



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sandy Wheat
Executive Director
North Carolina Council on Economic Education , NCCEE
919.791.1995 (Office)
866.606.2233 (toll-free)

NCCEE RECOGNIZES EXCELLENCE BY WESTERN REGION NC K-12 STUDENTS

Asheville, N.C.—The North Carolina Council on Economic Education’s 25th Annual Western Region Awards Banquet was held May 27 to honor excellence by North Carolina students in the areas of economics, personal finance and entrepreneurship.

On hand to congratulate the students were Dr. Matthew Martin, Senior Vice President and Regional Executive of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, Charlotte Branch; Henry McKoy, Assistant Secretary, North Carolina Department of Commerce; and Freddie Harrill, Western Regional Liaison for US Senator Kay R. Hagan. Senator Hagan provided congratulations to the honorees via a video-recorded message where she stressed the importance of financial literacy stating “Financial literacy is not rocket science, we just need to teach it.”

The banquet was sponsored by Fidelity Investments and Leslie Walden, Senior Director of Public Affairs, served as emcee and provided awards to students who excelled in the Fidelity 8th Grade SMG™ Challenge. The SMG is a statewide stock market simulation and competition for eighth graders which serves to improve personal finance skills, math skills, understanding of the US economy, and incorporates the job readiness skills of teambuilding and cooperation.

About the North Carolina Council on Economic Education (NCCEE):

The North Carolina Council on Economic Education was founded in 1970. NCCEE is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization working with K-12 teachers statewide to give our students a better understanding of economics and to prepare them for personal financial decision-making. With support from private businesses and foundations, the Department of Public Instruction, and the University of North Carolina system, NCCEE has been a tremendous example of an effective public-private partnership. More information on the NCCEE is available at www.nccee.org.