



# eDividends

FROM THE DESK OF

*Robin Wee*



September 2018

## President's Message: Pump Up the Bacon Jam

I love farmers markets. Amid all the tents and colorful signs, there's something charming about discovering unique foods not available in a brick and mortar store and having a direct connection to fresh, locally grown produce. But to me, the most exciting aspect of farmers markets is having conversations with the farmers and vendors who have grown or produced the products.

It's a true marketplace experience. You might not need the product being offered under that tent— but the enthusiastic owner you're chatting with asked you to give it a try. Who knew I needed three jars of bacon jam? [Read more](#)

Get Involved

Donate to JA



### Denver Startup Week



For the second year, JA is teaming up with Young Americans Center for Financial Education to offer youth programming during Denver Startup Week, Sept. 24-28.

[Read more](#)

[Sign up to volunteer for Denver Startup Week](#)

### 2019 Colorado Business Hall of Fame Laureates Announced



Student presenters from the 2018 Colorado Business Hall of Fame

JA and the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce are pleased to announce the 2019 inductees into the Colorado Business Hall of Fame representing the state's most distinguished cadre of business leaders from the past and present. Laureates will be inducted at the 30th Annual Colorado Business Hall of Fame Dinner on Thursday, Jan. 31, 2019.

[Meet the Laureates here](#)

### JA Stock Market Challenge

Compete to grow the largest net worth "mock" stock portfolio! The JA Stock Market Challenge corporate events are fast approaching! Make plans now to participate in the fun and frenzy of a night of stock market trading and competition.

#### Denver

November 8, 2018  
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
Cable Center, University of Denver  
To register, contact Ellie Jordan at 303-628-7366.

#### Northern Colorado

November 15, 2018  
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
Drake Center, Fort Collins

To register, contact Elizabeth Winn at 970-490-1035.

[Learn more about the Stock Market Challenge corporate events](#)

### American Furniture Warehouse Partnership Helping Thousands of Students Learn Financial Responsibility



Students at JA Finance Park, presented by Transamerica, work with a volunteer to manage a family budget

Imagine you were able to practice being an adult before you actually became one. Do you wish you had a greater understanding of taxes or insurance? Maybe you wish you had some guidance on family budgeting. Junior Achievement's Finance Park, located inside of American Furniture Warehouse in Thornton, CO enables teens to learn and actually practice life lessons such as these. Placed in a real-world simulation of a town with storefronts and streets, and matched up with their peers as a simulated family unit, teens are gaining the opportunity to learn about financial responsibility before they enter adulthood. [Read more](#)

### JA teaches alumna the power of "YES!"



For Kaitlin Eckenrode, JA Business Week was one of the most empowering experiences of her life.

Six years ago, Kaitlin attended her first Junior Achievement Business Week where her team won the Jamba Juice Challenge. She continued to attend JA Business Week for three consecutive years, learning valuable skills that have shaped her college and career choices.

"The skills I learned through JA Business Week have changed my life in the best ways. While some of the skills you learn may not seem relevant in high school, I've used many of those skills throughout my adult life." [Read more](#)

### JA Engage "Learn and Taste" Networking Event

JA Engage, our young professionals networking group, presents a "Learn and Taste" event with Colorado brewers and distillers. Learn about how these brewers are building their businesses and setting the course for what we'll be drinking next. A tasting will follow the discussion.

Featuring Infinite Monkey Theorem, Stem Ciders, and Whistling Hare Distillery.

Thursday, September 20  
4:45 to 6:30 p.m.  
JA offices

[Learn more and register](#)

### JA Kickstart Your Future Keeps Kids Engaged



For a fourth year, JA-Rocky Mountain partnered with the Center for Relationship Education and the Denver Police Department to offer JA Kickstart Your Future – a week-long summer program designed to give students a place to learn valuable tools that will help them be successful in life and in the business world.

Two sessions were held this year – one at Montbello Recreation Center in June and one at Harvey Park Recreation Center in July/August. Middle and high school students participated in a variety of workshops and hands-on experiences with an emphasis on job readiness and financial literacy. They learned about personal branding, relationship building, personal financial management and entrepreneurship.

"We reached 54 students this year," said JA Senior Program Manager Mark Johnson. "We also had 100% retention during the Harvey Park program, which means that every student attended every day of the program. That's really positive for a summer program with this group of kids."

Land Title, Denver Parks and Recreation, and Denver Youth Programs also supported this year's program.

### New Faces

JA welcomes two new professionals to the JA-Rocky Mountain team!



#### Chris Silberman

Chris Silberman is JA's new director of communications. Formerly with Douglas County School District, Chris brings excellent marketing and communications experience working in the education and non-profit sectors.



#### Hannah DiPasquale

Hannah DiPasquale joins JA's Northern Colorado office as a part-time program manager. Hannah recently moved to Colorado from Oklahoma and brings experience working with schools and community partners.



Students participate in a trust-building activity during JA Kickstart Your Future

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