



**As a way to say thanks to the City of Olean, we want to offer you and your child a discount on these programs. If you are interested in YEA!, you can enjoy \$100 off the tuition cost.**

**What are parents saying at the Young Entrepreneurs Academy?**

**Ronni Gronemeier, CUTCO Employee:** “YEA! has been a great opportunity for my daughter, Mikailyn. We’ve seen her take her ideas she’s had in her heart and in her mind and communicate them out to other people. Watching her build this business has been fascinating, and a real joy to see because she is gaining confidence!”

**Cassandra Riquelme, Business owner and homeschool mother:** “How hasn’t she grown? I’ve had a timid child since the time she was an infant and she has a brilliant mind, but never able to express that vocally. So, to watch her evolve from keeping these thoughts in her mind to being able to step on stage and go in front of people who she considers not only intimidating but inspiring, it’s been really wonderful to watch.”

**Jim Theodore, City of Olean Fire Dept.:** “We’ve noticed over the last couple months since this program started his ability to talk to people and to interact with other people including adults has grown. He has always had a little more of a maturity level that way but being able to interact with a large group of people and to develop a product as well as a business model is helping him in the future with so many skills that I can’t even name. We are very grateful for this program.”

**Bart Lambert, SBU Professor:** “We just thank CCBDC for the opportunity. This has been great for Michael! What I have noticed about Michael is that it really increased his sense of self confidence, and project it much more now than a year ago. In terms of planning this project

required him to sit down and think through a very complicated set of steps. He’s only 15 years old, but he was able to do that by the end, so it was very helpful in showing him what you need to do to develop a business plan.”

**Jason Panus, business owner:** “Nyles has always been one to excel and show great qualities as a leader, but I think the real-world experience has given him the ability to hone something that comes natural to him. I don’t know that he would have developed those skills if it wasn’t for YEA!”

**Julie O’Dell McGonigle, Hair stylist:** “YEA! is an opportunity for my son to continue his goals and his dreams. It has given him to opportunity to research, to learn to be a leader, and to spend his free time in other places than video games. It has been great for him and he really loves this program!”

**Karen Appleby, Venture Forth Employee:** “Since he was very young, my son has always wanted to start a business and help people but has never really known how to do that. This is a great opportunity. My son has grown so much and learned how to start a business, how to make a business plan, make connections. I cannot believe the confidence that he has gained. It has really lit a fire to go forward and be an entrepreneur as a life goal.”

**Dooder Luce, business owner:** “My son already has own small business. I’d really like to thank CCBDC for bringing the YEA! program to this area. It has forced my son to really think about the business, the financials, the paperwork, the planning, and the logistics that go into doing something along this line.

**Applications are being accepted now! Go to [www.catt-alleyea.org](http://www.catt-alleyea.org) to fill out the application. Use code EARLY18 to waive the application fee! More questions? Contact Halley Kottwitz at [hkottwitz@southern-tierwest.org](mailto:hkottwitz@southern-tierwest.org) or call her in her office at (716) 945-5301 x2207 or on her cellphone at (585) 466-1620.**