



Message from Maziar Sabet, President and CEO, JA Asia Pacific



The past few months have presented unprecedented challenges to individuals, families and organizations the world over. We are grateful that the COVID-19 situation is stabilizing in most parts of the Asia Pacific region, and remain cautiously optimistic as schools gradually re-open. At the same time, our thoughts continue to go out to those still deeply impacted by the pandemic. Now, more than ever, we need to demonstrate resilience and innovation.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank all of our supporters here at JA for continuing to invest in our vision of enabling the next generation of leaders, entrepreneurs, small business owners, and innovators during a time of economic and social uncertainty. I know I am not alone when I say that I am proud to be part of a global organization that continues to lead when it comes to youth empowerment, entrepreneurship, and skill-based learning experiences. Our mission is more relevant than ever.

The current health crisis has been a catalyst for many things. It has accelerated certain trends that were already underway, such as our increasing reliance on digital tools to learn and connect. But it has also exposed and laid bare shortcomings and deficiencies within organizations and societies - access to education, job security and employment opportunities being key among them. And unfortunately, those who were already further down the socio-economic ladder are being impacted most. It is critical that we acknowledge the very real challenges being faced by millions of people around the world. As an organization **committed** to empowering young people, irrespective of background or ability, now is the time to do more, not less. If there is a silver lining to emerge for our organization from the current pandemic, may it be that we aimed higher and found a way to strengthen our reach and impact.

A shining example of this commitment to our ideals under challenging circumstances can be found in our students participating in our annual flagship competition – JA Asia Pacific Company of the Year Competition (JA AP COY) this August. Due to the challenges of hosting a multi-day, face to face competition given the current health crisis and travel restrictions, this year's event is virtual. Instead of cancelling or postponing the event indefinitely, we decided to ask students to adapt and innovate – as any business would have to - during these challenging times. This is real-life training. These are the exact skills they will **need** when they enter the workforce – whether it is learning to work together, to lead organizations or whatever changing circumstances may meet them going forward.

Finally, I want to acknowledge and commend Beth Lizama, Executive Director of JA Guam, for her many contributions over the years. Beth will be leaving the organization after JA AP COY at the end of August 2020. I want to thank Beth for her leadership in fulfilling JA's mission to serve Guam's youth these past ten plus years, especially during what has proven to be a difficult and turbulent year for all of us. We will miss working with such a dedicated colleague but are confident that Beth will continue to be a vocal advocate for JA.

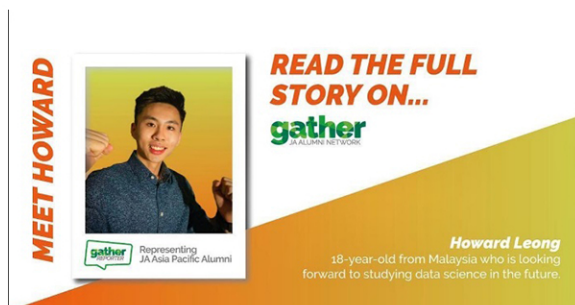
I am also pleased to announce the appointment of our new Executive Director of JA Guam - Pinki Lujan. Pinki brings over 25 years of community service experience and has worked extensively with various non-profit organizations. Pinki will be working alongside Beth to ensure a smooth leadership transition for JA Guam. We are glad to have Pinki on board and wish her all the best as we work together to deliver an amazing virtual COY event in August.

#keeplearning



The JA Story

Get to know Howard Leong - a proud JA alumnus and the first GATHER reporter representing the JA Asia Pacific region



Born in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Howard Leong is 18 years of age and is currently studying at the Canadian International Matriculation Program at Sunway University, majoring in Data Science and Economics. Howard is planning to study in Canada next year.

Howard was a participant of the FedEx / JA International Trade Challenge (ITC) back in 2018. He and his teammate wrote a business plan for a healthy yet energy-boosting mochi to solve Japanese workaholics' unhealthy eating habits. They were shortlisted to represent Malaysia at the ITC Asia Pacific Finals held in Singapore that year.

Howard is passionate about making videos and capturing important moments in life. He also takes pride in seeing the impact of his work and smiles from his viewers.

JAAP is extremely proud of Howard's achievement - Howard was recently selected as our JA GATHER reporter representing the JA Asia Pacific alumni network. In the next six months, Howard will be learning from professional writers and JA reporters representing other regions to tell JA stories more effectively moving forward.

Howard has recently created and published a GATHER PROMOTION video promoting the JA Alumni Asia Pacific network. Please help to share the video with JA students and alumni across the region:

Gather Promo Video - Youtube
<https://youtu.be/Q8QUgmkLz-Q>

Gather registration link
<https://gatheralumni.org/>

Gather News Post
<https://gatheralumni.org/news/296242>

Following is a recent interview with Howard. We look forward to working with Howard more closely in the coming months!

1. Describe your most memorable moment with JA

My most memorable moment with JA was my internship with JA Malaysia. I was lucky enough to be part of JA Malaysia during my school holidays when I was 16, before I started my semester at university. JA opened a whole new world of possibilities and opportunities for me to grow. I had so much fun working with JA Malaysia. It was memorable not only because JA Malaysia was an inclusive team to work with, but I was also able to make an impact through the work I had done during my internship. It is extremely fulfilling to be able to give back and pay it forward.



The JA Story



Please share and describe your motto to reach your goals

I am a believer in cherishing every single moment in life and I just want to make every single minute count.

As Steve Jobs put it, "If you live each day as if it was your last, some day you'll most certainly be right."

Set goals, learn, hustle, and repeat. This is not only applicable to what I want to achieve in my studies, career, and life, but also in my relationships with friends and family.

What is your aspiration in your role as the Gather Reporter representing the JA Asia Pacific region?

Finally, you asked me an easy question! Nothing compares to meeting JA youth around the region. I feel so lucky to have had this opportunity during a recent trip to Jakarta and Pacitan, Indonesia. The spirit and positive energy our youth bring are truly inspiring and something that I continue to learn from every time I have the opportunity to interact with them.

What advice can you give to JA alumni to stay connected with each other and learn together after the completion of their JA programs?

Take the first step. Drop a message to your JA partners or friends from other countries you met. Tell them what you thought of them. You would be surprised how many people want to have a chat with you to know how you are doing. Also, Gather is a new platform for JA alumni to connect with alumni around the world and to access exclusive events and opportunities to help youth grow. To expand the platform and network, we, as JA Alumni, must be active on Gather and encourage our JA peers to join as well! Sooner or later, Gather will be a huge and spectacular family to be part of!



"The amazing ITC Asia Pacific Finals experience was just the start of my thrilling and impactful JA journey. I started working with JA Malaysia as an intern at age 16. In addition to conducting financial literacy and business workshops, I also got to build a multi-vendor e-commerce website for YE students and digitized JA Malaysia programs. JA Malaysia has also introduced me to work with a leading digital technology company. I am now a part of the JA global alumni movement to expand the JA Asia Pacific alumni network. JA has given me the opportunities to grow and has changed my life. Now it is my duty to amplify the impact!"

Howard Leong
JA Alumnus from Malaysia
GATHER reporter representing the JA Asia Pacific region



Global and Regional Initiatives

JA celebrates our 115 member countries / areas with the all new "WE ARE JA" video



You are invited to watch a new JA video that celebrates our 115 JA member countries / areas across six continents - all locally recognized while part of one JA global network. JA's learning experiences are more important now than ever before. Our programs not only teach critical work-readiness, finance, and entrepreneurship skills, but also life skills that give our students the resilience to withstand the challenges of the current state of the world. No cohort is better positioned to rebuild the global economy than the millions of entrepreneurs, managers, leaders, and makers that JA has taught, mentored, and nurtured.

Watch the video (https://youtu.be/7-H4MRG_O3M).
#WeAreJA

Ready for updates and more collateral? Attend the next "We Are JA" webinar
(<https://jaworldwide.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcud--orDlrHdOWt1GM2I0VbelyuL8sjPOv>).

Personalized coaching opportunities for JA Alumni Worldwide!



JA Alumni Europe has partnered with "Coach Masters Academy" and they are now offering 100 personalized coaching sessions exclusively for JA Alumni worldwide!

JA alumni can decide on the coaching field and will be matched with a professional coach.

Learn more in the "Opportunities" section On Gather:

<https://gatheralumni.org/>





Global and Regional Initiatives

The Next Big Thing - Introducing the De La Vega Global Entrepreneurship Award for the winning teams from regional COY competitions



The goal of the De La Vega Entrepreneurship Award is to recognize outstanding young entrepreneurs within the JA network as well as to raise the profile of the JA Company Program. Winning teams from regional Company of the Year (COY) competitions from JA's six regions (United States, Americas, Africa, Asia Pacific, Europe, and MENA) will compete to be selected for this award. Details on the award and process to come soon!

The inaugural 2020 JA AP COY virtual competition



This August, more than 70 young entrepreneurs from around the Asia Pacific region will gather virtually to compete for the title of JA Asia Pacific Company of the Year 2020. In addition to the title, the 1st place JA AP COY winning team will get to compete with winning teams from other regions for the inaugural De La Vega Entrepreneurship Award.

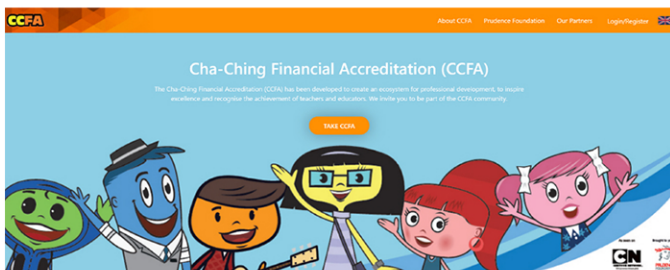
Alongside event host JA Guam, as it celebrates its 45th anniversary, JA Asia Pacific invites the JA network to join the competition virtually. The tenth edition of the competition will be held online from August 24–26, 2020. Stay tuned to JA AP and JA Guam's social media channels and this newsletter for more details on how you can participate and watch!





Global and Regional Initiatives

Cha-Ching Curriculum Financial Accreditation (CCFA) platform roll-out for Cha-Ching Curriculum teachers



The Cha-Ching Financial Accreditation - CCFA, has been developed to create an ecosystem that enables professional development, inspires excellence as well as recognizes the achievements of teachers and educators. CCFA reflects our continuous efforts to elevate teachers' confidence to deliver our high-quality curriculum, as well as to inspire excellence and recognize the achievements of teachers and educators.

Working closely with Prudence Foundation, JA AP is supporting JA members and Prudential offices in Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, and Vietnam to localize and roll-out the CCFA platform in Q3 2020. For more information on CCFA, please click:

<https://youtu.be/2xOrXn1cxlA>

The future of business and education in a post COVID-19 world



In a post COVID-19 world, traditional models of business and education are being challenged. Maziar Sabet, President and CEO of JA Asia Pacific had the privilege to join three other global thought leaders to reimagine how we are educating our young people and giving them the skillsets and mindsets to make sure we continue to advance onward and upward.

Please click here on the link below to view the webinar and the latest LinkedIn article by Maziar on "The Future of Education - And How to Change the World" :

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6685754398674706432>





Global and Regional Initiatives

JA Asia Pacific supports HP's virtual press briefing to announce the launch of 2019 Sustainable Impact Report

HP held a virtual press briefing to announce the launch of the 2019 Sustainable Impact Report, with a special focus on progress and highlights from Asia. The event included a panel discussion joined by representatives from HP's NGO partners including Systemiq from Project Stop, JA Asia Pacific, and Asia-Europe Foundations. More than 10 Southeast Asia media joined the virtual press briefing via Zoom on June 25, 2020.



Representing JA Asia Pacific at the press briefing was Monique Wong, Senior Business Development Manager. At the briefing, Monique talked about JA's sustainability agenda and efforts to continue empowering youth with confidence, cultivating critical values and qualities, and equipping young people with the needed skillsets to thrive in the 21st century workplace. In addition, Monique shared her view on the role of education in increasing access to students from all backgrounds and diversities to create the leaders of the future we all want.

HP aims to open 20 Tech Hubs to provide technology and entrepreneurship skills training to 10,000 youth in underserved communities across Southeast Asia by the end of - 2020. JA Asia Pacific is currently engaging JA member to support HP in setting up Tech-Hubs in Indonesia and Malaysia, and is planning to extend the partnership to the Philippines, Vietnam, and Thailand.

<https://lnkd.in/dsSzQ-Y>

#hp #HPAsia #SustainableImpact





Global and Regional Initiatives

Annual Organization Reporting System (Hewitt) is open for fiscal year 2020

JA Asia Pacific invites JAAP members to support us on the Annual Organization Reporting System (Hewitt).

Key dates and links below:

JA member to appoint one staff member to be the contact for Hewitt and notify Adrian Lee by Friday, July 10.
Complete and submit registration on or before August 31, 2020.

The information in Hewitt is important for our organization as one to demonstrate with one voice, the impact that we are having on people. Once again, we appreciate your support in this annual exercise and please don't hesitate to let us know should you have any questions.

The URL for Hewitt is <https://giq.aon.com/GIQ?db=ja&c=Data>.

Please contact Adrian Lee at adrian.lee@jaasiapacific.org should you have any questions before submitting your Hewitt information.



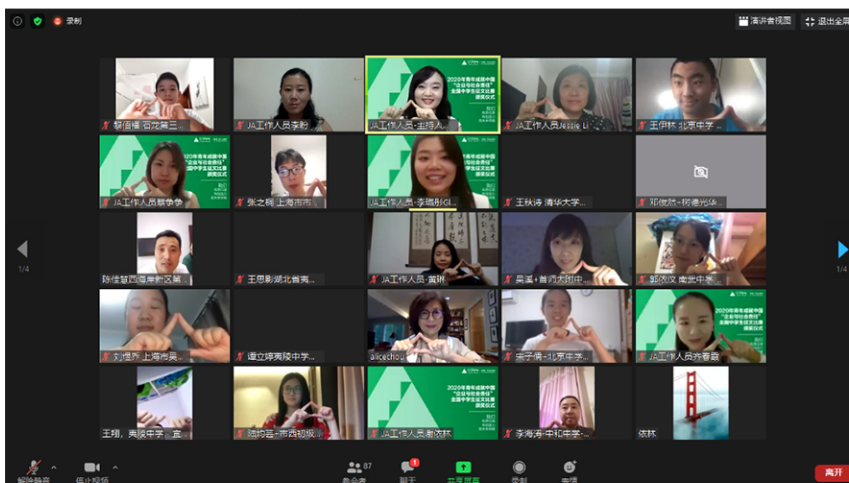


Highlights from JA Asia Pacific members

The COVID-19 situation continues to affect everyone around the world. JA members across the JA Asia Pacific network are handling school closures triggered by COVID-19 by using previously implemented digital platforms and tool modernization. Thanks to these early investments in digital transformation, our members have, in many cases, been able to shift their programs and events online, offering continuity of education for countless JA students.

JA China

JA China launched the "Enterprise and Social Responsibility" National Essay Competition for middle, high school and vocational school students, receiving a total of 1,103 submissions from 40 cities all over China!



Through the program, participating students explored how enterprises not only bring about value and innovation to their customers, but also how they integrate socially responsible practices into their daily operation. Their contributions to the community were especially highlighted during the COVID-19 outbreak, where these enterprises with a strong sense of mission became an inspiration and a force for common good.

The competition carried forward JA China's concept of principled entrepreneurship - a way of conducting business with integrity and a social conscience. The student essays gave us a glimpse of the passion, thoughtful reflections, innovation, and convictions of Chinese youth. It gives us hope and confidence for a better world.





Highlights from JA Asia Pacific members

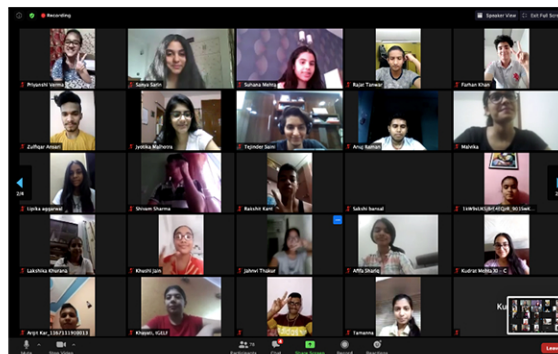
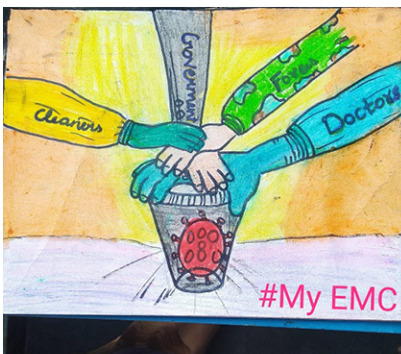
JA Hong Kong



June has been an action-packed month for the participants of the Schools Challenge Hong Kong! For the first time since February, students had the chance to meet face-to-face with their J.P. Morgan mentors and university student volunteers to discuss their ideas on how to improve their neighborhoods. Students also worked on their prototypes at MIT Innovation Node and polished their presentation skills at pitching workshops. With the Final Presentation less than a month away, we wish every team success in their STEM social innovation endeavors!

JA India / tGELF

Digital Bootcamp: Journey Towards Change



JA India / tGELF has launched an exciting four-week digital bootcamp for high school students entitled, **Journey Towards Change** in partnership with the Government of Delhi. Launched on June 15, 2020, the bootcamp focuses on building leadership, entrepreneurship and 21st century skills in government school students.

The camp offers an exciting line up of sessions on leadership skills, teamwork and collaboration, achieving goals, effective communication, understanding the difference between entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship as well as financial literacy. Also included are interactive sessions, Q&A sessions with real life entrepreneurs, fun activities, and games. We even celebrated **International Yoga Day** and invited a yoga guru for a session on mindfulness.





Highlights from JA Asia Pacific members

Prestasi Junior Indonesia (PJI)

PJI Goes 100% Digital.



Wherever possible, we are connecting with students online with the help of a core of devoted volunteers. Therefore, the JA Company meetings are conducted remotely under the premise that regional and national competitions be conducted online. In addition, we are using this opportunity to set up meetings between Board members and all staff every Friday for a “chat over a cuppa tea.” This is an informal gathering which enables the 39 individuals to gather virtually and learn from each other. Each week, two different Board members meet with all staff for up to 90 mins - a great platform connecting our important team members across Indonesia!

JA Japan

Invited by Bloomberg Women's Buy-side Network (BWBN), 50 female students of Fukuoka Futaba High School joined the Virtual Mentorship Program on June 30th.



For the students, communicating in English regarding financial markets or buy-side was a bit challenging, but our mentors certainly helped. In addition, the students managed to ask several questions regarding women's career development in financial markets to their mentor, Ms. Geraldine Buckingham, Head of Blackrock APAC.

One of the students commented, "This program definitely made an impact on my career planning. I would like to improve my English skills more to fully understand the session. And someday, I would like to be a global talent like Geraldine."



Highlights from JA Asia Pacific members

JA Korea

The spread of COVID-19 has brought many changes in our lives, but JA Korea's education and learning continue. With our strength in digital literacy education, we are gradually shifting toward non-face-to-face education using digital tools. For example, we have recently launched a "coding delivery" program, where students receive a "coding package", followed by instructors providing physical coding education in real time. JA Korea has also launched a work-readiness program online through Zoom.



JA Malaysia

JA Malaysia kicked off its first ever JA Malaysia Talk Series discussing the topic - Survived COVID 19! Mental Health in the New Normal and Rewiring Your Mind for the Future.

The discussion was led by guest speaker, Associate Professor Dr Anasuya Jegathevi Jegathesan, who is a licensed and registered counsellor and the Program Director of Psychology from Taylor University. This talk was attended by 150 participants who were interested in knowing more and seeking answers to their consciously curious minds. The virtual talk was also streamed live on Facebook.

JA Malaysia Talk Series
 Mental Health in the New Normal
 "I Survived Covid-19?"
 Rewiring Your Mind for the Future
 19th June 2020
 3.30 PM to 5 PM
 facebook LIVE
 Like & Follow us @juniorachievementmalaysia
 ASSOC. PROF. DR. ANASUYA JEGATHEVI JEGATHESAN
 Licensed & Registered Counsellor
 Taylor University

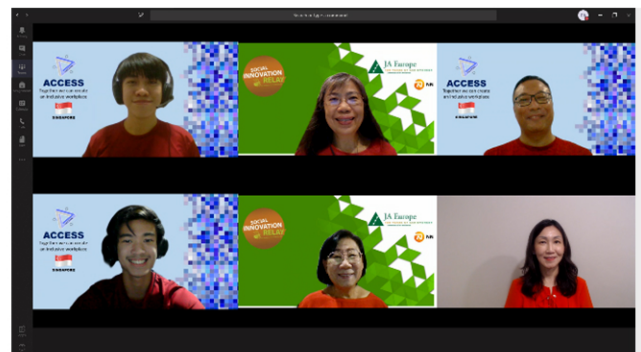
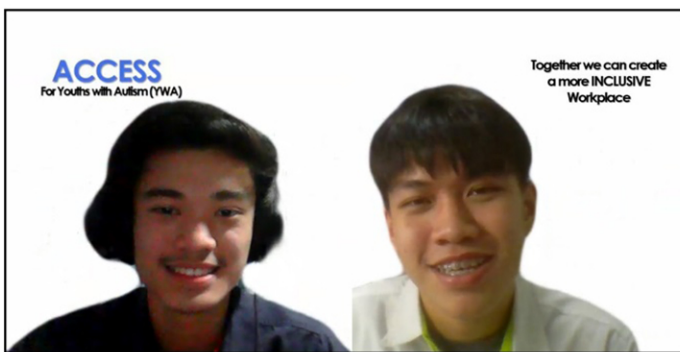




Highlights from JA Asia Pacific members

JA Singapore

10 teams from 10 countries - JA Singapore sits top alongside JA Greece and JA Slovakia in the Social Innovation Relay (SIR) Global Final Competition 2020.



Two second-year vocational students from the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) have emerged winners in the Social Innovation Relay (SIR) Global Final Competition 2020. ACCESS, the winning team, is a social enterprise that matches Youth with Autism (YWA) with mainstream employment to create a more inclusive workplace. Their unique model hires YWA directly and outsources them to companies. Their trained mentors provide support to the YWA on the job for up to one year and train the companies to deal with challenges. This increases the chances of longer YWA work retention. The pair also developed a prototype of a chat support application making use of emojis, to allow youth with autism to communicate their feelings easily to their mentors or work supervisors when facing challenges at work. The genesis of this idea came from having classmates and friends with autism, so they know first-hand the difficulties they face with finding mainstream employment.

JA Vietnam



With support from Samsung Vina Electronics Company in Vietnam and in collaboration with the Vietnamese Ministry of Education and Training, JA Vietnam launched the "Solve for Tomorrow 2020" competition in June 2020. Focusing on the topic of applied robotics in researching and developing solutions to address problems in various fields including education, the environment, and health, the nationwide competition is organized for secondary and high school students (from age 12 to age 18). Vietnamese students are encouraged to pay attention to local problems and harness their ideas to improve and solve existing issues in the community.

