Achievement’s driving force partners, Hillsborough County Public Schools, Hillsborough County and local community leaders, the New Markets Tax Credit brings the campaign to over \$6 Million.

Pam Muma, Campaign Chairwoman cited two reasons for the investments: the organization’s track record and its compelling vision. Mrs. Muma added, “We are so thankful to our campaign partners for their efforts, and we welcome concerned

individuals, foundations and companies who would like to invest in our future by inspiring Tampa Bay's future consumers, workforce and entrepreneurs.”

Junior Achievement accomplished the additional \$1.4 million benefit to the JA Finance Park by utilizing a complex New Markets Tax Credits financing facility bridging pledges to date with tax equity. The organization received this important gap financing from a combination of Community Development Entities, including subsidiaries of the Black Business Investment Fund, an Orlando-based Community Development Entity, and SunTrust Community Capital. SunTrust Community Capital also served as a tax credit investor in the transaction, and SunTrust Bank provided a valuable bridge loan to leverage the New Markets Tax Credits transaction through pledges received to date. The New Markets Tax Credits transaction brings Junior Achievement within \$2 million of achieving its Building Our Future campaign goal.

Junior Achievement continues to raise money to fund the project which will impact future generations with every student in Hillsborough County participating in JA Finance Park. Please visit www.JATampaBay.org for more information and to become part of a movement which will help to pave the way for future economic success in the Tampa Bay community.

About Junior Achievement of Tampa Bay

Junior Achievement is the world's oldest and largest organization dedicated to teaching 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. Last year, Junior Achievement of Tampa Bay inspired 87,774 students in the Tampa Bay area. Visit jatampabay.org for more information.

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. Visit www.ja.org for more information.

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