

JA AP WORKS

November 2016

Message from Vivian Lau, President of JA Asia Pacific

At the November JA AP Board meeting, we presented an update on the JA AP ROC priorities for 2016-17. The Board commended on the progress made and reinforced the importance of understanding and creating impact of our work in the region. As we stay committed to building a strong AP region that can live up to the potential of the 60% youth power in our own region, we would like to recap important update on the JA footprint in the region:

JA Australia - after six years of JA absence in Australia, we are finally restarting JA in Australia. The new JA Australia is chaired by Vicky Lay, a serial entrepreneur herself and is headed by Aaron Ngan, an alumnus of Young Achievers Australia. JA Australia is already working with JA AP on the Bloomberg project in the region, and we are proud to introduce Vicky and Aaron in the JA Story and People section in this issue of JA AP WORKS.

JA Malaysia - effective November 1, 2016, JA Malaysia is officially an independent operation from AmCham Malaysia. We thank Shanthi Kanthaswamy and Mel Majid for working through the challenges of setting up an independent JA Malaysia.

We are pleased to announce that JA Malaysia has been awarded a major grant by JPMorgan Chase Foundation to implement JA Pathways to Employment. In collaborations with the ROC, JA Malaysia will provide an integrated automation and soft skills training to transition underprivileged students into entry-level instrument technician positions that offer career pathways in Malaysia's fast-growing manufacturing sector.

There will be two major JA Leadership Meeting and Conference in 2017. They are the JA AP SLT meeting in February and the JAWW Global Leadership Conference (GLC) in July 2017. More information on the leadership events can be found in this issue as well.

Look forward to a world where every young person can be inspired and empowered!



The JA Story

Interview with Aaron Ngan – Executive of JA Australia and JA Alumnus



JA AP: Describe your first entrepreneurial experience with Young achievement Australia / JA Australia

Aaron: My Young Achievement Australia experience was as a high school student (Year 11) where I joined a team for a program that I didn't know much about. Our product: fashionable phone socks.

As the Company's HR Manager, I found myself spending many hours each week developing plans and strategies to support and motivate our team members towards running a successful company.

When the program finished, we had returned to our initial shareholders a return of \$6.60 for every \$2 share purchased, a return on investment of 330%!!

I then submitted an entry and competed for the Business Person of the Year award which I subsequently won in 2006. This was an eye-opening experience and I realized that Business was the path I would take for my future career.

JA AP: What was your journey like to get to where you are as the CEO for JA Australia?

Aaron: The Journey towards becoming CEO of JA Australia has not been easy. When Young Achievement Australia closed down in 2009 I felt that Australia had lost a truly great program and I wanted to do whatever I could to bring it back. After gaining more experience through various team leadership and governance roles at university, I began working again to restart YAA with the help of a good friend and former participant Tom Hunt who had been a part of the team I mentored in 2009. We worked through 2015 to lay the groundwork and had the privilege of having our third co-founder, Vicky Lay to join us in mid-2015.

As we progressed through 2016 we began to discuss the opportunity to re-affiliate with JA Worldwide and JA Asia Pacific, as we worked toward this goal we realized as a team that I would need to step up and commit to working full time to re-start JA Australia.

Now that we have reached the end of 2016, and JA Affiliation has been realized, we have come so far and I look forward to taking on the full-time CEO role beginning in 2017. It is just the beginning for the rebirth of JA Australia. I am incredibly humbled and hopeful for our future.

JA AP: Describe what you have done to achieve a personal goal.

Aaron: I believe that when achieving personal goals we must align ourselves with a bigger picture for ourselves, and a bigger picture for the world. Then the goal will move from being something we would only like to achieve, to something we MUST achieve.

JA AP: What is your aspiration for JA Australia?

Aaron: My aspiration is that JA Australia exceeds the past reputation of YAA and becomes a household name for entrepreneurial and financial literacy education in Australia in its own right. I wish to see JA Australia become a great organization that remains in the forefront of educational innovation, not just within Australia but also giving back to the wider JA community.

JA AP: What three words would you use to describe yourself?

- Energetic
- Passionate
- Committed

JA alumni know that JA programs empower students to make the connection between what they learn in school and how it can be applied in the real world. Alumni can become powerful, passionate community JA supporters - they can support JA as volunteers, mentors, judges, board members, or as financial contributors. After all, who are better to speak about the importance of JA than those who have put lessons to work for actual results?

Please visit www.jaasiapacific.org to register as JA Alumni and for more information on volunteering opportunities in the Asia Pacific region.

#JAAPAlumni

Regional Initiatives, Programs, and Events

Bloomberg Speed Mentoring Day in November 2016. Engaging Bloomberg employees to inspire and mentor high school students at the workplace.

Speed Mentoring provides students an opportunity to have multiple conversations relating to career with different Bloomberg volunteers, which enables them to expose to a diverse field of professionals in a short period of time. They were also being toured around the Bloomberg office to understand more about the day-to-day operation of the leading provider of financial information.



This year, students from Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Japan, and Singapore were able to be speed mentored by Bloomberg volunteers at Bloomberg's office on the same day November 16! The feedback was very positive for both student and volunteers who participated in the events and there will be one more speed mentoring event in Sydney in the first week of December. The speed mentoring program will provide benefits to up to 125 students, engaging more than 100 business volunteers from Bloomberg in the region.



This year, in addition to supporting Bloomberg Speed mentoring and Start-up program in Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore and Sydney; Bloomberg is also supporting JA Company program in Hong Kong, Japan, and Singapore; and implementing work readiness programs that include JA Success Skills and JA Career Success. For the first time, Bloomberg will sponsor the 2017 JA Asia Pacific Company of the Year (JA AP COY) in Tokyo, Japan.

2017 JA Asia Pacific Company of the Year Competition (JA AP COY) is confirmed to be held in the heart of Tokyo, Japan - Tokyo Midtown.

Organized by JA Asia Pacific and with the support from our host member JA Japan, JA Asia Pacific is proud to announce that the 2017 JA AP COY competition event venue is confirmed at [Tokyo Midtown](#) from Feb 19 to 23, 2017.



For the people. For the town. For the planet.

Tokyo Midtown is both a people-friendly district and a neighborhood good for the earth. Designed directly into the handsome exterior appearance, and the exquisite interior decoration, are keen considerations for the character of the Roppongi district, along with systems easy on the global environment.

Please stay tuned for JA AP COY 2017 registration information by end of December 2016!

Two major JA Leadership Meeting and Conference in 2017 – JA AP SLT meeting and GLC 2017



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2017 JA AP SLT Meeting

The JA AP SLT Meeting is the Leadership meeting where JA AP SLT comes together to discuss important regional matters, plan and create joint regional projects and priorities, shares best practices, and for JA AP ROC to update Members on the latest status of the region.

Taking advantage of the 2017 JA AP COY to be held in Tokyo from February 19 to 23, JA AP SLT can attend the different functions of the JA AP COY. JA AP ROC and JA Japan will also organize a tour of the Student City and Finance Park of JA Japan in Shinagawa, Tokyo.

When: February 23, 2017

Where:	Tokyo, Japan
Meeting venue:	Student City and Finance Park, JA Japan (TBC)
Target participants:	JA AP SLT

2017 JAWW Global Leadership Conference (GLC)

The conference will have a mix of inspiration, best-practice sharing, and down-to-business workshops in the areas of programs, marketing, fundraising, operations, and more. The 2017 JAWW GLC is the conference “where strategy, collaboration, network sharing, and fun will be featured! It’s a unique opportunity to engage with like-minded, passionate colleagues who are committed to inspire and prepare young people to succeed in a global economy.



For queries on JA branding guidelines and available tools, please contact [JA AP Marketing](#).

JA People

Profile of Vicky Lay, Board Chair of JA Australia



JA AP: Tell us about your most memorable entrepreneurship experience.

Vicky: Investing all my savings while still a university student (\$11,000) to save my EdTech company from bankruptcy then closing our first \$1 million from a Silicon Valley-based billionaire a few weeks later.

JA AP: Describe a difficult project and how you overcame it.

Vicky: In one semester, we achieved 10x revenue in less than 6 months. This was an amazing accomplishment but highly stressful as our operations, customer service, logistics and fulfillment systems were not yet ready to scale. Short term, we got through that semester with sheer hustle and very little sleep. Long term, we custom-built our own Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system to handle a high volume of transactions, refining our fulfillment process with each new semester and gathering feedback from customers.

JA AP: In a short space of time, you have gone from being a young entrepreneur to

managing a fund for dozens of early stage startups – please share with us your passion about working with entrepreneurs

Vicky: Artesian Venture Partners is an early-stage venture capital business with offices in Australia, Singapore, Shanghai, New York and London. There I am mapping the Australian startup ecosystem, decoding the DNA of entrepreneurial success and helping more entrepreneurs secure funding.

Being a relatively young, Asian, female founder turned VC who grew up in the not-so-polished parts of Western Sydney, I am the epitome of what you would call a ‘minority’ among the founder/board member/investor circles and frankly, I’d like to change that.

Specifically, I am committed to:

1. Helping more people build companies that change the world.
2. Developing the youth into the type of world leaders I would follow.
3. Increasing the number of minority-led startups, boards and investments.
4. Getting Australia on the global startup map.
5. Uncapping human potential – in all its forms.

JA AP: What interests you most in the capacity as a board chair for JA Australia?

Vicky: To quote Winston Churchill, “the best way to predict the future is to create it”. I believe that as board chair for JA Australia, I will be able to play my part in empowering the future leaders of tomorrow to uncap their human potential and change the world for the better.

Want to know more about Vicky and her work in helping young entrepreneurs to unleash their potentials, please go to:

-<https://au.linkedin.com/in/vickylay>

-<https://vickylay.com/about/>

-<http://www.startupdaily.net/2016/08/artesians-vicky-lay-committed-helping-young-entrepreneurs-realise-full-potential/>



Local Events' Highlights

JA Hong Kong Alumni Series: Homecoming Party

Hong Kong Homecoming Party is the first wave of JA Hong Kong Alumni event series. The event was an ideal platform for JA Hong Kong Alumni to re-connect and exchange views with each other from universities or work in Hong Kong and abroad.



Attended by more than 40 JA Hong Kong Alumni, the event was kicked-off with a keynote address from Vivian Lau, President of JA Asia Pacific. All JA Alumni and JA staff/volunteers had a great evening connecting with like-minded people and immerse in boundless sharing of fun, expertise, and experience with one another.

#JuniorAchievementHK #JAHK #JAAlumniSeries #HomecomingParty

JA Japan - Iwaki City's Finance Park in action

Finance Park in Iwaki City was started up in 2014 along with Student City funded by Qatar Friendship Foundation. 76 students from Uchigo Junior High School visited the park to learn about household budget management on November 11, 2016. In addition to budgeting,



the program brings students opportunity to start thinking about their future career; and inspires them to focus in school for learnings and the future.

JA Japan runs Student City/Finance Park sites in 4 cities across the country. More than 200,000 students experienced the programs to date. The 4 Student City/Finance Park in Japan are located in:

- Shinagawa, Tokyo
- Kyoto, Kyoto
- Sendai, Miyagi
- Iwaki, Fukushima

Please contact [JA Japan](#) for more information on JA Japan's Student City/Finance Park.

JA Singapore - Joint Entrepreneurship Talk by Felipe Gomez

**Entrepreneurial Attitude | Virtuosity | Innovation
Entrepreneurship Talk by Felipe Gomez**



JA Singapore had jointly organized an entrepreneurship talk by inspirational speaker [Felipe Gomez](#) with the Distinguished Universities Alumni League (DUAL) and Rotary Club of Sentosa in Singapore on November 3, 2016, targeting youth interested in Entrepreneurship including JA Alumni. Felipe's The Attitude-E keynote, presents a simple but powerful framework that awakens the entrepreneurial spirit in individuals, team, companies, governments, and communities.

JA Thailand – JA Company Program Trade Fair Event

JA Thailand had combined the Company Program (CP) Trade Fair event for both Thai and English CP programs contestants at the same event on November 13, 2016.

This year a total of 8 teams from 7 International schools participated in the CP Trade Fair. The winning teams will be invited to 2017 JA Asia Pacific Company of the Year Competition in Japan from 19 to 23 February 2017.



With the continuous funding and dedicated volunteer support from Bangkok Bank since 2014, JA Thailand had 25 schools participating in the CP Thai program this year, with 16 schools from Bangkok and 9 schools from the provinces: Nakorn Rajasima, Saraburi, Rajaburi, Nakorn Pathom, Ayudhaya, and Rayong; reaching a total 662 students in Thailand.



Major upcoming events in December 2016

JA Australia	JA China
<i>Event: Bloomberg Speed Mentoring</i>	<i>Event: 2016 YESxBOP Entrepreneurship Challenge</i>
Date: December 5, 2016	Time: December 10 to 11, 2016
Location: Bloomberg office in Sydney, Australia	Location: Fudan University Management

	School, Shanghai
<p><u>JA Indonesia</u></p> <p><i>Event: Inauguration of Taman Finance</i></p> <p>Date: December 3, 2016</p> <p>Location: Taman Mataram, Kebayoran Baru, Jakarta Selatan</p>	<p><u>JA Japan</u></p> <p><i>Event: JA Job Shadow</i></p> <p>Date: December 2, 2016</p> <p>Location: Osaka office of SAP Japan</p> <p><i>Event: Award Travel to Cambodia for "Asia Innovation Challenge (AIC)"</i></p> <p>Dates: December 10 to 13, 2016</p>
<p><u>JA Korea</u></p> <p><i>Event: Microsoft-JA Korea Hour of Code</i></p> <p>Date: December 3 to 4, 2016</p> <p>Location: Microsoft Seoul Office</p> <p><i>Event: Samsung-JA Korea Market & Economy</i></p> <p>Date: December 10 and December 17, 2016</p> <p>Location: Traditional Market in Suwon City</p>	<p><u>JA Philippines</u></p> <p><i>Event: JA Company of the Year (Collegiate): Business Plan Competition</i></p> <p>Date: December 14, 2016</p> <p>Location: Ateneo de Manila Professionals School</p>

To see what's happening locally around the region, please view the [Event Calendar on JA Asia Pacific Event page.](#)

A story on a JA Alumni or Volunteer? News on people? Interested to promote local events across the JA AP network?

Please email [Winnie Ho](#) to share with the network through the JA AP WORKS!

Until the next JA AP WORKS, have an inspiring and empowering day!

We also invite you to follow us on social media

Tag @jaasiapacific when you post and tweet breaking news, inspiring stories, events, alumni engagements, and more!

