

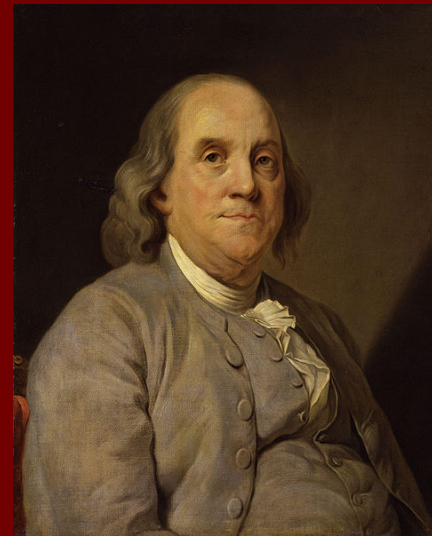
Junto Montreal Society (JMS)

[pronounced who-n-toe]

April 2010

“As we enjoy great advantages from the inventions of others, we should be glad of an opportunity to serve others by any invention of ours; and this we should do freely and generously”

– Benjamin Franklin [1706-1790]



Original Junto

- Junto was a club established in 1727 by Benjamin Franklin for mutual improvement in Philadelphia. Also known as the *Leather Apron Club*, its purpose was to debate questions of morals, politics, and natural philosophy, and to exchange knowledge of business affairs.
- The Junto gave [us] our first library, volunteer fire departments, the first public hospital, police departments, paved streets and the University of Pennsylvania. They recommended books, shopkeepers, and friends to each other. They fostered self-improvement through discussions on topics related to philosophy, morals, economics, and politics.

Modern Day Junto

- There are several modern-day Juntos modeled on Franklin's original meeting operating today
 - New York
 - London
 - Pittsburgh
 - Indianapolis
 - Salt Lake City
 - ...Montreal

Junto Montreal Society

- JMS was founded in 2008 by Travis Chalmers and Nicolas Dang
 - Inspiration:
 - Benjamin Franklin Biography
 - Garnet Key Honour Society of Concordia University
- A non-profit society bringing together Montreal's new generation of entrepreneurs and professionals of diverse occupations and backgrounds who share a spirit of inquiry and a desire to improve themselves, their community, and to help others

Our Mission

- To further the knowledge of its members and of the community within which its members live

The Structure

- Mobilize and gather key resources i.e. human and intellectual capital
 - Members, Mentees, Guests (+Honorary Guests) and Industry Experts
- Provide framework and order to
 - raise the level of informed debate
 - empower the members by expending their knowledge and network
- Periodic meetings
 - First Friday of each Month
 - Special events (social activities 5 à 7, conferences, attend other Junto Society around the world...)
- Venue
 - Restaurant / University class room / Private Club / Junto home

The Meetings

- Roundtable concept with a Socratic-style discussion
- Every member, in his turn, chair a meeting and present one or more queries on any point of cultural, economic, business, philosophy, politics or others
- In addition, meetings are organized around a series of questions (based on the original Junto Questions) covering a range of intellectual, personal, business, and community topics. These questions are used as a springboard for discussion

“The only person who cannot think is the one who thinks she already knows”

Key Concepts

- Learn by teaching (keeps your knowledge honest)
- Kaizen
- Expertise reverse-osmosis
 - "Art is long, time is short"
- Intellectual philanthropy
 - Take ideas and give them action.
- Evolve from information-based to knowledge-based mindset (Singularity)

"Knowledge and innovation are the currency of the future" – Barack Obama

The Thought of Thinking

- Challenge conventional wisdom and heuristic logic to provide new perspectives
- Encourage contrarian views (devil's advocate) to stimulate critical thinking and creative thinking
- Explore the contours of often difficult issues and to learn the critical thinking skills
- Second order derivative of thinking
- Allow members to form the conclusion through their own efforts, potentially highlighting conflicts of thought and actions with outstanding questions for further discussion
- Debate are to be conducted in the sincere spirit of inquiry after truth, without fondness for dispute or desire of victory

JMS Topics of Discussion

- Wide ranging topics of discussion including:
 - Business and the economy,
 - e.g. Budget deficit & sales tax increases
 - Current affairs
 - e.g. Privatization of McGill MBA Program
 - Aesthetic
 - Art, literature, music
 - Science and technology
 - e.g. Singularity
 - Philosophy & Ethics
 - e.g. Zen Paradox
 - Politics
 - e.g. The advantages and disadvantages of Capitalism
 - Cultural
 - e.g. Tiger Wood's new Nike commercial
 - Others

Who Should Join?

- Young professionals and leaders of tomorrow with an entrepreneurial tilt
 - strong practical experience with strong academic background
- Individuals with a broad-based network
- Intellectually curious, hungry for knowledge and willingness to share
- Visionary thinker
- Demonstrate a tendency to act

"On our plane, there are no passengers, only pilots" – Brevan Howard

Benefits

Unlocking the combined power of
[*Google, Wikipedia, LinkedIn* and *Facebook*]
in a real world setting

- More than just information, supply push knowledge (unknown unknown)
- Enhance and diversify perception, learning and reasoning
- Broaden your professional and social network
- Connectivity: Reduce the degrees of separation
- Intellectual Philanthropy: “Learn, Perform, RETURN”
- Leadership development

Traits of a Junto Member

- Commitment
- Integrity
- Leadership and self-starter - Take initiatives
- Ability to persuade and influence
- Effective – ROIT
- Risk taker – ROF

« Management is doing things right, leadership and integrity is doing the right thing »

Junto's Way of Life

Commitment to:

- Working Hard to Increase Your Place in Society.
- Working Ethically While Upon That Path.
- Devoting Time to Constant Education of One's Self.
- Promote knowledge: Taking Time to Teach and Help Others Around You.
- Using Your Status in Society to Further the Causes of Mankind.

Next Steps

- Scalable model
 - Main broad-knowledge Junto complemented by satellite focused-knowledge Juntos
 - Global reach, joint venture with other Junto and societies
- Partnership with community organizations and Universities
 - More direct involvement to better the community (volunteering, mentorship...)
 - Quarterly projects / Annual projects
- Retention of intellectual capital
 - Minutes to provide structure, continuity (reduce loss of intellectual capital) and transparency
 - Produce a memo for the broader audience
- Integrated book club and JMS own lending library
- Leverage “best ideas/knowledge” into businesses
- Find a home for Junto Montreal Society (+ virtual home)

Junto Montreal Leadership

- To Champion Our Own Cause
- To Demand Integrity & Honour
- To Denounce Greed & Corruption
- To Lead In Finding Community Solutions
- To Provide Leadership To Montreal
- Reinvested the Knowledge Dividend

“Do not follow where the path may lead.
Go, instead, where there is no path and leave a trail”
~Ralph Waldo Emerson

Principles

- **Higher Purpose** - work for the welfare of the whole world, by significantly increasing human knowledge through education, raising social intelligence, true wisdom and self actualization throughout the world.
- **Communion** – communicate and develop relationships with everyone else in the world, to notify the world's farthest reaches of the purpose and intention.
- **Awareness** – listen to understand, everything that impinges on the purpose. Meditate on it, adapt, remain flexible, respond accordingly.
- **Acceptance** – There are no enemies. Understand my values and others' values, and communicate with myself and others accordingly. I am a genius and they are also. Recognize every one as equally important and interdependent.
- **Creativity** – think thoughts never thought before, 'dance' in a way never seen before. Continue to solve the knowledge 'problem' every day, in creative new ways.
- **Being** – obey the universal cycle of rest and activity. Live a balanced life. Sleep on it. Meditate on it. Develop routines and cycles.
- **Efficiency** – work smarter, not harder. Prioritize. Seek value, including profit in what is done. Benefits must significantly exceed all costs. Stop doing things that are not significant contributors to the purpose.
- **Bonding** – know that we are all fundamentally the same. There are no outcasts. Extend the hand of friendship to all.
- **Giving** – give and receive automatically, without expectation, without hoarding.
- **Immortality** – pass on your knowledge, experience and talents to others – and become immortal by leaving a legacy that will keep on giving when you pass on to another plain. Be remembered.

Wake Your Dreams

