

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:**

Mariah Maier

Marketing and Communications Manager

Junior Achievement of Central Indiana

P: 317.252-5900 x13 | E: [mariah@jaindy.org](mailto:mariah@jaindy.org)

## **Junior Achievement of Central Indiana Unveils 2026 Business Hall of Fame Laureates**

*A night of legacy, leadership, and inspiration awaits at the 38th Annual Central Indiana Business Hall of Fame*

**INDIANAPOLIS, IN —June 4, 2026** — Junior Achievement of Central Indiana is proud to announce the 38th Annual Central Indiana Business Hall of Fame, set to take place on **October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026**. Hosted in a dazzling evening of celebration, the event will include a cocktail reception, seated dinner, a one-of-a-kind awards ceremony, and appearances from Junior Achievement student ambassadors, whose stories remind us why this work matters: to inspire and equip tomorrow’s leaders.

We are delighted to reveal the **2026 Laureates** to be inducted:

**David Barrett**, *Chairman, President & CEO*, Gene B. Glick Company

**Lacy M. Johnson**, *Partner*, Taft

**Mel Raines**, *President & CEO*, Pacers Sports & Entertainment

**Mario Rodriguez**, *Executive Director*, Indianapolis Airport Authority

These four visionary leaders will be inducted into the Hall of Fame for their exceptional contributions to business, civic leadership, and community impact across Central Indiana. Their legacies are not only defined by their achievements — but also by how they’ve paved the way for future generations.

“The Central Indiana Business Hall of Fame is more than an awards ceremony — it’s a powerful celebration of what’s possible when vision is paired with purpose,” said Jennifer Burk, President and CEO of Junior Achievement of Central Indiana. “These laureates have shaped our community with intention, and their journeys are a meaningful source of inspiration for the next generation of leaders.”



*From Left to Right: David Barrett, Lacy M. Johnson, Mel Raines, Mario Rodriguez*

**Save the Date: 38th Annual Central Indiana Business Hall of Fame**

October 1st, 2026

Lucas Estate

**Learn more, reserve your seat, or sponsor: <https://indy.ja.org/events/38th-annual-central-indiana-business-hall-of-fame>** All proceeds support Junior Achievement's K-12, and 18-25 programs that equip students with the knowledge, skills, and confidence they need to succeed in work and life.

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**About Junior Achievement of Central Indiana**

Junior Achievement of Central Indiana is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preparing young people for economic success. Through hands-on programs focused on financial literacy, career exploration, and entrepreneurship, JA equips students with the knowledge, skills, and confidence they need to succeed in work and life. For more information about Junior Achievement of Central Indiana and its impact, visit

<https://indy.ja.org>.