HELPING K-12 TEACHERS PREPARE THE NEXT GENERATION OF STUDENTS TO BE COLLEGE, CAREER, AND CIVIC READY THROUGH ENGAGING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPETITIONS

Pictured Above: Teachers and students across South Carolina compete in the State Economics Challenge at the Darla Moore School of Business

SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL ON ECONOMIC EDUCATION

2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT
We are the South Carolina Council on Economic Education, but thousands of teachers prefer our nickname, “SC Economics.” We are a statewide non-profit (501 c 3) and we are provided space on the USC campus at the Darla Moore School of Business. Our primary mission for almost 50 years remains teaching and assisting K-12th grade teachers to teach financial literacy, economics, and entrepreneurship.

Last year, over 1500 K-12th grade teachers and over 3000 teams of students throughout South Carolina participated in our free workshops, competitions, symposiums and other activities. In most cases, our teachers had little or no formal training in economics or financial literacy. We provided thousands of lesson plans, videos, books and curricula and scholarships. Our activity-based and problem-based teaching methodologies bring these topics to life, making economics and financial literacy fun, engaging, and relevant to the students.

It is imperative that we actively encourage a culture of financial responsibility and economic understanding in ourselves, families, classrooms and communities. Students must understand that wealth is earned, saved, protected and grown over time. We must prepare for the unexpected and recognize that our choices have financial and life changing consequences.

We are thankful to our many donors and partners. Over 150,000 students were impacted by your donations and support during Academic Year 2017-18. Call or email us at any time.

Respectfully,

Jim Morris, CEO
Dan D’Alberto, Chairman

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

SPECIAL THANKS 2017-2018 Contributors

$50,000 and above
SC General Assembly
Columbia Management Investment

$10,000-$49,999
University of South Carolina

$2,000-$9,999
AgFirst Farm Credit Bank
Brookland Banquet & Conference Ctr.
Columbia Threadneedle
EngenuitySC, Inc.
Jump$ tart Coalition of SC
Securities Industry & Financial Markets Asso. Foundation
(SIFMA)
South State Bank
SC Future Scholar
Spread Wings Foundation
State Farm Mutual Insurance Asso.
Strategic Development Group, Inc.
Strom Thurmond Institute
Wells Fargo Bank
Winthrop University
**SC ECONOMICS**
**BY THE NUMBERS**

Helping K-12 educators teach economics and financial literacy

89% Of South Carolina school districts engaged

150,000 Students impacted in 2017 - 2018

1,025 Teachers supported through professional development

88% Of every dollar spent goes directly to SC teachers and students

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**SPECIAL THANKS**
2017-2018 Contributors
...Continued

$500-$1,999
Betty Best
Central Carolina Community Foundation
Dickson Foundation, Inc.
Educational Testing Services
Governor’s School for Math and Science
Jim Morris
Midlands Gives
National Council for Economic Education
Numa Hero
Nexsen Pruet
SC Department of Commerce
SC Department of Education
SC ETV
SYNOVUS

$0 - $499
Brian Barker
Dan D’Alberto
Columbia College
Gary Stone
Jessica Law
Nikki Hutchison
SC Department of Education
GET INVOLVED!
Here’s how...

2018 SC Economics Challenge Grand Champions
Wando High School
Annual Cost of Contest: $20,000

SPONSORSHIPS
Platinum Level:
$10,000+ Student Contest
Gold Level:
$10,000 Teacher Summer Institute
Silver Level:
$2,000 - $5,000 Teacher Workshops

DONATIONS
All generous contributions help SC Economics expand competitions and trainings to more teachers and students across SC!

TIME & EXPERTISE
Have a knack for economics, finance, or entrepreneurship? We would love for you to share with our teachers and students!

For sponsorship opportunities, please contact Jim Morris at jim.morris@moore.sc.edu.
To give online, please visit www.sceconomics.org/donate.
SC Economics’ most popular student competition, the Stock Market Game, continues to improve student engagement in problem-based economic decision making and financial literacy. Over the past five years, this highly celebrated program has not only witnessed rapid growth in the number of participating teams, schools, and districts; its impact can also be measured by the ongoing successes of students on the national stage. This Fall, SC Economics, in partnership with the SIFMA Foundation, awarded its fifth national winner for the InvestWrite essay competition. InvestWrite gives student the opportunity to reinforce their newfound knowledge from the Stock Market Game by composing an essay analyzing the performance of one of their investments during the contest. Congratulations to Krupa Patel, a 5th grader at Chapin Intermediate, who was awarded 2nd Place in the Elementary School Division.

Pictured above: Krupa Patel, 2nd Place National InvestWrite Winner, with her parents, Yvonne Strange, Teacher at Chapin Intermediate School, and Jim Morris, CEO SC Economics.
Available data from College Board for Advanced Placement (AP) exams in Micro and Macroeconomics shows that South Carolina students are keeping pace with the national average, and in many cases, outperforming our nation’s Advanced Placement students. Since 2011, South Carolina students have increased the passage rate for our state from 45.4% to 57% in 2017. Typical national passage rate for the Macro exam ranges from 54-60% in a given year. The results from the Microeconomics exam are even more promising. Test scores are improving at a rate faster than the national average. In 2010 and 2011, students began with -1.9% and -6.4% deficits as compared to their national counterparts; by 2015, students were outpacing students nationally by 4.1%. Overall pass rates increased from 57.2% in 2011 to 71.2% in 2015. Most recent data from 2017 shows that South Carolina students scoring a 3 or higher on the exam was still a very praiseworthy 66.6%.

Improving the understanding of economics has been the primary focus of the South Carolina Council on Economic Education for the past forty years. Each year, our organization has provided in-depth workshops and high quality resources to better prepare AP Economics teachers in the delivery and execution of this rigorous content. The Council has also implemented state-wide Advanced Placement Practice Exams as a collaboration between schools, teachers, and content area experts. During these highly effective hybrid workshops, students sit for a full-length practice exam while teachers receive instruction from AP Readers on how exams are graded and how to effectively prepare their students for AP level grading. Teachers also receive training on assessing the free response questions given during the practice exam and spend the afternoon grading exams from students representing schools from across the state. During this time, students receive valuable training from master teachers on the most common mistakes on the exams and how to strive for a “five.” In this year alone, South Carolina gained three new AP Exam Readers who gained first hand professional experience grading over 300,000 exams this summer in Cincinnati. This invaluable knowledge will be used in future workshops with teachers and will, without a doubt, be used to transform AP instruction in classrooms throughout South Carolina.
Thanks to Board Member Mark Williams and The Strategic Development Group for sponsoring our second annual E-STEM Teacher Bus Tour. It was a wonderful success. In July, K - 12 teachers from around the state participated in lengthy discussions with senior leaders from Baker International Architectural Firm, the SC Department of Commerce-Workforce Development Team, the Strategic Development Group, and local entrepreneurs. The comments from various industry professionals allowed teachers to hear first-hand about the needs of their individual companies and industries and brainstorm ways to prepare out students to be college and career ready when they leave our South Carolina classrooms.
SC ECONOMICS PROVIDES

Free Professional Development

FOR DISTRICTS, TEACHERS, AND PRE-SERVICE TEACHERS THROUGH ONGOING PARTNERSHIPS

1,552 TEACHERS

46 WORKSHOPS

SC Council for the Social Studies
Conference, September 2017

USC Pre-service Teacher Workshop,
January 2018
As SC Economics’ reach continues to grow throughout the state, the need for workshops and professional development opportunities to train teachers on the fundamentals of investing has increased as well. This year’s workshops were co-taught by award-winning Stock Market Game teacher, Stephen Bidwell from Bridge Creek Elementary School, and Elise Bidwell, Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Stephen shared secrets and activities centered around building excitement for the Stock Market Game. During the workshop, Stephen also instructed teachers on the basics of the Stock Market Game interface, including how to register for teams, accessing student portfolios, and the SIFMA Foundation’s free Teacher Resource Center. The Teacher Resource Center, along with the Virtual Economics Flash Drive 4.5 given to each participant, provided teachers with ready-made, inquiry-based lesson plans to immediately implement in their classrooms. Our professional investor, Elise Bidwell, shared Stock and Mutual Fund Investing 101, how to grow investments over time, and how a 10 week growth target differs from a 10 year investment strategy. Throughout the workshop, participants enjoyed collaboration time with other Stock Market Game teachers, during which they planned and shared best practices on successfully implementing this exciting simulation in the classroom. The SMG is our most popular and fastest-growing contest, and comments from teachers explain why: “I LOVE the real world application!” said one teacher. Another emphatically said, “THANK YOU! I appreciate the thumb drive and am so excited for the game!”
SC ECONOMICS’ MASTER TEACHERS SHARE BEST PRACTICES AT NATIONAL, STATE, AND DISTRICT CONFERENCES

ALL AT NO COST TO TEACHERS OR SCHOOLS!

Teachers are excited about implementing the Stock Market Game!

SC Economics presented “The Economics of Inclusion” at the CEE National Conference in New York.

Teachers in Spartanburg 7 enjoy a session on Understanding Fiscal Responsibility.

Left: Teachers find the first clue in our Break Out Box Activity!

Right: Pre-service teachers set savings goals at Columbia College.
Pictured above: CEO Jim Morris and 1st Place Stock Market Game Team from Batesburg-Leesville Elementary School
Pictured right: SC Board Treasurer, Betty Best, 1st Place Stock Market Game team from Clinton Middle School;
1st Place Economics Challenge, River Bluff High School

Pictured above: Chairman Dan D’Alberto and Bridge Creek Elementary School’s 1st Place Team, State House Challenge
Pictured left: CEO Jim Morris and 3rd Place State House Challenge team from Southeast Middle School;
SC Economics Board Member Bob Quinn and Andrew Eldridge, SC Economics Young Entrepreneur of the Year
This year’s recipient of SC Economics’ Outstanding Teacher Service Award has been a fierce advocate of economics and financial education for over twelve years. Tamie Betsill is an AP Microeconomics and Macroeconomics teacher at Wando High School in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina. No stranger to SC Economics, Tamie Betsill’s name and face are probably familiar, as her students have swept the South Carolina Economics Challenge for the past FOUR years! This year her team, the “Big Macks” advanced South Carolina’s national ranking to 15th in the nation. Perhaps more importantly, Tamie’s passion for her students and education is felt when she enters a room. She can often be found learning new strategies to teach her students in professional development classes, devotedly coaching her students before, during, and after competitions, and encouraging her colleagues to stay abreast the ever changing trends and legislation regarding education. Tamie is the epitome of a teacher leader; we, at SC Economics, are so appreciative of her devotion to her students and sharing the importance of economics and personal finance with others.

I cannot think of anyone more deserving of this award. Tamie Betsill possesses the essential characteristics of an award-winning teacher. She is totally devoted to her students, prepares thoroughly, challenges and supports her students, and has a passion for teaching economics.”

Dr. Gary L. Stone
Winthrop University - Chair, Dept. of Economics, Finance and Accounting

TAMIE’S “ECONOMIC WARRIORS”

2018 1st Place State Champions: Wando High “Big Macks” -15th in Nation

2017 1st Place State Champions: Wando High “Make Econ Great Again” -25th in Nation

2016 1st Place State Champions: Wando High “Trust Busters” -26th in Nation

2015 1st Place State Champions: Wando High “Freakonomics” -25th in Nation

Pictured above: Wando High School ”Big Macks”, 1st Place Adam Smith Division, SC Economics Challenge. Pictured below: “#FreeShekrel”, 2nd Place, Adam Smith Division SC Economics Challenge.
Students as young as kindergartener are learning the fundamental economic concepts in schools around South Carolina. Recognizing that students have many different learning styles, each year SC Economics challenges students in grades K-8 with illustrating one of the major economic concepts found in the South Carolina College and Career Ready Standards. Sixteen winners were chosen and their drawings were published in the SC Economics 2018-2019 Color the Concepts Calendar. Winners were congratulated by State Treasurer Curtis Loftis, received a professionally framed copy of their drawing, and a $25 prize. As the selected illustrations on the left show, a picture is truly worth a thousand words!
What makes SC Economics’ Econ Day so unique?

This day-long experience immerses students in economics, college life, research, and potential careers in economics and finance. What’s more? Econ Day not only involves the best and brightest economics students from around the state, but this exciting day encourages students to master the art of team work, as they seek to prove their proficiency in micro, macro, and international economics. Four rounds of competition include written components, team challenges, and exciting buzzer round at the end of the day to crown the state champions.

Throughout the day, students have an assortment of opportunities including a captivating welcome by Dr. Peter Brews, the Dean of USC Darla Moore School of Business, campus tours, lunch with a team of USC students, and guest lectures with college professors on the following topics:

- CSI Economics: What do Economists Really Do?
- Agricultural Economics
- Healthcare Economics
- Economics of Climate Change
- Experimental Economics
- Investment Diversification
- Economics for Educators

In addition to prize money, the winners are eligible to advance to the National Economics Challenge, the nation’s only high school economics competition finals in New York City to compete against thousands of high school students from across the country.

With a few successes under their belt, SC Economics is already planning their 4th Econ Day to be held in 2019. Look out New York because one of South Carolina’s teams ranked 15th in the nation this year and they’re gunning for a place at Nationals!
GOVERNOR MCMASTERS AWARDS YOUNG ENTREPRENEURIAL TALENT

Each year, SC Economics, in partnership with the SC Department of Commerce and Governor, recognizes students who demonstrate a keen entrepreneurial spirit and prove that they are career and civic ready by awarding them as the SC Young Entrepreneurs of the Year. In 2017, three students were chosen. Aneelia Ma, pictured above, is senior at River Bluff High School. She created La Trois BS, an online-only franchise-in-progress bakery that she hopes to transform into a brick-and-mortar store in the next three years. Colin Posnanski, a senior at Wando High School, created Bandz by Shoelace Society which created personalized shoelaces that gives back to the non-profit organization Shoes that Fit. Andrew Eldridge, a junior at Fort Mill High School, created MappleAce Programming which provides small business website design and educational outreach to help clients maintain their websites.

Nominations http://www.sceconomics.org/ye.php
Thank you for supporting economics and financial education for SC teachers and students!

SC ECONOMICS
2017-2018 AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT

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For sponsorship opportunities and a copy of SC Economics’ audited financial statements, completed by Mauldin & Jenkins, LLP, please contact us at (803) 777-8677 or email jim.morris@moore.sc.edu.

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2017-2018
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