



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF KENTUCKIANA PRESIDENT RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL AWARD**

(Louisville, KY) — Jennifer Helgeson, distinguished president of Junior Achievement of Kentuckiana, has been honored with the esteemed Junior Achievement (JA) Karl Flemke Pioneer Achievement Award for 2025. This prestigious accolade is bestowed upon first-time JA presidents who have exhibited exceptional contributions and accomplishments within the organization. The award ceremony took place at the Junior Achievement USA® National Leadership Conference held in Cleveland, Ohio, from July 21 to 24, 2025. Helgeson triumphed over four other outstanding finalists to secure this highly sought-after national recognition.

Under Helgeson remarkable leadership, JA Kentuckiana has achieved impressive growth and demonstrated commendable productivity within the Junior Achievement organization. Through innovative strategies and steadfast dedication, Helgeson has steered JA Kentuckiana towards unprecedented success, leaving an indelible impact on the organization.

Expressing gratitude for receiving this prestigious award, Jennifer Helgeson humbly remarked, "Receiving the JA Karl Flemke Pioneer Achievement Award is an incredible honor," said Jennifer Helgeson, President of Junior Achievement of Kentuckiana. "This recognition reflects the dedication and passion of our entire team and Board of Directors. I'm proud of all we've accomplished together, and we remain steadfast in our mission to equip young people with the skillset and mindset to build thriving communities." Tim Greinert, President of Junior Achievement USA, commended Jennifer's exceptional achievements, stating, "Jennifer's remarkable accomplishments

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serve as a beacon of inspiration for all emerging JA executives, as our organization continues to empower students to bridge the gap between classroom knowledge and real-world application. We are delighted to honor her with this well-deserved award."

Jennifer Helgeson emphasized, "Winning this award is a tremendous honor, but it is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the remarkable staff and board of directors at Junior Achievement of Kentuckiana. With their unwavering support, alongside our invaluable volunteers, donors, and educators, I am confident that we will continue to witness significant growth and empower young individuals to take ownership of their future economic success, plan for their future, and make informed academic and economic decisions."

The Karl Flemke Pioneer Achievement Award serves as a tribute to the late Karl Flemke, who held the position of president of Junior Achievement Inc. from 1982 until his untimely passing in 1994.

### **About Junior Achievement USA®**

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 learning experiences 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. Additionally, Junior Achievement is expanding its reach to 18-to-25-year-olds to provide young adults with critical life skills, as well as to pre-K youth to ensure children get a solid head start. Today, JA reaches more than 4.4 million students per year in 102 markets across the United States as part of 12.5 million students served by operations in more than 100 other countries worldwide. Junior Achievement USA is a member of JA Worldwide. For more information, visit [www.ja.org](http://www.ja.org).