



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **MEDIA CONTACT:**

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### **Junior Achievement Manatee/Sarasota Receives \$5,000 Donation from M&I Foundation, Will Be Used for Manatee County Students.**

MANATEE, FL - September 16, 2010 – Junior Achievement Manatee/Sarasota recently received a \$5,000 donation from M&I Foundation. This generous donation will allow Junior Achievement's educational enrichment classes to be delivered to approximately 200 Manatee County high school students. Junior Achievement programs educate high school students in important life-skill areas such as work readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy. The Junior Achievement curriculum also teaches age appropriate programs to students at the elementary and middle school level.

The \$5,000 check to Junior Achievement from the M&I Foundation was presented by Anthony Perez, Assistant Vice President/Branch Manager at M&I Bank in Palmetto. Perez has contributed his time and talent as a Junior Achievement Volunteer for the past few years. He currently teaches the Junior Achievement "*Titan*" curriculum at Palmetto High School.

Junior Achievement's *Titan* is a nationally recognized business simulation for high school students. During game play, students must run a manufacturing company and master six key business decisions: price of product, production levels, marketing expenses, research and development costs, capital investment level, and charitable giving.

Maggie Haley, Executive Director of Manatee/Sarasota Junior Achievement, commented "The continued support of the M&I Foundation is very much appreciated. It is partners like the Foundation that allow Junior Achievement to be successful. The support of Junior Achievement volunteers such as Anthony Perez is critical in delivering Junior Achievement's programs to the classrooms. Junior Achievement teaches valuable skills that young people can use throughout their adult lives."

#### **About Junior Achievement:**

Junior Achievement is the world's largest and fastest-growing non-profit economic education organization. The organization uses hands-on experiences to help young people understand the economics of life. In partnership with business and educators, Junior Achievement brings the real world to students, opening their minds to their potential. Programs are taught by classroom volunteers from the business community across America and in over 103 countries worldwide. Providing children with positive adult role models, who illustrate ways to build self-confidence, develop skills and find avenues of success in our free enterprise system, is a hallmark of Junior Achievement. For more information, telephone 941-361-1410 or visit [jamanatee.org](http://jamanatee.org).

-- MORE --



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(continued)

*Photo attached, left to right: Anthony Perez, Assistant VP M&I Bank with Jim Brown, Education Program Manager of Junior Achievement Manatee/Sarasota.*

***Grapevine Communications, a full-service, award-winning Advertising, Marketing and Public Relations firm based in Sarasota and serving clients nationwide, was awarded the 2010 Frank G. Berlin, Sr., "Small Business of The Year" Award by the Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce. For more information on Grapevine Communications, contact Donna Wolski at 941-351-0024 or email [dwolski@grapeinc.com](mailto:dwolski@grapeinc.com).***

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