Program Highlights & Upcoming Opportunities

May 2016

Professional Development Smorgasbord!

Economics Arkansas is offering 43 professional development opportunities around the state this summer! Please see page 3 for a complete listing and registration instructions. We would love to teach you how to incorporate economics into your classroom no matter what subject area or grade level. We will help you answer your student’s question, “Why do I need to learn this stuff?” by providing lessons and activities that they can expand to “real life”! Please contact us for more information at 501-682-4230.

Winners of the Spring 2016 session of the Stock Market Game were recognized May 10th at an awards luncheon at Verizon Arena. For a complete listing of winners and sponsors, click here.

Would you like to participate in the Fall 2016 or Spring 2017 game? Trainings and team scholarships are available! Contact Marsha at 501-682-4350 or marsha@economicsarkansas.org.

Teacher Feedback...

“Economics Arkansas, without a doubt, provides the best teacher professional development I have ever attended. Their PD is engaging, highly organized, and offers detailed, hands-on lesson plans for student use. If you get a chance to attend one of their sessions, I promise you will not be disappointed.”

Craig Pinion, teacher
Atkins School District

“The presenters are experts in their fields and the energy they bring really gets me excited about getting back into my classroom and applying what I’ve learned.”

Carrie Scates, teacher
Lincoln Consolidated School District

Economics & Art

Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art was the location for the May 9th Economics and Art workshop. Thirty teachers participated during this six-hour workshop. Many thanks to sponsors Windgate Foundation, Bessie B. Moore Center for Economic Education and Crystal Bridges for collaborating to make this workshop so successful. One teacher commented, “Zev and Rita [Workshop presenters Zev Slursberg and Dr. Rita Litrel] are incredible! Fantastic discussions relevant to “take-aways” and ideas and resources made tangible and easy to implement in our classrooms. I am excited to begin incorporating this idea in my classroom.”

Sheila Humphrey and her students from Woods Elementary School, Fort Smith School District, shared their economic knowledge with over 450 guests at the Leadership in Free Enterprise Awards Luncheon held April 12, 2016. To see more photos, click here.

Art puzzle pieces can be used as icebreakers as these teachers found their match.

Zev Slursberg of Crystal Bridges shares how to recognize aspects of art that can be used in teaching economic concepts.
Fifteen original drawings by Arkansas’ K-8th graders were selected from a pool of 564. These drawings will be featured in a 2017 Calendar available to educators and donors. For a complete list of winners, click here.

**Artist** | **School District**
---|---
Sadie C | Bentonville
Alana H | Little Rock
Sarah W | Bryant
Hafs A | El Dorado
Brooklynn W | El Dorado
Peyton P | eSTEM Public Charter
Josie T | Greenbrier
Aix S | Springdale
Ryan E | Springdale
Charley S | Brookland
Lydia H | Springdale
Mokulani S | Parkers Chapel
Betsy M | Springdale
Madison G | Fordyce
Reese B | Ridgway Christian

**InvestWrite**

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.

Arkansas had a State Winner in fall 2015:
Amanda Mathis, student
Rhonda Jacobs, teacher
Hector School District

A State Winner in spring 2016:
Connor Hamilton, student
Brett Unger, teacher
Springdale School District

And a National Winner in spring 2016:
Granger Pearson, student
Rick Kron, teacher
Pulaski County Special School District

**Congratulations!**

**EconChallenge State Winners!**

The 2016 Arkansas EconChallenge competition for high school students occurred April 7th in Little Rock. Winners of the state competition are listed below. Many thanks to the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis-Little Rock and Memphis Branches for their partnership in offering this competition.

**Adam Smith Division**

*1st Place*: Team “Assets”
Little Rock Christian Academy

*2nd Place*: Team “Blue Warriors”
Little Rock Christian Academy

**David Ricardo Division**

*1st Place*: Team “The Abusement Park”
Har-Ber High School, Springdale

*2nd Place*: Team “Meme Patrol”
Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences and the Arts

**Economics Exchange**

Recipients of Economic Education Teacher Grants from Economics Arkansas met May 13 to exchange successes and challenges about the projects they implemented in their classrooms during 2015-16.

If you are interested in applying for a grant to implement an economics project in your classroom, click here. Deadline is September 16, 2016.

**ATTENTION 8th Grade Teachers!**

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 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 and click on the “for teachers” tab or click here or contact Elisha at elisha@economicsarkansas.org.
Economics Arkansas is offering an abundance of PD opportunities this summer around the state! To learn more about a specific offering, please visit our website http://www.economicsarkansas.org, click on the “event calendar” and pick 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 Presidential Center with Clinton School of Public Service (Choctaw Commons)
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
“Teachnology”: 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
Westrock Coffee Warehouse
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

**July 28:** Arkansas Northeastern College
Blytheville

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 28 - Southeast Arkansas**
**August 2 - Northwest**
**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**
**August 2 - Northwest Arkansas**

A Look Ahead...

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

**September 13, 2016**
Stock Market Game Extravaganza
Economics Arkansas Conference Room
9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**September 14, 2016**
Stock Market Game Next Level
Economics Arkansas Conference Room
9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**September 16, 2016**
Teacher Grant Applications Due

**September 26, 2016**
Stock Market Game Begins!

**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...

This great site offers a variety of teacher resources for middle and secondary educators!

When I’m 65 offers multiple videos from Detroit Public Television that give gloss-free explanations of how the times and timing affect people in navigating toward a secure retirement. It offers can-do action plans to answer questions pertinent to various age groups like Millennials, Babyboomers and Generation X.

In addition to multiple professional development opportunities being offered this summer, Economics Arkansas hosts a number of lessons, assessment tools LiveBinders, etc. on its website free to view/download. Questions? Our staff is available to assist so contact us!

Scholarships for Stock Market Game Program Available!

We are pleased to announce scholarship opportunities for SMG registration fees during the 2016-17 school year:

1. Donors Choose, in partnership with the Walton Family Foundation. Applicants apply online to donorschoose.org. The deadline is TBD, but is expected to be in early August — stay tuned.

2. NEW: A grant from the Schmieding Foundation to expand program participation in Benton and Washington counties (Springdale School District). Application and deadline details will be shared soon.

Economics Arkansas has established an Economics Arkansas Foundation and begun a Planned Giving initiative. There are multiple avenues to leave a legacy to Economics Arkansas. Please help us win the battle against economic and financial illiteracy! For more information, contact Sue Owens at 501-682-4230 or sue@economicsarkansas.org.