Students can’t be what they can’t see: Making the most of Career Fairs

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Welcome!

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Poll: What is the student grade level you serve?
Questions & Conversation

• Submit your questions in the chat box

• Share on social media
  
  Twitter:  @FLCollegeAccess
  @JATampaBay
  
  #FCAN
  #CareerDiscoveries

This webinar is being recorded; all materials will be available within a week of recording
Florida College Access Network

Our mission: To create and strengthen a statewide network that catalyzes and supports communities to improve college and career readiness, access, and completion for all students

Our vision: At least 60% of working-age Floridians will hold a high-quality postsecondary degree or credential by the year 2025
Our Work

Local College Access Networks (LCANs)

Research & Policy

Statewide Initiatives
Poll: Have you organized a career fair or similar event in the past?
Introduction:
1/3 of college students change their majors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College year: 2011-2012</th>
<th>% who changed majors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s degree seekers</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate degree seekers</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Beginning College Students Who Change Their Majors Within 3 Years of Enrollment, NCES, December 2017
Do overs – Gallup and Strada Education Network found:

51% of Americans would change at least one of their education decisions if they had to do it over again.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What Americans would redo about their education</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Choose a different major</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Different institution</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choose a different degree</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: On Second Thought: US Adults Reflect on Their Education Decisions, Gallup, June, 2017
Poll: What is your biggest challenge in exposing more students to career options?
JA Career Exploration Fair

JA Tampa Bay
The Junior Achievement Mission

- Our Mission
  - Workforce Readiness, Entrepreneurship, Financial Literacy
  - 100 years of experience
  - Non profit
Our Current Programs

JA BizTown, 5th
JA Finance Park + JA Inspire Career Center, 8th
In class programs, K-12
Why/how is JA involved with Career Fairs?

- The need
- Types of career fair events
  - JA Career Exploration Fair
  - JA Inspire
- Student preparation for and engagement at the events
Why JA Career Exploration Fair Curriculum?

Help students to connect what they are learning in the classroom to the real world.

Relate the impact of personal interests and abilities on career choices.

Examine how school skills apply to career paths.

Explain the importance of staying in school and graduating high school.
How Does The JA Curriculum help serve those objectives?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre Fair Activities:</th>
<th>At The Fair:</th>
<th>After The Fair:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Self Knowledge Assessment: Abilities, Interests, Work Preferences, and Values | • Suggested questions to ask guest speakers
• Tabling/Booth activities customized to meet event & student needs | • Self Reflection
• Personal Career Action Plan
• JA Online Career Resources |
JA Career Exploration Fair Serves Students K-12

- Elementary School
- Middle School
- High School
JA Career Exploration Fair Partnership

- Curriculum for students
- Volunteer Training and Recruitment
- Teacher Resources
- JA Mission Based Activities
Increased Student Engagement

The JA Career Fair model builds on the success of our Capstone programs, JA BizTown and JA Finance Park.

This is a model that utilizes a teacher led component, a volunteer component & simulation, and a post-simulation reflection.

The JA Career Exploration Fair curriculum recreates this model for Career Fair events.

The blending of teacher led sessions with the event experience creates a valuable combination of accountability and structured exploration.

This model encourages students to be intentional at these events, and sets them up for success at establishing and achieving career goals.
Activities at the Event

JA Tampa Bay is working on developing mission based activities that will be hands on or technology based, to serve as a presenter at the event as well as a curriculum partner.

Junior Achievement is developing curriculum for students to use throughout the event to increase engagement.
Brainstorming Activity

Where do you see a need for improvement at these events?

- Curriculum
- Student Engagement
- Event Organization
Questions

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• Director of Programs
• Junior Achievement of Tampa Bay

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• JA Tampa Bay: www.jatampabay.org
• JA USA: www.juniorachievement.org
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FloridaCollegeAccess.org/subscribe

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