

Dear Community Leader:

I'm very enthusiastic about our 2017-2018 YEA! Program because I believe for our community to prosper, it is critical to develop that *entrepreneurial spirit* in our young people today. Your support in our program will provide the 21st Century education and skills, innovation and business creation mindset to forever change our youth's future paths to success.

We all work every day to create jobs, drive our economy and give-back to improve the community in which we live. If your aims and goals are to take an active role in the lives of young people in our community, willing to provide the opportunity to gain useful tools, teach them critical skills that will help them to succeed and thrive as productive adults, I believe there is no purpose more important than this.

The Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!) is a ground-breaking program that takes students through the process of starting and running real businesses over the course of a 21 week program. YEA! students, as a class, visit area businesses, meet successful entrepreneurs, meet with professionals (attorneys, accountants, bankers, graphic designers, web developers, insurance providers, etc.), develop a business or social movement and work with mentors. Students then pitch their ideas "live" to a panel of investors made up of local business and community leaders with real dollars at stake to obtain real funding and take all of the steps necessary to, and then actually do, launch their venture.

Community support strengthens the program, and the academy strengthens the community.

Students participating in the YEA! program learn important life lessons and at the same time gain an appreciation that the skills they are learning in school have significant value in "real world" applications. YEA! students gain self-esteem, confidence and practical experience in working through novel situations and challenges.



AV Chambers of Commerce Education Fund
554 W. Lancaster Blvd
Lancaster, CA 93534
661-948-4518
501C(3) Tax ID: 32-0251887

YEA!'s direct mission is to help students embrace their passion, energy, creativity and talents, and view entrepreneurship as synonymous with success and freedom. The magic is that YEA! teaches kids to believe in themselves, to think big, and to understand that they can achieve anything they set their minds to. In the process, YEA! students learn as much about leadership and self-empowerment as they do about planning, budgeting, and production. YEA! kids discover in themselves confidence, optimism, and capabilities they never knew they had. These remarkable and life-changing results are why I am writing to you about the YEA! program.

The Lancaster Chamber's role includes the overall management of the program including people resources. We are providing the people for the necessary positions including program manager and instructors, and coordinating the involvement of highly respected business professionals as guest speakers, mentors, field trip hosts and judges for the big competition. We have partnered this year with Antelope Valley College, which provides our facility for classrooms, business instructors and venues for special events.

The Lancaster Chamber of Commerce is requesting that you support this program as a Sponsor at a donation level of Investment Panel Partner or CEO Premier Sponsor. This donation will go to offset costs associated with the running of the program, and awarding start-up capital to our young CEO's. Please reference the following page to learn about the benefits that are offered with these sponsor levels. This program is delivered through our AV Chambers Education Fund a 501(C)3 non-profit organization.

I hope that this is something we can count on you for and that you are excited about our program and interested in moving forward on together.

Sincerely,

Mark Hemstreet

CEO
Lancaster Chamber of Commerce



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Supporting Young, Local Entrepreneurs & Leaders

Your generous support will directly transform local students into real business owners and real entrepreneurial success stories, strengthen our business and educational communities, and secure the next generation of leaders in our region. Your Company will also be highlighted throughout the year giving high exposure to the community you do business in.

YEA! Sponsor Levels and Benefits

CEO Premier Partner, \$5,000

- Exclusive Judging Seat & Featured Speaker opportunity at YEA! Investor Panel Event
- Exposure & Logo on local YEA! materials and Lancaster Chamber of Commerce web site
- Media Impressions from Thank You! story and recognition YEA! Press Releases
- Enhanced reputation and significant recognition in your region as a leader in innovation, entrepreneurship, and civic engagement.

Investor Panel Partner, \$2,500

- Exclusive Judging Seat at YEA! Investor Panel Event
- Exposure & Logo on local YEA! materials and Lancaster Chamber of Commerce web site
- Opportunity to speak at one of the YEA! classes

Please make you investment check to: AV Chambers of Commerce Education Fund

And return to: Lancaster Chamber of Commerce

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Lancaster, CA 93534



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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



ANTELOPE VALLEY COLLEGE

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