



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Junior Achievement Celebrates Cinco de Mayo with a FUNdraising Bowl-A-Thon on May 5, 2023**

Junior Achievement of Arkansas (JA) is turning a Friday night fiesta into a FUNdraising event for Arkansas students with a Cinco de Mayo Bowl-A-Thon.

Fun, food, bowling and margaritas are on the menu for JA's debut Cinco de Mayo event, presented by First Service Bank and held at Millennium Bowl in North Little Rock from 4:00-6:00 p.m. on May 5. With a goal of raising \$17,000, JA is recruiting teams of five to bowl in support of the many educational programs it provides in the classroom each year. These programs are helping prepare future Arkansas leaders for successful careers through volunteer-taught lessons in financial literacy, business and job opportunity exploration to K-12 students.

Registration is \$50 per bowler and \$250 for a full team of five.

Denise Moore, branch manager with Presenting Sponsor First Service Bank, said the bank recently taught classes at Brady Elementary and thought sponsoring the Cinco de Mayo Bowl-A-Thon would be a great way to help an awesome organization. "I think it really is our responsibility to help teach our youth and support our schools, and what better way than this fun event for the community?" she asked.

Junior Achievement of Arkansas President and CEO Tonya Villines couldn't agree more. "This event pairs a fun, festive holiday with an amazing opportunity to help students," she said. "I can't think of a better or more impactful way to spend a Friday night!"

Last year alone, the organization impacted roughly 15,050 students across the state. Since JA's establishment in Arkansas in the mid-1980s, more than 300,000 students in Arkansas have been touched by its programs. If JA reaches its \$17,000 goal with this year's Cinco de Mayo Bowl-A-Thon, an additional 425 will be impacted.

Each team will receive two bowling games, food, drinks and the satisfaction of helping Arkansas students succeed. Sponsorships are still available for the Cinco de Mayo Bowl-A-Thon. Reach out to Jackie Worley at [jworley@jaark.org](mailto:jworley@jaark.org) to secure yours today.

“Cinco de Mayo has always been a fun holiday to celebrate,” said Candice Lawrence, chairperson of the event. “It’s a chance to gather with friends and family, eat great food and celebrate a fantastic culture. This year, we get to add helping kids to the equation. I could give cinco reasons for teams to sign up to participate, but I only need one: Arkansas students need us to show up for them. This is an easy, fun way to accomplish that goal,” she said.

Register for JA’s inaugural Cinco de Mayo Bowl-A-Thon by going to <https://secure.ggiv.com/event/2023cincodemayobowl-a-thon/> or contacting Jackie Worley at [jworley@jaark.org](mailto:jworley@jaark.org).

### **About Junior Achievement of Arkansas**

Junior Achievement is the state’s only organization dedicated to giving young people the knowledge and skills they need to own their economic success, plan for their future and make smart academic and economic choices. JA programs are delivered by corporate and community volunteers, and provide relevant, hands-on experiences that give students from kindergarten through high school knowledge and skills in financial literacy, work readiness and entrepreneurship. Today, JA annually reaches more than 13,000 students per year across Arkansas. For more information, visit [www.arkansas.ja.org](http://www.arkansas.ja.org).