

**Palos Verdes Peninsula Chamber of Commerce**  
**Young Entrepreneurs Academy**  
**January 2020**



The Palos Verdes Peninsula Chamber of Commerce is continuing the innovative Young Entrepreneurs Academy with programming beginning on January 7, 2020.

The Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!) is a groundbreaking and exciting afterschool program that transforms local middle and high school students into real, confident entrepreneurs. Through the six month program, students in grades 7 - 12 work closely with local business leaders to cultivate and research business ideas, write business plans, pitch to a panel of investors, obtain funding, develop their brand and launch their business or social movement. They may also compete for significant college scholarships. By learning entrepreneurial skills before they exit high school, the students develop not only the business and social skills so often attributed to entrepreneurship, but the mindset that will help them achieve success with, and bring innovation to, all their future endeavors.

YEA! was developed at the University of Rochester with support from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. Today, the Academy is a registered 501(c)(3) organization and a proud partner of the United States Chamber of Commerce and the Campaign for Free Enterprise. YEA! is now offered through local Chambers of Commerce in select communities. Since its inception in 2004, several thousand students nationwide have participated in YEA!

The YEA! program will be organized and managed entirely by the Palos Verdes Peninsula Chamber of Commerce. The twenty week curriculum is provided by the Academy and the classes are taught by local business professionals. YEA! functions as an after-school club, meeting three hours per week. Up to 24 students from our school district (public and private) may participate each year.

Over the course of the YEA! program, **students will actually launch their own legally formed business or social movement** from the ground up, using in-class lessons, guest speakers, business mentors, and field trips to local businesses and nonprofit organizations. YEA! students acquire a variety of skills, such as how to:

- Develop the ideas and objectives for their business
- Identify the business opportunity and value proposition
- Write a business plan
- Make presentations/public speaking
- Develop and manage media campaigns
- Establish e-commerce and a web presence
- Utilize social media to leverage their marketing plan
- Obtain funding and open bank accounts
- Manage money and file tax returns
- Create record-keeping systems
- Register with governmental agencies
- Pitch potential investors
- Run sales events and trade shows

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Applications are available from the Chamber of Commerce and will be accepted by the Chamber on a rolling basis, until the class of 24 is filled. Student interviews will be scheduled upon submission of your completed application.

**Information sessions for interested students and parents will be held at local schools, our Chamber office and other venues during November.**

### **PARENT AND STUDENT INFORMATION SESSIONS**

**Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**

**6:00 PM**

**Palos Verdes Peninsula Chamber of Commerce office**

**4040 Palos Verdes Drive North, Suite 205**

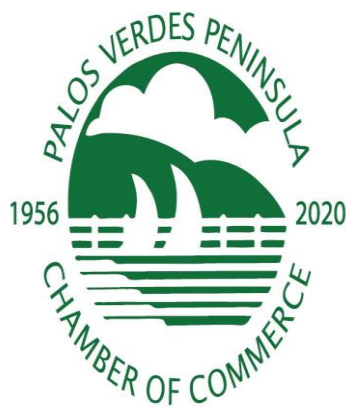
**Rolling Hills Estates 90274**

**(located in Academy Center on south west corner of PV Drive North & Crenshaw Blvd.)**

Check the Chamber website for additional Information Sessions at [palosverdeschamber.com](http://palosverdeschamber.com). We are also happy to hold an information session at your school, and for your Booster Club, PTA, Girl Scout and Boy Scout troop.

The Young Entrepreneurs Academy has a proven track record of success and the Palos Verdes Peninsula Chamber of Commerce is honored to bring this innovative and impactful opportunity to the students in our community. The Palos Verdes Peninsula Chamber is committed to empowering our local students with the spirit of entrepreneurship.

Contact Eileen Hupp at the Palos Verdes Peninsula Chamber of Commerce for additional information. 310-377-8111 or [eileen@palosverdeschamber.com](mailto:eileen@palosverdeschamber.com)



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