Message from the Leadership

From our beginnings in 1953, the Maryland Council on Economic Education (MCEE) has recognized that student knowledge of economics and personal finance ultimately is critical for the financial stability of our country’s future. With escalating student loan debt, perspective employers conducting credit checks and a majority of Americans unprepared to afford an unexpected $400 expense without borrowing funds, it is even more important to teach students early on the importance of long-term saving, investing and thoughtful decision-making skills. Through dynamic professional development and quality classroom resources, MCEE reaches Maryland students through their teachers who then provide the necessary content information, skills and tools.

This year, the work of MCEE has led to three significant student success stories: 5 national finalists in the InvestWrite™ competition, a 1st place national winner in the Personal Finance Challenge and, in response to the unrest in Baltimore City, the start of a business partnership between students at the Applications and Research Laboratory High School in Howard County and Patterson High School in Baltimore City.

But resting on past accomplishments is not in MCEE’s DNA. As we move forward in the coming year, we look towards expanding our social media presence, increasing participation in our middle and high school Personal Finance Challenges, reaching out to teachers, schools and students beyond the public school systems, supporting teacher attendance at the national CEE conference and increasing the number of workshops and institutes offered to teachers. With the support of our business partnerships, the MCEE Board of Trustees, the MCEE staff and teachers across the state, the Maryland Council on Economic Education continues to focus its efforts on our mission of equipping students with an economic and financial education that will result in citizens who are excellent decision-makers and participants in the global economy.

I invite you to take a few minutes to peruse our annual report, join us on social media and help support our worthy mission.

Mary Ann Hewitt
Executive Director
Our Impact

"As the Maryland State Treasurer, I understand the vital importance of being a knowledgeable financial consumer in today’s complex economic environment. Too often I see Marylanders struggle with bankruptcy, stifling debt, and the unintended consequences of financial decisions. Managing a household budget, and saving for life goals such as college, a home, a car, a family, or retirement are skills that must be taught and practiced well before adulthood. I applaud the work of the Maryland Council on Economic Education, a nonprofit that trains our teachers to teach financial education to Maryland students. While their work has touched hundreds of thousands of teachers, students, and families statewide with many success stories, together we want to reach every single student so all students have the opportunity to learn the skills to become financially capable adults. These life skills build stronger families and communities across Maryland. Financial education in our classrooms is essential to Maryland’s future workforce and long-term economic competitiveness.”

Nancy K. Kopp, Treasurer of Maryland
An Evening at the Fed

On a crisp fall evening in Baltimore, 54 Maryland teachers headed into downtown Baltimore to spend an “Evening at the Fed.” After feasting on delicious hors d’oeuvres provided by the Baltimore Branch of the Federal Reserve, the teachers got down to business with a presentation on Helping Students Choose the Best Path for Themselves presented by Urvi Neelakantan, Research Economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond. After a short break, a panel discussion ensued on The Labor Market, College & Career Readiness Skills, and Teaching Best Practices. Panelists included:

- Melissa Groves, Associate Professor of Economics, Towson University
- Nina Heck, Director, Counseling and Client Services, Guidewell Financial Solutions
- Maddy Halbach, Ph.D., Academy of Finance Instructor, Applications & Research Laboratory H.S.
- Rick Robb, Principal, Applications & Research Laboratory H.S.
- Robert Cole, Coordinator of Digital Education, Howard County Public Schools
- Chrissie Hines, Family & Consumer Science Educator, Southern Middle School

The evening concluded with a lively “Q and A” session between the panelists and the teachers in attendance. The “Evening at the Fed” was a resounding success as evidenced by teacher enthusiasm, participation and end-of-evening evaluations.

Maryland Council on Economic Education Hosts Belarusians to Exchange Financial Literacy Knowledge

The Maryland Council on Economic Education welcomed ten professionals from Belarus to discuss best practices in improving financial literacy. The World Trade Center Institute (WTCI), through the United States Agency for International Development’s (USAID) Community Connection Program hosted the Belarusians for three weeks. The program is a reflection of the Belarusian government’s commitment to financial literacy and seeks to improve the participants’ understanding of U.S. methods in the field so they can influence change in their communities.
Teaching Financial Literacy Standards in Maryland Classrooms

Teaching Financial Literacy Standards in Maryland Classrooms, provides educators with the grade-level content, skills and resources necessary for implementing the Maryland State Curriculum for Personal Financial Literacy Education in their classrooms. Using age-appropriate materials aligned to the Maryland Standards as well as hands-on and online activities this institute provides in-depth coverage of concepts and skills contained within the state standards. 116 Maryland teachers participated in an institute during the 2015-16 school year.
21st Century Education Foundation Business Partner Award

Congratulations to Dr. Allen Cox, one of the recipients of the 21st Century Education Foundation's 2015 Business Partner Award for his work with financial literacy. Allen received his award at Anne Arundel County's 9th Annual Networking Breakfast with the Superintendent.

Pictured from left to right are: Dave Beck, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, Baltimore Branch; Mary Ann Hewitt, MCEE; Victoria Samuels, Educational Systems Federal Credit Union; Allen Cox, MCFL; and John White, Old Mill High School.

Student Achievement Awards


Scott Burger, president, Americas at PANDORA Jewelry was the guest speaker. Burger spoke to the students, parents, teachers, and MCEE guests and supporters about his career path and how he sees the effect our local and global economies have on each other.
Thirty-five Maryland teachers attended the 54th Annual National Financial Literacy and Economic Education Conference in Florida. The conference featured a diverse selection of professional development workshops on economic and financial literacy topics including pedagogy and resources, curriculum strategy for schools/school districts, teaching strategies, assessment and research, new programs and best practices.

Maryland teachers were sponsored by:
- Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union
- Discover
- Dr. Nancy Grasmick
- Guidewell Financial Solutions
- MECU
- Mid-Atlantic Security Traders Association
- Peroutka, Miller, Klima & Peters, PA
- The Woodside Foundation
The Stock Market Game Program™ is a ten-week Internet-based simulation that helps students learn about forms of business ownership, equities markets and the importance of saving and investing to personal and national economic health. The Maryland Council on Economic Education has coordinated the training for and delivery of the Stock Market Game™ since 1986 because we believe that it is crucial for Maryland’s children to understand the equities markets in a market economy and the importance of equities in an investment portfolio.

**SPONSORED BY**
- CFG Community Bank
- Mid-Atlantic Security Traders Association
- Pepsi Foundation
- PNC Bank
- RBC Wealth Management
- SIFMA Foundation & SIFMA Member Firms
- SunTrust Bank
- Towson University College of Business and Economics

**YEARLONG 2015–2016**

First Place Elementary School  
Cromwell Valley Elementary, Baltimore County  
Flo Falatko, Advisor

First Place Middle School  
Crofton Middle, Anne Arundel County  
Amy McKusky, Advisor

First Place High School  
Howard High, Howard County  
Mary Metzler, Advisor

**FALL 2015**

First Place Elementary School  
Easton Elementary, Talbot County  
Karen Davis, Advisor  
*Team sponsored by PNC Bank*

First Place Middle School  
Easton Middle, Talbot County  
Ed Keeler, Advisor  
*Team sponsored by PNC Bank*

First Place High School  
Stephen Decatur High, Worcester County  
Kurt Marx, Advisor

**SPRING 2016**

First Place Elementary School  
Meadowvale Elementary, Harford County  
Verna Hiser, Advisor

First Place Middle School  
Easton Middle, Talbot County  
Ed Keeler, Advisor  
*Team sponsored by PNC Bank*

First Place High School  
Stephen Decatur High, Worcester County  
Kurt Marx, Advisor
InvestWrite® Competition

FALL 2015 NATIONAL INVESTWRITE® FINALISTS

Grade 4-5 Division—6th Place National Finalist
Carlyn McMahan, Ring Factory Elementary, Harford County
Steven Dodd, Advisor

Grade 6-8 Division—8th Place National Finalist
Arina Drovetskaya, Crofton Middle, Anne Arundel County
Amy McKusky, Advisor

Grade 9-12 Division—5th Place National Finalist
Ayo Adelaja, Applications and Research Laboratory, Howard County
Maddy Halbach, Advisor

Grade 9-12 Division—8th Place National Finalist
Benjamin Yost, Applications and Research Laboratory, Howard County
Maddy Halbach, Advisor

SPRING 2016 NATIONAL INVESTWRITE® FINALIST

Grade 4-5 Division—5th Place National Winner
Sammy Lever, Homestead Wakefield Elementary, Harford County
Debbie Limpert, Advisor
Frederick Douglass High Launches Millionaire’s Club!

Students at Douglass High School in Baltimore City now have a new, engaging resource for developing their personal financial skills while enjoying competitions with other students locally, statewide, and across the nation. It’s the Millionaire’s Club sponsored by the Municipal Employees Credit Union of Baltimore!

The Millionaire’s Club is a high school financial skills program developed by the Credit Union Foundation MD|DC. Clubs are provided seed grants, detailed 26-lesson curriculum, and faculty/student materials at no charge. Additional support materials add a fun, competitive edge to the Club’s activities.

Ebony Cooper, club advisor at Douglass, says that the Millionaire’s Club has been beneficial to the students. “They are excited about all the opportunities that the Millionaire’s Club brings and also are now seeing their future goals through the purview of a different and more financially beneficial lens.”

Interested in starting a club at your school? Contact the Credit Union Foundation at (443) 325-0771 or millionaire@cufound.org.

MCEE Partnered with the Application and Research Laboratory and Patterson High School to Make History and a Difference

This initiative is designed to bring together the two communities and the Maryland Council on Economic Education (MCEE) through the commonality of student led learning and teaching. The students created business plans that increased the financial knowledge of not only students but also other community members.
Maryland’s Personal Finance Challenge Competitions

The Maryland Personal Finance Challenge is an opportunity for middle and high school students to demonstrate their personal finance knowledge on topics such as spending, credit, savings, investing, income and money management.

Members of the first-place high school team received a $500 prize while the second-place high school team received a $250 prize sponsored by M&T Bank.

1ST PLACE HIGH SCHOOL WINNER

TEACHER
Maddy Halbach, Applications and Research Laboratory, Howard County
TEAM MEMBERS
Austin Adamczyk, Brooke Rankin, Johnathan Taylor, Matthew Poltorak
This winning team represented Maryland at the National Personal Finance Challenge in Kansas City on May 5-6, 2016 where they placed first nationally for 2016!

2ND PLACE HIGH SCHOOL WINNER

TEACHER
Bernadette Bechta, Mt. Hebron High, Howard County
TEAM MEMBERS
Praneeth Chandu, Matthew Michaels, Joseph Petti, Abhishek Velayudham

Members of the first-place middle school team received a $250 prize while the second-place middle school team received a $125 prize sponsored by M&T Bank.

1ST PLACE MIDDLE SCHOOL WINNER

TEACHER
Jueneville Dean, Lake Elkhorn Middle, Howard County
TEAM MEMBERS
Celeste Ampaah, Aymar Bisseck, NiNi Vo, Savon Warren

2ND PLACE MIDDLE SCHOOL WINNER

TEACHER
Jueneville Dean, Lake Elkhorn Middle, Howard County
TEAM MEMBERS
Jordan Abraham, DaNasia McRae, Kiana Wambui, Theodore Yu

Maryland’s Economic Challenge

1ST PLACE ADAM SMITH DIVISION

TEACHER
Vann Prime, Mt. Hebron High, Howard County
TEAM MEMBERS
HanDa Chun, Steven Jin, Dhiyvan Karunakaran, Monica Sebastian

1ST PLACE DAVID RICARDO DIVISION

TEACHER
Vann Prime, Mt. Hebron High, Howard County
TEAM MEMBERS
Samuel Nitkin, Adam Odolil, Anupama Phatak, Sophia Sagandyk
Over 1,700 Maryland K–8 students submitted posters to visually demonstrate their understanding of fundamental economic and financial literacy concepts.

Ashlyn Conley
Centreville Middle

Maeve Alliger
Forest Hill Elementary

Ayaan Norman
Princess Anne Elementary

Jeb Eyler
Middletown Middle

Kaylee Kim
Patapsco Middle

Erin Alsop
Stevensville Middle

Brianna Bradshaw
North Dorchester Middle

Samantha Rodriguez
Takoma Park Middle

PJ Olson
Sykesville Middle

Ryan Latham
Easton Middle

Ella Lewis
Churchville Elementary

Eonah Espineli
Sudbrook Magnet Middle

Erin Tebbe
Central Middle

Jada Marshall
Buckingham Elementary

Gianna Lajeunesse
Leeds Elementary

Mia Holland
Patapsco Middle
One hundred and six teachers from across Maryland participated in the financial literacy summit held at the Radisson North Baltimore on June 28, 2016.

EVENT SPONSORS AND VENDORS

- Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union
- Baltimore County Employees Federal Credit Union
- Bank of America
- CARE
- Center for Vein Restoration
- CFG Community Bank
- Connolly Farmers Insurance
- College Savings Plans of Maryland
- FDIC
- Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond
- Financial Planners Association
- First Financial Federal Credit Union
- Goodheart-Willcox Publisher
- Guidewell Financial Solutions
- Investor Protection Trust
- InvestWrite®
- Maryland Coalition for Financial Literacy
- Maryland Council on Economic Education
- Maryland Insurance Administration
- Moneyskill®
- Office of the Attorney General
- SECU
- T. Rowe Price
- TTI
- Elissa Weissman
- Wells Fargo
The mission of the Maryland Coalition for Financial Literacy, a program of the Maryland Council on Economic Education, is to bring together key stakeholders to advocate for the expansion of rigorous financial education so that all Marylanders, especially students, have the knowledge needed to make informed financial decisions in today’s complex financial environment. A website – www.mdfinancialskills.org – offers tips, resources and information for students, parents, teachers and others to improve money management skills.

The MCFL welcomes support from individuals and organizations that endorse the Coalition’s mission to provide financial freedom through education.

The Coalition has representatives from banking, non-bank financial institutions, credit unions, real estate, universities, government agencies, K–12 schools, retailing, consumer groups, non-profits, and trade groups. Please visit www.mdfinancialskills.org for a complete membership list.

Maryland Financial Education and Capability Awards

PRESENTED BY
• MCEE
• Maryland CASH
• MSDE

THESE AWARDS WERE FUNDED BY

Maryland Coalition for Financial Literacy
Freedom Through Financial Education

Maryland Coalition for Financial Literacy
Freedom Through Financial Education

Elementary School Teacher
Casey Keenan, Frederick County

Middle School Teacher
Ed Stack, Kent County

High School Teacher
Maddy Halbach, Howard County

Community Champion Award
Madeleine Greene

Outstanding Organization
Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union
The Maryland Council on Economic Education would like to extend sincere thanks to all who provide support for economic and financial literacy education.

### PLATINUM
**Gifts of $50,000 and Above**
- Guidewell Financial Solutions
- State of Maryland/Towson University
- State of Maryland

### SUPERSTAR
**Gifts of $10,000 – $49,999**
- Aegon Transamerica Foundation
- Bank of America Charitable Foundation
- BB&T
- Investor Protection Trust
- M&T Charitable Foundation
- Mid-Atlantic Security Traders Association
- SECU
- T. Rowe Price Foundation
- Wells Fargo

### STAR
**Gifts of $5,000 – $9,999**
- BGE
- Council on Economic Education
- Legg Mason
- Helen P. Denit Family Foundation
- Municipal Employees Credit Union
- PNC Foundation
- SIFMA
- StateFarm
- SunTrust Foundation
- Techtronic Industries Inc (TTI)
- The Woodside Foundation

### CHAMPION DONOR
**Gifts of $2,500 – $4,999**
- CFG Community Bank
- Dr. Nancy Grasmick
- John Hopkins Federal Credit Union
- John Hopkins University
- Judi & Steven Fader Family Foundation
- Maryland Bankers Association
- RBC Wealth Management
- Roberts Oxygen Company

### LEADER DONOR
**Gifts of $1,000 – $2,499**
- Aberdeen Proving Ground
- Federal Credit Union
- Cynthia Allen
- American Trading and Production Corporation
- Steve Arbaugh
- Dave Beck
- Brooke Hodges
- Jim Jenkins
- Pepsi Foundation
- Chesapeake Bank of Maryland
- Credit Union Foundation of Maryland and DC
- Eastern Savings Bank
- Mark Robinson
- Kelly Winfield

### PATRON DONOR
**Gifts of $500 – $999**
- Robert Barclay
- Chel Cavannon
- Credit Abuse Resistance Education
- First Financial Federal Credit Union
- Christopher Holt
- Gary Kaufman
- Miller & Long
- MoneySKILLS
- Simon Paterson
- Peroutka, Miller, Klima & Peters, PA
- Jeff Rosen
- Ken Venick
- Steve & Jan Weller

### FRIEND
**Other Gifts**
- Baltimore County Employees Federal Credit Union
- Mary Brunk
- Miles Cary
- Center for Vein Restoration
- College Savings Plans of Maryland
- FDIC
- Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond
- Karen Gibbs
- Goodheart-Willcox Publishers
- Adrian Johnson
- Maryland Insurance Association
- Charlie Moore
- New York Life Insurance

### IN-KIND
- Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond – Baltimore Branch
- Towson University
- MD/DC Credit Union Association
- MPT
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