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 May 5, 2023

For Immediate Release

For Release to Statewide Media

HIGH-ACHIEVING STUDENTS HONORED BY ECONOMICS ARKANSAS

SCOTT FORD DELIVERS AWARD LUNCHEON KEYNOTE

**LITTLE ROCK–** Economics Arkansas hosted its Student Awards Luncheon on May 4 at the Statehouse Convention Center. The event honored top-performing students from various economic, personal finance, and entrepreneurship competitions. Scott Ford, CEO of Westrock Coffee, recounted his time as an “average student” in high school and what eventually drove him to his entrepreneurial success.

The luncheon recognized the achievements of students from The Stock Market Game™, InvestWrite, Personal Finance Challenge, Econ Challenge and Pitch It! Competition. These competitions serve to educate students on financial literacy, economic concepts and entrepreneurship.

"We are blown away by the level of talent and enthusiasm shown by the students who participated in these competitions," said Kathleen Lawson, Executive Director of Economics Arkansas. "Their hard work and dedication towards understanding economic concepts will serve them well in their future endeavors."

Special thanks to event sponsors, who made the student awards luncheon possible, and to the parents, teachers, and administrators in attendance. This was the first student awards luncheon held since 2019 due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Economics Arkansas continues to strive towards its mission of increasing economic education in Arkansas schools. For more information on their programs and initiatives, student competitions, and complete lists of 2022-23 student winners, visit [www.economicsarkansas.org](http://www.economicsarkansas.org).

Below is a list of spring and yearlong winners of The Stock Market Game™, and our 2023 winners of the Personal Finance Challenge, Econ Challenge, and Pitch It! Competition.

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| **The Stock Market Game™ | Spring 2023 Winners** |
| **Elementary** | **School** | **Advisor** | **School District** |
|  Region 1 | Jim D. Rollins Elementary School of Innovation | Wendy Peters  | Springdale |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 2 | Sheridan Intermediate School | Sherri DeSoto | Sheridan |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 3  | Arkansas Middle School | Shedrich Franklin | Texarkana |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 4 | Visual & Performing Art Magnet School | Stephanie Richardson | Jonesboro |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 5 | Don Roberts Elementary School | Joshua Penticoff | Little Rock |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 6 | Taylor Elementary School | Marybeth Passmore | White Hall |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Junior High** |  |  |  |
| Region 1 | Ramsey Middle School | Amanda Fry | Fort Smith |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 2 | Perryville High School | Sara Rogers | Perryville |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 3 | Arkansas Middle School | Dametra Conway | Texarkana |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 4 | Swifton Middle School | Luann Russell | Swifton |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 5 | Pinnacle View Middle School | Graham Goodloe | Little Rock |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 6 | White Hall Middle School | Robbie Stewart | White Hall |
|  |  |  |  |
| **High School** |  |  |  |
| Region 1 | Valley Springs High School | Jessica Helams | Valley Springs |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 2 | Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences & Arts | Ron Luckow |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 3 | DeQueen High School | Jennifer Collier | DeQueen |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 4 | The Academies at Jonesboro High School | Allyson Goodin | Jonesboro |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 5 | North Little Rock High School | Michael Huels | North Little Rock |
|  |  |  |  |
| Region 6 | White Hall High School | Tiffany Evans | White Hall |
|  |  |  |  |
| **After School** | Sylvan Hills Middle School | Rick Kron | Pulaski County Special |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **1st Place State Winner Overall** | The Academies at Jonesboro High School | Allyson Goodin$167,623.89 |
| **Teacher Division** | Graham Goodloe | Little Rock School District$174,759.38 |
|  |  |  |
| **2023 Arkansas Personal Finance Challenge**  |
| **1st Place Winner** | Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences and the Arts | Advisor: Carl Frank |
|  |  |  |
| **2023 Arkansas Economics Challenge** |
| **1st Place Winner****Adam Smith Division** | Haas Hall Academy | Advisor: Rebecca Luebker |
| **1st Place Winner****David Ricardo Division** | Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences and the Arts | Advisor: Carl Frank |
|  |  |  |
| **2023 Pitch It! Competition** |
| **1st Place Winner** | Emma Mitchell Rison High School | Advisor: Caitlin Morrison |

**Economics Arkansas** is a private, nonprofit, non-partisan educational organization founded in 1962 by Dr. Arch Ford and led by Dr. Bessie B. Moore to promote economic literacy in Arkansas. Its mission is to equip PreK-12 schools with standards-based resources and professional development to teach economics, personal finance, and the free-enterprise system using practical, innovative, and inspiring methods so that Arkansas students may master an understanding of economics and personal finance and apply that knowledge for success in the free-enterprise system.

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