



**ECONOMICS
ARKANSAS**

Program Highlights & Upcoming Opportunities

March 2016

Education for Real Life

In This Edition...

CHOICES Abound.....	2
SMG Winners.....	2
EconChallenge.....	2
Summer Training Calendar.....	3
Resources.....	4

Did You Know?

Economics Arkansas provides regular outreach via email to multiple program groups, plus invites teachers to participate in webinars. Below is a list of these opportunities. If you would like to receive these emails or participate in a webinar, do not hesitate to let us know via email to acee@economicsarkansas.org.

SMG Snippets: Targeting teachers participating in the Stock Market Gamet™ Program, these Snippets are sent weekly during the active 10-weeks in fall and spring.

High School Economics Updates: Specifically for educators teaching high school economics, this e-newsletter is sent monthly.

Partner Posts: Sent every other week to partnering school districts to share PD opportunities, aligned lessons & activities, programs, online resources and more!

Webinars or On-Line Meetings: On the 3rd Tuesday of each month, staff hosts webinars on various topics. Just log on to <https://join.me/economicsarkansas> at 3:30 pm. Check our event [calendar](#) for upcoming webinars and meetings.

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

-Nelson Mandela

Connecting Educators to Industry

In partnership with Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce, Arkansas Economic Development Commission, Industry leaders and Arkansas Community Colleges, Economics Arkansas is preparing to offer new professional development opportunities for educators. "Connecting Educators to Industry" are workshops intended to bridge the perception gap and connect educators with industry experts in their region of the state. Experts will provide educators with research, data, and information that can be shared with students as they make decisions about future career paths in manufacturing, trucking, construction, agriculture and other fields in Arkansas.

This is a definite WIN-WIN situation for schools and industries! Workshops are being offered this summer (see information on page 3). **Register today!**



Economics Concept Calendar Competition



Need a creative avenue for your students to express their understanding of the economic concepts they've learned in your classroom? Have them illustrate the concept and submit drawings for this fun competition. **Deadline is May 13, 2016.** To learn more, click [here](#).

Economics & Art Workshop

Come explore the intersection of economics and the visual arts at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art! K – 12 educators will learn to identify economic concepts depicted in Crystal Bridges' permanent collection and how to engage students in learning economic concepts via exploring visual arts. For more information, click [here](#).

May 9, 2016
8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Crystal Bridges Museum of
American Art
Bentonville, AR



The Great Unveiling

Economics Arkansas is in the process of strategic planning and as a result, we are excited to unveil this "Program Highlights" publication, specifically geared towards Arkansas educators and their students. Not only will it celebrate and honor accomplishments, but also serve as a valuable resource for economic and financial literacy lessons, assessments, activities and other useful and user-friendly tools.

Please do not hesitate to contact our office (acee@economicsarkansas.org or 501-682-4230) with any needs, questions, ideas, etc. about advancing the cause of economic and financial literacy. We are at your service.

ATTENTION 8th Grade Teachers!

CHOICES is a program offered through Economics Arkansas for 8th grade students. CHOICES is an interactive decision-making workshop that focuses on keeping teens in school, motivating them toward their education and future, and introducing them to practical real life economic concepts and life skills to help them succeed. Our staff and business and education volunteers present two 45-minute sessions over a two-day period (successive). Interested?

Visit www.economicsarkansas.org/for_teachers/choices.html or click [here](#). You may also contact Elisha at elisha@economicsarkansas.org.



"I really enjoyed the presentation you put on for us. It showed me that it is better to stay in school and live my dream."

Gracie, student

"One of the biggest things that stuck out to me was when you talked about how important these school years are now. How, even though we might not like school, it is very important for us and our future."

Autumn, student



CHOICES volunteers Jonathan and Kristen Welk, a business analyst/attorney and CPA respectively, presented the program to students in Bryant. Kristen is an Economics Arkansas board member.

Dr. Naeem Bajwa, an assistant professor at UALR, partnered with Lindsay Carter, a financial advisor with Morgan Stanley and an Economics Arkansas board member, to share decision-making skills with Bryant students.



Congratulations to Fall 2015 Winners!

Winners of the Fall 2015 Stock Market Game™ (SMG) Program were honored during an awards luncheon January 13th in Little Rock. For a complete list of winners, visit http://www.economicsarkansas.org/for_teachers/stock_market_game.html.



North Little Rock High School finished 1st in the state overall growing their portfolio by \$32,887.71 over the 10-week period. Pictured left: Ernesto Casas, Macey Coleman, teacher advisor Michael Huels, Destany Farmer and Weston McGhee.

Arkansas Celebrates Another National Essay Contest Winner



The SIFMA Foundation's InvestWrite national essay competition is a culminating activity for Stock Market Game students, extending what they have learned in SMG by challenging them to analyze, think critically and problem solve. **Deadline to submit essays this semester is April 13.** For more info, visit <http://www.investwrite.org/>.

Rachael Dyer, a fifth-grader in the Bryant School District won seventh place nationally in the elementary school division of InvestWrite for Fall 2015. Pictured: Dr. Tom Kimbrell, superintendent; Tammie Reitenger, principal; Rachael with her mother; Stacey Wilfong, advisor; and Marsha Masters, Economics Arkansas associate director.



EconChallenge State Competition

The 2016 Arkansas EconChallenge competition for high school students will occur April 7th in Little Rock. 125 teams participated in an online competition during both the fall 2015 and spring 2016 semesters. The top two teams in each division for each semester have been invited to the state competition at the Riverfront Wyndham. Nine teams will compete in either the Adam Smith or David Ricardo Division.

Adam Smith Division Competitors include: 3G Production Team, West Fork High School Muzzle Team, West Fork High School Assets Team, Little Rock Christian

David Ricardo Division Competitors include: Patton Team, Fountain Lake High School Meme Patrol Team, Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts Trumpsters Team, Greene County Tech The Abusement Park Team, Har-Ber High School Blue Warriors Team, Little Rock Christian MAMA Team, Drew Central High School

April is Financial Literacy Month

Looking for some fun and engaging financial literacy resources? Look no further than this April calendar filled with links to lessons and activities! Visit our Educational Resources [webpage](#) to start planning today!

Summer 2016 Professional Development Opportunities

Economics Arkansas is offering an abundance of PD opportunities this summer around the state! To learn more about a specific offering, please visit http://www.economicsarkansas.org/our_supporters/event_calendar.html and click on the date that interests you. You may register from that page as well. We look forward to seeing you this summer!

Arkansas Jump\$tart Conference

June 17: Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis - Little Rock Branch
Little Rock
8:30am - 3:30pm

Heifer International Workshop

June 23: Heifer International Headquarters
Little Rock
9:00am - 3:30pm

The Economics of Sports

June 28: Cooper Alumni Center, A-State
Jonesboro
8:30am - 3:30pm

June 29: Clinton School of Public Service
Little Rock
8:30am - 3:30pm

5th Annual REAL Conference

NOTE: New Location!

July 13 - 14: Crowne Plaza
Little Rock
8:30am - 4:30pm daily

July 12: Pre-conference session "Technology": Innovative Technology to Incorporate in Your Classroom
Dr. Kim Holder, University of West Georgia

E3: Empowering Entrepreneurship Education

July 20: Fulbright Junior High School
Bentonville
8:30am - 4:00pm

July 27: U of A Cooperative Extension Service
Little Rock
8:30am - 4:00 pm

Connecting Educators to Industry

(all workshops are 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)

June 8: Baldor Technology Center
U of A Fort Smith
Fort Smith

June 22: Maumelle High School-Seminar Room- morning meeting
Westrock Coffee Warehouse- afternoon meeting
Maumelle

June 30: Grand Prairie Center
U of A Phillips Community College
Stuttgart

July 11: McKay Student Center
Arkansas State University-Beebe
Beebe

July 19: El Dorado High School
El Dorado

Register Today!

Economics Arkansas Plans Multiple Stops at ESC's This Summer!

Arkansas History Workshops

June 8 - DeQueen/Mena
June 13 - Arch Ford
June 16 - Wilbur D. Mills (K-4)
June 16 - Great Rivers
June 28 - Southeast Arkansas
June 30 - Wilbur D. Mills (5-8)
July 5 - Arkansas River
July 6 - Southwest Arkansas
July 19 - South Central
July 25 - Northwest
July 28 - Southeast Arkansas
August 4 - Crowley's Ridge

Itty Bitty Economics Workshops for PreK-K

June 6 - Arch Ford
June 27 - Dawson
July 6 - Wilbur D. Mills
July 18 - Northwest Arkansas

Financial Literacy, Economics & Technology Workshops

June 1 - Northcentral Arkansas
June 9 - Wilbur D. Mills
June 17 - Great Rivers
June 27 - Southeast Arkansas
July 1 - Arch Ford
August 1 - Northwest
August 3 - Arkansas River

Stock Market Game Workshops

June 15 - Wilbur D. Mills
July 18 - South Central
July 20 - Great Rivers
July 21 - Southeast Arkansas
July 25 - Northwest
July 26 - Arkansas River

A Look Ahead...

July 15, 2016
Bessie B. Moore Projects Due to Economics Arkansas

September 16, 2016
Teacher Grant Applications Due!

September 26, 2016
Tentative Date for Stock Market Game to Begin

November 17, 2016
Bessie B. Moore Awards Luncheon
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Clinton Presidential Library
Little Rock, AR

December 2, 2016
Stock Market Game Ends!

More Great Resources...

Need funding to support a special economic or financial education project? Set-up a free account at www.donorschoose.org.

DonorsChoose.org



Marginal Revolution University, called MRUniversity for short, is an online education website run by Tyler Cowen and Alex Tabarrok, bloggers at the Marginal Revolution weblog and economics professors at George Mason University.



Great on-line lessons for K-12 educators are found here! EconEdLink provides a premier source of classroom-tested, Internet-based economic and personal finance lesson materials for K-12 teachers and their students. Over 435 lessons to choose from!



Fun, Formative Assessments - Econ Style! Looking for engaging ways to assess student understanding? Then visit our LiveBinder at www.economicsarkansas.org/for_teachers/live_binders.html



This site hosts great resources for preK-12 educators. Online courses, lesson plans, videos, white board activities and more are available here.

Meet our New METs

Ten outstanding educators have been added as “resource extenders” for Economics Arkansas as part of the Polly M. Jackson Master Economics Teachers (MET) group. Congratulations and thank you for your great work! We are excited to welcome these new METs, and we thank Ray and Debra Hobbs for their generous support of this group.

Jessica Culver
Jamie Fields
Valarie Harp
Dianne Kellogg
Tim Smithey

Ozark SD
PCSSD
Hackett SD
Springdale SD
Springdale SD

Nakesha Cunningham
Bud Hamley
Michele Jackson
Rebecca May
Jennifer Wiggins

PCSSD
eSTEM Public Charter
Siloam Springs SD
Greenbrier SD
Springdale SD

With YOUR Help, We Can Impact More Students!



Please support Economics Arkansas on **ArkansasGives Day** with a donation of \$25! **ArkansasGives Day on April 7** is a unique giving opportunity that qualifies for matching dollars so we get more bang for your charitable buck.

On April 7, 2016, between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., go to <http://www.arkansasgives.org/> and search for “Economics Arkansas.” For each donation we receive, we get additional bonus dollars from a match pool from the Arkansas Community Foundation.

Economics Arkansas Board Members

- Randy Zook**
Chair
- Dr. Laura Bednar**
President
- Bob Hamilton**
Vice-Chair
- John “Skipper” Ward**
Vice-President
- David Humphrey**
Immediate Past Chair
- Michael Poore**
Immediate Past President
- Debbie Robinson**
Treasurer
- Chuck Spohn**
Secretary
- Bill J. Reed**
VP/Agriculture
- Ray Hobbs**
VP/Business, Industry
- Sen. David Sanders**
VP/Government
- Johnny Key**
VP/Education

Executive Committee Members

- Lindsay Carter**
- Dr. Margaret Ellibee**
- John Erck**
- Andy Guffey**
- C. E. Ned Hendrix III**
- Robert Hopkins**
- Jennifer Krafsky**
- A. Wyckliff Nisbet, Jr.**
- Dr. Lisa Toms**
- Dr. Jane Wayland**

Staff Members

- Sue Owens**
- Marsha Masters**
- Jennifer Taunton**
- Elisha Poteet**
- Claudia Utley**
- Kathy Moore**

Contact Us...

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

1400 W. Markham Street
Suite 408
Little Rock, AR 72201

acee@economicsarkansas.org
www.economicsarkansas.org

501-682-4230 phone
501-374-5692 fax