



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF THE HEARTLAND RECONGIZES TWO VOLUNTEERS WITH NATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Moline, IL - Junior Achievement of the Heartland recognized Kerry Azbell - McGladrey & Pullen (Dubuque) and Steve Sorensen - Strategy in Progress, LLC (Bettendorf) for their exceptional service and volunteerism to the organization during the 2009-2010 school year. Both individuals serve on JA of the Heartland's board of directors, which is comprised of business and civic leaders from the area. These individuals are the core of program implementation, strategic task planning and fundraising efforts for the organization.

Annually, Junior Achievement presents National Leadership awards to recognize JA volunteers who have made significant contributions to their local area in terms of program implementation, area growth, financial stability and public awareness.

Kerry Azbell was presented the Bronze Leadership Award during the Tri-State Area Advisory Board's annual meeting held in Dubuque on July 13. Azbell joined the advisory board in 1997 and was chair in 2001. In 2008, he became a member of the organization's newly developed regional committee that comprised of board members throughout JA of the Heartland's 24-county area. Azbell was elected chair of the regional committee in 2009. He has also attended several JA events, including bowl-a-thon, golf and Hall of Fame.

Steve Sorensen was presented the Silver Leadership Award during the JA of the Heartland Board of Directors' annual meeting held in Davenport on June 24. Sorensen joined the JA of the Heartland Board of Directors in 2005 and was awarded the Bronze Leadership Award in 2008. Sorensen has played an active role in guiding the organization through its strategic planning process and was an active member of the regional committee in 2008 and 2009. Sorensen is a JA Classroom Volunteer and participates in several JA events, including golf and Hall of Fame. He will also serve as First Vice Chairman on the 2010-2011 executive committee for JA of the Heartland.

About JA Worldwide (Junior Achievement)

JA Worldwide is the world's largest organization dedicated to inspiring and preparing young people to succeed in a global economy. Through a dedicated volunteer network, JA Worldwide provides in-school and after-school programs for students in grades K-12. JA Worldwide offers educational programs that focus on three key content areas: entrepreneurship, work readiness, and financial literacy. Today, 126 individual area

operations reach approximately four million students in the United States, with an additional 5.7 million students served by operations in 122 other countries worldwide. For more information, visit www.ja.org.

Locally, Junior Achievement of the Heartland serves more than 56,000 students throughout its 24-county area in eastern Iowa, western Illinois and southwestern Wisconsin. For more information, visit www.jaheartland.org.

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