

2020-2021 Women's Future Leadership Academy

To meet the challenges of the 2020-21 school year, JANJ created an advisory group of student alumni to help redesign and reimagine our signature girl empowerment forum into a weekly virtual series. JANJ College Intern and former High School Hero Oriana played a lead role by facilitating career panel discussions and informal reflection sessions. Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors and dedication of our volunteer mentors, the Academy kept us all connected while providing encouragement, social interaction and career education to our state's future women leaders.

Program Impact

36 Individual Sessions took place, each with inspirational speakers and small group mentoring circles.	3,815 High school students built confidence and leadership skills by participating in the virtual academy sessions.	24 Corporate sponsors from NJ's key industries underwrote the cost of student participation.
646 Volunteers from 73 businesses and organizations served as mentors and featured speakers.	7,630 Instructional contact hours gained by students in leadership development, money management, and career skills.	130 Students received JANJ's Certificate of Leadership for participating in multiple sessions and completing a final project.

Equitable.

The Women's Future Leadership Academy was open to all NJ High School Students at no cost. Students could participate in each hour long virtual session live or view them on-demand, allowing for a variety of time and technology constraints.

Engaging.

Each session included small group mentoring, allowing for informal conversations between students and volunteers. Reflection sessions, college student facilitators, and a student ambassador program encouraged the young leaders to become more involved.

Empowering.

Students learned to find their voice, build confidence, and apply leadership skills to achieve their goals. Session topics included Financial Empowerment, Networking with Confidence, Growth Mindset, and Know your Worth.

Presenting Sponsor



Major Sponsors



WHAT WAS THE BEST THING I LEARNED?



In order to be successful, you must take small steps to further progress in your journey. Too big of a step and you will fear the future. Your education is also never complete; always be ready to continue learning. Through that, you will be able to live life to the fullest.

-From a Waldwick HS Student Final Project

Student Voices

"These seminars pushed me to persevere in the face of failures, and that effort is required to build new skills and to find inspiration in others' successes. I should embrace challenges, accept criticism, desire to learn, and build new abilities. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity!" -Grace, Jose Marti STEM Academy, Union City

"This empowering course is a great first step in becoming a better leader and changing the world one woman at a time." -Hannah, Union County Magnet High School

"As a woman, especially of color, it can be hard to find people like me in top positions. I was thrilled to see a diverse group of women volunteers because it helped me realize I can be up there too." -Kiera, Piscataway High School

"I thought finding a job in the future and interviews were going to be very hard for me. But now I'm confident in myself. I've learned and grown so much through these sessions." -Destiny, Lenape Valley Regional High School

Join us in 2021-22!

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