

John J. Trombetta Endowment Fund



John J. Trombetta, Sr. served for nearly twenty-nine years as the president and chief executive officer of the Foundation for Free Enterprise Education (FFEE), the parent organization which presents Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week (PFEW), the internationally acclaimed business education program for high school students.

A graduate of the Pennsylvania State University with a B.S. in the Administration of Criminal Justice, Mr. Trombetta served for six years as the Chief County Detective for the District Attorney's Office of Erie County. Prior to his appointment with the District Attorney's Office, he had previously served for eight years in Erie County's Adult Division of Probation and Parole Services. Mr. Trombetta

was appointed as president of the Foundation for Free Enterprise Education in July, 1989 and served until his retirement in January, 2018.

Mr. Trombetta currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association, PFEW's primary sponsor and one of the original incorporators of FFEE. He is a former president of the Northwest Pennsylvania Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP), and he served as a member of the Northwest Pennsylvania Youth Investment Council of the Regional Workforce Investment Board. He has twice been the chairman of the International Business Week Conference that brought together executives of programs similar to Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week from across the globe.

Mr. Trombetta possesses a tremendous can-do attitude and positive outlook, and he immediately met the challenges of running and growing the PFEW program. Over his tenure, he has faithfully led PFEW with incredible energy, determination, grit, and above all, heart. Because of him, PFEW has seen unprecedented growth, becoming the largest, most respected youth economics education program in the world. His drive and passion have enabled PFEW to deliver a world class educational experience for Pennsylvania's youth.

If you spend any time with John Trombetta, you cannot help but feel his unbridled enthusiasm and genuine passion for PFEW. People who have attended one of his astonishing 120 PFEW closing banquets have heard him say that the greatest day of his life (save for the birth of his children) was the day he was entrusted with the reigns of PFEW. For twenty-nine years, John shared his enthusiasm and passion with tens of thousands of young people, igniting in them their own passions, not only for free enterprise, but for life itself, ultimately influencing their futures forever. John's life motto is, "It CAN be done", an apt description of the philosophy by which John J. Trombetta Sr. has lived his life.