Spotlight on YouthBiz Stars
Invitation to be a 2017 Presenting Mentor

Thank you for considering the role of Presenting Mentor for the YouthBiz Stars Gala which celebrates and encourages the next generation of business owners in Colorado.

This event has become the premier opportunity to recognize the accomplishments of top youth business owners across Colorado. We invite the business community to celebrate the culmination of a statewide competition for youth (ages 6 to 21) who own and operate their own business.

Overview of the Presenting Mentor Role

- **Sponsor the event for $10,000.** Includes a table with premier visibility. Your company will receive special donor recognition at the event and additional recognition on the Young Americans website.
- **Meet with your mentee in July (two hours at your office or another location).** Purpose is to get acquainted and to film a video of the introductory meeting with your mentee. The 3 minute video will be shown during the event.
- **Attend the YouthBiz Stars event on Thursday, October 5, 2017 from 4:00 – 8:30 pm at the Seawell Ballroom, Denver Center for Performing Arts.** Before the event, you will take photos with your mentee. During the event, you will introduce your mentee on stage after your video is shown.
- **Host 8 people along with your mentee and a parent or guardian at your VIP table.**

Mentor Responsibilities and Expectations

Mentors assist their mentees with a variety of business needs depending on the situation. The following are provided as a guide:

- **Meet at least quarterly to engage mentee and parents (if applicable) in business discussions.**
- **Sustain relationship and communication with mentee for one year (through September 2018).**
- **Commit to helping with two business goals over the course of the year, e.g. update brand, evaluate marketing and sales strategy, expand online presence, etc.**
- **Invite others to meet your mentee at the “Young Entrepreneur Marketplace” in December 2017 if attending.**
- **Provide a tour to acquaint the student with your business operations.**

As a Presenting Mentor you will be matched with a winner from one of three age categories, 6-11, 12-15 and 16-21, who also receives a cash award of $1,000.

“*I am humbled and honored to have the chance to be a mentor for the Young American Center as I am a true believer in the organization’s mission. I loved getting to meet RJ (my mentee) and he reminded me of myself when I was his age.*” -Jeremy Ostermiller, Founder and CEO Altitude Digital

Our goal is to optimize your time with the youth business owner so as to maximize his/her growth opportunities.

CYE Mentor, John Malone of Liberty Media, with his mentee.

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**Additional Ways to Help**

- Write a letter of reference for future scholarships or college applications.
- Help your mentee refine their 30 second “elevator speech” or sales pitch.
- Connect mentee to your staff or other professionals who can assist with business goals.
- Invite your mentee to accompany you as a guest at a future community networking lunch.

**Support from Young Americans**

Mentors and mentees are matched based on professional interests, business needs and geography. Mentors will receive the student’s business competition application and comments from the judges.

Our staff will speak with the mentor before the mentorship begins to answer any questions. Young Americans requests a brief statement of progress at the conclusion of the mentorship.

**Distinguished Mentors**

You will join an elite group of previous mentors including:

- **2002** John Saeman, Dick Callahan, Sharon Magness, John Sie
- **2003** Bruce Deifek, Patricia Gabow, Jerry McMorris, Steve Schuck
- **2004** Charlie Gallagher, Steven Halstedt, LaRue Orullian, Dick and Eddie Robinson
- **2005** Samuel Addoms, Mary Pat Link, Daniel Ritchie, Carl Williams
- **2006** Bruce Benson, Cathey Finlon, Jean Galloway, John Malone
- **2007** John Hickenlooper, Richard Lewis, Scott Reiman, Judi Wagner
- **2008** Susan Matthews Brown, Francisco Garcia, Alice Marsh, Blair Richardson
- **2009** Maria Garcia Berry, Donna Lynne, Jack Pottle, Dick Saunders
- **2010** Stephanie Comfort, John Ikard, Katherine Ott, Mimi Roberson
- **2011** Linda Childs, Linda Enstrom, Patrick Quinlan
- **2012** Kent Thiry, Curt Richardson, Nancy Phillips
- **2013** Colleen Abdoulah, Chad McWhinney, Kristy Taddonio Mullins
- **2014** Justin Gold, Sara Bencomo, Saul Garlick
- **2015** Maureen Tarrant Fitzgerald, Chuck Morris, Jeremy Ostermiller
- **2016** Heidi Ganahl, Jeff Ingrum, Reggie Rivers

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