



## NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release:**

September 27, 2011

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### **JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF MAINE SENDS BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS BACK TO SCHOOL**

*Local businesspeople take JA entrepreneurship, work readiness and financial literacy programs to the classroom.*

*MAINE* – Across the state, kids of all ages are heading back to school. At the same time, many businesspeople are preparing to do the same—as Junior Achievement volunteers.

Each year, more than 300 business professionals, parents, retirees and college students throughout the State of Maine help students in Junior Achievement programs develop the skills they need to succeed in a competitive economy. Using their personal experiences in combination with JA's innovative, age-appropriate curricula, these volunteers teach young people about entrepreneurship, work readiness and financial literacy. For example, third-grade students learn about careers and how businesses contribute to a community in Junior Achievement's *Our City*<sup>®</sup> program, and high school students learn business-management basics through Junior Achievement's online program, *JA Titan*<sup>®</sup>

“Volunteers are the heart of Junior Achievement, helping the organization empower young people to own their economic success. They inspire our children to discover their potential and find their niches in the 21<sup>st</sup>-century global marketplace,” said Melissa Bourque, Acting JA of Maine President, “Without volunteers’ dedication and excellence, JA would not be able to provide the positive impact it has on the local community.”

Junior Achievement of Maine is currently seeking volunteers for this year's programs. JA offers programs from kindergarten through 12th grade and orients volunteers on how to utilize the user-friendly materials and work with students. Those interested in volunteering for JA of Maine should contact JA staff by phone at (207) 347-4333 or visit the website at [www.jamaine.org](http://www.jamaine.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 four million students per year in 124 markets across the United States, with an additional 5.8 million students served by operations in 119 other countries worldwide. Visit [www.ja.org](http://www.ja.org) for more information.

**About Junior Achievement of Maine**

Junior Achievement of Maine is a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to educating Maine students in grades k-12 about entrepreneurship, work readiness, and financial literacy through the help of our dedicated volunteers. This past year, JA of Maine reached over 8,600 Maine students and it is our hope that we can reach over 9,000 this school year. For more information on how to become a volunteer, please visit our website at [www.jamaine.org](http://www.jamaine.org)

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