



## *February 2025 Newsletter*

Dear Friends,

What makes MCEE such an important resource for thousands of educators? How does MCEE provide life-changing educational experiences to hundreds of thousands of schoolchildren across Maryland each year?

The answer certainly begins with innovative, engaging programs that explore timely financial and economic concepts. The reason must include MCEE's year-long schedule of professional development activities and information for teachers so they can discover new ways to inspire students to be sound financial decision makers.

Just as important, the reason for our success is also illustrated throughout this newsletter: partnerships.

MCEE creates meaningful partnerships that enhance our programs and expand our work. We learn from - and encourage - educators, school districts, nonprofits that share our commitment to financial education, along with individuals, businesses, and foundations committed to having an active role in their communities. We value the support of our elected officials and public agencies as we pursue a common goal: giving our young people the knowledge, tools and confidence they need to succeed in school and in life.

This newsletter is filled with examples of the kinds of partnerships that make our work matter - from our mutually beneficial partnership with the Maryland Council for Social Studies to the support of the Comptroller of Maryland's Office, from our shared educational goals with a valued donor to the benefits of the Stock Market Game on middle school students.

And in a few weeks, MCEE will again partner with the CASH Campaign of Maryland and the Maryland State Department of Education for the annual Maryland Financial Education and

Capability Awards to teachers, individuals and organizations that serve as leaders in financial education. I look forward to sharing the winners with you in our April newsletter.

It's true that "it takes a village," and Maryland students are fortunate that the village of financial and economic education in Maryland is filled with so many dedicated organizations and individuals. You can join our community by volunteering, sharing your expertise and knowledge, mentoring students, or advocating for financial education. Please let me know how you would like to get involved and support Maryland's students.

Thank you for being part of this community.

Warmly,

Julie Weaver

MCEE Executive Director

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### Using Economics To Teach Civil Rights History at March 15 Social Studies Conference



MCEE will present four workshops at the Maryland Council for Social Studies (MCSS) annual conference on Saturday, March 15, 2025. The theme of the conference is *Maryland's Civil Rights Journey: Then & Now*; the MCEE led sessions will explore the economic impact of the Civil War, redlining, blockbusting, the civil rights movement, and the journey of Indigenous people. Through these workshops, social studies teachers will see how they can connect innovative and thought-provoking classroom instruction to students' understanding of their unique histories. Each session will include MCEE curated lesson plans, student activities, and additional resources.

MCEE's participation in the all-day event at Salisbury University is part of our recently forged partnership with MCSS. MCEE is a co-sponsor of the conference.

For more details about MCEE's workshops at the conference, click [here](#).

The Maryland Council for Social Studies Conference website, including registration, can be found [here](#).

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### Student Posters on Display in Annapolis Thanks to Partnership with MD Comptroller



MCEE's annual Poster Contest is always a popular program for students to creatively illustrate their understanding of economic and personal finance concepts. New and exciting this year, the winning posters will be on display from March 27 through April in the Louis Goldstein Treasury Building in Annapolis thanks to a partnership between MCEE and the Maryland Comptroller's office

Winning students, their families, and their teachers will be honored at a reception on March 27 at the Treasury Building. The Comptroller and members of Maryland's General Assembly will unveil the winning works of art and congratulate students on their achievement.

The deadline for entries in the Poster Contest is March 1. Winners will be announced on March 15.

Teachers are encouraged to invite their students in grades K through 8 to imaginatively demonstrate such concepts as scarcity, natural and human resources, opportunity cost,

producers and consumers, goods and services, savings and investing, taxes, markets, sources of income, and philanthropy.

*Teachers:* [Click here](#) to find the details and registration information for the Poster Contest.

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### **It's Time to Rhyme About Nickels and Dimes**



Teachers and students, it's time to converse  
About economics and finance in creative verse.  
Our **Poetry Contest** invites didactic strength  
The deadline is soon! It's on **April the 10th**.  
In a **two-minute video**, impress us and show  
About **financial literacy** - and all that you know.  
Winners will read their original prose  
At our **May awards luncheon** - where everyone goes!  
Details and entries are available [here](#)  
Get your students to enter - they might win it this year!

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**Registration Now Open for June 24 Educator Summit**



How do you introduce important concepts like credit and insurance into a social studies curriculum? How can a class discussion about global citizenship include engaging lessons in economics? What are educators from other Maryland schools doing that will spark the imagination of your students?

The answers, plus lots of other useful information, will be found at MCEE's Annual Maryland Financial and Economic Educators Summit, Wednesday, June 24, 2025 at the Hotel at Arundel Preserve in Hanover.

Every June, teachers of all subjects, at all grade levels, and from all over Maryland are inspired, expand their teaching practice, and share ideas with their colleagues in this full day of workshops, insight from financial education experts, and opportunities to share best practices with fellow educators. Just ask [these educators](#) who have attended MCEE's professional development sessions.

Registration includes a \$50 stipend (all-day participation required), breakfast, and lunch.

Interested in sponsoring the Summit? [Contact us](#) to learn more about sponsoring and exhibiting opportunities!

[Click here for more information and to register](#)

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**Upcoming Programs and Events**



**March 1: MCEE Poster Contest Deadline:** K-8 students are invited to share their knowledge of financial concepts in hand-drawn posters. Contest details and entry information are available [here](#).

**March 12: Economic Lessons from TV, Music and Movies:** An easy and fun way educators can reach students and teach economics is to incorporate music, TV, and movie clips into their teaching. Learn strategies for using these tools and where to easily find and access videos. [Register here](#).

**March 17-21: Economics Challenge Testing:** The National Economics Challenge is the premier economics competition for high school students, testing micro and macroeconomic principles as well as knowledge of international economics and current events. And it starts with entering and competing in our Maryland Economics Challenge! Teams of 3-4 students compete to become Maryland state champion in one of two divisions based on students' experience level. Our Maryland state champion student team advances to compete for the national championship in Atlanta, Georgia. [Click here for details](#).

**March 24-28: Personal Finance Challenge Testing:** Maryland's High School Personal Finance Challenge provides an opportunity for students to demonstrate personal finance knowledge in a fun, competitive environment. This qualifying event for participation in the National Personal Finance Challenge competition begins with a team multiple choice test and culminates with the top teams competing for the state championship in an all day live competition at the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond's Baltimore Branch offices! [Click here for details](#).

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**Educator Resource of the Month:**



Celebrate the accomplishments of women as entrepreneurs, business leaders, economists, and financial pioneers. Introduce students to successful women and their lasting contributions to finance. MCEE's "Women's Economics Leader Profile Cards" and calendar of student opportunities are a great start to inspiring students to look for role models and learn history.

[Click here for Women's History Month resources](#)

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### **Educator Spotlight: Stock Market Game Lessons Beyond Finance**

Middle school teacher Ms. Chapman knows that her students can learn about money and finance in MCEE's Stock Market Game. But just as important, Ms. Chapman uses the program to have an additional and long-lasting impact: lessons in cooperation and collaboration, group dynamics, and task management.

Read here how Ms. Chapman guides her students through a process that begins with financial concepts they already know and leads to lifelong-lessons.

[Read about Ms. Chapman's process and its impact on students](#)

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### **Sponsor in Focus: Mission Alignment**



The community relations mission of Greenspring Advisors is to support organizations focused on enhancing financial literacy, workforce and economic development, and entrepreneurship. They consider MCEE to be “admirable and paramount to fostering a better overall community by creating informed and rational investors, and expanding access to economic and financial literacy knowledge in Maryland schools.”

That’s why they support our vital work and why we are grateful for their ongoing commitment to MCEE.

[Read more about Greenspring Advisors and their support for MCEE here.](#)

