

#### **NEWS RELEASE**

## For Immediate Release

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# Junior Achievement of New York Announces Appointment of Two New Members to its Board of Directors

Junior Achievement of New York (JA New York) announced that Sammi Gu, Director of Forensic Services, Advisory Practice at KPMG U.S., and Anthony Barone, Regional Vice President of Implementation and Operations at Crown Castle, have joined the Board of Directors. JA New York is the leading non-profit organization in greater New York dedicated to creating pathways to economic empowerment for young people. With a mission to inspire and prepare young people to succeed in a global economy, JA New York is built on the premise that knowledge plus access equals empowerment.

Sammi Gu helps multi-national companies improve performance and earn trust through their regulatory compliance programs. She leads a team that works with Fortune 500 companies, including their affiliates and business partners located worldwide, on compliance assessments, pre-and post-acquisition compliance due diligence, third-party compliance monitoring and audits, and cross-border forensic investigations. Leveraging her U.S.-China bi-cultural background and global experience in APAC, EMEA, LATAM and North America, she brings unique perspectives on how to identify, prioritize and implement compliance process enhancement opportunities globally, regionally, and locally.

Sammi is the New York Chapter Lead of KPMG's Asian Pacific Islander ("API") Business Resource Group. She leads and participates in many of KPMG's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion ("DEI") programs to advance the firm's culture and collaborates with other Fortune 500 companies and non-profit organizations on various DEI initiatives. She also participates in volunteer/fundraising activities for organizations such as Ronald McDonald House, Meals on Wheels, and Junior Achievement.

Sammi was born and raised in Shanghai (China) and moved to the United States in 2006. She earned her MSA in Accountancy at University of Rochester, Simon Business School and her BBA in Accountancy and English at Shanghai International Studies University.



"I had the opportunity to participate in Junior Achievement's programs as a college student many years ago and it remains an amazing organization helping the younger generation get ready for the rapidly changing business world," said Gu. "I firmly believe in the power of education and the importance of giving back and it's an honor for me to join the Board of Directors at Junior Achievement of New York. I look forward to contributing my efforts to this great cause, inspiring and empowering our young people to explore the unknown, find their passion and be prepared for the future."

Anthony Barone joined Crown Castle in 2010 and currently serves as its Regional Vice President of Implementation and Operations. In this position, he is responsible for leading all aspects of the company's fiber solutions business in the East Region, including service delivery, permitting and utility relations, fiber and small cell construction, and field operations.

Anthony has had a long and distinguished career in the communications industry. Before joining Crown Castle, Anthony held leadership positions at Siemens AG, Level (3) Communications, and Verizon. He started his professional pathway at Shearson-Lehman Bros as an Analyst in 1990.

Outside of work, Anthony is active in a number of civic and philanthropic organizations and spends a considerable amount of time giving back to the community. He serves on the Board of Directors and is the immediate past president of the South Shore Kiwanis Organization, which is dedicated to helping the children of New York.

Anthony holds an MBA from Long Island University-Post and a BBA in Finance from Baruch College.

"My experience with Junior Achievement in High School was the deciding factor for me to pursue a career in Business. I am excited to join the Board of JA New York and help educate and inspire the next generation of financial leaders."

"JA New York is thrilled to welcome Sammi Gu and Anthony Barone to our Board of Directors," said Betty A. Garger, President and CEO of JA New York. Garger continued, "Sammi and Anthony have been active with Junior Achievement and will be tremendous assets to our board. Both KPMG and Crown Castle are great partners of JA New York and we are fortunate to have a legacy of dedication and commitment to the students we impact and the communities we serve."



### **About JA New York**

Junior Achievement of New York (JA New York), an affiliate of Junior Achievement USA, is the leading non-profit organization in Greater New York dedicated to creating pathways to economic empowerment for local youth. With a mission to inspire and prepare young people to succeed in the global economy, JA New York provides experiential, interactive programs that teach and inspire young people to understand the economic world around them, plan for their financial futures, and reach their full potential.

For more information about JA New York, visit its website at <a href="newyork.ja.org">newyork.ja.org</a>.

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