

Volume 13, Issue 1 • March 2013

Education for Real Life

Economics Arkansas

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Economics Arkansas named Non-Profit of the Year

Economics Arkansas was selected the winner of the Non-Profit Organization of the Year during the 25th Annual Arkansas Business of the Year Awards dinner on February 26 in Little Rock! AT&T sponsored this award for *Arkansas Business*. The evening was both humbling and exhilarating, and we were thrilled to share the experience with several board members attending. In addition to a beautiful acrylic award and wonderful publicity for our mission, we also received a check for \$2,500 presented by Mr. Ed Drilling, CEO of AT&T Arkansas. Executive Director Sue Owen's acceptance speech was informative, moving and powerful. To view the awards presentation, Sue's comments and our huge smiles, please visit www.economicsarkansas.org and click on "news and announcements" on the home page.

We gladly accept this honor on behalf of all the fantastic educators, supporters, board members, friends, volunteers and Arkansas students who have contributed to EA's efforts over the last 50 years. Thank you!



Sue Owens, Ed Drilling, Claudia Utley, Kathy Moore, Marsha Masters, Jennifer Taunton and Elisha Poteet.

Students Set Sights on Governor's Office!

State Capitol Rotunda February 11th to share with legislators their economic knowledge. Teachers accompanying these young decision-makers and savvy investors have participated in economic workshops offered by Economics Arkansas. As you can see in the photo to the right, four students from Baker Elementary School in Pulaski County Special School District have their sights set high, envisioning future conferences with other important dignitaries in "their" conference room! (Story continued on page 4.)

Baker students: Adam, Caitlyn, Audrey and Andrew



What Comes Next?

s many of you know by now, Economics Arkansas was awarded Non-Profit Organization of the Year during the 25th Anniversary of the Arkansas Business of the Year Awards event held at the Statehouse Convention Center on February 26th. We were informed of being among



Sue Owens Executive Director

the five finalists last December, with an independent panel of judges selecting Economics Arkansas as winner! It felt like the Academy Awards and we were told to be prepared with comments as we would not know the winner until that evening. If you haven't seen the short video, please visit our website www.economicsarkansas.org and click on the awards box, which will take you to the video link. The girls were amazed I was able to hold off on tears until the end! Business leaders from all over the state learned about our mission that night, and we continue to receive comments and notes from our friends statewide. AT&T sponsored the Non-Profit Award for Arkansas Business, so we also received a \$2,500 check - a lovely bonus on top of the award!

So, what comes next? After an exciting 50th Anniversary in 2012, and recently winning the Non-Profit of the Year Award, spirits have been riding high in our office, but as our associate Claudia said last week "it's so yesterday," and I knew exactly what she meant. There is no "riding on our past laurels" as we continue to work at staying relevant to educators and students.

Board member Bill Holmes, CEO of the Arkansas Bankers Association, loaned me a book titled. Race For Relevance. which focuses on five radical changes associations and organizations need to make in order to stay relevant. One of the changes listed is technology. This book easily drove home the point that technology will be critical in positioning ourselves for the future. A technological "tidal wave" is occurring in education, and the consequences will be enormous if we do not embrace it - we will quickly become irrelevant. We anticipate technology will fundamentally change the way we deliver value to teachers and students. Our current model has teachers attending conferences and workshops, which we will continue; however, we need to increase our focus on bringing resources and training to the teachers through technology. We are excited to think about the opportunities this will provide to impact more teachers from around the state!

Economic Education Advocate Award

Conomics Arkansas is proud to announce our Advocate Award winner for this edition of the newsletter is the community of El Dorado! Named as *"Arkansas" Original Boomtown"* El Dorado is located in Union County and has been a major advocate of our mission by providing support through individuals, businesses, and The Murphy Foundation.

We begin with **Bob Watson**, Superintendent of the El Dorado Public Schools, who has served on the Economics Arkansas board of directors for 26 years. Bob promotes the integration of economics into the district and encourages his teachers to attend our workshops, plus offers to host training within the district. Bob has also been a figurehead with Trivia Challenge and has served as our co-chair for several years, along with **Magen Olive** of Murphy Oil. Both Magen and Bob are always supportive of this annual event, which brings the community together each spring at the South Arkansas Arts Center.



Bob Watson

In addition, the Murphy family has left their legacy with Economics Arkansas over the past 50 years. Charles Murphy (Murphy Oil Corporation) served on our board of directors in the early years of Economics Arkansas, and R. Madison Murphy (Murphy Foundation), also served on our board of directors, plus is continuing to serve on the Council for Economic Education's national board. "Charles H. Murphy, Jr. was named in 1977 as an economic education pioneer and a champion who gave generously of his time, energy, and money to help establish one of the outstanding statewide economic education programs in America." This quote came directly from the April 1, 1977 edition of the Arkansas State Council on Economic Education newsletter. Both Charles H. Murphy Jr., and his son Madison have provided the generous gifts of time and funding, both vital to our continued success. Through their intuitive leadership, they recruited the El Dorado community to learn about economic education and support our efforts to promote economic literacy for Arkansas students. For example, El Dorado was the first community to launch the Trivia Challenge in 1999, and this fundraising event is now in its 15th year. Many businesses have participated in this unique event raising approximately \$375,000 over the past fifteen years. As part of this event, the El Dorado Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors have served as volunteers, and the South Arkansas Arts Center has graciously hosted the event and provided critical logistical support.



Madison Murphy

In 2005, a fundraising luncheon was initiated by Madison Murphy and John Dews, former president of Simmons First National Bank in El Dorado. Friends and colleagues were invited to learn of the impact of economic education on their teachers and students, and ultimately, their community. Both Madison and John "made the case" for economic education and asked guests to consider a 3-year pledge to support Economics Arkansas. This luncheon has continued for 3 cycles thus far, with Bob Watson picking up John Dews' role when he left the community for Batesville.

The individuals and businesses who have stepped forward to serve on our board of directors, to assist with fundraising events, to host educational workshops, and to advocate for the importance of economic and financial literacy for our students, have been noteworthy to say the least. Economics Arkansas is grateful to the community of El Dorado for their many levels of support over the years. *Congratulations!*

Coming Soon! "The American Dream" Online Auction to benefit Economics Arkansas.

Auction dates: May 6 - 24, 2013

Visit www.economicsarkansas.org for link to auction site.

ECONOMICS CALENDAR COMPETITION

Www.hether a picture is worth 1,000 or 10,000 words, we are excited when one can convey economic concepts so simply and colorfully. For the sixth year, Economics Arkansas and the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis are partnering to offer the Economics Concept Calendar competition for students

in grades K - 8. Our creative students will illustrate an economic concept they have learned in school and submit for consideration for the 2014 Calendar. At least 15 entries will be chosen. For each winning student and his/her teacher, \$50 gift cards are the incentive, plus copies of the calendar featuring their artwork. For additional information about this creative competition (including entry forms), visit our website at www. economicsarkansas.org/for_teachers/student_focused_programs and click on the Calendar icon. You may also contact our office at 501-682-4230. All entries must be postmarked by **May 8, 2013**. Please mail entries to:

Economics Arkansas P.O. Box 3447 Little Rock, AR 72203



Winners will be notified by May 23rd!

REMINDER:

Entries for the 2012-13 Bessie B. Moore Awards must be postmarked by

July 13, 2013

Mail entries to: Economics Arkansas P.O. Box 3447 Little Rock, AR 72203 Attention 2012-2013 Teacher Grant Recipients

Mark your calendars for the

Econ Exchange Seminar

Friday, May 3, 2013 8:30am - 3:30pm Federal Reserve Bank - Little Rock Branch

Grant Budget Reports are due at this meeting!

Virtual Economics 4.0 Workshops

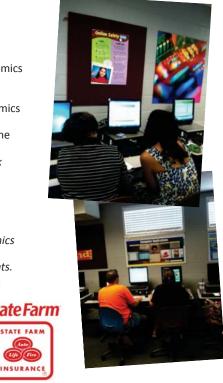
Last year, the Council for Economic Education through support from State Farm awarded Economics Arkansas a grant to train 200 teachers regarding *Virtual Economics 4.0.* This outstanding teacher resource database offers more than 1,400 economics lessons for easy and convenient access.

Teachers who attended the workshop offered the following comments:

- I love the video links to the concepts, the link to go to online lessons, quizzes and emailing results.
- These lessons are easy to integrate with Common Core.
- I liked having time to explore Virtual Economics 4.0 and finding appropriate lessons for differentiation with different levels of students.

For their generous support, we thank the Council for Economic Education and State Farm for making these workshops and accompanying materials available to Arkansas teachers.





Program Calendar

Apríl 5, 2013 Spring 2013 Stock Market Game Ends

Apríl 8, 2013 HSU Center Area EconChallenge Arkadelphia, AR

Apríl 9, 2013 UALR Center Area EconChallenge Little Rock, AR

Apríl 12, 2013 SAU Center Area EconChallenge Magnolia, AR

Apríl 15, 2013 UAF Center Area EconChallenge Fayetteville, AR

Apríl 19, 2013 UAM Center Area EconChallenge Monticello, AR

April 23, 2013 EA Coordinator's Meeting Bailey Conference Center, Union Station

8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Little Rock, AR

May 1, 2013

Stock Market Game[™] Awards Luncheon Verizon Arena 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. North Little Rock, AR

May 3, 2013

Econ Exchange Seminar Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis -Little Rock Branch 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Little Rock, AR

May 8, 2013 Economic Concept Calendar Entries Due!

May 10, 2013

EconChallenge State Competition Wyndham Riverfront 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. North Little Rock

June & July 2013

See pages 4 and 5 of this newsletter for summer PD opportunities!

Visit www.economicsarkansas.org for more information or to register.

Thank You, Farm Bureau!





representative to serve on our board of directors (Mr. Andy Guffey), but also serves as an educational resource for us, providing pertinent workshop sessions in addition to distributing resources to teachers across the state.

Arkansas Farm Bureau



has also been gracious to help design and print our Professional Development for Teaching K-12 Economics brochure. This brochure outlines the multitude of PD opportunities we offer school districts and their teachers and is organized by grade levels with the current topics being offered for each. In addition, the brochure lists

other program offerings for teachers such as student-focused programs, teacher recognition programs and educational and financial resources. To learn more, visit our website at www.economicsarkansas.org/ for teachers/professional development. We look forward to serving you!

I had the privilege of attending the two-day summer conference in 2012 and would like to share that - being an "experienced" (old) teacher, I have sat through many hours of in-service! This conference was the best I have ever attended in my 40 years of being a teacher! Not only were the break-out sessions really good and so informative, but the organization of the conference was excellent! The selection of "free" curriculum was wonderful! I appreciate all the hard work (and long hours) that went into this wonderful experience! And, to top it off, the conference was "fun"!

> Barbara Niven **Fountain Lake Schools**

E³: Empowering Entrepreneurship Education Workshop

n June 25, 2013, Economics Arkansas in partnership with the Moore Center for Economic Education at UA, John Brown University and Arkansas Economic Acceleration Foundation is offering a workshop on entrepreneurship education. The purpose of this workshop is to specifically address entrepreneurship with Arkansas K-12 teachers and how to increase the economic literacy of students to empower them with the skills and knowledge to consider becoming entrepreneurs in the future.

The workshop will be held from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the UA Global Campus School of Continuing Education and Academic Research in Rogers, AR. It will include sessions on entrepreneurship in Arkansas with local entrepreneurs sharing their experiences, lessons by grade level, information about student competitions and social entrepreneurship. Teachers will receive six hours of ADE certified professional development, grade level appropriate curriculum, standards-based instruction, networking opportunities and a \$50 stipend.

To register, teachers may visit www.economicsarkansas.org and click on the events calendar to scroll to the June calendar. Click on June 25, and select the register now button. There is a \$25 registration fee that is refundable to teachers from Economics Arkansas partner school systems or if cancellation is received two weeks prior to the day of the workshop. If you have questions or need additional information, you may contact Economics Arkansas at 501-682-4230.







(Students Set Sights continued from page 1)

Economics Arkansas distributed invitations anchored with "Now and Later" candies to legislators emphasizing an investment in economic education <u>NOW</u> will bring great benefits to students and our state <u>LATER</u>. Teachers and students set up displays of their recent economic projects and shared with legislators what they have learned and how this real life knowledge and experience is impacting their lives *now* and how they envision its impact *later*.

We were honored to have Arkansas Governor Mike Beebe visit with students, plus other officials including state treasurer Martha Shoffner, Senator Bobby J. Pierce, Rep. Mark McElroy, Rep. Walls McCrary and Rep. Butch Wilkins. Teachers and students were invited to the gallery of the House of Representatives to be recognized and to witness the passing of a bill - what a terrific learning opportunity for them.

A student from Cabot High School shared, "I want to thank you for the opportunity to go to the Capitol and have that experience. I loved being able to talk with the legislators about all the things I've learned so far in Economics, and I was amazed at being able to sit in on part of the House of Representatives meeting. I had a great time on the trip." Thank you to the teachers and students who shared their economic education with Arkansas legislators!



Rep Butch Wilkins learns about the "Fun in the Fort" project from Woods Elementary School (Fort Smith) students Jackson and Heidi Wollscheid and Cooper Anderson.



Gov. Mike Beebe with teacher Lisa Taylor and students Janson and Carson Sanders. Addison Stubbs and Carol Grace Riner from Shaw Elementary School in Springdale.



Senator Bobby J. Pierce visits with Jack Robey Junior High teacher Shelina Warren and her students Timothy Reynolds, Jalan Williams and Cameron Withers.

Summer Professional Development Opportunities

n addition to offering the E³: Empowering Entrepreneurship Education workshop this summer, plus multiple workshops through educational service centers around the state, Economics Arkansas is offering a five-day training for 9th - 12th grade teachers of the High School Economics course and a two-day R.E.A.L. Conference for K-12 teachers, both in Little Rock. To attend, educators must be certified and under contract for the 2013-14 school year with an Arkansas system. To learn more and register, visit www.economicsarkansas.org, click on "event calendar," and scroll to the month of the workshop for which you would like to register. Questions? Call our office at 501-682-4230.

Standards and Activity-Based Economics Workshop

This five day workshop is your guide to teaching the High School Economics Course!

Date: June 17-21, 2013 Registration Fee: \$25.00 Time: 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. daily

Location: The Federal Reserve Bank, Little Rock, AR

Economics Arkansas and the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis have partnered to enhance the initial high school economics course training previously offered to ensure Arkansas teachers are excited and well prepared to teach the course. This workshop is interactive and designed to prepare teachers to present economics standards in a way that will engage high school students through active participation. Participants will receive curriculum correlated to all of the Arkansas Economics standards (Fundamentals, Microeconomics, Macroeconomics and Personal Finance) and crossreferenced to the national economics standards. Participants also receive the new Virtual Economics®4.0, a CD-ROM containing over 1,400 reproducible lessons in economics and personal finance.

The week-long workshop will be divided into sessions that simulate an 18 week high school course. After completing this workshop, teachers can literally teach to all the standards without any additional resources if they choose. If you already have a textbook, this curriculum will be an outstanding supplemental resource!

- Open to teachers who are currently certified in secondary social studies or business education.
- Priority registration will be given to those teaching the required high school economics course.
- Thirty hours of ADE Certified Professional Development Credit.
- \$250 Stipend mailed to you upon successful completion of the workshop daily attendance required.
- Teaching resources and materials provided.
- Lunches and breaks will be provided daily.

Maximum: 30 participants



OF ST. LOUIS CENTRAL

AMERICA'S ECONOMY

REAL Econ for All: Relevant, Engaging, Activity-based Learning

2nd Annual Economics and Personal Finance Education Conference for K-12 Educators Date: July 17 - 18, 2013 Time: 8:00 am - 4:30 pm daily Location: Wyndham Riverfront, 2 Riverfront Place, North Little Rock, AR 72114

Registration Fee: \$25 for attendance one day or \$40 for both days.

Economics Arkansas is excited to be hosting the 2nd Annual Economics and Personal Finance Education Conference for K-12 Educators. During this two-day conference, Arkansas' premier experts in teaching economics and personal finance will lead a wide variety of sessions full of relevant, engaging, activity-based learning opportunities, perfect for your grade level or subject area.

Examples of session topics include: Arkansas History, Literature, Geography, Civics, Math, Personal Finance, Ethics, STEM, Globalization, Project-Based Learning, World History, Science and integrating Economics across the curriculum.

Upon Successful Completion, participants receive:

- Six hours of ADE-certified professional development credit for each completed day, with an opportunity to acquire two hours of Arkansas History credit.
- Grade-level appropriate curriculum selection from the Curriculum Store.
- \$50 per day stipend.
- Standards-based instruction and networking opportunities.



UNIVERSITY







HOTEL RESERVATIONS: Economics Arkansas has secured a limited block of rooms at a single occupancy discounted rate of \$86 per night plus tax. This rate includes a full buffet breakfast in the Wyndham's Riverfront Steakhouse restaurant. Contact the Wyndham at 501-371-9000 and mention the Economics Arkansas 2nd Annual REAL Econ for All Conference to receive this rate!

Entertainment in El Dorado!

he fabulously entertaining "That's Entertainment" Trivia Challenge in El Dorado took place on Thursday, March 14, at the South Arkansas Arts Center. Nine teams competed for the "fame" to answer the most questions related to entertainment, which was broadly interpreted to range from movies to music and television, sports and leisure activities. Dean Inman from South Arkansas Community College put on a great show as top "producer" AKA emcee.

Many team members and supporters dressed in costumes. Gandolf and the Hobbits made an appearance as did a very rambunctious group of Grease cast members, whose racquet earned them the Elizabeth Mason Spirit Award. The Trivia Challenge was won by the team from the El Dorado School District, closely followed by First Financial Bank and Nexans Amercable.

During the evening, **Bob Watson**, superintendent of the El Dorado School District, was presented with the Lifetime Board Member Award. Bob has been active on the EA Board for 26 years. Thanks to his unwavering support, our organization has been able to promote economic literacy among

Arkansas students for more than 50 years. Bob also served as Trivia co-chair, along with Magen Olive from Murphy Oil Corporation. Many thanks to you both!

This was our 15th Trivia Challenge in El Dorado, and we raised \$19,100! We thank El Dorado for its enthusiastic support and participation! We extend a special thanks to our judges--the Honorable Frank Hash and Mrs. Veronica Creer--and volunteers--Dr. Jennifer Logan, Brian Logan, Adrian Knapper, Beth Sullivan, Christy Murphy, and Chamber of Commerce volunteers, as well as to Hepco, Inc., South Arkansas Arts Center, and Paula's Catering.

TEAMS: BancorpSouth, El Dorado School District, First Financial Bank, Great Lakes Solutions (A Chemtura Business), Lion Oil Company, Murphy Oil Corporation, Nexans Amercable, Simmons First Bank of El Dorado and South Arkansas Community College.

SPONSORS: Deltic Timber Corporation, United Insurance

Grand Champs!



Tom Simmons, Shelley Forbess, Bonnie Haynie and Jodi Vines.

Save the date and the budget for Trivia Challenge 2013:

Pulaski County May 9 Fort Smith

August 22

Wyndham Riverfront in North Little Rock Immaculate Conception

Kristy Hayden from Lion

Oil Company won \$100

Robertson costume.

for her Duck Dynasty's Si

El Dorado **School**

District

Trivia Theme for 2013: "That's Entertainment"

Arkansas Bankers Association Campaign

hanks to the efforts of John Freeman. president of Liberty Bank in Jonesboro, we have reached the half-way point of our goal for the 2012-13 campaign to benefit Economics Arkansas. We



are thankful for John's work as campaign chair, involving signing many letters and advocating, which has brought in more than \$27,000 to date. We hope to raise \$20,000 more by May 1. Will you please help us make our goal? Contributions may be mailed to Economics Arkansas, P.O. Box 3447, Little Rock, AR 72203. Thank you.



Honorariums Received

he following gifts were received in honor of the individuals listed below.

Stanley K. Wells made a contribution in honor of:

Jeanne Wells Raymond and Helen Wells Jo Vanderspikken Marsha Masters Sue Owens

Thomas and Meredith Moll made a contribution in honor of:

Sheila Humphrey

Gifts made in honor or memory of friends and loved ones are tax-deductible.



Fall 2012 Winners

The winners of the Fall 2012 Stock Market Game[™] program were honored during an awards ceremony January 9, 2013, at Verizon Arena in North Little Rock. First and second place teams received trophies, cash awards, certificates, t-shirts and medallions. Teams finishing in third place also received certificates and award money that were sent to their schools for distribution. The teacher with the highest average team portfolio of five teams or more this semester was **Janet Wallace** of Poyen School District. **Marybeth Passmore** of White Hall School District won the Teacher Division. **Cindy Beckman**, Conway School District, received this semester's Apple Award when her students finished the 10-week simulation period with an increase of \$23,720.63 in their portfolio! *Congratulations to all our winners*!

Generous sponsors of the Stock Market Game are **AR Section 529 Committee**/ **UPromise Investments, Inc.; Bank of America/Merrill Lynch; Arkansas Securities Department; 3M; State Farm Insurance; D& R Hobbs LLC: Lou Graham, Morgan Stanley; Riceland Foods Foundation** and **Harriet and Warren Stephens, Stephens, Inc.** *Thank you for your support!*

<u>Elementary Division Winners</u> <u>Regions I - 6</u> <u>Lee Elementary</u> Springdale School District

Hot Springs Intermediate Hot Springs School District

Bradley Elementary Bradley School District

Manila Middle School Manila School District

David O. Dodd Elementary Little Rock School District

Taylor Elementary School White Hall School District

<u>Junior High Division Winners</u> Regions I - 6 <u>Central Junior High School</u> Springdale School District

> Waldron Middle School Waldron School District

South Arkansas Christian Private School

Osceola STEM Academy Osceola School District

> Pulaski Academy Private School

Watson Chapel Junior High School Watson Chapel School District <u>Senior High Division Winners</u> **Regions I - 6** *Southside High School* Fort Smith School District

Hot Springs High School Hot Springs School District

Genoa Central High School Genoa Central School District

West Memphis High School West Memphis School District

> *Conway High School* Conway School District

Southeast Arkansas Community-Based Education Center

Congratulations!



Apple Award Winner Cindy Beckman Conway High School

Donna K. Wright Scholarships Awarded for Spring Stock Market Game!

Scholarships valuing \$7,205 were awarded to 29 Arkansas teachers participating in the Spring 2013 SMG program! Below is a list of recipients:

<u>Name</u> Leesa Potts

Carl Frank

Debra Harms Tamme Adams Jean Pamplin JJ Mosley Jennifer Park **Cindy Beckman Gwen Prowse** Suzanne Skrivanos Jon Newman Michele Brown Allison McMath June Wine Tracy Milligan Jimmie Puckett Holly Thorwarth Josephine Hagood Laushandria Jackson Jessica Capps Justin Luttrell Heather Grosze Kathy Hudson **Bobby Beaird** Jo Vanderspikken Natosha Jones Leah Sams Marla Baker **Michael Slicer** Lillian Hemphill

District ADE Distance Learning AR School for Math and Science Armorel Benton Bryant Camden Fairview Carlisle Conway Crossett Hot Springs Jonesboro Little Rock Little Rock Little Rock Manila Manila Mount Ida Pulaski County Pulaski County Riverview Riverview Rogers Rogers So AR Christian Springdale Texarkana Texarkana Vilonia Vilonia Watson Chapel

Much gratitude is extended to the Arkansas Section 529 Plan Review Committee for their support of SMG Scholarships. This scholarship fund is named in honor of Donna K. Wright, former Assc. Director and Stock Market Game Facilitator for Economics Arkansas.

TIPS CORNER!

Two wonderful sites to engage your students throughout a lesson are:

Socrative www.socrative.com

Poll Everywhere www.polleverywhere.com

Both sites provide a smart student response system that will empower teachers to engage their students through survey questions, review, etc. Enjoy!



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INSURANCE

State Farm Insures Against Economic and Financial Illiteracy

Economics Arkansas recently received a generous \$8,000 grant from State Farm Insurance to support economic and financial literacy education for Arkansas teachers and students.



State Farm agents **Don Barrow** (Little Rock), **Eric Andrews** (North Little Rock) and **Luke Kasten** (Central Arkansas Agency Director and Economics Arkansas board member) present director Sue Owens with the generous grant check. Thank you, State Farm!

www.economicsarkansas.org



For the Spring 2013 simulation, the Stock Market Game program has **1,632** teams participating. This equates to **4,896** students in Arkansas learning about investing, economics, math, technology and more!



