



May 2024 Newsletter

Dear Friends,

It's a bustling time for MCEE - and an ideal time to find inspiration in the passion and performance of young people across Maryland as they learn in our programs the financial concepts that will positively impact their futures.

After a great Financial Education Month in April, we're wrapping up our range of financial education competitions and watching our students excel. Tomorrow, we'll honor hundreds of them and their achievements at our annual Student Achievement Awards (see below for a preview!). Last month, girls from Baltimore City Public Schools capped off their [Invest in Girls](#) Financial Foundations course with a special networking and career exploration event hosted by M&T Bank. And every month, teachers engage in our Book Talks, where they discover how to use popular books to introduce financial concepts to students.

As always, our impact on students is happening in collaboration with Maryland's educators. No matter the subject or grade level, we work with teachers to creatively incorporate financial concepts into the classroom. Next month, hundreds of teachers will convene at our annual Summit - a day of inspiring presentations and workshops - to access tools and techniques to deliver this instruction at the highest level. Educators: I hope you'll [join us](#).

If you're looking for a quick watch about how MCEE is making financial education relevant to children and families, check out my [interview last month with WBFF-TV](#) on the risks of cash apps for young people.

Best,
Julie Weaver
MCEE Executive Director



Tomorrow, May 15th, hundreds of students, educators, families and supporters will celebrate the hard work and accomplishments of students from around Maryland at one of MCEE's most anticipated events - the Annual Students Achievement Awards! We'll honor the winners of this year's MCEE financial education competitions, including the [Stock Market Game](#), [Personal Finance Challenge](#), [Economics Challenge](#), [Poster Contest](#), and the [Investwrite Essay Competition](#). This year we are excited to celebrate students from nearly all Maryland school systems! And students will share their experiences about the impact of these engaging programs.

Every year, more students than ever before participate in MCEE competitions, and this year was no exception. Tens of thousands of students in Maryland competed this year! Interested in tuning in? Find the live stream link [here](#).

Be on the lookout for next month's newsletter, where we'll highlight the winning teams and individuals from our 2023-2024 competitions.

Poets Shine in MCEE's Poetry Competition



When you combine the power of words with the power of money, you get inspiring, informative, and impressive poems from students and teachers across Maryland! We are excited to announce the winners of the inaugural MCEE Financial Education Poetry Competition - a statewide contest inviting scholars and teachers at all grade levels to write and read a poem related to financial education. The

competition encouraged students to think differently about financial education and helped educators creatively engage their students.

Congratulations to:

- Leila Linder, 5th grade, Waverly Elementary School
- Sarvani Bhagavatula, 4th grade, Waverly Elementary School
- Porter Wilkenson, 4th grade, Sunderland Elementary School
- Isabelle Pearson, 11th grade, Westminster High School
- Amanda Price, teacher, Northern Middle School

[Watch the winners' poems here](#)

Educators: It's Time to Register!

Economic & Financial Education Summit for K-12 Teachers

Tuesday, June 25, 2024
From 8:30 am – 3:30 pm
At The Hotel at Arundel Preserve

SPACE IS LIMITED, REGISTER TODAY!

Join Us!
PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE:
→ Teaching resources
→ Valuable personal information
→ Networking opportunities
→ Breakfast, lunch, and \$50 Stipend all day participation required

Calling all Maryland educators! MCEE's annual Financial & Economic Education Summit is fast approaching; it's time to register! Join hundreds of fellow teachers on **Tuesday, June 25 at the Hotel at Arundel Preserve** in Hanover, MD for a packed day of collaborative learning, thought-provoking workshops and presentations on guiding students - in any grade and subject - in personal finance and economics.

Educators will enjoy workshops tailored to their grade level, explore best practices in group discussions with colleagues, and find compelling presentations from industry experts on classroom ideas. The more than 18 carefully-planned workshops and presentations include *Using Literature and STEAM to Teach Personal Finance*, *Financial Simulations in the Classroom*, and *Investing in Engagement: How to make your finance lessons exciting!*

Speakers include thought leaders from Intuit Education, the Federal Reserve, State Farm, First Financial Federal Credit Union, Educational Systems Federal Credit Union and educators from around the state with strong experience in teaching this content.

We're excited to announce that SECU will serve as our Title Sponsor for the 2024 Summit. Support from SECU and other sponsors allow us to not only provide this opportunity to educators without

cost, but also provide a stipend to attendees and lots of free resources to take back to the classroom.

[Learn more and register here](#)

Upcoming Programs for Educators



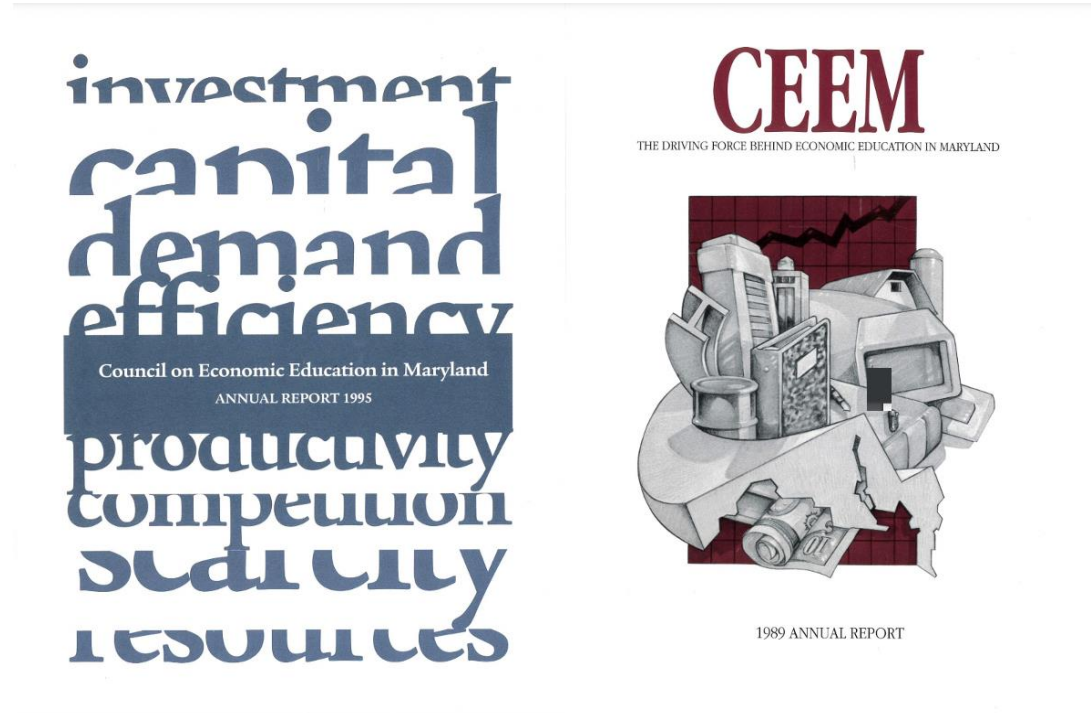
[Find our full calendar here](#)

- **Wednesday, 5/15: MCEE Student Achievement Awards:** Invitation only. Find details above. Learn more [here](#).
- **Wednesday, May 29: Level Up Your Graphing Skills for Investing Gains:** Teachers, join this free webinar to help students better understand investing trends. [Register here](#).
- **Thursday, May 30: Council on Economic Education - Professional Learning Community Meeting:** Connect with fellow K-12 educators from across the country to share ideas and resources around teaching personal finance and economics. [Learn more](#).
- **Tuesday, 6/25: MCEE's annual Maryland Financial and Economic Educators Summit:** Find information in the article above. Register [here](#)!
- **Wednesday, 6/26: Mastering the Art of Teaching the Stock Market Game for Elementary and Middle School Advisors: Make your visit to the Summit a two day trip!** This powerful program, taking place in Arundel Mills the day after the Summit, will guide educators in how to manage the Stock Market Game in their classroom or club. Attendees receive 1 CPD credit towards recertification. [Details](#).
- **Wednesday, 7/31: High School to Homeowner Educator Workshop at Camden Yards:** delivered in partnership with the Maryland Realtors Association, this workshop gives educators the resources needed to guide students in lessons about the path to wealth creation through homeownership, the home buying process, and more. Attendees will get a ticket to the 12:35pm Orioles game and watch together in a private suite - all for FREE! First come first served through registration, [here](#).

Celebrating 70 Years of Impact

MCEE's 70th anniversary celebration continues! **Historic fact of the month:** Over the last five years, more than 125,000 students have participated in MCEE-coordinated student competitions!

Historic photo of the month: Our annual reports go back years! Check out some of the neat designs from our reports in the 80's and 90's, below! [Learn more about MCEE's 70th anniversary here.](#)



Educator Resource of the Month: Budgeting with the Bean Game

All year long, MCEE offers resources to support student learning of economics and personal finance in the classroom and at home.

This month, check out this interactive, classic classroom activity - the Bean Game! Good for all ages, the Bean Game challenges students to allocate resources (in this case, beans!) and practice the fundamentals of budgeting - from housing and transportation to insurance and even laundry. This fun activity is a great way to easily yet meaningfully engage students at the end of the school year.

[Find the resource here](#)

Educator Spotlight: A Little Art Goes a Long Way

Valerie Lomax knows a thing or two about teaching financial concepts. Her middle school students have participated in MCEE's Poster Contest for over 20 years, and her recognition as Dorchester County Teacher of the Year highlighted her focus on financial education. Given the high poverty rate of her student's families, Valerie focuses on teaching financial literacy so that her students can "take control of their future."

Valerie also knows how MCEE makes it easy to engage and excite students.

[Read more here](#) about how Valerie is using art - and MCEE - to help her students learn and prepare for future success.

Sponsor in Focus: WesBanco Mission Aligns with MCEE

When a company is committed to making the communities they serve a better place for people and businesses to thrive, AND their employees participate in financial education programs, Maryland students - and MCEE - benefit.

That's the meaningful partnership between WesBanco and MCEE, which was recently demonstrated when two of the financial services company's employees assisted students competing in the final round of the Maryland Personal Finance Challenge.

[Read about WesBanco's interest in MCEE and Maryland students here.](#)
