

For Immediate Release:

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LOCAL "HEROES" GIVE BACK TO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND THEIR COMMUNITY

National Grid Foundation and Junior Achievement of New York Provide Financial Literacy Through High School Heroes Program

Long Island, NY- November 29- Twelve Mount Sinai high school students learned the value of paying it forward. On November 18th these students participated in the Junior Achievement of New York (JA New York) High School Heroes program which is supported by The National Grid Foundation and volunteered their time teaching basic money management skills to local elementary school students. In attendance was Councilwoman Jane Bonner who distributed



certificates to the 2nd grade classroom as well as Bob Keller, President, National Grid Foundation and Jean Tesoriero, Program Officer, National Grid Foundation.

Each of the twelve "Heroes" gave back to the community by leading the 2nd grade classroom and teaching interactive, hands-on activities to enhance the learning experience of the elementary students. The lessons were built around the New York social studies standards with grade appropriate themes of personal economics, business, work force readiness, and staying in school. In teaching these valuable skills, these local high school students strengthened communication and presentation skills, relationship building and time management skills.

"By serving as teachers and role models for elementary school students, the High School Heroes Program instills the value of community service in young adults who are preparing for life after high school," said Bob Keller, President of the National Grid Foundation. "The high school students develop leadership skills while the younger students receive the guidance and basic management skills they need."



Group Picture of 2nd grade students with adults: Thomas Iannacchino's 2nd grade class receives a special visit from JA New York's Mount Sinai High School Heroes. High School Hero junior, Samantha Stovall, Mount Sinai High School Principal Robert Grable, Councilwoman Jane Bonner as well as Mount Sinai Elementary School Principal John Gentilcore and Bob Keller, President, National Grid Foundation. **Picture of Jane Bonner with HS Hero Samantha Stovall:** Councilwoman Jane Bonner from the Town of Brookhaven with Samantha Stovall, High School Hero.

The National Grid Foundation fully supports and champions the JA New York High School Heroes program as a high impact experience that encourages the development of students' full potential to succeed in school and in life. Throughout this day students also developed their communication skills and strengthen their sense of self worth, confidence and their sense of achievement.

"The partnership with the Mount Sinai school district empowers high school students to invest in the future economic well-being of their communities. It's a powerful lesson in civic involvement and community engagement," says Councilwoman Jane Bonner. "Our High School Heroes serve as role models to promote staying in school, civic responsibility and community pride. And in the process, these activities build stronger, more sustainable communities."

“Through working as a High School Hero with Junior Achievement I not only gained skills to teach others but I learned life skills that I can use in the future for myself,” Samantha Stovall, 11th grade High School Hero, Mount Sinai High School. “I am proud to call myself a High School Hero and am so grateful for this terrific experience.”

About Junior Achievement of New York

For more than 80 years, Junior Achievement of New York (JA New York) has delivered economic education and empowerment programs to NYC and Long Island students.

Through a dedicated volunteer network of corporate and community individuals, JA New York provides high-quality K-12 in-school, after-school, and summer educational programs.

JA New York is the New York affiliate of Junior Achievement Worldwide, the world’s largest and fastest-growing organization dedicated to inspiring and preparing young people to succeed in a global economy. JA educational programs focus on three key content areas: *work readiness, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy.*

Today, 126 individual area operations reach more than four million students in the United States, with an additional 5.8 million students served by operations in 122 other countries worldwide. For more information about JA New York and its programs, visit www.jany.org.

About the National Grid Foundation

The National Grid Foundation was created to enhance the quality of life in areas where National Grid provides services. The Foundation’s ongoing challenge is to create opportunities for solutions to educational and environmental issues. Its objective is based on the principle that giving people the tools to build hope is an essential ingredient in the development of individuals, families and communities. Since its inception in December of 1998, the Foundation has provided over \$15 million in grants to hundreds of organizations.

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LEFT PICTURE: The High School Heroes of Mount Sinai High School along with Councilwoman Jane Bonner, Bob Keller, President of the National Grid Foundation, Jean Tesoriero, Program Officer, National Grid Foundation, JA New York program staff and Mount Sinai High School Principal Robert Grable and Principal John Gentilcore, Mount Sinai Elementary School.

RIGHT PICTURE: High School Hero junior, Samantha Stovall, teaches financial literacy to Thomas Iannacchino’s 2nd grade class during the JA New York High School Heroes program, sponsored by National Grid Foundation.