



NEWS RELEASE

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Top Partners, Volunteers and Students to be Honored at Annual Junior Achievement Hall of Fame

Kane's Furniture, The Vinik Family Foundation and USAA to be Celebrated

Tampa Bay, FL (January 16, 2019) —Junior Achievement (JA) of Tampa Bay has announced the 2019 award recipients for the Junior Achievement (JA) Hall of Fame. Each year, JA of Tampa Bay honors accomplished community leaders who have shown and led by example, the importance of achieving a high level of success, both personally and professionally. The Junior Achievement Hall of Fame award recipients are among the most esteemed leaders in our community and have established a legacy of leadership within Junior Achievement and our community. Through their actions and accomplishments, they have advanced the mission of Junior Achievement and continue to serve as role models for young people.

JA of Tampa Bay is also proud to announce that Pam Muma has been chosen to receive a one-time recognition of only six volunteers in the United States for the Junior Achievement National Centennial Leadership Award, which will be announced formally at the JA Hall of Fame in Tampa. The Centennial recipients will be honored with a special luncheon and participate in the ringing of the New York Stock Exchange closing bell later in March.

Locally, the JA of Tampa Bay Hall of Fame will honor local leaders on March 7, 2019.

Receiving the Laureate honor will be Robert R. Sharp. This highest local award recognizes the most outstanding individuals in JA Tampa Bay whose cumulative support and commitment to Junior Achievement is an asset to the ongoing success of the organization.

In addition, the following Tampa Bay business leaders have been selected from more than 243,000 U.S. volunteers to earn the organization's premier awards for volunteerism. Earning the Bronze Leadership Award is: Yvette Segura (USAA). Earning

Silver Leadership Awards are: Craig Cuffe (Kablelink Communications), David Hull (CoLabs), Scott Price (A-lign) and Jose Valiente.

The purpose of the Bronze and Silver Leadership Awards is to recognize JA volunteers who have performed outstanding service to Junior Achievement. JA volunteers play a key role in bringing Junior Achievement's entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and work-readiness programs to life. "These community leaders serve as a wonderful example of volunteerism and the role that it plays in making a difference in the lives of our young people." said president of Junior Achievement of Tampa Bay, Richard George.

The following organizations will be presented with a local Legacy Partner award, which recognizes organizations that are vital to providing funding and volunteer resources to Junior Achievement students. This year the honorees are: **Kane's Furniture, Knight Enterprises** and the **Vinik Family Foundation**. The Outstanding Legacy Partner of the Year award will be presented to **USAA** for their exemplary level of partnership with JA of Tampa Bay this year.

Junior Achievement provides scholarship opportunities to high school seniors who have participated in Junior Achievement programs. Two of those recipients will be celebrated during the JA Hall of Fame Dinner. Receiving the Pam and Les Muma Scholarship will be Ashanti Lee, a senior at King High School. Receiving the Michael D. Robertson Scholarship will be Xavien Aponte, a senior at Chamberlain High School.

This year's Junior Achievement Hall of Fame, will be held on **Thursday, March 7th at Busch Gardens Tampa Bay**, Dragon Fire Grill. A dinner followed by a student-led program will be from 6:30-9:00pm. For tickets and sponsorship information, please contact (813) 605-1764 or visit our website: www.jatampabay.org.

About Junior Achievement of Tampa Bay

Junior Achievement of Tampa Bay inspired 81,307 students through the support of 6,904 volunteers in the twelve-county region. Junior Achievement is a non-profit organization that delivers K-12 programming for entrepreneurship, financial literacy and career readiness including two capstone programs of JA BizTown and JA Finance Park. For more information on the organization, visit jatampabay.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. Visit www.ja.org for more information.

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