



Junior Achievement™

Staff Alumni Network
A Pioneer Legacy

2024 NLC Scholarship Recipients Say, “Thank you”

I am deeply grateful for your generous scholarship that allowed me to attend this year’s leadership conference. Your support enabled me to enhance my skills, network with other teammates from across the country, and contribute more effectively to our non-profit mission. Thank you for believing in our cause and investing in my growth. Your kindness will have a lasting impact, and I am committed to paying it forward. Sincerely,

Christine Schultz, Associate Director of Operations, JA of Wisconsin

I'm super excited about NLC
Wendy Hodges-Kent, Director of Development, JA of Southern Nevada

I am a recipient of our JA NLC scholarship and wanted to send you and the team at Junior Achievement Staff Alumni Network a heartfelt **thank you** for providing me and other colleagues from across the country with the opportunity to attend NLC this month. If you are planning to be in attendance next week in Kansas City, I look forward to meeting you in person. With appreciation,

Alisa Jankowitz, Major Gifts Officer, JA of Greater Fairfield County

I am back at my home JA campus in Tampa, reflecting on the incredible week we had in Kansas City. I wanted to extend my heartfelt gratitude for the generous scholarship that allowed me to attend Junior Achievement’s National Leadership Conference. Your support has had a profound impact on my life and work, and I am deeply thankful.

The conference was truly transformative. I had the chance to learn from inspiring leaders, participate in insightful workshops, and connect with passionate individuals committed to making a positive difference in their communities. We laughed, we listened, we shared, and we even shed some tears! The knowledge and skills I gained have already begun to influence my approach to work, providing me with fresh perspectives and renewed energy. The connections I made and the stories I heard from fellow attendees were incredibly inspiring. Seeing so many people dedicated to creating a better future for young people was encouraging and so motivating.

Your support made this possible. Thank you for believing in the potential of Junior Achievement and for your commitment to empowering emerging leaders. I am truly grateful for the investment you have made in my future, and I am determined to pay it forward by helping others to grow and develop their skillsets for the greatest impact in Tampa Bay.

Warm regards, **Liza Stevens**, Senior Director, Development Operations, JA of Tampa Bay, Inc. and 3Dby Junior Achievement-Tampa Bay

With NLC right around the corner, I wanted to reach out and say thank for scholarship to attend this year’s conference. I am looking forward to building more JA connections and growing professionally. With the help of JASAN, I am able to get more leadership opportunities and insight into the JA organization. My role at JA has changed a lot, but with the help of JA USA I have always felt supported and prepared to succeed. Conferences like NLC play a big part in that. I appreciate your support and investment in me.

I am so grateful to be a part of the JA. It has been a wonderful experience; I can’t wait to see what the future holds at JA.

Thank you again, **Shelbee Axsom-Anderson** Associate Director of Programs, JA of the Michigan Great Lakes



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Thank you so much for awarding me the scholarship to attend NLC. I am honored to be one of the recipients this year and truly thankful for JSAN's generosity and support.

Attending this conference will allow me the opportunity to gain valuable insights, develop my leadership skills, and connect with inspiring leaders and peers.

Thank you again for this wonderful opportunity...looking forward to our breakfast on the 18th.

Have a great long weekend!

Jerri McInturff, Director of Education, JA North Florida

I am writing to send my heartfelt gratitude to you and JASAN for the scholarship that will make it possible for me to attend NLC this year for the first time in my 12-year tenure with Junior Achievement. I am very excited for this new experience. I am super lucky to be attending with my supervisor, Anne Landers, and the President of JA of Arizona, Katherine Cecala, along with a couple other colleagues. I am also so grateful to them and the rest of the leadership of our organization that are also making it possible for me to attend.

In addition to the conference itself, I look forward to exploring Kansas City with my teammates. Despite the heat, I look forward to the adventure!

Thank you again! I am so looking forward to the week!

Codie Cancellieri, Education Director, JA of Arizona

My name is Lesa Walker and I'm the Entrepreneurial Initiative Manager at JA of East Tennessee. I am one of the scholarship recipients to attend NLC in Kansas City. I have been with JA since July 2023 and I'm excited to network with other JA areas and glean best practices and information from our time together.

I look forward to the scholarship breakfast on July 18th.

Lesa Walker, Entrepreneurial Initiative Manager, JA of East Tennessee

Thank you and JASAN so much for providing me with a scholarship to be able to attend NLC this summer. I'm super excited to be given this opportunity to work, learn and grow with JA peers from other areas! I've heard this conference is amazing.

If you will be at the Thursday breakfast, I'd like to meet and thank you in person too.

Have a fantastic week!

Suzanne Maddux, Controller, JA of Oregon & SW Washington



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I wanted to extend a note of gratitude and offer many thanks for extending me and a staff member a JASAN scholarship. As a new area president, it was a very nice surprise.

I'm happy to know that a JA Staff Alumni Network exists and that you facilitate promoting all things JA USA.

I look forward to the breakfast and learning more.

Kind Regards,
Lourdes de la Mata-Little, President & CEO, JA of Greater Miami

Thank you so much for the scholarship to attend NLC! The information and peer to peer connections that I was able to make during the conference so far have already given me such ideas for ways to improve both my work and our area office as a whole, which in turn means we will be able to better serve the students in our area. I am grateful for your generosity and the opportunity it has afforded me. I look forward to the breakfast tomorrow and would like to say thank you again!

Katelyn Bates, Director of Program & Volunteer Operations, JA of the Palm Beaches & Treasure Coast

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my deepest gratitude for selecting me as a recipient of the scholarship to attend the Junior Achievement National Leadership Conference. This incredible opportunity means a great deal to me, and I am sincerely honored to have been chosen.

Attending this conference has not only been a chance for me to further develop my leadership skills but it was also a unique opportunity to learn from accomplished professionals and peers from around the country. I am beyond thankful to have engaged with the diverse perspectives and insights that will undoubtedly enrich my understanding of leadership and business.

Your generous support has made it possible for me to participate in an experience that I am certain will have a profound impact on my personal and professional growth. I am committed to applying the knowledge gained to positively contribute to my community and future endeavors.

Once again, thank you for investing in my education and development. Your belief in my potential is truly inspiring, and I am determined to make you proud.

Warm regards,

Season Truong, Capstone Manager, JA of Central Carolinas

Thank you once again for the scholarship that allowed me to attend NLC! This marks my second year participating, and once again, I left feeling incredibly inspired and motivated to continue my work with JA.

Sincerely,

Brittney Wells, Senior Director of Programs, JA of North Central Ohio



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I am writing to express my deepest gratitude for providing me with a scholarship for this year's NLC in Kansas City. I have been with JA Arizona for two and a half years, and it has been the most professionally rewarding experience of my entire post-college career. I have always dreamt of working somewhere that my ideas were valued and respected, where I could share innovation without fear of ridicule, and where I could continue to grow as a leader and servant. JAAZ has become a home I didn't know I needed and has provided me with the most amazing professional opportunities. I am a better leader and a better human-being since becoming involved in this amazing organization, and NLC will undoubtedly drive that point home even more. I look forward to the sheer volume of knowledge I will be exposed to at NLC, and I can't thank you enough for helping me get there!

Warmest Regards,

Jennie Clausen, Ph.D., Program Director – JA Inspire, JA of Arizona

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and the members of JASAN for providing me with a scholarship to attend NLC this year. I appreciate this opportunity and I will use it to develop my skills as a professional in an effort to provide the best service to the students in Miami-Dade County.

I believe wholeheartedly in JA's mission, and I will use the skills that I gain from NLC to push my personal mission of getting our curriculum into every school in Miami. Thank you all once again, and I look forward to thanking you all in person at NLC. Have a great day!

Adam Brinson, Senior Vice President of Education, JA of Greater Miami, Inc.