## **Junior Achievement**

Our Mission: To educate and inspire young people to value free enterprise, business and economics to improve the quality of their lives.

Junior Achievement of St Lucia (JA-SLU), a nonprofit organization initiated here in St Lucia in 1996 as a project of the St Lucia Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture. JASLU operates under the patronage of The Governor General Her Excellency Dame Pearlette Louisy and a Board of Directors drawn from local businesses, educational and government sectors and is licensed as a franchise of its parent company. Junior Achievement Worldwide.

In 1996, 6 schools in the Castries area with an approximate 111 participants piloted the well known Company Program. Each year since then, Junior Achievement has grown and expanded and can be found in over 20 secondary schools, including vocational and over 60 primary schools island wide, involving approximately 3500 participants. Globally, JA impacts 9.8 million youth every year.

## **Core Values:**

- Belief in the boundless potential of young people
- Commitment to the principles of the market based economy and entrepreneurship
- Passion for what we do and honesty, integrity, and excellence in how we do it
- Respect for the talent, creativity, perspectives and background of all individuals
- Conviction in the educational and motivational impact of relevant, hands on learning
- Belief in the power of partnership and collaboration

## The Objectives of Junior Achievement are:

- To help young people develop the business skills necessary for professional success while learning the importance of team work, leadership, public engagement and respect for institutional norms
- Help young people understand the basics of the market economy
- Provide practical hands on business experience and career exploration
- Focus young people on developing opportunities to improve their standard of living
- Improve the self esteem of our young people
- Help participants explore the issues that lead to dropping out of school and the personal costs of not completing their education
- Help young people engage in fluid conversation

## **Junior Achievement Programs**

Our volunteer delivered programs foster work readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy skills. Junior Achievement age appropriate and sequential programs provide hands on learning experiences that inspire participants to dream big and reach their potential.

Junior Achievement empowers young people to own their economic success.