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 May 24, 2022

For Immediate Release

For Release to Statewide Media

19 schools among winners of statewide investment competition

**LITTLE ROCK–** Economics Arkansas recently presented senior Connor Bailey from Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts with the overall 1st Place prize for both the spring 2022 and 2021-22 yearlong competition of The Stock Market Game™. Bailey also took home the top prize during the 2020-21 competition with a record net balance of $1,151,345.44, and amount unheard of since the game’s start in Arkansas in 1999.

Statewide, Arkansas had 19 schools win top prizes in the competition in their respective division and region. Teachers at Nettleton Junior High used the competition to blend multiple subjects.

Corey Locke and Jacquelynn Beal, who teach Social Studies and Mathematics, respectively, said, “We were able to connect this project to their math class. We both worked on this project together.” A true testament that teachers can apply economics and personal finance to any classroom subject. The teachers added, “We learned a lot about managing our own money and managing the always changing Stock Market.”

The Stock Market Game™ challenges students in grades 4-12 to grow a hypothetical $100,000 portfolio over the course of each fall and spring semester or the whole school year. The winners of each session receive cash prizes, awards, and traditionally, public recognition during an awards luncheon at the end of the school year.

Economics Arkansas has not held an awards luncheon since 2019 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

John Wooten, an Economics Arkansas Board Member and Division Chief Lending Officer for Centennial Bank in Jonesboro, knows the value of economic and financial education. He noted, “The Stock Market Game™, in partnership with Economic Arkansas, provides teachers the opportunity to instruct students of all ages the ability to learn about free capital markets. But more importantly, it provides a path to personal financial success as they progress from students to young adults.”

The spring session ran from January 10 – April 8, 2022; the year-long session ran from September 7, 2021 – April 15, 2022. The spring 2022 and 2021-2022 year-long winners, listed by region and division, are:

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| **Spring 2022 Session** |
| **Elementary** | **School** | **Advisor** | **School District** |
| Region 1 | Springdale School of Innovation | Michael Marquette | Springdale |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 2 | Sheridan Intermediate School | Sherri DeSoto | Sheridan |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 3 | South Arkansas Christian School | Bobby Beaird |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 4 | Valley View Elementary School | April Johnson | Valley View |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 5 | Lakewood Elementary School | Nancy Simpson | North Little Rock |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 6 | Taylor Elementary School | Marybeth Passmore | White Hall |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Junior High** |  |  |  |
| Region 1 | Oakdale Middle School | Kelly McCauley |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 2 | Sheridan Middle School | Amber Forbush | Sheridan |
| Region 3 | South Arkansas Christian School | Bobby Beaird |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 4 | Nettleton Junior High School | Heather Bradway | Nettleton |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 5 | Pinnacle View Middle School | Graham Goodloe | Little Rock |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **High School** |  |  |  |
| Region 1 | Mountain Home High School | Sherri Smith | Mountain Home |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 2 | Danville High School | Jessica Carroll | Danville |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 3 | DeQueen High School | Jennifer Collier | DeQueen |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 4 | Trumann High School | Kristin Austin | Trumann |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 5 | Baptist Preparatory School | Angela Hopkins |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 6 | Crossett High School | Nick Adams | Crossett |
|  |  |  |  |
| **After School** | Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts | Carl Frank |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **1stPlace State Winner** | Carl Frank’s Team, ASMSA | ASMSA, $237,372.63 |
| **Teacher Division** | Justin Brantley | Springdale School District |
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| **2021-2022 Year-Long Session** |
| **DIVISION** | **School** | **Advisor** | **School District** |
| **Elementary** | Alma Intermediate School | Michael Bridges | Alma |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Junior High** | Pinnacle View Middle School | Graham Goodloe | LRSD |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Senior High** | West High School of Innovation | Megan Prettyman | LRSD |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Afterschool** | ASMSA | Carl Frank |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Teacher** | Graham Goodloe |  | LRSD |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Overall Winner** | ASMSA | Carl Frank |  |

**Economics Arkansas** is a private, nonprofit, non-partisan educational organization founded in 1962 by Dr. Arch Ford and led by Dr. Bessie B. Moore to promote economic literacy in Arkansas. Its mission is to equip PreK-12 schools with standards-based resources and professional development to teach economics, personal finance, and the free-enterprise system using practical, innovative, and inspiring methods so that Arkansas students may master an understanding of economics and personal finance and apply that knowledge for success in the free-enterprise system.

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