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JA Canada

THE 35TH
ANNUAL LONDON
AND DISTRICT

BUSINESS HALL OF FAME

Gala

OCTOBER 23, 2025

RBC PLACE LONDON
5:00 PM



HONOURING LAUREATES

**JO-ANN FISHER
DALE HUNTER
MARK HUNTER**

OUR MISSION

IMAGINE A GENERATION OF STUDENTS ARMED WITH THE CONFIDENCE AND SKILLS TO TAKE CONTROL OF THEIR FUTURES, EQUIPPED TO ACHIEVE THEIR DREAMS...

At JA South Western Ontario, we believe in the boundless potential of youth—and we create opportunities for them to explore this potential through hands-on learning.

JA equips young people with the employment and entrepreneurship skills and mindsets they need to succeed. By building abilities and nurturing self-belief, JA prepares youth for the future of work, ensures they have the tools to be financially capable adults, and teaches them to think entrepreneurially.

JA INSPIRES YOUTH AND PREPARES THEM TO SUCCEED IN A GLOBAL ECONOMY.

JA South Western Ontario works with schools to deliver experiential programs in the classroom to students in Grades 4–12. We offer a range of experiences from bite-sized virtual learning to larger conference events. We also work directly with students through self-directed online learning, after school programming, and summer camps.



Member of
JA Canada

FINANCIAL HEALTH

Graduates from JA programs save more and borrow less than the average Canadian. In our financial health programs, students learn how to create and manage wealth. They develop real-world skills that they can apply to their lives immediately – such as budgeting, investing and aligning their financial choices with their goals.

HOW WE ACHIEVE

SEVENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF ACHIEVERS STATED THAT JA HAS HAD A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR FINANCIAL LITERACY AND DECISION-MAKING SKILLS.*

**The Boston Consulting Group (2011 report)*

WORK READINESS

JA inspires students to stay in school and prepares them to succeed in tomorrow's jobs. Through our programs, students learn how to translate their interests and skills into successful careers. They also develop practical job skills such as interviewing, communications and critical thinking.

HOW WE ACHIEVE

SIXTY-FIVE PERCENT OF ACHIEVERS STATED THAT JA HAS HAD A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THEIR DECISIONS TO STAY IN SCHOOL AND ENROLL IN POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION.*

**The Boston Consulting Group (2011 report)*

OUR MISSION

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

JA graduates are more likely to launch businesses and create jobs. Through our entrepreneurship programs, students gain firsthand experience in running a business. They work with mentors from their local business communities to create strategies and manage companies. Many business leaders cite JA's Company Program as the catalyst that gave them the ambition to launch a business and the skills to do so successfully.

HOW WE ACHIEVE

JA GRADUATES ARE 50% MORE LIKELY TO OPEN A BUSINESS.*

**The Boston Consulting Group (2011 report)*

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BRAYL COPP DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP AWARD

KEIRA SPITZER

COMPANY PROGRAM ALUMNI SEGMENT

KEIRA SPITZER & OMAR HAMID

LAUREATE INDUCTION CEREMONIES

**KAREN GALLANT - PRESIDENT AND CEO,
JA SOUTH WESTERN ONTARIO**

**WAYNE DUNN, CHAIR OF THE
ADVISORY COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES**

2025 LAUREATES

**JO-ANN FISHER,
DALE HUNTER AND MARK HUNTER**

INCUBATE



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HIGHLIGHT



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



WELCOME TO THE 35TH LONDON AND DISTRICT BUSINESS HALL OF FAME! TONIGHT, WE GATHER TO HONOUR THREE EXCEPTIONAL LEADERS: JO-ANN FISHER, PRINCIPAL & FOUNDER OF HANGAR9, DALE HUNTER, PRESIDENT / HEAD COACH / OWNER OF LONDON KNIGHTS, AND MARK HUNTER, VICE PRESIDENT / GENERAL MANAGER / OWNER OF LONDON KNIGHTS.

This evening, we celebrate leaders who remind us that success is not only about growth, but about resilience, relationships, and the ability to lift others up along the way. We are proud to induct Jo-Ann Fisher, Founder of Hangar9, and Dale & Mark Hunter of the London Knights into the London and District Business Hall of Fame.

Jo-Ann has built her life's work around one simple belief: that authentic connections matter more than sales. From her early days as a Mary Kay consultant to founding Hangar9 four decades ago, she has redefined fashion as a tool for empowerment. By pioneering the capsule wardrobe

concept, she showed how innovation can make life simpler, more sustainable, and more accessible. Her story is one of determination, family legacy, and unwavering commitment to helping women feel confident in their own skin.

Dale and Mark Hunter have left an equally powerful mark through sport and community leadership. Since purchasing the London Knights in 2000, they have built not only a winning team but also a cornerstone of civic pride. The Knights' success has lifted London's profile far beyond our borders, while their mentorship of young players, both on and off the ice, has prepared the next generation of

leaders. Through their commitment to the community, the Hunters have also shown how sports organizations can be engines of social good.

In a time when many businesses and families are navigating uncertainty, Jo-Ann, Dale, and Mark remind us of what truly endures: vision, integrity, and a commitment to people. Their leadership demonstrates that no matter your industry, lasting success comes from strengthening the community around you.

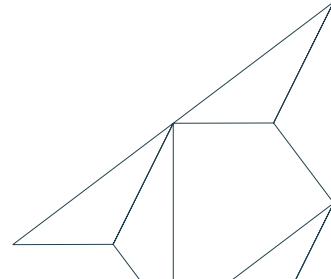
That same belief is at the heart of Junior Achievement South Western Ontario. Tonight's Gala will help give local students the skills to manage money wisely, explore careers, and see themselves as future entrepreneurs. These are the tools that build resilience, and the confidence to thrive, even in the most challenging times.

As we celebrate tonight's Laureates, let us also embrace the call to action their stories inspire. By investing in our youth, we are investing in a stronger, more vibrant future for all.

With appreciation and vision,

Karen Gallant
President & CEO

PS. Ready to make a difference?
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to get involved!






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THE 2025 JA LONDON
AND DISTRICT BUSINESS
HALL OF FAME LAUREATES
- JO-ANN FISHER,
DALE & MARK HUNTER.**

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**Better doesn't
happen by chance.**

Congratulations to the inductees to the
London Junior Achievement
Business Hall of Fame.

ey.com/ca

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Ontario**
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**FINANCIAL HEALTH
WORK READINESS
ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

Volunteer to bring relevant hands-on
learning to local students.

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JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT!**

jaswo.org/volunteer

A person in silhouette is operating a video camera on a stage. The background is filled with vibrant green and blue spotlights, creating a dynamic and energetic atmosphere. The person is standing on a raised platform, and the camera is mounted on a tripod. The overall scene suggests a high-quality event production.

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BELIEVE

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BOUNDLESS
POTENTIAL**

**OF
YOUNG
PEOPLE**



“Success isn’t just about what you accomplish in your life, it’s about what you inspire others to do.”

Congratulations to the London and District Business Hall of Fame 2025 Honourees

Finch Auto Group is a proud sponsor of the Junior Achievement Southwestern Ontario and the 2025 London and District Business Hall of Fame Honourees. We take great pride in supporting the community in which we live, work and play.

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Congratulations

to the 2025 Laureates!

✦ JO-ANN FISHER



✦ DALE HUNTER



✦ MARK HUNTER



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and
DALE & MARK HUNTER

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JA PROGRAMS

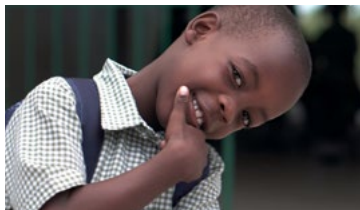
JA WORKS WITH SCHOOLS TO DELIVER EXPERIENTIAL PROGRAMS IN THE CLASSROOM TO STUDENTS IN GRADES 4-12. WE ALSO WORK DIRECTLY WITH STUDENTS THROUGH SELF-DIRECTED ONLINE LEARNING AND AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMMING.

ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL LEARNING EXPERIENCES

GRADE 4



Early financial lessons set students up for lifelong stability. JA More than Money teaches earning, spending, sharing, and saving to build strong money skills.



GRADE 5-8

Pitch Your Vision Junior lets students explore entrepreneurship by brainstorming, researching, planning, and pitching a business idea in a fun, hands-on classroom competition.

GRADE 7



JA Dollars With Sense equips students with money management skills to make smart choices, avoid debt, and start building financial confidence they can use right away.



GRADE 8

JA Economics for Success lets students see the value of education, build a budget, and explore skills for today's workforce, linking school to future goals and success.

GRADE 7-12



JA Career Hunt online lets students explore careers, learn steps for success, join as a class or individually, and engage in Q&A sessions across a variety of fields.



GRADE 8-12

In Success Skills, students define personal success, learn communication techniques, and build a toolkit of transferable skills to thrive in school, work, and life.

JA PROGRAMS

GRADE 9-12

Investment STRATEGIES

JA provides teachers with resources on key investment concepts and a 6-week online simulation using live data to apply skills in real-world scenarios.



pitch your VISION

GRADE 9-12

Students develop and test business ideas, brainstorming, researching, prototyping, planning, and pitching, with opportunities to compete with other students regionally.



GRADE 9-12

WORLD OF CHOICES

Students explore careers through roundtable discussions with professionals, learning the skills, experience, and planning needed to succeed in their chosen fields.



COMPANY PROGRAM

GRADE 9-12

Gain hands-on experience in business and entrepreneurship. Students team up to create, launch, and manage a product or service over 15–18 weeks.



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Congratulations!

Noters The Award Store proudly
congratulates the remarkable inductees
of this year's Hall of Fame Gala.

As a committed partner of Junior Achievement South
Western Ontario, we are honoured to celebrate
visionary leaders whose achievements ignite the
entrepreneurial spirit in the next generation.



1-800-265-1554
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OUR CONGRATULATIONS

The Copp Group of Companies would like to congratulate
Jo-Ann Fisher and Dale and Mark Hunter
on their induction into the London and District Business Hall of Fame.



Celebrating community role models



CIBC is proud to support Junior Achievement South Western Ontario
in their mission to inspire the next generation of business and
community leaders.

Congratulations to the 2025 Business Hall of Fame Laureates!

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Larry G. Myny, Senior Investment Advisor
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At CIBC Wood Gundy, we're invested in the community. Join us in supporting and empowering our future leaders. Learn more about our team at www.larrymyny.com.

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LET'S GO!



**JA
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HONoured PAST LAUREATES

1990

*John Labatt II
Henry J. McManus*

1991

*Colonel Thomas F.G. Lawson
J. Allyn Taylor*

1992

*William Mowbray Sifton
Walter J. Blackburn*

1993

*Edwin R. Jarmain
Sir Adam Beck*

1994

*A.M. (Mac) Cuddy
Colonel D.B. Weldon*

1995

*Donald J. Smith
Colonel J. Gordon Thompson*

1997

*Jack W. Adams
Earl H. Orser*

1998

*Ron Logan and Gord Patton
Merv L. Lahn*

1999

*Richard G. Ivey
T. Fred Kingsmill*

2000

*Tony J. Crncich Sr.
J. Allyn Taylor
(Laureate of the Century Tribute)*

2001

*Ronald C. Dawson
Norton P. Wolf*

2002

*Andrew M. Spriet
John (Jake) H. Moore*

2003

*Warren R. Schram
Mitchell A. Baran*

2004

*David Patchell-Evans
Captain Joseph Jeffery*

2005

*T. Brayl Copp
Peter J. Ivey*

2006

*H.J. (Hank) Vander Laan
Henry J. Jones*

2007

*General Alexander R. McIntosh
John C. Nash*

2008

*Gloria Dona
Dr. Geno Francolini*

2009

*Sheldon Aaron
Donald J. McDougall*

2010

*Bill Brady
Bob Siskind*

2011

*Perry Ferguson
John Strybosch*

2012

*Paul Cocker
Carol Stephenson*

2013

*Tony Marsman
Howard Rundle*

2014

*Denis Crane & Wayne Dunn
Terry Zavitz*

2015

*Vito Frijia
Colonel James G. Thompson*

2016

*Don Crich
Ken Kalopsis & Paul Seed*

2017

*John Drake
Mike Smith*

2018

*William H. (Bill) Gray
Claude Pensa*

2019

*Jeff Macoun
Richard Sifton*

2020

*Kyle MacDonald
Ewart & Edwin McLaughlin*

2021

*Karen Fryday-Field
Joel McLean*

2022

*Tina Bax
Michelle Quintyn*

2023

*Allan Drewlo
Jill Wilcox*

2024

*Ryan Finch
Steve Copp*



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2025 LAUREATES



JO-ANN FISHER

PRINCIPAL & FOUNDER
HANGAR9

Jo-Ann Fisher's entrepreneurial journey began with a passion for empowering women, first sparked through her work as a Mary Kay beauty consultant. She quickly discovered that her true calling was helping women feel confident through personal style.

In 1985, Jo-Ann opened her first boutique in London, Ontario, laying the foundation for what would become Hangar9—a trusted name in Canadian fashion for over 40 years, expanding to a location in Toronto and building an eCommerce presence.

From the start, Jo-Ann's philosophy has been simple yet powerful: relationships always come before sales. She believes in putting clients

first, building trust through authentic connection and personalized care.

A pioneer in her field, Jo-Ann was an early adopter of the capsule wardrobe concept. She developed the Hangar9 Formula—[H9] + 9 = 36 — designed to simplify wardrobe decisions through nine essential pieces that create 36 versatile looks. The formula reflects her commitment to helping women save time, invest wisely, and enjoy fashion without stress.

Four decades later, Jo-Ann remains actively involved with Hangar9 — as a stylist, strategist, leader and the heart of Hangar9's community. She shares her passion for fashion and entrepreneurship with her three daughters, who now lead the family-run business and carry on its mission.

Her contributions have earned her numerous accolades over the years, including the Business Integrity Award, Enterprising Family of the Year, eCommerce Business of the Year, Best Places to Work, and Best Women's Clothing Store in London.

At the core of it all is Jo-Ann's unwavering mission: to help women uncover a style that reflects who they are, and gives them the confidence to take on each day. Through Hangar9 she continues to inspire women to see fashion not as a trend to follow — but as a powerful expression of self.



DALE & MARK HUNTER

PRESIDENT, HEAD COACH (DALE),
VP, GENERAL MANAGER (MARK)
OWNERS - LONDON KNIGHTS

Dale and Mark Hunter bought the London Knights with Basil McRae in May of 2000. They went on to help build the John Labatt Centre in downtown London, which brought new life into the downtown. Under Dale and Mark's leadership, the Knights have turned into one of the most successful organizations in the history of the OHL, both on and off the ice, raising the profile of London provincially, nationally and internationally. Under their direction the team's season ticket holder base has grown significantly since the team was first purchased in 2000.

Dale and Mark are well respected in the hockey community, not only in the OHL but also in the NHL. Under their leadership, over 70 London Knights players have gone on to play in the NHL. And many alumni that do not go on to NHL careers credit Dale and Mark in helping them develop into business leaders in the community.

Recently, the London Knights captured their third Memorial Cup title. With the win, the Knights join the Cornwall Royals, Kamloops Blazers, and Windsor Spitfires as the only CHL clubs to claim three Memorial Cup titles since 1972.

Dale and Mark have worked to ensure the Knights make a positive community impact through active engagement in community events and have led by example with a strong work ethic, continually dedicating themselves to nurturing young people to reach their potential. Their motto is "hopeful and humble", reflecting their approach to business and life. They give back to the community personally and through the London Knights Alumni Foundation which has donated millions of dollars to local charities since 2000 and continue to give back in many ways.

Congratulations to the 2025 Laureates
Jo-Ann Fisher & Dale and Mark Hunter

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Gala

Established in 1990, the Hall of Fame was created to honour respected members of the London and District Business Community, past and present, for their outstanding contributions to business, entrepreneurship and philanthropy. JA South Western Ontario is responsible for the geographic area including the counties of Essex, Chatham-Kent, Lambton, Elgin, Middlesex, Oxford, Huron, Perth, Bruce, Grey, Wellington, Waterloo, Brant, Hamilton, Haldimand-Norfolk, and Niagara.

SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 22ND, 2026

BUSINESS HALL OF FAME



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MENU

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5YR. AGED OAK BARREL BALSAMIC VINAIGRETTE
(GF/VEGETARIAN)**

ENTREE

**SPINACH AND RICOTTA FILLED BREAST OF
CANADIAN CHICKEN
RED WINE DEMI GLAZE**

VEGETARIAN ENTREE

**BLACK LENTIL GUMBO WITH CHICKPEA BASMATI
AND SEASONAL VEGETABLES
(GF/VEGAN)**

DESSERT

**FALL HARVEST APPLE TART
CINNAMON CRÈME ANGLAISE AND FRESH BERRIES**

BRAYL COPP DISTINGUISHED BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AWARD



KEIRA SPITZER

Keira Spitzer is a driven leader with a passion for entrepreneurship and mentorship. As a member of JA Canada's Youth Advisory Council and a participant in the Company Program, she supports young entrepreneurs in building and managing real-world businesses. Her accomplishments include being named JA Salesperson of the Year for three consecutive years, alongside other awards for her entrepreneurial achievements.

Co-founder of Swim on Sydenham, a thriving swim school, Keira combines her leadership and management skills to create a safe, inclusive environment for her community.

A competitive dancer, she brings the same discipline and drive to the stage as she does to her professional and academic pursuits. Keira is currently commencing studies at Western University for Business Management and Organizational studies with Ivey AEO, continuing her journey to inspire and empower those around her.



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Xerox Canada is a proud sponsor of JA South Western Ontario and this year's London and District Business Hall of Fame Induction Gala

Congratulations to **Jo-Ann Fisher**, **Mark Hunter** and **Dale Hunter**. Like you, we know the power of hard work and all it can accomplish. We salute you for strengthening the community so our world can be a better place.



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Cowbell Brewing	Mill Pond Studio	Waldos on King
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Delta Armouries	Nasreen Hossain	White Squirrel Golf Club (Grand Bend)
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Digital Creative Arts Centre	Nuts For Cheese	The Works
Downtown London	The Park Hotel	Youth Opportunities Unlimited
East Park	Pet Portraits by Malory	And thank you to all our Friends of JA!
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LEADERSHIP

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JA SOUTH WESTERN ONTARIO STAFF

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JENNE WASON

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Communications | Regional Director

BOBBI-JO GARDINER

Director, Philanthropy

ALICIA GALL

Community Projects &
Partnerships Manager

SHEENA GOSSE

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Program Manager
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JOHN WILSON

Program Manager
- Company Program and Camps

MANDY DEELSTRA

Volunteer Manager

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Program Manager
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JA South Western Ontario



CELEBRATE
SUCCESS

TRIBUTE TO OUR FORMER CEO & PRESIDENT



IN MEMORY OF BEVERLY MAY ROBINSON (1956–2025)

Former President & CEO, Junior Achievement South Western Ontario

Tonight, as we celebrate leadership and community impact, we also pause to remember our own **Bev Robinson**, a visionary leader and lifelong champion for local youth.

Bev believed deeply in the power of possibility. After a successful career at IBM, she devoted more than 20 years to **Junior Achievement London and District / South Western Ontario**, including over 13 years as President and CEO. During her tenure, Bev inspired growth, innovation, and hope in countless students.

Bev led with authenticity and heart, always believing that one great idea, supported by courage and community, could change a life. And although JA supports thousands of students every year, Bev always emphasized to the team that if just one student took something away from a JA experience then we were making a difference.

Bev Robinson's legacy lives on in every young person who dares to dream and build a brighter future. She will be missed.

Bev established a **Memorial Scholarship Fund** as part of her legacy. This scholarship will support JA Company Program participants who are pursuing post-secondary education and demonstrate financial need—a reflection of Bev's belief that every young person deserves the opportunity to achieve their dreams.

Those wishing to honour her memory may contribute to the fund at jaswo.org/donate.



IN MEMORY OF BARRY PATRICK JOSEPH FITZGERALD (1955–2025)

Former President & CEO, Junior Achievement London and District

We also remember Barry Fitzgerald, an eternal optimist, entrepreneur, and dreamer whose passion for community and mentorship left a lasting mark. A former President & CEO of JA London and District and longtime Company Program mentor, Barry helped generations of students to see opportunity where others saw obstacles.



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

JA South Western Ontario invites nominations for the London & District Business Hall of Fame, Innovator Award, and JA Alumni Award of Achievement. Help us celebrate visionary leaders, changemakers, and JA alumni making a lasting impact in our community.

SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATION BY THE DEADLINES:

Hall of Fame – Dec. 15, 2025

Innovator – Feb. 28, 2026

Alumni – July 31, 2026

Visit jaswo.org/LBHF to submit!



Member of
JA Canada

CONTACT

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW YOU CAN PLAY
A ROLE IN SHAPING FUTURE BUSINESS EMPLOYEES
AND LEADERS, PLEASE CONTACT JA.**

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LINKEDIN: LINKEDIN.COM/COMPANY/JASWO

An advertisement for the JA Company Program. It features a young woman with curly hair, wearing a yellow sweater and black pants, jumping joyfully against a light blue background with white speckles. To her right is a QR code. Below the image, the text "Start a business. START HERE." is written in a bold, sans-serif font. At the bottom, a dark blue banner contains the text "JA COMPANY PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS BEGINS OCTOBER 28TH!" and the website "jaswo.org/company-program/" in yellow. A small JA logo is in the bottom right corner of the banner.

**Start a
business.
START HERE.**

**JA COMPANY PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
BEGINS OCTOBER 28TH!**
jaswo.org/company-program/



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