

What People Are Saying About The Young Entrepreneurs Academy



www.yeausa.org
(585) 272-3535



“YEA! is an excellent example of a program that can help the next generation develop the skills necessary for success as future business and world leaders. The YEA! class should be mandatory for every school in the country.”

Carl Langsenkamp, Vice President, Global Public Relations, Xerox Corporation
Parent, YEA! Graduate, Class of 2006

“The skills that students learn are very cross-functional, from how to give a presentation to how to act in a professional way.”

“The impact that students can make on hundreds and maybe thousands of other people down the road, I think that there is a multiplier effect that plays here. That is why YEA! is worth your time.”

Steve Sauer, President, Toshiba Business Solutions New York
YEA! Advisory Board Member

“Students file their Doing Business As paperwork, they do real business plans, they actually present to a real investor panel. They get real experience and you can't get much more practical than actually doing it.”

David Mammano Founder & CEO, Next Step Publishing
YEA! Advisory Board Member

“We found a new breed of entrepreneurs coming out of this program—social entrepreneurs—people that were going to contribute back to the community, people that were going to add value to helping people that were in dire need.”

David Koretz, Founder & CEO, BlueTie, Inc.
YEA! Investor Panel Emcee, 2004-present

“The YEA! program targets 21st century learning goals. It teaches not only business skills, but problem solving, creative thinking, communication and personal interaction skills. This type of education is critical in a future that seems to be more and more about creating your own job. I highly recommend this program to any school that is interested in preparing students for the challenges of tomorrow.”

Mike Falzoi, Principal, Dansville High School

“YEA! is more than just a traditional academic program. This program's ability to go beyond the classroom theory and directly into the real-world application is amazing. I was so inspired by YEA!'s student success that I enrolled my son in the program last year. I strongly believe that our communities and country need YEA! to encourage a more entrepreneurial culture. I look forward to continuing my involvement in the YEA! program as it expands this proven and effective program nationally.”

Bruce Yoder, Vice President, JPMorgan Chase Bank
Parent, YEA! Graduate, Class of 2009

“YEA! works on a lot of different skills for students that ultimately will help them be leaders in whatever they choose to do.”

Helen Miller, Co-Owner, Scott Miller: Salon, Spa, Store
YEA! Extreme Makeover Field Trip Host, 2005-present

“We have always supported the notion that opportunity breeds success. By teaching these students entrepreneurial skills before they enter college, they develop not only the will and determination that will help them achieve success, but also the business and social attributes necessary to become flourishing entrepreneurs who will drive our future local economy.”

Terence Rafferty, President, Time Warner Cable, Western New York Division

“Entrepreneurship and teaching students about competition and market are all very important parts of the YEA! program, but really it's on the way to turning them in to leaders with values and character. That's what YEA! is all about.”

Ronald B. Knight, Lifetime Trustee, The University of Rochester

“I wanted the chance to give back to the community and help burgeoning CEOs fulfill their entrepreneurial dreams. I am so excited to be able to pass on what I have learned over the years to our next generation of CEOs.”

Thomas R. Wahl, Jr., Senior Vice President, Morgan Stanley Global Wealth Management Group
Instructor, YEA! Class of 2009

YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS *Academy*



“As a business owner, I know first-hand the benefits that the YEA! program offers the next generation of entrepreneurs. YEA! provides students with the practical, real-world skills needed for success, but it also provides the partner institutions with a unique way to develop deeper connections with the local business community as well as the opportunity to strengthening ties with alumni who serve as mentors and guest speakers. But most important, the YEA! program is helping to nourish the entrepreneurial spirit that fosters innovation, finds solutions and drives our nation’s economic engine.”

“This program is the best I’ve ever seen!”

Lauren Dixon, CEO, Dixon Schwabl

YEA! Fieldtrip Host/YEA! Advisory Board Member

“The YEA! educational experience brings together all of the skills people need for a successful life, it is not a narrowly focused vocational training program.”

“It is giving students the kind of holistic, reality-based educational skills that we stress as a distinguished, nationally recognized, public liberal arts college.”

Christopher Dahl, President, SUNY Geneseo

“It’s just a wonderful experience, a wonderful opportunity to move forward. I would recommend it to every student out there.”

Joseph L. Levesque, CM, President, Niagara University

“When students are coming into a college business class, if they are already coming with a hands-on experience of business planning, from start up to presentation, it’s going to give them an edge in terms of understanding the academic materials that are presented to them. This type of program is absolutely essential not only to students who may be pursuing business degrees, but for students who are pursuing degrees in many other areas.

Dr. Bonnie Rose, Executive VP & VP of Academic Affairs, Niagara University

“I love coming into the YEA! class each year. To hear the student’s ideas and to see their passion gives me hope for the next generation of business people!”

Kevin Halpin, Vice President, DeltaPoint Capital Management, LLC

YEA! Mentor, 2005-present

“My son was raised with honesty and integrity, follow through, commitment, and all of those things are part of the YEA! program. It gave him the confidence to stand up as a young man to sell himself first and then his product. YEA! was the best thing I ever did for my son.”

Linda Thornton-Hillery, ReMax Realty

Parent, YEA! Graduate, Class of 2007

“YEA! is a fabulous program. It provides an opportunity for community and business leaders to be involved with the youth of today. Helping young people build start-up companies, create new technology or develop social innovations, YEA! is a wonderful way to mentor our future. It’s a win-win for all.”

Steve Chartrand, CEO, Arc Foundation

Parent, YEA! Graduate, Class of 2008

YEA! Advisory Board Member

“What consistently impresses me is the ability of students in middle and high school to understand business concepts and to be able to create businesses that reflect their interests and passions. To watch the self-confidence develop in each of the YEA! students is an amazing transformation. YEA! helps students understand that they can accomplish anything they set their mind to, and teaches them how!”

Anthony Barone, Director -

Care Management Clinical Solutions, Excellus BlueCross BlueShield

Instructor, YEA! Class of 2008

“Welcome to the future. YEA! is an amazing opportunity as a teacher to work with kids on a totally different level. You are helping them apply concepts and create their own ideas in the pursuit of something amazing. I think every business owner I’ve talked to through this program has said the same thing—I wish we had this when I was in school, this is awesome.”

Charles Stewart, Teacher, Dundee School District

Instructor, YEA! Class of 2010

“I have never been a part of any club, organization, class or program that has had such an inspirational effect on me than the YEA!. Simply put, YEA! allows students to realize the power of their creativity, passions and ideas. YEA! gave me the confidence to follow my passions and realize that I can achieve anything I set my mind to; since this program and this revelation, I haven’t looked at the world in the same way. From designing a real business plan to pitching to real investors, this program successfully introduced me to and got me hooked on the wonderful world of business.”

Eric Meyer, CEO, Spotlight Entertainment

Graduate, YEA! Class of 2006

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