

Junior Achievement of South Texas

Fact Sheet

WHAT IS JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT? JA is the world's largest organization dedicated to educating students about work readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy through experiential, hands-on programs. Junior Achievement programs help prepare young people for the real world by showing them how to generate wealth and effectively manage it, how to create jobs which make their communities more robust, and how to apply entrepreneurial thinking to the workplace. Students put these lessons into action, and help strengthen their communities.

CORE PURPOSE: JA's core purpose is to inspire and prepare young people to succeed in a global economy.

CORE VALUES: Developed by the board of directors and professional staff, JA of South Texas follows four core values: (1) the impact of our programs on children is our bottom line; (2) integrity and honesty guide our performance; (3) we strive for excellence in everything we do; (4) we provide passionate, empathetic customer service to develop long-term relationships.

VOLUNTEERS: JA of South Texas' 3,000+ classroom volunteers come from all walks of life and include business people, college students, parents, and retirees. These dedicated individuals are the backbone of the organization.

STUDENTS:

During the 2010/2011 school year, JA of South Texas will use hands-on experiences to help 73,056 students understand the economics of life. Of the participants, approximately 70% were economically disadvantaged with the following ethnic breakdown: African American (5.5%); Asian/Pacific Islander (2.4%); Hispanic/Latino (75.5%); Native American (.4%); and White (16.4%).

PROVEN SUCCESS: JA is one of a few global non-profits to use independent, third-party evaluators to gauge the impact of its programs. Since 1993, independent evaluators have conducted studies on JA's effectiveness. Findings prove that JA has a positive impact in a number of critical areas. These results are available free upon request. Summaries of the findings also are published in the JA Programs section at www.ja.org.

LEADERSHIP: Craig Boyan, President & COO of H-E-B Grocery Company, is chairman of the JA of South Texas board of directors. A total of 36 JA board members represent a wide range of organizations from throughout the community. Dr. Robert J. Durón, Superintendent of SAISD, serves as chairman of the 15 member Education Advisory Committee.

A BRIEF HISTORY: Junior Achievement was founded in 1919 by Theodore Vail, president of American Telephone & Telegraph; Horace Moses, president of Strathmore Paper Co.; and Senator Murray Crane of Massachusetts. Its first program, JA Company Program, was offered to high school students on an after-school basis. In 1975, the organization entered the classroom with the introduction of Project Business for the middle grades. Founded locally in 1979, Junior Achievement of South Texas has offices in San Antonio, Corpus Christi, and Laredo.

FUNDING: JA of South Texas operates on a \$1.7 million annual budget and receives support from individual contributors, corporations and foundations.

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