

**JA Asia Pacific brings 17 student companies from 11 Asia Pacific locations in first ever “virtual”
JA Asia Pacific Company of the Year Virtual Competition**

NEWS RELEASE

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The 2020 JA Asia Pacific Company of the Year Competition (JA AP COY) is set to be held virtually from August 24 to 26, 2020.

The JA AP COY is JA Asia Pacific’s annual celebration of the achievements of young entrepreneurs in the region. The Company Program and annual regional competition help young people understand the role of business in the global economy by allowing students to organize and operate an actual business enterprise – where they must market and sell a product or service in the real world.

Organized by JA Asia Pacific and this year hosted by JA Guam, the 2020 JA AP COY represents the 10th edition of the competition - and first ever virtual iteration - for JA Asia Pacific. Participating student companies will represent 11 locations including: Brunei, China, Guam, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Turkmenistan.

The 2020 JA AP COY is supported by multinational companies including:

- FedEx Express
- Guam SBDC
- Guam Economic Development Authority
- Bank of Guam
- Bank of Hawaii
- Triple J
- GTA
- United Airlines

During the virtual competition, student companies will be evaluated by a panel of judges comprised of entrepreneurs, academics, and representatives from the local host nation business community.

Participating student companies will showcase their entrepreneurial skills and innovations through their Company Report, Business Video, and meeting with the judges virtually in the Pitch and Interview session.

In addition to the JA AP COY awards, student companies will also be competing for other prestigious awards including the FedEx Global Possibilities Award and the Young Entrepreneurs' Choice Award. For the first time, the JA AP COY's first place winning team will be automatically entered into a global competition to compete with COY champions from the other five JA regions for the de la Vega Global Entrepreneurship award.

All winning teams and award details will be unveiled at the 2020 JA AP COY Award Ceremony on August 26, 2020.

Both the Welcome and Opening and Awards Ceremony of the 2020 JA AP COY will be streamed live on JA Asia Pacific and JA Guam's Facebook pages (<https://www.facebook.com/jaasiapacific/> and <https://www.facebook.com/JAGuam/>)

- Welcome and Opening – August 24, 2020 / 3pm Chamorro Standard Time
- Awards Ceremony – August 26, 2020 / 6 pm Chamorro Standard Time

"JA Asia Pacific is proud to be the organizer of the 10th JA AP COY, a platform for young people from around the region to showcase their creativity, leadership and entrepreneurship since 2011. We are honoured to work with JA Guam to bring this year's JA regional flagship competition online, making it possible for everyone to celebrate the achievements of participating student companies during this challenging period of time" said Maziar Sabet, President and CEO, JA Asia Pacific.

About JA Asia Pacific Company of the Year Competition (JA AP COY):

The Competition celebrates the accomplishments of JA Company Program® students in the Asia Pacific region. During participation in the JA Company Program, students start and run their businesses with support from volunteers from their local business community. They develop and market a product or service with the goal of realizing a profit for their shareholders. The program has reached more than 20,000 Asia Pacific secondary school students in 2019.

About JA Asia Pacific:

JA Asia Pacific is a member of JA Worldwide, one of the world's largest youth-serving NGOs dedicated to preparing young people for employment and entrepreneurship. With the Asia Pacific region being home to 60% of the world's youth, JA Asia Pacific aims to empower young people to benefit from and contribute to the region's economic development and to create a positive impact in their lives and communities.

With teams across 18 countries and territories, the JA Asia Pacific network is comprised of nearly 50,000 volunteers, mentors, and teachers from all sectors of society with a reach of more than 1.2

million students. As a member of JA Worldwide, our global network is comprised of more than 465,000 volunteers, serving more than 12 million students in over 100 countries each year.

For more than 100 years, JA has delivered hands-on, experiential learning in work readiness, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship. We create pathways for employability, job creation and financial success. For more information, please visit www.jaasiapacific.org

About Junior Achievement of Guam (JA Guam):

Junior Achievement of Guam is a non-profit organization that has served more than 5,000 Guam students since 1975. JA Guam's mission is to inspire and prepare young people to succeed in a global economy.

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