



JACF Connections

February 2025

Karen's Corner

Dear JACF Friends,

I hope you had a safe and joyful holiday season with family and friends. As we step into 2025, Junior Achievement of Central Florida (JACF) has already hit the ground running, continuing our mission to inspire and prepare students for success.

On January 28th, we had **JA Inspire Osceola** at Osceola Heritage Park welcoming more than **3,400 students** to an interactive career exploration event. JA Inspire is a powerful initiative designed to bridge the gap between education and industry, giving students direct exposure to high-demand careers in Central Florida. Through hands-on experiences and conversations with business leaders, students gain insights into potential career paths, understand the skills required for success, and start shaping their futures.

Looking ahead, we are gearing up for **JA Inspire Orange County**, which will take place **April 2-4 at the Orange County Convention Center**. This event will bring together **over 15,000 eighth-grade students**, making it our largest career exploration event yet. We invite businesses, educators, and community leaders to join us in shaping the workforce of tomorrow by sponsoring, exhibiting, or volunteering at this impactful event.

In addition to Inspire, we continue to expand **3DE by Junior Achievement**, an innovative high school model that transforms education by integrating real-world case challenges into core learning. This approach not only increases student engagement but also enhances critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Next school year we will be expanding to include our 4-year program at Edgewater, Lake Buena Vista, Horizon, and Celebration High Schools. We will be hosting upcoming **3DE school tours**, providing an opportunity for community partners to see firsthand how this program is shaping future leaders. If you or your organization are interested in attending a tour or learning more about 3DE, we encourage you to reach out.

JACF's work is made possible through the incredible support of our volunteers, corporate partners, and donors. Whether you choose to volunteer in the classroom, sponsor a program, or engage with students at JA Inspire, your involvement makes a lasting impact on our community's future workforce.

Let's work together to ensure every student in Central Florida has access to the tools, knowledge, and experiences they need to succeed. If you'd like to get involved, please visit jacentralfi.org or email us at info@jacentralfi.org.

Thank you for your continued support—I look forward to an exciting year ahead!

Warm Regards,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Revels'.

Karen Revels
President & CEO
JA of Central Florida

To Donate

Problem Solving for the Future

This past December, our 3DE students from Innovation and East River High Schools took on an exciting real-world business challenge presented by Nemours.

Working together in groups, the students developed creative and viable solutions to the case challenge and had the incredible opportunity to present their ideas to industry professionals from Nemours during a culminating event.

“I really appreciated that the teams used the coaching as a reference for their presentations. It was nice to see that they implemented what their coaches told them.” Peggy Carter, Nemours

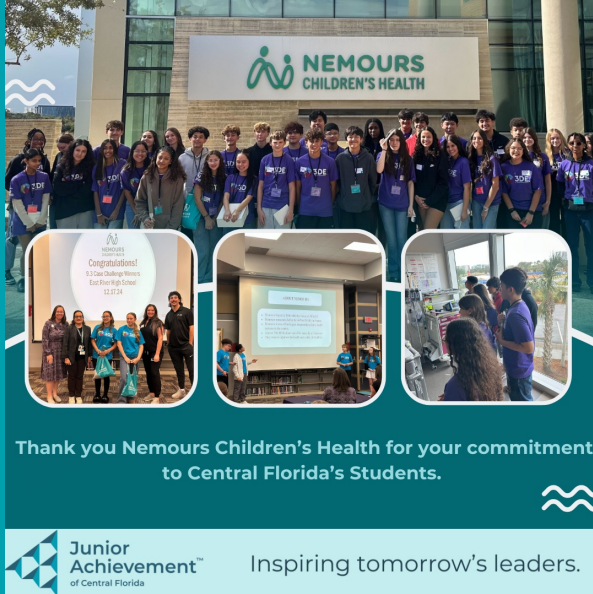
A HUGE thank you to Nemours Children's Health for their continued partnership and unwavering commitment to 3DE and Junior Achievement of Central Florida. Your support helps inspire and empower the next generation of innovators and leaders.

JA Around Town



Our 10th-grade 3DE students at Osceola High School got to tackle the national chase challenge from Home Depot with the help of some fantastic business coaches.

These coaches hail from ADP, Kissimmee Utility Authority and Candyland Designs.



3DE Guest Tours

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers, Malika, Angelina, Gisela, Robin, Richard, and Leia for impacting and guiding our students through the process.



Rockstar Students



3DE Seniors at Oak Ridge High School, Yasin Arafat and Alyssa Fleurville, earned FULL RIDE scholarships through the QuestBridge National Match Scholarship!

Over 25,500 seniors applied for this scholarship, and only 2,627 students were matched.

Yasin will attend Duke University
Alyssa will attend Colgate University.

We are so proud of these students and we can't wait to see what the future holds for them.

The Driving Dreams Golf Invitational: A Hole in One!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Driving Dreams Golf Invitational at the stunning Rosen Shingle Creek Golf Club.

It was a beautiful day filled with camaraderie, competition, and most importantly: a shared commitment to empowering the future of Central Florida's youth!

A special thank you to our presenting sponsor, VMG Roofing Services, for their incredible support and generosity in helping make this event a success.

We also want to recognize and thank our amazing partners and sponsors, whose contributions help us drive dreams forward:

**ARC Technologies Group
CNA Insurance
Core Construction Inc.
United Community
Miller Electric Company
JPMorganChase
NextPath Career Partners
Orlando Magic
ServisFirst Bank**





Thank you Westgate Resorts

A HUGE thank you to Westgate Resorts and Westgate Foundation for this wonderful gift and for selecting us as a 2024 Westgate Acts of Kindness Honoree.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to Central Florida and for actively engaging with our students. We loved having you at Inspire Osceola.



More than 3,400 were INSPIRED at JA Inspire Osceola! They walked away with a better understanding of the opportunities that are here in Central Florida.

Thank you to our sponsors, partners and exhibitors who contributed to making JA Inspire Osceola special for our students! We couldn't do what we do without you.

We can't wait for our JA Inspire Orange in April

Join us at Inspire Orange!



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STUDENT



WESTGATE RESORTS



INSPIRE PARTNERS



Thank you CHEP for your commitment to Central Florida's Students.



Junior Achievement™
of Central Florida

Inspiring tomorrow's leaders.

Partner Spotlight: CHEP

We had the incredible opportunity to visit CHEP Central Florida Innovation

Center alongside our exceptional 3DE Schools Senior Consultants from Oak Ridge High School.

Our seniors are currently engaged in a year-long project aimed at presenting potential growth strategies for CHEP. During the tour, our students gained firsthand insights into CHEP's dedication to its products and commitment to sustainability. They also talked to key professionals who shared their experiences working at CHEP.

Thank you CHEP for your ongoing commitment to Central Florida and for actively engage with our students. Whether at Hall of Fame, Inspire Osceola or Inspire Orange. Your dedication to sustainability and our community is instrumental in shaping a brighter tomorrow.

Join us and Impact
Students

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

February 25: Market Expo (Oak Ridge High School)

February 27: Market Expo (Osceola High School)

March 7: Market Expo (Ocoee High School)

March 7-9: Disney Bowl-a-Thon

March 10: 3DE Tour (Ocoee High School)

April 2-4: JA Inspire Orange

Volunteer With Us!



We're currently seeking enthusiastic volunteers to participate in in our Career Speaker Series for the Spring! Your involvement would greatly benefit our mission, and we'd love for you to consider these opportunities and even share them with your colleagues here in Central Florida. We have opportunities in both Orange and Osceola County.

Career Speaker volunteers, share their professional journey with students, inspiring and educating them about different career paths. It's a great way to connect with students and offer them insights into various industries and professions.

Sign up to become a Career
Speaker!



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