

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Junior Achievement Hosts 3,500 Osceola County Students at JA Inspire**

*Annual engages youth to empower their futures, from classroom to career*

KISSIMMEE, FL – January 28, 2025 – Junior Achievement of Central Florida proudly hosted its annual **JA Inspire** event at **Osceola Heritage Park**, bringing together over 3,500 eighth-grade students from the Osceola School District for an immersive career exploration experience.

The event provided students with the unique opportunity to engage directly with over 50 local businesses, industry leaders, and higher education institutions. Upon entering the event, on hand to welcome students were leaders and administrators from the School District of Osceola County, including Superintendent Dr. Mark Shanoff. Throughout the day, students explored interactive exhibits, participated in hands-on activities, and connected with professionals from diverse fields, including healthcare, technology, construction, and hospitality. These real-world interactions gave students valuable insights into the skills and qualifications needed to succeed in various industries.

JA Inspire exists to create ‘boundless futures’ by connecting students with opportunities today.

“JA Inspire is all about opening doors and sparking ambition,” said Karen Revels, President and CEO of Junior Achievement of Central Florida. “By exposing students to the possibilities ahead, we’re helping them envision and take the first steps toward bright, fulfilling futures. This event truly inspires the community builders and workforce of tomorrow. We are grateful for the support of our community partners and educators who make this event possible.”

JA Inspire serves as a bridge between education and the workplace, empowering tomorrow’s leaders to make informed decisions about their high school, college, and career trajectories. JA Inspire aligns with Junior Achievement’s mission to prepare young people for economic success and workforce readiness, encouraging them to set educational and career goals that reflect their passions and skills while addressing future workforce needs.

Junior Achievement will host another JA Inspire for Orange County Public School eighth-grade students in April 2025 at the Orange County Convention Center, which will host 15,000 students over a 3-day period.

#### **About Junior Achievement of Central Florida**

Junior Achievement of Central Florida (JA Central Florida) empowers the next generation by equipping young people with the knowledge and skills needed to achieve economic success. Through hands-on programs and community partnerships, JA Central Florida inspires students to dream big, prepare for the workforce, and make smart financial decisions.

For more information about JA Inspire or to learn how you can support Junior Achievement of Central Florida, please visit [www.jacentralfl.org](http://www.jacentralfl.org).

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