

1 September 2021

Dear Educator,

Mohawk Valley Community College is proud to offer a unique program in entrepreneurial education for students ages 11-18. The Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!), now entering its 10th year at MVCC and was created in 2004. YEA! is a program that teaches middle and high school students how to start and run their own REAL businesses and social movements. Students are guided through each step of starting an enterprise, from brainstorming the idea to pitching their business plan to investors. Classroom learning is anchored by real-world applications, such as submitting DBAs to the County Clerk's Office, opening bank accounts, filing tax returns, and earning real profits at a trade show.

Currently, the Young Entrepreneurs Academy is accepting student nominations for the YEA! Class of 2022. As educators, you have insight as to which students, passionate about business, would excel in the YEA! program. Please consider nominating creative, motivated students who pursue their goals with tenacity. Nominated students should have a strong work ethic and should demonstrate high levels of effort on a consistent basis. Although prior experience in business is not required, nominees should have a strong interest in business and/or starting their own company or social movement.

The Young Entrepreneurs Academy requests that you nominate five eligible students from your school. Please complete the enclosed **Nomination Form** and return it **no later than September 20, 2021**. This may be returned easily via email (see the Nomination Form for details). In addition to your nominees, we encourage you to share information about the Academy with all of your students. All are welcome to apply.

Nominated students will receive an introductory letter with background information on the program and the YEA! application form and requirements. Scholarships may be available and are awarded based on need and merit. Scholarship applications are available upon request.

Once your nominated students receive the program materials, please encourage them to apply. **The deadline for returning the completed YEA! application is October 4. The application process is very easy.** Students will need to 1) fill out the application, 2) write a 300-word essay and a short answer question, 3) submit their academic transcript, 4) submit one letter of recommendation and 5) attend a virtual interview. Full and partial scholarships are available to all students in need. Please do not let the program fee deter any student from applying!

We sincerely look forward to receiving your school's student nominations for the Young Entrepreneurs Academy. If you have any questions about the nomination process, student eligibility, or student selection procedures, please do not hesitate to contact me at (315) 534-0067. We thank you for your support.



Michelle Truett

Program Manager
The Young Entrepreneurs Academy