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State Treasurer Curtis Loftis & SC Economics Honor SC Teachers and Students for Financial Education Achievements

COLUMBIA, S.C. (May 13, 2019) – South Carolina Treasurer Curtis Loftis and SC Economics recognized more than 180 students and 60 educators from across the state as part of the 30th Annual Economics and Financial Literacy Awards Day luncheon held Friday, May 10 in West Columbia.

“Financial literacy is an important tool for future economic success, and today was an opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of students and teachers as they support increased understanding about personal finance and economics,” Treasurer Loftis said. “We value our partnership with SC Economics and are glad to be part of this annual recognition ceremony.”

“We are all preparing students for life with decision-making skills needed to become effective consumers, producers and citizens in our democratic society and global economy,” added SC Economics CEO Jim Morris.

Students and teachers were recognized in a variety of categories and contests sponsored by state and national organizations committed to promoting economic education and greater understanding of financial markets. Treasurer Loftis assisted SC Economics with the presentation of the awards during a luncheon hosted at the Brookland Conference Center. The award-winning entries of students’ work were also on display as part of the event.

Below is a listing of Friday's honorees:

Future Scholar Financial Educators of the Month

September	Tia Brenning of Hilton Head Middle School (Hilton Head, SC)
October	Andrea Dickey of Blythewood Academy (Blythewood, SC)
November	Kristy Tilley of Pendleton Elementary (Pendleton, SC)
December	Suzanne Quinn of Boiling Springs Elementary (Boiling Springs, SC)
January	Gina Mahoney of Forts Pond Elementary (Pelion, SC)
February	Erica Williams of Redcliffe Elementary (Aiken, SC)
March	Katie Guthrie & Cindy Howard of Gateway Elementary (Travelers Rest, SC)
April	Maegen Whitten of James Island Elementary (James Island, SC)
May	Deanna Shuler of Conway Elementary (Conway, SC)

Janet Price of Summit Parkway Middle School (Columbia, SC) was named Educator of the Year.

Economic Concepts Poster Contest

Alexis Law of Palmetto Christian Academy (Mount Pleasant, SC)
Avery Pegram of Kelly Mill Middle School (Blythewood, SC)
Gianna Vannatta of Christ Our King Stella Maris School (Mount Pleasant, SC)
Kaelann Hahn of Mount Holly Elementary School (Rock Hill, SC)
Katie Pham of Summit Parkway Middle School (Columbia, SC)
Libby Engelbert of Christ Our King Stella Maris School (Mount Pleasant, SC)
Lilly Calderon of Palmetto Christian Academy (Mount Pleasant, SC)
Mikayla Ussery of Ware Shoals Primary School (Ware Shoals, SC)
Mohammed Basyouny of As-Sabeel Academy (Greer, SC)
Paloma Scalise of Waccamaw Middle School (Pawleys Island, SC)
Pierson Paul of Waccamaw Middle School (Pawleys Island, SC)
Savannah Yoo of Kelly Mill Middle School (Blythewood, SC)
Sean Blackshear of William J. Clark Middle School (Orangeburg, SC)
Sunshyne Hays of Rosewood Elementary School (Columbia, SC)

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Zaid Abed of As-Sabeel Academy (Greer, SC)

Zoe Suarez of Palmetto Christian Academy (Mount Pleasant, SC)

SC Stock Market Game Winners

Elementary School Division – Fall

1st Place: Jack Carter, Wesley Mazur and Teague Murray of Christ Our King-Stella Maris School (Mount Pleasant, SC)

2nd Place: Julian Courturier, Eddie Hurtado and Gianna Tuorto of Christ Our King-Stella Maris School (Mount Pleasant, SC)

3rd Place: Sutton Carimi, Mikaela Virga and Ansley White of Christ Our King-Stella Maris School (Mount Pleasant, SC)

Middle School Division – Fall

1st Place: Ayden Rounds and Jaden Templeton of Edgewood Middle School (Ninety Six, SC)

2nd Place: Olivia Rogers of Clinton Middle School (Clinton, SC)

3rd Place: Lilibeth Alvarado, Riley Padgett and Breanne Sinsuat of Hanahan Middle School (Hanahan, SC)

High School Division – Fall

1st Place: William Ostergaard, Audrey Keller and Anna White of Irmo High School (Columbia, SC)

2nd Place: Shane Gandy, Jackson Lynch and Clare Boyer of Wando High School (Mount Pleasant, SC)

3rd Place: Dustin Demientieff of Richland Northeast High School (Columbia, SC)

Elementary School Division – Spring

1st Place: Michael Tristan Massaro, Desmond Mincey, Tegan Missouri and Thien-cat Hoang of Bridge Creek Elementary School (Elgin, SC)

2nd Place: Kayla Reddick, Joshua Franklin, Nehize Idaho and Isabelle Lakin of Bridge Creek Elementary School (Elgin, SC)

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3rd Place: Julian Couturier, Drew Iaria and Samuel Straus of Christ Our King-Stella Maris School (Mount Pleasant, SC)

Middle School Division – Spring

1st Place: Kylie Nagle, Alyssa Nagle and Ella Kate Patterson of Meadow Glen Middle School (Lexington, SC)

2nd Place: Chloe Braunsdorf, Ejay Chaplin and Oscar Hernandez Rodriguez of McCants Middle School (Anderson, SC)

3rd Place: Eli George, Madison Timms and Carlos Arzola of McCants Middle School (Anderson, SC)

High School Division – Spring

1st Place: Wesley Robinson and Josh Campor of Fort Mill High School (Fort Mill, SC)

2nd Place: Nicholas Gonzalez, Dylan White, Micheal Munoz and Angel Monroy of Cane Bay High School (Summerville, SC)

3rd Place: Davante Gonzalez and Luke Olafson of Fort Mill High School (Fort Mill, SC)

National and State InvestWrite Winners

1st Place State Winner: Avery Armentrout of Kelly Mill Middle School (Blythewood, SC)

1st Place National Winner: Annelisa Walter of Richland Northeast High School (Columbia, SC)

2nd Place National Winner: Wade Fletcher of Richland Northeast High School (Columbia, SC)

4th Place National Winner: Andrea Kimpson of Richland Northeast High School (Columbia, SC)

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Statehouse Challenge

Elementary School Division

1st Place: Makye Ballen, Jordan Blyther, Kristen Bone and Cannon Robinson of Edisto Elementary School (Orangeburg, SC)

2nd Place: Ariana Furtick, Madison Hoover, Riley Williams and Skylar Zorn of Edisto Elementary School (Orangeburg, SC)

3rd Place: Michael Tristan Massaro, Desmond Mincey and Tegan Missouri of Bridge Creek Elementary School (Elgin, SC)

Middle School Division

1st Place: Erin Koepke, Tatiana Lantigua, Carla Phillips, Haven Sigmon and Ella Wilkie of Jonesville Middle School (Jonesville, SC)

2nd Place: Antonio Bowens, Luis Concepcion, JaRaylin Gregory and Jayden Peterson of Jonesville Middle School (Jonesville, SC)

3rd Place: Javon Barney, Sadea Sims and O'marri Hankerson of Southeast Middle School (Hopkins, SC)

High School Division

1st Place: Maximus Gordon and Donovan Callaghan of Carolina Forest High School (Myrtle Beach, SC)

2nd Place: Kevin Avila and Kamrin Brown of Charleston Charter School (Charleston, SC)

3rd Place: Sawyer Davis, Greyson Cook and Adam Smallridge of Eastside High School (Taylors, SC)

Young Entrepreneurs

Hunter Lawrence of Nation Ford High School (Fort Mill, SC)

Jakayla Green of Bethel-Hanberry Elementary School (Blythewood, SC)

Christine Yang of Spartanburg Day School (Spartanburg, SC)

Jarred Bond of Rock Hill High School (Rock Hill, SC)

Wade Fletcher of Richland Northeast High School (Columbia, SC)

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National Economics Challenge

David Ricardo Division

1st Place – State Champions: Allison Louderbough, Catherine Kelley and Kathryn Keim of Richland Northeast High School (Columbia, SC)
2nd Place: Ashley Hensley, Johnathan Person, Kamari Boyd and Iesha Whittaker of Ridge View High School (Columbia, SC)
3rd Place: Isaiah Gordon, Jillian LeRoux, Tavia Nash and Victor Ramos of Ridge View High School (Columbia, SC)

Adam Smith Division

1st Place – State Champions: Austin Setser, Finn Mefford, Gabe Cutter and Jack Johnson of Wando High School (Mount Pleasant, SC)
2nd Place: Allison Fister, Kevin Phan, Spencer Margosian and Will Eustis of Wando High School (Mount Pleasant, SC)
3rd Place: Adira Nair, Dylan Smith, Jack Frain and Kate Stewart of Wando High School (Mount Pleasant, SC)

Finance Challenge

Middle School Division – Fall

1st Place: Tarun Ramkumar, Jacob Hatchell, Kendell Gandy and Andrew Gatzke of Kelly Mill Middle School (Blythewood, SC)
2nd Place: Yasmine White, Chaise McKenzie, Emma Lee and Adam Van of Kelly Mill Middle School (Blythewood, SC)
3rd Place: Ryo Nagao, Corbin McCollum and Grayson Simmons of Kelly Mill Middle School (Blythewood, SC)

High School Division – Fall

1st Place: Felder Fogle, Jason Williams, Margaret Wang and Jackson Zhu of D.W. Daniel High School (Central, SC)
2nd Place: Eric Mueller, Trevor Kurkcu, Jonathan Dong and Kris Luo of D.W. Daniel High School (Central, SC)

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3rd Place: Leighton Larson, Judy Miles, Adam Smith and Ashley Choi of D.W. Daniel High School (Central, SC)

Middle School Division – Spring

1st Place: Travon Manigault, Kerry Hayes, Kelby Cash and James Baldwin of St. James Middle School (Myrtle Beach, SC)

2nd Place: Ryo Nagao, Corbin McCollum, Grayson Simmons and Henry Howland of Kelly Mill Middle School (Blythewood, SC)

3rd Place: Camryn Shadd, Dana Witherspoon, Jessica Grieb and Haley Ropel of Kelly Mill Middle School (Blythewood, SC)

High School Division – Spring

1st Place: Ryan Andrews, Jonathan McCants, Stone Aerni and Dominic Edl of Bluffton High School (Bluffton, SC)

2nd Place: Justin Anderson, Ethan Angel, Bradley Ware and Sidney Stone of Dixie High School (Due West, SC)

3rd Place: Demetrius Capers, Robert Jones, Inayah Lipscomb and Carlos Mendoza of Sumter High School (Sumter, SC)

Outstanding Teacher Service Award

Stephen Bidwell of Bridge Creek Elementary School (Elgin, SC)

About Future Scholar

Future Scholar, South Carolina's 529 College Savings Plan, is administered through the State Treasurer's Office. The [Future Scholar Financial Literacy Program](#) is offered to elementary and middle schools across the state at no cost to taxpayers. The web-based, interactive program engages students to make learning financial skills interesting and fun. Approximately 30,000 South Carolina students and 267 schools have participated in the Future Scholar Financial Literacy Program since 2015. For more information, visit FutureScholar.com or follow @SCStateTreasurer on Facebook. No state funds are used to market Future Scholar or the Future Scholar Financial Literacy Program.

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About SC Economics

SC Economics, a nonprofit organization, provides South Carolina K-12 students with the financial literacy and economic knowledge skills needed to thrive in the dynamic economy. By providing quality training and up-to-date resources, SC Economics partners with teachers and school divisions to help students develop

decision-making skills needed to be informed consumers, productive employees or innovative entrepreneurs, thoughtful investors, and reasoned voters. For more information, visit **www.sceconomics.org**.

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