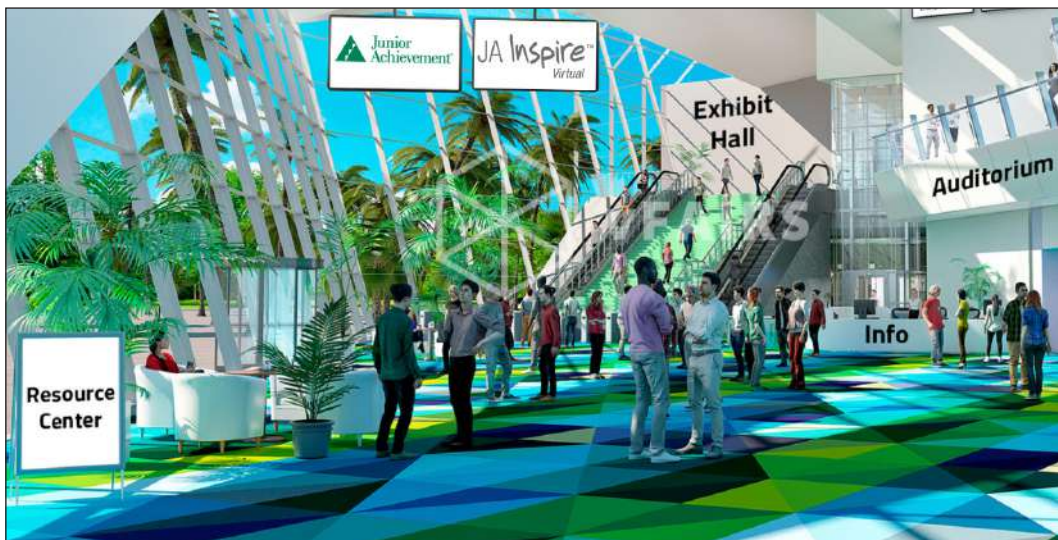# JA Inspire™ Virtual

Event Date: March 10, 2021

JA Inspire Virtual is more than a career fair; it brings together the business community and local schools and is designed to help launch students into their future—high school, college, and careers beyond. The program consists of three segments: (1) pre-event curriculum that may be teacher-led in the classroom, delivered via a remote learning session, or completed by students using the self-guided curriculum; (2) virtual career expo experience; and (3) post-event debrief.

VFairs, the online interactive platform used to host the *JA Inspire Virtual* career expo, can be used either in place of a face-to-face *JA Inspire* event or as an enhancement following a face-to-face event. Within the virtual experience, students attend webinars and presentations, explore career booths, and interact with career speakers. The experience can be configured in a variety of ways, depending on JA Area and local school district preferences.

JA INSPIRE VIRTUAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Is part of the JA Work and Career Readiness Pathway

- Is a fully online, self-guided learning experience that students can access inside or outside the classroom, following completion of the *JA Inspire* curriculum

- Requires a digital device for each participating student

- Provides an online, interactive alternative for students who are unable to attend an on-site event

- Can be used as an optional enhancement for students who attend an on-site face-to-face event

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VFAIRS PLATFORM DETAILS

- Accessible from any device

- No downloads required

- Visually rich virtual environment that mimics the dynamics of a physical live event, including a virtual lobby, information booth, auditorium for presentations, and halls with booths and sponsors

- Students can revisit the virtual event for 3 months following the live event.

- Materials can be saved to a virtual briefcase and emailed to students or to parents post-event.

JA INSPIRE CURRICULUM

The *JA Inspire* curriculum provides educators with lessons and resources to effectively integrate work and career readiness into the classroom. Implementation is flexible, based on educator and JA Area preferences. A self-guided delivery option is under development and will be available for educator and student use in fall 2020. Content delivery will be via a combination of narrated, interactive screencasts and fillable PDF student activity pages. Curriculum will be presented in short, bite-sized components for ease of student consumption.

Session One: Find Your Path includes two modules:
Why Plan a Career? and Inventory Your Interests.

Students understand the importance of career planning and assess their personal interests in the context of career paths.

Session Two: Explore Your Options includes two modules:
Career Clusters and Where Do You Fit?

Students learn to recognize career clusters that match their skills and interests and identify industries and jobs that offer potential opportunities.

Session Three: Present Yourself includes two modules:
Soft Skills and The Elevator Pitch.

Students assess their soft skills and identify any areas needing improvement. They also create an elevator pitch to help communicate their areas of interest.

Session Four: What to Expect at the JA Inspire Day includes two modules:
Set Your Priorities and Plan for the Big Day.

Students set *JA Inspire* day goals related to personal skills and interests and identify relevant companies they want to explore at the event.

Session Five: Build Your Network includes two modules:
What Is Networking? and Ask the Right Questions.

Students begin to understand the elements and importance of networking. They also prepare questions for businesspeople they will meet in their field(s) of interest.

Session Six: Make a Plan includes two modules:
Re-Evaluate and Next Steps.

Following the *JA Inspire* event, students evaluate personal goals and priorities to identify next steps, including exploration of high school coursework, extracurricular activities, and networking.

JA Digital Career Book

JA Digital Career Book will provide middle and high school students with a unique opportunity to engage in detailed career exploration, with a focus on opportunities in their own community and regional area. State-of-the-art technology includes graphic depiction of careers; an assessment to provide students with suggestions on careers that best suit their interests, talents, and values; and the opportunity to explore postsecondary education requirements, cost, and regional opportunities.

JA Digital Career Book will support and extend learning for JA programs in the Work and Career Readiness Pathway. This resource will be available in initial release in fall 2020.
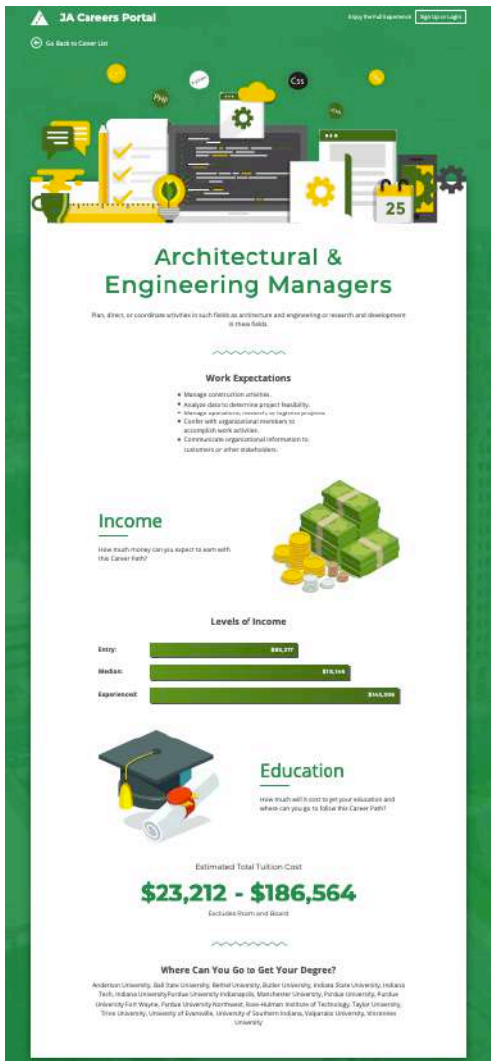
KEY FEATURES

- Self-guided student resource that can be used inside or outside of the classroom

- Exploration of potential careers and pathways and link to real-time job market data

- Immersive, hands-on experience, inspiring students to explore their future by exposing them to in-demand careers in their region

- For use in entry- and advanced-level versions of the *JA Finance Park®* simulation and in-classroom curriculum

- Integration with all JA work and career readiness programs, including *JA Career Success®, JA Career Exploration Fair™, JA It's My Future®, JA Job Shadow™,* and *JA Inspire™*

- Aligned with school district work and career readiness objectives

- Sponsorship opportunity for regional businesses to highlight career opportunities

- National data and local data updates for postsecondary education and career opportunities

![Junior Achievement logo]

RESOURCE DESCRIPTION

- JA Work and Career Readiness Pathway

- Placement: Grades 7–12, in-school, after-school, or out-of-school

- Duration: ICH** will vary based on length of student engagement with the content.

- Students can engage with the *JA Digital Career Book* one or many times during and after completion of a JA program.

- Volunteers are not required.

STUDENT TAKEAWAYS AND ARTIFACTS

- Comprehensive assessment of student interests, talents, and potential using the Holland codes model

- Define possible pathways in a career cluster that inform student career selection

- Overview of educational opportunities that align to students' desired career path

- Tips for resume building, postsecondary education and training requirements; guidance on paying for education and training; and up-to-date career information, including salary, career growth, and typical job responsibilities

- Resource guides, plus access to other JA websites and resources, for further career exploration and planning

- Understanding of community and regional career opportunities

- Future functionality to include creation of a student portfolio

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**Students must create or use an existing account to track and award ICH to JA Areas.