



NEWS RELEASE

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Palo Alto College honored by Junior Achievement with a U.S. President's Volunteer Service Award

Junior Achievement USA® (JA) will honor Palo Alto College with a Bronze level 2017-2018 U.S. President's Volunteer Service Award for providing at least 5,000 volunteer hours to local Junior Achievement offices during the 2017-2018 school year. The U.S. President's Volunteer Service Award will be presented to 44 organizations at an awards ceremony and celebration event at the New York Stock Exchange on Tuesday, March 12, 2019, during the JA Volunteer Summit, supported by American Express, in New York, NY, as part of Junior Achievement's year-long Centennial Celebration. The complete list of recipients can be found [here](#).

In 2003, President George W. Bush established the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation (the Council) to recognize the valuable contributions volunteers make in communities and encourage more people to serve. The Council created the President's Volunteer Service Award program as a way to thank and honor individuals who, by their demonstrated commitment and example, inspire others to engage in volunteer service. In 2006, Junior Achievement became an official certifying organization for this award, which recognizes corporations with a U.S. presence that provide volunteers to teach JA programs anywhere in the world.

"Junior Achievement volunteers are important mentors for young people, bringing our programs to life," said Tony Rock, president of JA of South Texas. "JA volunteers share their experiences and skills with students while delivering our programs, teaching them how to manage their money, succeed in the workforce, or start a business that creates jobs and grows the economy. JA's volunteers are critical to our organization's success and are a vital part of our mission."

Palo Alto College's partnership with JA began in 2007. In Spring 2015, the College piloted "JA in a Day", in which students enrolled in the College's Teacher Education program began volunteering to "take over" an entire elementary school campus – from kindergarten to 5th grade – for one full school day each week in order to complete their required field hours and teach important community building and financial literacy education. Since the launch, more than 620 Palo Alto College students have "taken over" 922 elementary school classrooms, teaching more than 10,000 students in south side elementary schools through the JA in a Day program.

Junior Achievement's kindergarten through high school programs are delivered across the country by a network of more than 245,000 volunteers, including over 4,300 in South Texas. JA programs provide innovative, hands-on work readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy education to more than 94,000 students in the San Antonio and south Texas community each year.

About Junior Achievement USA® (JA)

Celebrating its centennial in 2019, 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 more than 4.8 million students per year in 107 markets across the United States, with an additional 5.2 million students served by operations in 100 other countries worldwide. Junior Achievement USA is a member of JA Worldwide. Visit www.ja.org for more information.

Palo Alto College, part of the Alamo Colleges District, is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges and a recipient of the 2015 Texas Award for Performance Excellence, a finalist for the 2016 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, and a top 10 finalist for the 2019 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence. With over 10,000 students, Palo Alto College is accredited to offer associate degrees and short-term certificates. The College is located on the south side of San Antonio at 1400 W. Villaret Blvd. at I-410 and Texas Hwy 16 and online at alamo.edu/pac.

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