Message from Vivian Lau, President of JA Asia Pacific



Student-centered learning is at the core of JA's experiential learning methodology, but how do educators and volunteers know whether students are engaged or confused, and more importantly, if the learning experiences are impactful.

In November, I had the honor to speak on "Creating internationally minded graduates" and to activate youth for the future of work at Bett Asia 2017 held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. One of the key highlights of the conference was: How Technology Can Transform Learning. The challenge and opportunity of designing effective learning for the future are that putting the learners at the center of everything we do. The Generation Z, or post-Millennial, learner (born 1990 to early 2000's) was shown to value video-based learning more than previous generations. They are comfortable with socializing and sharing online and prefer authentic messaging from peers. In the classroom, these students are demanding more interactive tools and self-paced video content, delivered through mobile devices. When designing for the learners, the emerging expectation is greater connectivity with content and friends, seamlessly personalized access, with media and conversation at the heart of the learning.

The key question for JA in Asia Pacific is the role we can play to integrate more self-centered, digitized tools and resources to make JA's learning experiences more impactful and effective. Let's stay tuned to the evolving future!

JA STORY

Get to know David Beaver – Board member for JA Guam and a proud JA Alumnus



David Beaver

1. Describe your first entrepreneurial experience with JA Guam

Working as a Wealth Management Advisor, can be defined as an entrepreneur. I define my practice, determine my products (my advice), which firm to collaborate with, and determine my revenue goals.

I understood these principals when I was a part of a JA Company program in my junior and senior years at my high school. My company produced Christmas ornaments the first year and customized notebooks the second. These principles that I acquired through JA, continue to guide me in my current role for the last 24 years.

2. What had brought you to join the board of governors for JA Guam?

JA shaped my impressionable years, being high school. During high school, I learned a lot about what entrepreneurship was about (a class at high school as well), but JA allowed me to put text book learning into actual practice. Those key ideas, shaped my understanding, that personal growth isn't handed to you, but earned.

Having the opportunity to work with JA Guam, has provided me the ability to ensure that our youth, has the ability to put text into actual practice. And hopefully, help impressionable kids understand, that it's up to them, to shape their future.

3. Describe what you have done to achieve a personal goal

Having a set of goals is important, financial, long term, and personal achievements. Goals provides structure and meaning to routine activity, and helps you understand that time is a commodity that cannot be wasted. I have trained for more than 6 months to compete in the "Tour of Guam", a 67 Mile Bike race in 2014, as well as trained for biking treks in Singapore, Scotland, Utah and the big island of Hawaii.

I have also set financial targets (net worth, revenue, etc.) at different age milestones (25, 30, 40 & 45).

4. What is your aspiration for JA Guam?

Long term growth for the organization, with the ability to touch each student (public and private) and help them understand the value of financial advice and respect for the compensation they receive for the time they have exchanged (for such compensation).

5. Describe yourself in a few words

Having a high ethical standard with a good moral compass, who sets goals, long term and short, financial and personal, who respects time and people.

Regional Initiatives, Programs, and Event

Bett Asia 2017 – Global Collaboration in Education

Bett Asia returned to Malaysia on November 15 to 16, 2017 for its fourth edition, under the continued support of Malaysia's Ministry of Education. Officiated by YB Dato' Seri Mahdzir bin Khalid, Minister of Education – Malaysia, the 2-day Leadership Summit and Expo welcomed over 2,000 attendees from 40+ countries, 100+ speakers, and 50+ exhibitors.

In honor of the 50th anniversary of ASEAN, the 2017 event theme was Global Collaboration in Education. A number of panel discussions were organized to address key opportunities to support collaboration and improve education systems across the Asia Pacific region, including a panel entitled "Creating Internationally Minded Graduates" that was joined by Ms. Vivian Lau, President of JA Asia Pacific



Panel discussion: Creating internationally minded graduates

"Our future is only going to be as good as our education...Let education liberate and free our youth to a world of possibilities and meaning", says Ms. Vivian Lau at Bett Asia 2017.

(https://www.facebook.com/BettAsia/?fref=mentions)

Announcing the 2018 JA Asia Pacific Company of the Year (JA AP COY) Competition



JA Asia Pacific had recently announced that the 2018 JA AP Company of the Year Competition (JA AP COY) will take place in Beijing, China from Thursday, March 29 to Saturday, March 31, 2018, with participants arriving on March 28 and departing on April 1.

With the excellent support from this year's host, JA China, the 2018 JA AP COY will be another remarkable experience for young entrepreneurs from the Asia Pacific region. The 2018 JA AP COY will also be coinciding with JA China's 25th anniversary and will make the occasion even more memorable for students and stakeholders participating in the competition and events in Beijing during the week.

Please stay tuned for further information.

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Bloomberg Startup Speed Mentoring Day reached 122 students from 27 schools, engaging 104 Bloomberg volunteers across 7 cities in 6 Asia Pacific locations on November 14, 2017

The Bloomberg Startup Speed Mentoring Program provides students an opportunity to have multiple conversations about career paths with different Bloomberg volunteers, exposing them to a diverse range of professionals in a short period of time. They also received a tour of the respective Bloomberg offices, which altogether allowed them to understand more the day-to-day operations of a leading provider of financial news and information.



Speed mentoring in action @ Bloomberg's Sydney office



Speed mentoring in action @ Bloomberg's Shanghai office



Mentors and mentees' Group photo in Bloomberg's Beijing office



Speed mentoring in action @ Bloomberg's Hong Kong office

This year, students in Australia(Sydney), China(Beijing and Shanghai), Hong Kong, Japan(Tokyo), Korea(Seoul) and Singapore were able to be mentored by multiple Bloomberg volunteers in rapid succession at Bloomberg's offices on the very same day.

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Speed mentoring in action @ Bloomberg's Tokyo office



Speed mentoring in action @ Bloomberg's Seoul office





Speed mentoring in action @ Bloomberg's Singapore office

In addition to the Speed Mentoring program, Bloomberg Startup, its worldwide educational initiative, is continuing to support JA to activate youth for the future of work through the implementation of work-readiness programs that include JA Success Skills/Career Success and the JA Company Program in 2017-18.

Local Events' Highlights

JA Hong Kong

Bright minds gathered at the first Hong Kong ITC workshop this year



Supported by volunteers and mentors from FedEx Express in Hong Kong, the first ITC Hong Kong workshop this year was successfully held on November 18, 2017. The FedEx Express/JA International Trade Challenge (ITC) is a competition aimed at nurturing the entrepreneurial spirit and business skills of students in the Asia-Pacific region. More than 20,000 young entrepreneurs from 10 Asia Pacific markets were inspired by ITC workshops since 2007.

JA Malaysia

JA Pathways to Employment soft-skills workshops kicked-off in November

JA Pathways to Employment is an integrated training platform that targets disadvantaged youth to increase their level of work readiness and opportunities to enter mid-skilled manufacturing/ electrical / maintenance jobs with hard and soft skills that will allow them to carve out longer-term career pathways. The program targets to reach 180 students disadvantaged youth in Indonesia and 100 at-risk youths in Malaysia by end of 2018.

JA Pathways to Employment first soft-skills workshop in Malaysia entitled "Critical thinking & Creativity" was successfully held and well received by students in November.



Students in class

November 2017 A D AJAAsiaPacific A Member of JA Worldwide November 2017 WORKS



JP Morgan Associate, Andrew Gabriel Aunasegran, briefing students about JP Morgan.



Sessions with MD of GE Aviation, Mr Suresh Shanmugan



Students presenting in front of class for the first time

JA Singapore

Singapore student and winner of the Business of Fun contest visited the IAAPA International Attractions Expo in Orlando, Florida, the USA in November



Learning is fun! As announced in October, Sylvia Chong, a JA student from Singapore was awarded The Business of Fun (https://www.jaworldwide.org/businessoffun) Top Innovation Award by IAAPA! Sylvia was awarded a trip to the IAAPA International Attractions Expo in Orlando, Florida, USA in the month of November for extended learning opportunities in the amusement parks and attractions Industry.



Sylvia Chong meeting with senior executives in the amusement parks and attractions industry at the IAAPA International Attractions Expo in Orlando, Florida, the USA

Up-coming JA events in the Asia Pacific region

JA Asia Pacific

Event: JA Internal Training for Cha-Ching Curriculum Implementation

Date: December 6 to 7, 2017

Location: Golden Tulip Sovereign Hotel Bangkok, Thailand

Event: 2018 JA Asia Pacific Company of the Year Competition (JA AP COY)

Date: March 29 to 31, 2018 Location: Beijing, China

JA China

Event: World Philanthropy Forum Date: November 29 to 30, 2017

Location: Beijing, China

JA Hong Kong

Event: Community Connect – STEM Challenge – School Workshop

Date: December 8, 2017

Venue: Leung Kau Kui Lok Sin Tong College, Hong Kong

Event: JA Company Programme – CEO Briefing (Trade Fair and Design Consultation)

Date: December 16, 2017 Location: Hong Kong

Prestasi Junior Indonesia

Event: USAID JAPRI – Training for the poor and vulnerable

Date: December 18 to 20, 2017

Location: Trenggelak Regency, East Java, Indonesia

Up-coming JA events in the Asia Pacific region

JA Japan

Event: JA Japan Board Meeting

Date: December 4, 2017

Location: Accenture Tokyo Office, Japan

Event: TTBiz Final Presentation

Date: January 21, 2018 Location: Tokyo, Japan

JA Korea

Event: Teacher Training – Kodu game lab by Microsoft

Date: December 2 and 9, 2017

Location: Microsoft in Seoul, Korea

Event: Code club sponsored by Samsung SDS

Date: December 5, 2017

Location: Gongju Dukam Elementary School

Event: Shine Future sponsored by Citi (Career Success)

Date: December 6, 2017

Location: Computer Science Vocational High School, Busan

Event: Shine Future sponsored by Citi (Career Success)

Date: December 6, 2017

Location: : Computer Science Vocational High School, Busan

Event: : Teachers and University student volunteers' training sessions

Date: December 2017

Location: 3,000 students across 10 locations across South Korea

Up-coming JA events in the Asia Pacific region

JA Malaysia

Event: JA Pathways to Employment Program – 2nd soft skills workshop

Date: December 1, 2017

Location: MySkills Training Centre, Port Klang, Malaysia

JA Singapore

Event: COY competition Date: January 27, 2018

Location: Nanyang Junior College, Singapore

JA Thailand

Event: Cha-Ching Program workshop

Date: December 8, 2017

Location: Bannongbon School, Bangkok