Dear Friends,

The last quarter of the year is usually our busiest time of the year as we gear up to start new programs for the new academic year AND prepare for the National Company of the Year competition in October, from which we select the JAN student company that will represent Nigeria at the Africa Company of the Year competition in December. This year’s Q4 has been exceptionally busy because more companies and individuals are asking JAN to partner with them in their quest to also increase financial literacy, work readiness and entrepreneurship skills in young people.

I was pleased to present the winners of the JAN Access Bank Entrepreneurship Essay Competition with their awards in September. It was a pleasant surprise to see three women emerge as top three winners because it shows that more young women are stepping up to address problems in our society and that can only lead to powerful results as we encourage them to develop solutions to those problems.
This year’s NCOY competition was phenomenal!!! I am so grateful to our judges: Sanyade Okoli, Adebola Fatokun, Danladi Verheijen, Adebola Williams, Gbenga Omolokun and Seyi Ajibola, who questioned, encouraged, mentored and pushed all our student teams to bring out their best as they presented their student companies to a room full of business professionals. Though one team emerged winner overall, the nine teams that participated gained valuable skills no one can ever take away from them. If they ever have to present a business idea to an investor again, they will be well prepared for the experience. Thank you to our sponsors at Deloitte and Techno Oil and our keynote speaker, Mrs. Nkechi Obi, who took time out of her busy schedule to give a heartfelt and encouraging speech to our budding entrepreneurs.

The very next day after the NCOY competition was the Delta Innovation Camp, which was also a fantastic experience for 200 participating students. The camp started with a workshop on design thinking facilitated by Omolara Yeku and Segun Olalandu, from our Board Member Accenture, during which students' brains were stretched to think beyond the obvious to find unique solutions to problems. Then the Delta Air Lines team presented real problems they face in the Nigerian marketplace for our students to come up with creative solutions. Several teams came up with genius ideas but the winning team was one that designed a virtual airport app to help Delta overcome its challenge of serving customers outside Lagos.

We are grateful to the Delta Air Lines team and the JA Africa team for partnering with us to develop an innovation mindset in our JAN students.

I wish everyday started with a telephone call from someone wishing to raise money for JAN! I was super excited to receive such a call from Ore Sofekun last month informing me of the Fund Managers Association of Nigeria and CFA Society of Nigeria Charity Run/Walk to benefit JAN and Slum2School! The event was designed to raise awareness for World Savings Day and the need for financial literacy education for children so JAN was chosen because of its commitment to financial literacy. We were glad to support the run as it offered a chance to warm up for another Fun Run we are planning, this time in partnership with the Road Warriors Fitness Club, which is slated for December 2. Please sign up and run with us – it promises to be a fun day for all the family.

I would like to end this letter by expressing deep heartfelt gratitude to my Board Members. I say it often – we have the best non-profit board in the entire universe. I don’t have any space left to say how many ways our Board Members support us on each and every day but I will quickly say that they are the reason we are able to do more than the staff and resources we have. This quarter, Citibank has given us a grant to pilot our out-of-school entrepreneurship program in Borno state and we are excited to work with the Office of Vice President on that. Thank you Citi! First Bank has supported our Career Success programs in Lagos with a special mentoring initiative both at the bank level and at the FBN Merchant level so we are grateful for the expansion of that relationship. Finally, ExxonMobil, through its subsidiary, Esso Exploration and Production, is funding the redesign and customization of the JA Our Region program to the Niger Delta region. This is just a small set of examples of how our board members carry the JAN flag everyday. Thank you to all the volunteers that have already signed up to teach JAN programs in schools this academic year. We look forward to working with you all to improve the lives of Nigeria’s youth!
The winners of the JAN Youth Entrepreneurship Essay Competition were announced at the Access Bank headquarters on Tuesday, September 12. 20-year-old Mariam Azeez of Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, won the grand prize of N100,000 as well as an opportunity to be mentored directly by JAN Executive Director, Simi Nwogugu. Michelle Eigbobo of University of Nigeria, Nsukka, and Hope Ukamaka Ogbuagu of Godfrey Okoye University, Enugu, won second and third prizes, respectively. Winning essays suggested innovative solutions for using entrepreneurship to curb the youth unemployment crisis in Nigeria.

In addition to presentation of the essays, the occasion also provided an opportunity for students from several universities to discuss the benefits and challenges of entrepreneurship with the JAN ED, the head of youth banking at Access Bank, Olayinka Yomi-Tokosi, and our keynote speaker, Bizzle Osikoya, entertainment entrepreneur and media influencer. We thank Access Bank for providing this opportunity for JAN to reach university students nationwide. Read winning essays here.
CITI FOUNDATION EXPANDS JAN PROGRAMS TO NORTH EAST NIGERIA

The Citi Foundation has awarded Junior Achievement Nigeria a grant to pilot our out-of-school youth entrepreneurial training program, Immersion Training Strategies: Targeting Young Marginalized Entrepreneurs (ITS TYME) in Borno State. The ITS TYME program will be delivered to 250 internally displaced youth with the goal of incubating and supporting 50 businesses that will contribute to sustainable economic development in the region.

The Citi Foundation, through Citibank Nigeria, a longstanding Board Member of JAN, has supported the delivery of JAN’s flagship Company Program to various secondary schools across four geopolitical zones in Nigeria, and with this grant, expands the relationship to cover a new demographic (out-of-school youth) in a new zone (Northeast Nigeria). The JAN ED thanked leadership and staff of Citi Nigeria for their long-term support at a town hall held at Citi offices on September 21.
The OGQC (Old Girls of Queen’s College) Class of 1992 partnered with JAN to conduct a leadership and empowerment program for 400 senior secondary students of Queen’s College to mark their 25th graduation anniversary and the school’s 90th anniversary. The executive director, Simi Nwogugu, and JAN staff conducted sessions on Emotional Intelligence (particularly Self-Awareness), Leadership Values and Goal Setting, in order to prepare the students for their journey towards becoming authentic, visionary leaders that change their communities and world for better.
JAN hosted its annual flagship event, National Company of the Year Competition (NCOY) on Thursday, October 5, 2017. The event was a signature showcase for Junior Achievement Nigeria (JAN) and the students who benefited from the impact of the JA Company Program®, which is a school-based entrepreneurship education curriculum for senior secondary school students. This annual celebration of success allowed nine regional winners from schools across Nigeria to demonstrate their business acumen and spirit of entrepreneurship in a competitive environment.

This year’s competition was judged by Mr. Adebola Williams, Co-Founder, Red Media; Mr. Danladi Verheijen, Co-Founder and Managing Partner, Verod Capital; Mr. Gbenga Omolokun, Managing Director, Germaine Auto Center; Mr. Seyi Ajibola, Co-Founder/CEO of Wilson’s Juice Co. Ltd; and Sanyade Okoli, Managing Director Alpha African Capital and; Mrs. Hajara Adeola, Managing Director, Lotus Capital Limited. In addition to this esteemed panel of judges, our keynote speaker was Mrs. Nkechi Obi, Executive Vice Chairman, Techno Oil.

The competition was fiercer this year, as most teams demonstrated innovation and creativity. In third place, “Vue Special” a student company from Redeemers International School, Lagos, created decorative lamps that were sold to students and parents. In second place, “Apex Discovery” a student company from Caro Favored Schools, Ajegunle Lagos, created an LED display board as a way to help small-scale proprietors within their local community advertise their products cost effectively. Finally, in first place, “The Flourishers” a student company from Noble Heights College Karu, Abuja, produced several variations of flour, such as: beans flour, sweet potato flour and unripe plantain flour. The student company also created a highly popular breakfast granola and a student mathematics app. The Flourishers will represent Nigeria at the JA Africa Company of the Year competition in South Africa in December.
JAN HOSTS DELTA INNOVATION CAMP

On Friday, 6th of October, JAN partnered with Delta Air Lines to implement the maiden edition of The Delta Innovation Camp. The Camp introduced 200 secondary school students to the processes and techniques that innovators and entrepreneurs use to come up with solutions and innovations.

Accenture consultants Segun Olalandu and Lara Yeku conducted a design thinking workshop. Then Delta Air Lines executives shared some challenges they face in Nigeria so that the students in teams of 10, could develop solutions.

The teams designed apps and other innovative products and services for Delta, which impressed the judges and made it tough to choose a winner. We thank Delta Air Lines for this opportunity to foster innovation mindset and problem solving skills in JAN students.
2017 DELTA INNOVATION CAMP
PHOTO SPLASH
CFA Society Nigeria and Fund Managers Association of Nigeria (FMAN) organized a 5KM Run/Walk to mark World Savings Day, raise awareness for financial literacy for young people and raise money for Junior Achievement Nigeria.
JAN executives trained FBN Merchant Bank employees to teach students about work readiness. The program titled "Race to September" will provide capacity training and mentorship to JSS 3 students. FBN Merchant Bank employees will volunteer to teach JAN programs in nearby government schools and mentor students at-risk of dropping out of school.

The program will provide practical information about preparing for the working world while still in secondary school. Students will be able to explore potential careers, discover how to plan for a job and learn how to keep it. Students will also develop personal-branding and job-hunting tools for earning a job.
Citi Foundation is partnering with Junior Achievement Nigeria to implement the JA Company Program in secondary schools nationwide and the JA ITS TYME program for out-of-school youth in Northern Nigeria. For the new program cycle, program implementation will kick off at the start of the 2017/2018 academic year.

ExxonMobil is partnering with Junior Achievement Nigeria to customize the JA Our Region program to the Niger Delta region. The program will empower junior secondary students to explore entrepreneurial opportunities in the region.
SUPPORT

FUN RUN 2017
LOSE IT BEFORE YOU GAIN IT

TO SUPPORT YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN NIGERIA

5KM RACE | FAMILY FUN FAIR
DECEMBER 2, 2017 | BANANA ISLAND PARK.
RUN TIME: 6:30AM | RWRGLOBAL.ORG/FUNRUN
All we need is your enthusiasm and a willingness to teach the next generation and an hour of your time a week. Junior Achievement will provide the training, curriculum, and a classroom ready to meet you.

For the 2017/2018 academic year, we have an ambitious target to double our reach and we need your help! Junior Achievement volunteers, with the support of a teacher, lead activities and discussions on work-readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy skills in schools.

Please volunteer your time (an hour a week) to empower Nigeria's youth or sponsor a classroom of 30 students with just N50,000. Your support will go a long way towards helping us achieve our goal to reach one million students by 2020!