



NORTH CAROLINA

OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

JANET COWELL, TREASURER

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TREASURER COWELL AWARDS WINNERS FOR STATEWIDE FINANCIAL EDUCATION COMPETITIONS

RALEIGH – State Treasurer Janet Cowell honored over 120 students from across North Carolina who excelled in the North Carolina Council on Economic Education's (NCCEE) financial literacy competitions this week.

NCCEE hosts a series of awards banquets annually to recognize students who have participated in several statewide competitions during the school year. The banquets are held regionally in Western, Central, and Eastern North Carolina. Cowell presented awards at events in Asheville on Monday and in Greenville today.

A majority of the awards presented were for the Stock Market Game®, which had nearly 3,000 students teams from across the state participate this year. The Game provides students an opportunity to invest a hypothetical \$100,000 in an on-line portfolio. Students must use research and economic principles to make investment decisions, and teams with the highest returns are recognized. Other competitions include an essay contest and a calendar poster contest.

"The Stock Market Game has proven to raise test scores in mathematics and financial literacy," said Cowell. "I am encouraged to see students gaining skills to make better financial decisions and to become the next generation of financial industry leaders."

Financial literacy is a key focus for State Treasurer Cowell. In April, Cowell and State Superintendent June Atkinson toured K-12 schools across the state to gauge how well students are learning financial principles, and last year, Cowell toured colleges and universities to learn how students are coping with debt in the economy.

The North Carolina Council on Economic Education is a non-profit organization that works with K-12 teachers to give students a better understanding of economics and to prepare them for personal financial decision-making. More information about NCCEE can be found at www.nccee.org.

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