

SAVE THE DATE: MARCH 23, 2023

February 14, 2023

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

For more information contact:

Renea Gates

Junior Achievement of Central Indiana, Inc.

7435 N. Keystone Avenue, Suite B

(317) 252-5900 ext. 10

rgates@jaindy.org

Indy's Best and Brightest Finalists Selected

Winners to be announced during the awards program on Thursday, March 23, 2023

[Indianapolis, IN] Junior Achievement of Central Indiana announces its finalists for the 19th annual Indy's Best and Brightest event presented by KPMG LLP. The event honors 100 of central Indiana's most outstanding young professionals in 10 different industries.

An awards program and reception to recognize these outstanding professionals will take place on Thursday, March 23, 2023, at the Hilbert Circle Theatre downtown Indianapolis. All 100 finalists will receive an award and the winners in each category will be announced.

"KPMG is proud to serve as the presenting sponsor for this noteworthy event for the 19th consecutive year. We understand the importance of honoring these young professionals, who also serve as outstanding role models and mentors for the youth of our community," said Eric Sutphin, KPMG Indianapolis Managing Partner.

Jennifer Burk, Junior Achievement of Central Indiana's CEO, stated, "These innovative, passionate leaders are changing central Indiana for the better, and serve as inspiration for the thousands of young people participating in Junior Achievement."

The Best and Brightest event was created by Junior Achievement to recognize up and coming talent and the next generation of leaders in our community. Finalists in each category are judged on professional accomplishments, civic contributions, character, and leadership qualities. The finalists to be honored at the event are listed below, as well as on the Junior Achievement website: www.indysbestandbrightest.org.

The categories honored are: Accounting; Banking & Financial Services; Education & Nonprofit; Government, Tourism, & Arts; Health & Life Sciences; Law; Manufacturing, Retail & Services; Media, Entertainment & Sports; Real Estate, Development & Construction; and Technology.

Sponsorship opportunities are currently available; please contact Kacy Wendling at Kacy@jaindy.org or 252-5900 ext. 8. Proceeds from Indy's Best and Brightest benefit Junior Achievement of Central Indiana, Inc.

To learn more information about the event or to purchase tickets online please visit our website at www.indysbestandbrightest.org

SAVE THE DATE: MARCH 23, 2023

About Junior Achievement of Central Indiana

Junior Achievement of Central Indiana, Inc. (JACI), in partnership with the business and education communities, empowers young people to own their future success. JA educates and inspires young people in the areas of career exploration, employability/life skills, entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and philanthropy through hands-on, experiential learning opportunities for children in preschool through high school.

About KPMG LLP

KPMG LLP is the U.S. firm of the KPMG global organization of independent professional services firms providing audit, tax and advisory services. The KPMG global organization operates in 144 countries and territories and has more than 236,000 people working in member firms around the world. Each KPMG firm is a legally distinct and separate entity and describes itself as such. KPMG International Limited is a private English company limited by guarantee. KPMG International Limited and its related entities do not provide services to clients.

KPMG is widely recognized for being a great place to work and build a career. Our people share a sense of purpose in the work we do, and a strong commitment to community service, inclusion and diversity, and eradicating childhood illiteracy. Learn more at www.kpmg.com/us.

2023 Indy's Best and Brightest Finalists

Accounting

Kingsley Agho, Accounting Manager, Craftmark Bakery LLC
Allison Allen, Director, Audit & Assurance, Katz, Sapper & Miller, LLP
Sarah Ames, Audit Senior Manager, Dauby, O'Connor & Zaleski, LLC
Alice Cheng, Audit Senior Manager, Crowe LLP
Almamy Diaby, Accounting and Reporting Advisory Senior, Deloitte
Nicholas Eichelman, Partner, FORVIS, LLP
Madelyn Heron, Tax Staff, Ernst & Young, LLP
Kayla May, Healthcare Reimbursement Manager, Blue & Co., LLC
David Rabb, Partner, FORVIS, LLP
Trinh Vo, Accounting Analysis, Republic Leadership Development Program, Republic Airways

Banking & Financial Services

Justin Haney, Vice President, Centerfield Capital Partners
Sarah Arthur, CFP®, CEPA®, RICP®, Financial Advisor, Valeo Financial Advisors, LLC
Bryce Burnworth, Manager, KPMG – Advisory, Financial Services
Daniel Diehl, Senior Vice President & Commercial Banking Leader, KeyBank - Central & Southern Indiana
Monique Jackson, Vice President, Treasury Management Officer, J.P.Morgan Chase Bank, N.A.
Steven Kofkoff, Vice President, Retirement Services Strategy, Product Management, and Innovation, OneAmerica
Terry Oznick, Senior Vice President, General Counsel, Merchants Bancorp
Nate Richey, Retirement Plan Specialist, Capital Group
Shaq Thomas, Assistant Vice President, Syndications & Investor Relations, Merchants Capital
Nicole Woodson, Vice President, Community Reinvestment Act & Community Development Officer, First Internet Bank

SAVE THE DATE: MARCH 23, 2023

Education & Nonprofit

Ashley Parker, Director of Philanthropy, Buckingham Foundation
Beth Bowling, Director, K-12, EmployIndy
Dr. Sheila Dollaske, Regional Director, Mission and Education, Goodwill of Central and Southern Indiana
Willie Eaton, Operations Director, Indy Black Chamber of Commerce
Steven Emch, President, Orr Fellowship
Whitney Johnson, Vice President of Programs, Indiana Youth Institute
José Medina, Director of Business and Community Engagement, Indiana Commission for Higher Education
Daniel Poynter, Founder, Executive Director, Carbon Neutral Indiana
Rachel Santos, MPA, Director of Education Policy, Indiana Latino Institute
Keeanna Warren PhD, Associate Executive Director, Purdue Polytechnic High Schools

Government, Tourism, & Arts

Charlee Beasor, Associate Commissioner for Marketing & Communications, Indiana Commission for Higher Education
Matthew Cooper, Full time Artist
Devon Davis, Assistant Vice President, Bose Public Affairs Group
Madelyn Harris, Consultant, netlogx LLC
Karrah Herring, J.D., Chief Equity, Inclusion & Opportunity Officer, Office of Governor Eric J. Holcomb, State of Indiana
Andrew Merkley, Director of Homelessness Policy and Eviction Prevention, City of Indianapolis Office of Public Health and Safety
Jordan Rodriguez, Talent Acquisition and Recruitment Manager, Human Resources, City of Indianapolis/Marion County
Greg Stowers, Chief Administrative Officer/Policy Director, Indianapolis City County Council
Macyn Vogt, Company Artist, Indianapolis Ballet
Regina L. Warren, MBA, Major, US Army Reserve

Health & Life Science

Jennifer Bontrager, Practice Administrator-Oncology, Community Health Network MD Anderson Cancer Center
Alexander Brethauer, Senior Manager, Global Product Management, Cook Medical
Shelley Clayton, MSN, FNP-BC, Owner, Aesthetic Nurse Practitioner, Ageless Aesthetics
Michelle Clegg, Program Coordinator, Connection 4 Wellness, Center of Wellness for Urban Women, Inc.
Dr. Amber Comer, Associate Professor of Health Sciences and Medicine, Indiana University
Loretta Davidson, Associate Director Market Research, Eli Lilly and Company
Shane Hatchett, Deputy Health Commissioner & Chief of Staff, Indiana Department of Health
Isaac Janson, PhD, Medical Writer, Indiana Hemophilia and Thrombosis Center (IHTC)
Russell J. Ledet, MD, PhD, MBA, Physician-Scientist and Co-Founder, The 15 White Coats, Pediatrics, Adult Psychiatry and Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Resident, Indiana University School of Medicine
Javeria Masood, Data Analysis and Simulation Strategist, Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics Inc.

Law

Michael Allen, Partner, Ice Miller LLP
Lauren M. Box, Partner, Barnes & Thornburg LLP
Morgan A. Decker, Attorney, Rubin & Levin, P.C.
Christopher Engel, Partner, Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP
Amber Finley, Associate General Counsel, Health & Hospital Corporation of Marion County
Julian Harrell, Partner, Faegre Drinker
Steve Henke, Attorney, Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP
Katelyn H. Juerling, Attorney, Norris Choplin Schroeder LLP
Allison Jean Smith, Associate Attorney, Frost Brown Todd LLP
Rachel Vilensky, Director of Direct Representation Program, Child Advocates

SAVE THE DATE: MARCH 23, 2023

Manufacturing, Retail & Services

Vincent Ash, Vice President of Real Estate Development, Indiana Economic Development Corporation
Ashley R. Brooks, Owner, A. Rose Hospitality
C. Perry Griffith III, President, Denison Parking
Jarrett Harris, Co-Owner, The Blue Avocado
Kara Hawkins, Founder and Owner, Taste of Innova Wings + Greens and Innova Artis
Jessi Kahlo, Owner, Valkyrie's Vault
Consuelo Lockhart, Executive Director & Founder, Latinas Welding Guild Inc.
Katie Lucas, Chief Administrative Officer, Lucas Oil Products
Brodie Sears, Vice President Retail, Facilities, and Real Estate, Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana
Joy Smith, Manufacturing and Quality HR Business Professional and Lead Community Outreach Liaison, Eli Lilly and Company

Media, Entertainment & Sports

Leslie Bailey, Co-Founder & CEO, Indy Maven & Maven Space
Whitney Ball, Events Director, 16 Tech Community Corporation
Lacy Clagg, Owner, Lacy Clagg Photography
Shalonda Johnson, Owner and Lead Design Consultant, Identity Marketing & Branding
Mel McMahon Stone, Co-Founder, Indiana Owned and Indiana Gifts and Executive Producer, WIBC Radiothon
Amber Peckham, Lead Content Writer, DemandJump
Adam Pintar, Creative Director, Indianapolis Indians
Myron Russell, Cinematographer, Myruss Films LLC
Paul Swartz, Founder, CEO, Hoosier Shooting Academy
Lucy Wright, Manager, Regional Marketing, JD|Finish Line

Real Estate, Development & Construction

Bonnie Alexander, Civil Engineer, A&F Engineering
Taylor Brown, Director, Talent, Heritage Construction + Materials
Kevin Dick, Senior Vice President | Principal, Bradley Company
Kimber Kinsley, Managing Director, CBRE
Eddie Layton, Project Manager/Associate, Schmidt Associates, Inc.
Shannon McDonald, Accounting Manager, Taylor Bros. Construction Co., Inc.
La-Tisha Pirtle, President, MVGeneral Construction Services
Danny Scheidler, Senior Vice President, JLL
Alexis Sowder, Director, Client Services, KSM Location Advisors
Elliott Thomasson, Vice President of Capital Markets, Ambrose Property Group

Technology

Ariel Crawley, Community Engagement, Indy Women in Tech
Donnell Dwayne Duncan, Principal & Communications, and IT Consultant, Duncan Diversity Group
Kate Gundlach, Performance Engineer, Arrow McLaren IndyCar Team
Laura Hansen, Vice President, Talent Solutions, eimage
Mallory Marrs, Senior Managing Consultant, Beacon Hill Staffing Group
Nick Noblet, Ph.D., Scrum Master, hc1
Mike Pirtle, Founder, Entrhall & ELITE Media Group
Ariel Relf, Digital Communication Specialist, Cummins Inc.
Gundeep Singh, Executive Director – Digital, Carrier Corporation
Aaron Williams, Client Executive and Global Co-Lead of Black at Cloud, Google