

# Investing in Futures

## FY2017 Annual Report

July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017



Teaching Dollars and Sense.

# LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIRS AND PRESIDENT

## ➤ ECON ILLINOIS

In order for economic and personal finance education to be impactful, long lasting, and ultimately change thinking and behavior, it must provide a practical and academically sound framework that promotes critical thinking as it applies to decisions about spending, saving, budgeting, investing, careers, consumerism and much more. Research shows us that by age six, children understand that it is good to save. Cognitively, by age nine, children understand that they can save with a bank to protect their money, and they are able to understand that when a choice is made, something is given up. By age 12, children are better able to use strategies to resist the temptation to spend, and are able to understand complex concepts such as interest. They can evaluate alternatives based on weighted criteria and make wise decisions.

Statewide advocacy for economic and financial literacy is gaining momentum. Econ Illinois celebrates an unprecedented year of advocacy and partnerships. Illinois' recent response to the call for economic and financial education is evidenced by two pieces of legislation, namely the adoption of new K-12 Economic and Financial Literacy Standards (see page 6) and the Postsecondary & Workforce Readiness Act that promotes individualized learning plans for students 8-12 that include Financial Aid & Financial Literacy goals. We proudly embrace the prominent role that we have as the application of this legislation unfolds, bringing programs, training, curriculum resources and consultation to support individuals, teachers, and schools throughout Illinois.

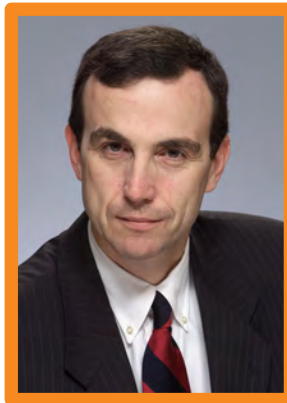
Econ Illinois continues to cultivate systemic change, fostering economic and financial literacy throughout the state. Many thanks to our partners, and to the individuals and organizations who have generously contributed to our success. We wouldn't be able to do what we do without you. We invite you to educate yourselves on the many facets of Econ Illinois through this year's annual report and we encourage you to join us in supporting this vital mission as we invest in the future - an investment that promises great returns.

### Chair, Governing Board



*Pamela C. Piorowski*  
Pam Piarowski  
Sr. Vice President  
BMO Harris Bank N.A.

### Chair, Board of Trustees



*William A. Testa*  
William A. Testa  
Vice President  
Federal Reserve Bank

### President



*Nancy Hanlon Harrison*  
Nancy Hanlon Harrison  
Executive Director  
Econ Illinois



# WHO WE ARE

## > ECON ILLINOIS

Incorporated in 1951 as the Illinois Council on Economic Education, Econ Illinois provides economic and personal finance education resources to K-12 Illinois schools, educators, and individuals throughout Illinois.

Econ Illinois believes that every individual should be taught from an early age the skills needed to benefit fully from and contribute meaningfully to the global marketplace throughout their lives. It is Econ Illinois' mission to provide economic and financial literacy programs and services starting at the elementary level and extending throughout adulthood, enabling individuals to participate effectively in the economy as



- Competent decision-makers
- Responsible and knowledgeable consumers
- Prudent savers and investors
- Productive employees, employers, and entrepreneurs

We provide effective and relevant resources to teachers, students, and parents to help them prosper through their knowledge and the choices they make at personal, local, state, and national levels. Understanding relationships between spending, unemployment, deficits, debt, economic incentives, markets, and Gross Domestic Product (GDP) will improve our understanding of why our world is so complex.

Econ Illinois could not accomplish this without the support of our board members, donors, and Centers for Economic Education. Last year our programs reached nearly 1,500 teachers across 50 counties throughout Illinois.

With your help we will continue to pursue new ways to prepare educators and students of all ages for the economic and financial challenges of the future. Your support is a critical step.

## The Staff

### **Nancy Hanlon Harrison**

President & Executive Director

### **Rosie Sajak, CFRE**

Director of Development and Corporate Relations  
rsajak@niu.edu

### **Beth Metzler**

VP of Programs & Partnerships  
bmetzler@niu.edu

### **Debbie Kerman**

Stock Market Game Specialist  
dkerman@niu.edu

### **Caroline Wells**

Secretary  
cwells2@niu.edu

### **Caleb Headley**

Graduate Assistant  
z1808949@niu.edu

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Econ Illinois is a statewide organization associated with Northern Illinois University and housed in the Division of Outreach, Engagement, and Regional Development.



**Northern Illinois University**



# LEADERSHIP

## > Governing Board

### **Pamela C. Piarowski, CPA, Chair**

SVP U.S. Controller & Chief Accountant  
BMO Harris Bank N.A.

### **Martin Cabrera**

Chief Executive Officer  
Cabrera Capital Markets, LLC

### **Donna M. Carroll**

President  
Dominican University

### **Tom Cullerton**

Illinois State Senator  
23rd District

### **Charles L. Evans**

President & Chief Executive Officer  
Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago

### **Michael Frerichs**

Treasurer  
State of Illinois

### **Joseph M. Guinan**

Chairman & Chief Executive Officer  
Advantage Futures

### **Arvid C. Johnson, Ph.D.**

President  
University of St. Francis

### **Kerry Jordan, CFA**

Chief Operating Officer  
D'Orazio Capital Partners

### **William McNeill**

Community Leader

### **Edward Provost**

*Retired*

Chicago Board Options Exchange

### **Christopher Shannon**

Partner

Katten Muchin Rosenman, LLP

### **Michael G. Timmers**

Partner

Kirkland & Ellis

## > Board Of Trustees

### **William A. Testa, Ph.D., Chair \***

Vice President & Director of Regional  
Programs  
Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago

### **Robert L. Anderson \***

President  
Anderrob and Associates

### **Cynthia Au \***

Vice President  
Cabrera Capital Markets, LLC

### **Karen Bourbulas**

Vice President  
Northern Trust

### **Catherine Bourke**

Vice President  
Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago

### **Gerald M. Brookhart**

Retired  
Peoria County ROE

### **Michael J. Conti\***

Chief Legal Officer  
Rosenthal Collins Group, LLC

### **Jeffrey R. Egan \***

Managing Director  
Shorebridge Capital

### **Julian Federle**

Chief of Policy & Programs  
Office of the Treasurer  
State of Illinois

### **Sheryl Szot Gallaher \***

Director, Center for Economic Education  
University of St. Francis

### **John M. Geiringer**

Partner  
Barack Ferrazzano Kirschbaum &  
Nagelberg, LLP

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COO  
Align Income Share Funding

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Vice President  
Northern Illinois University

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President  
H.A. King & Associates, Inc.

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Attorney at Law UIC Instructor  
**David L. Kohn**

Executive Director of Public Affairs  
Union League Club of Chicago

### **Gabe Martinez**

Managing Partner  
West Madison Wealth Management

### **Michael Miroballi, CFA\*\***

President  
Huntington Investment Company

### **George M. Morvis**

President and Chief Executive Officer  
Financial Shares Corporation

### **Jane Ott**

President  
North South Capital

### **Alper Ozgit**

Director, Transfer Pricing  
PricewaterhouseCoopers

### **Mike Piotrowski**

Managing Partner  
Marquette Associates

### **James M. Ratcliffe \***

Retired  
R. R. Donnelley & Sons Co.

### **Daniel T. Roche**

Vice President  
Northern Trust Hedge Fund Services

### **Stanley Rupnik**

Chief Investment Officer  
Teachers' Retirement System of Illinois

### **David A. Van Vickle**

Assistant Regional Director  
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

### **Frank M. Whittaker**

Retired  
Union League Club of Chicago

### **Gregory Williams**

Managing Director  
Business Development  
Wellington Management

\* Executive Committee Member

# NEW BOARD MEMBERS

## ECON ILLINOIS

announces the appointment of four new board members. This year, Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs joined the Governing Board. Julian Federle, Chief Policy and Programs Officer for the State Treasurer's Office joined the Board of Trustees along with Michael Piotrowski, Managing Partner of Marquette Associates and Greg Williams, Managing Director of Wellington Management. Each new member brings a unique talent, expertise and energy to the organization. They have demonstrated through their careers a desire to contribute meaningfully to the global marketplace and understand the need to promote economic and financial literacy programs and services throughout Illinois. We are honored to have them join our Boards, working with us as we strengthen and broaden the impact of Econ Illinois.



Michael Frerichs is the State Treasurer of Illinois. Mr. Frerichs is a CPA and is the state's Chief Investment Officer. He believes in providing individuals with the tools so that they can invest in themselves. He does this by encouraging savings plans for college and trade school, increasing financial education among all ages, removing barriers to a secure retirement, and protecting residents from predatory companies.



Julian Federle is the Chief of Policy and Programs in the office of the Illinois State Treasurer. Julian Federle oversees operations and strategic planning for the Legislative Affairs, Policy, and Programs Divisions for the Illinois State Treasurer's Office. In addition to overseeing the Office's legislative and policy priorities, Julian leads the Office's public facing investment offerings, including Illinois' 529 College Savings Programs, and is currently developing its 529 ABL and Secure Choice programs.



Michael Piotrowski is a Managing Partner of Marquette Associates. An owner of the firm, Mike has been with the company since 2005. He serves as an investment consultant for several of the firm's relationships. Mr. Piotrowski's clients include public funds, Taft-Hartley plans, and foundations.



Gregory Williams is a business development manager within the Wellington Management's Global Relationship Group. Greg is responsible for sales and marketing efforts to multiple client segments in the southern US region. His role is to understand the needs of institutional investors and to provide solutions to meet those needs from the firm's broad product offerings.

# STATE NETWORK

## ➤ Illinois Centers for Economic Education

Econ Illinois is strengthened by the support of our Centers for Economic Education.



**Northern IL University**  
Center for Economic Education  
Tammy Batson, Ph. D.  
Director  
Judith Dymond, Ph.D.  
Coordinator



**University of Illinois at Chicago**  
Center for Economic Education  
Helen Roberts, Ph.D.  
Director  
Erin Toussaint, Asst. Director



**Dominican University**  
U.S. Bank Center for Economic Education  
Daniel P. Condon, Ph.D.  
Director



**University of St. Francis**  
Office for Economic Education  
Sheryl Szot Gallaher, MAEE, Director



**Western IL University**  
Center for Economic Education  
Jessica Lin, Ph.D., Director  
Jonathan Devereueawax, Ph.D. Asst. Director



**University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign**  
Center for Economic and Financial Education  
Angela Lyons, Ph.D.  
Director



# Advocacy for New Illinois Financial Literacy Standards

Econ Illinois' work with state standards dates back to 1997, with the crafting of the state's first ever K-12 economics standards and benchmarks. In 2015, the Illinois State Board of Education adopted revised Social Science Standards that include the state's first ever Financial Literacy Content Standards throughout elementary, middle, and high school. As a member of the Social Science Task Force, Econ Illinois was instrumental in the revision of the economic standards and construction of the new financial literacy standards. These standards make their debut in K-12 classrooms in the 2017-2018 academic year.

The standards themselves provide a practical and academically sound framework that promotes critical thinking as it applies to decisions about spending, saving, budgeting, and investing. Rooted in foundational economic concepts, the purpose of the new, more rigorous standards is to better prepare students to be college and career ready. Recognizing that personal finance is more than just mechanics, like how to balance a checking account, Illinois' standards stress basic decision making skills and fundamental concepts. The new standards are designed to equip students with the skills and knowledge necessary to be flexible and to make smart choices in our consistently changing world. Econ Illinois provides the necessary curriculum support and professional development tools and resources for teachers, to ensure successful implementation of standards to optimize student learning.



Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs

Statewide advocacy for such standards has and continues to be unprecedented. The 2016-2017 academic year marked the establishment of the Standards Advocacy Partnership between Econ Illinois and the Illinois State Treasurer's Office (STO). Both organizations have a shared vision of promoting and expanding financial education opportunities in Illinois. Econ Illinois, in partnership with Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs's Office, is working with schools across Illinois to pave the way for the introduction and implementation of these new state standards.

We invite you to read more about this Advocacy Partnership, watch the press conference announcing our Partnership, and learn how to bring resources to your school by visiting <http://econillinois.org/about/illinois-treasurer.html>.

Econ Illinois is honored to be in partnership with Illinois State Treasurer Frerichs's Office, working with schools across the state to integrate the new standards into the K-12 curriculum, ultimately building economic and financial literacy throughout Illinois.



Michael W. Frerichs  
ILLINOIS STATE TREASURER

Treasurer Frerichs and Econ Illinois' partnership provides advocacy for the Illinois economics & financial literacy standards.



Teaching Dollars and Sense.

# EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

## ➤ The Stock Market Game™

The Stock Market Game™, an online capital markets simulation, engages students in grades 4-12 to use critical thinking skills and teamwork to research, create and manage a real-world investment portfolio. This year, more than 23,000



students from nearly 300 schools throughout Illinois became better prepared for their financial futures through their participation. Students practiced their math, language arts and economics skills to evaluate, predict and make decisions. Using the lessons, activities and assessments available in the Teacher Support Center, close to 400 Illinois teachers helped their students build fundamentals of personal finance, including long-term saving and investing.

The Stock Market Game™ is a program of the SIFMA Foundation for Investor Education and is provided without financial cost to Illinois schools thanks to generous donors. Econ Illinois, our Center affiliates, and the SIFMA Foundation offer on-line and on-site training workshops to support teachers new to the program.

### FIRST PLACE WINNERS

#### Carl Sandburg High School

Orland Park

#### F E Peacock Middle School

Itasca

#### Glenwood Academy

Glenwood

#### John L Nash Middle School

Clifton

#### Lutheran High School Academy

Rockford

#### Normal Community High School

Normal

#### North High School

Downers Grove

#### Providence St Mel School

Chicago

#### River Woods Elementary School

Naperville

#### St Bede Academy

Peru

#### St Bruno School

Chicago

#### St Francis High School

Wheaton

#### Sycamore Middle School

Sycamore

#### Woodgate Elementary School

Matteson

### SECOND PLACE WINNERS

#### Carl Sandburg High School

Orland Park

#### Carl Sandburg Jr High School

Rolling Meadows

#### DeKalb High School

DeKalb

#### F E Peacock Middle School

Itasca

#### Glenwood Academy

Glenwood

#### Jefferson High School

Rockford

#### Joliet Central High School

Joliet

#### Libertyville High School

Libertyville

#### Normal Community High School

Normal

#### Prairie View Middle School

Tinley Park

#### Providence St Mel School

Chicago

#### St Francis High School

Wheaton

#### St Ignatius College Prep Sch

Chicago

#### Sycamore Middle School

Sycamore

#### Whittier Elementary School

Wheaton

### THIRD PLACE WINNERS

#### Fremont Middle School

Mundelein

#### Keith Country Day School

Rockford

#### Naperville North High School

Naperville

#### Niles North High School

Skokie

#### Oak Forest High School

Oak Forest

#### Prairie View Middle School

Tinley Park

#### Providence St Mel School

Chicago

#### St Gilbert School

Grayslake

#### St Ignatius College Prep Sch

Chicago

#### Streamwood High School

Streamwood

#### Sycamore Middle School

Sycamore

#### Thomas Jefferson High School

Rockford

#### Virgil I Grissom Middle School

Tinley Park

#### Williamsville High School

Williamsville



# EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Sponsored  
by

**COUNTRY**  
FINANCIAL®

## ➤ Economics Concepts Poster Contest

Students in grades 1-8 learn basic economic or finance concepts and then use their creativity and art skills to demonstrate their understanding of a concept in a colorful drawing. This year, over 2,000 students from 45 schools gained a better understanding of our economic system through their participation in this unique competition. The top 24 entries from each of 5 regional competitions were submitted for judging in a state-wide competition. From these entries, 12 state winners (shown here) were selected, along with 12 honorable mention winners. Classroom volunteer opportunities are available for financial industry professionals to share their expertise and help teachers bring the concepts to life while connecting them to real-world scenarios. Lessons are available to support volunteers in the classroom.



**Kelsey A.** 3rd grade, Fry Elementary School  
Naperville, Sharon Phares, Teacher



**Rithik T.** 5th grade, Fry Elementary School  
Naperville, Sharon Phares, Teacher



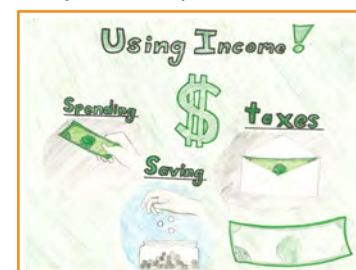
**Andrea B.** 8th grade, Madison Jr. High School  
Naperville, Cheryl Nicoski, Teacher



**Gloria W.** 6th grade, Cass Jr High School  
Darien Audrey Vaci, Teacher



**Sahana K.** 2nd grade, Fry Elementary School  
Naperville, Sharon Phares, Teacher



**Adrian L.** 5th grade, St. Cletus School  
La Grange, Erin Gridelli, Teacher



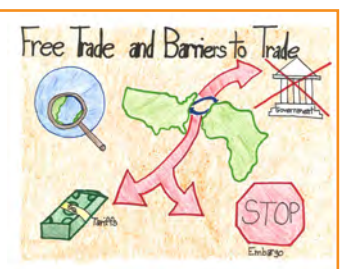
**Fiona M.** 4th grade, Meadow Ridge Elementary School  
Orland Park, Lauren Musielewicz, Teacher



**Max R.** 2nd grade, Cathedral of St Raymond  
Joliet, Julie Vitas, Teacher



**Marino M.** 6th grade, McAuliffe Elementary School  
Chicago, Theresa Quitshaw, Teacher



**Emma Z.** 7th grade, St. James School  
Arlington Heights, Mary Esquivel, Teacher



**Michal D.** 4th grade, Navajo Heights Elementary School  
Palos Heights, Elizabeth Holman, Teacher



**Laila B.** 3rd grade, Meadow Ridge Elementary School  
Orland Park, Lauren Musielewicz, Teacher

# EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

## ► Illinois Personal Finance Challenge

The Illinois Personal Finance Challenge program is designed to recognize students who demonstrate high levels of comprehension and application of personal finance concepts and skills, and reward teachers for outstanding practices in teaching personal finance concepts. With all students in Illinois required to take consumer education, this is the perfect way to engage them more fully in their learning and assess how well they are meeting the state mandate. Endorsed by Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs Office, the Illinois Personal Finance Challenge had nearly 500 students compete in the online competition and the top 10 teams moved on to the state finals held at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. We were honored to have Illinois State Treasurer Frerichs join us for the state finals event. Students from West Chicago Community High School earned 1st place in the State Finals competition, outscoring LaSalle-Peru Township and clinching the State Championship title. The team, led by teacher Candance Fikis, went on to represent Illinois at the National Personal Finance Challenge in Kansas City Missouri in May 2017 and placed 2nd in the nation!

### First Place Team - West Chicago Community High School

Pictured: Students Michael Sawicki, Jenna Palka, Ross Behr, Jeremy Belington, Teacher Candance Fikis, Illinois State Treasurer Michael W. Frerichs, Nancy Hanlon Harrison, President & Executive Director of Econ Illinois



### Second Place Team - LaSalle-Peru Township High School

Pictured: Students Owen Stoneking, Brendan Sebastian, Abhi Patel, Lindsey Debosik, Illinois State Treasurer Michael W. Frerichs, and Nancy Hanlon Harrison, President & Executive Director of Econ Illinois

Not Pictured: Teacher Scott Lauer



# EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

## ► Illinois Economics Challenge

The Illinois Economics Challenge applies the excitement of an athletic competition to academic excellence and encourages students to apply their economics knowledge and to work in teams. Competitions are held at both the state and national levels. There were 165 teams from 20 schools that competed in the beginning online round early last spring. Ten teams from four schools advanced to compete in the state finals held at the Regional Office of Education in DeKalb. The team from Adlai Stevenson High School, under the direction of teacher James Kollar, placed first in Illinois, outscoring the 2nd place team from York Community High school during an exciting final quiz bowl round of competition that included not one but two tie breaker questions! All in attendance were in awe of the knowledge demonstrated by our state finalists throughout the day. We were honored to have Illinois Lt. Governor Evelyn Sanguinetti join us for the event.

### First Place Team - Adlai Stevenson High School

Pictured: Students David Liu, Alexander Shi, Reuben Gutmann, Kevin You, Lt Governor Evelyn Sanguinetti and Nancy Hanlon Harrison, President and Executive Director of Econ Illinois  
Teacher: James Kollar



### Second Place Team - York High School

Pictured: Students John Fetscher, Jason Kentra, Frank Luse and Flanagan Waldherr  
Teacher: Tamra Carl



# 2017 AMERICAN DREAM DINNER

Econ Illinois celebrated its 10th Annual American Dream Fundraising Dinner with great success! Held Thursday, May 18, 2017 at the Union League Club of Chicago, the event welcomed nearly 250 guests. During a fireside chat, guest speaker Thomas Peterffy founder & CEO of Interactive Brokers

(pictured below) spoke to William Brodsky about his own awe-inspiring story of leaving war-torn Hungary and becoming a self-made billionaire in America.



2016 SMG Winner, Jeremy Atuobi (pictured above), from Saint Ignatius College Prep gave a speech at our annual American Dream Dinner about his successful experience with the Stock Market Game™. Mary Kate Guinan (pictured left), celebrates after guessing correctly during the head or tails contest . Guests enjoyed a high-energy event which included a live auction.



Celebrity Auctioneer, David Goodman (pictured below) convincingly sells the *Hamilton* auction package to an eager audience waiting on a chance to bid. The night featured 10 stellar auction packages that included a trip to Maui and wine tasting in Napa Valley. The evening also featured William Brodsky, who

(pictured center) welcomed his good friend and featured speaker Thomas Peterffy of Interactive Brokers.



Business First AM host, Angela Miles (pictured left) spoke to the audience about the importance of economic and financial education and shared her own personal experiences of learning, first hand, how crucial economic and financial literacy truly are when striving to make your American dream come

true. Governing Board President, Pam Piarowski, Econ Illinois president, Nancy Harrison, and Board of Trustees President, Bill Testa (pictured right) enjoyed themselves at the reception.



Sponsored in  
part by



# OUTSTANDING ECONOMIC EDUCATOR AWARDS

Three engaging teachers were recognized at the American Dream Dinner on May 18th, 2017. Winners of the Outstanding Economic Educator Awards for 2017 were praised for their commitment to economic education. The award ceremony was held at the Union League Club of Chicago and attended by honorees, their guests, Econ Illinois Board members and supporters. Presenters included Anne Kaplan, Maureen Lagen, and Sheryl Gallaher.



Nick Anello is a high school economics teacher at Homewood-Flossmoor High School. Nick has been an educator for 9 years and currently teaches College Prep, Advanced Placement, and International Baccalaureate Economics. He holds a master's degree in both curriculum & instruction and general administration. His passion for teaching economics centers around creating lively discussions about the real world and how it pertains to everyday life. He believes that teaching personal finance concepts is crucial as it allows students to learn from mistakes, so that the life lessons learned will save them real money when they graduate and pursue their careers.

Kristine Buckley is a junior high school teacher at St. Gilbert's Catholic School in Grayslake. She has been teaching for 14 years and is currently working on a master's degree in curriculum development. She credits Econ Illinois for providing dynamic and engaging lessons and materials that have motivated her students to participate in a hands-on learning environment. Just this year, she started utilizing a new resource called *Navigate*, which provided her students with eye opening experiences that helped them evaluate their future education and career choices.



Danielle Gladstone is an english teacher at Michelle Obama School of Technology and the Arts. She is a 3rd generation educator and has been teaching for 18 years, most of which is in gifted education. Danielle holds a master's degree in education administration and reading specialization. She believes it is essential that teachers utilize programs like The Stock Market Game™ because they are a critical component in ensuring that students are prepared to compete with the rest of the world. Moreover, she credits the program for allowing her students to see that they are capable of competing with anyone, regardless of their hardships.

# SPECIAL AWARDS & HONOREES

## Corporate Years of Giving Awards

Special honorees were highlighted at the 2017 American Dream Dinner for their sustained giving to economic and financial education.



**Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago**  
36 Years  
Catherine Bourke  
Presenter: Martin Cabrera



**COUNTRY Financial**  
35 Years  
Gwen Shaw  
Presenter: Gabe Martinez



**CME**  
30 Years  
Bryan Durkin  
Presenter: Bill Testa



**Bank of America**  
26 Years  
Steve Adamczyk  
Presenter: David Kohn



**3M**  
26 Years  
Scott Pretzsch  
Presenter: Mike Miroballi



**CBOE**  
16 Years  
Ed Provost  
Presenter: Joe Guinan



**H.A King & Associates**  
10 Years  
Hazel King  
Presenter: Mike Conti



**Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP**  
10 Years  
Chris Hennon  
Presenter: Dan Roche



**KPMG**  
10 Years  
Michael Martens  
Presenter: Karen Bourbulas

# Finance Learning Exchange

Econ Illinois is the lead entity to secure funding, public-private partnerships, and resources to build the Illinois STEM Finance Learning Exchange (FLE). The FLE is one of several Learning Exchanges dedicated to bringing enhanced coursework and work-based learning experiences to the classroom. Each STEM Learning Exchange is charged with creating and enhancing activity-based, real-world experiences for students to heighten college and career readiness.

The FLE specifically focuses on industries associated with the finance sector, including: Accounting, Banking Services, Business Finance, Insurance, Property & Real Estate Management, Securities & Investments, and Economics.

Key Initiatives during the 2016-17 school year included: IL Personal Finance Challenge & IL Economics Challenge student competitions; Student, Teacher, and Administrator workshop presentations on College and Career Readiness topics including college costs; Finance Career Spotlight presentation panels with industry professionals; Student field trips to industry firms; Speakers in the classroom; Online curriculum resources and customized professional development; Financial Literacy for Education Success online resource site.

A focus during the year was to engage students more collaboratively with finance professionals in our student competitions. Accomplished through greater engagement at the Challenge state finals competitions and through volunteer presentations, the analysis and conversations provided by industry volunteers were critical elements for enhanced student growth. Students and their teachers welcomed the heightened interaction. The focused collaboration resulted in the IL Personal Finance Challenge high school winning team earning Second Place at the National Finals in Kansas City!

## Key Partners

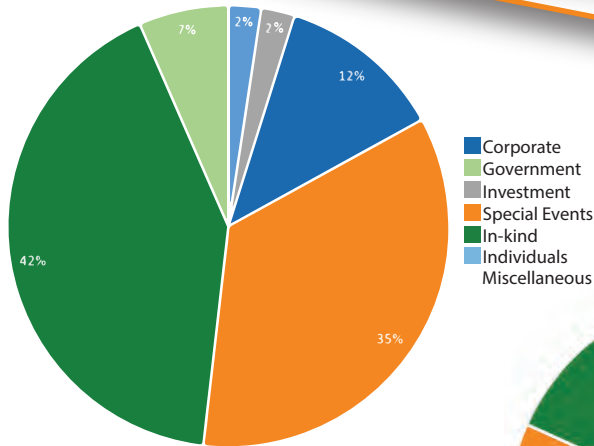
**Beverly & Associates**  
**COUNTRY Financial**  
**DeKalb County Administration & Regional Office of Education**  
**Des Plaines Valley Region**  
**Dominican University U.S. Bank Center for Economic Education**  
**Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago**  
**Federal Reserve Bank of New York**  
**First National of Nebraska**  
**Fitch Ratings**  
**Illinois Jump\$tart/Action Network of Financial Literacy**  
**Illinois Lt. Governor, Evelyn Sanguinetti**  
**Illinois State Treasurer Michael W. Frerichs**  
**Illinois Student Assistance Commission**  
**Money Smart Week**  
**NIU Center for Economic Education**  
**NIU Center for Governmental Studies**  
**NIU Center for P-20 Engagement**  
**NIU Education Systems Center**  
**Northern Illinois University**  
**PwC**  
**RS Investments**  
**Sisler's Ice**  
**St Francis University Center for Economic Education**  
**UIC Center for Economic Education**  
**Western Illinois University Center for Economic Education**

Providing a Finance Career Spotlight presentation to a regional group of school districts.

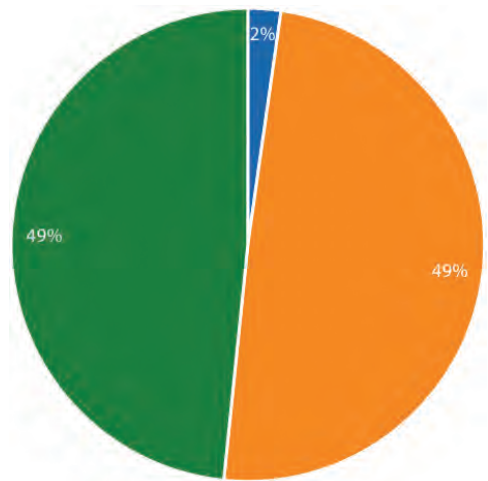
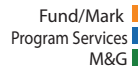


Connecting high school accounting students with industry professionals at PwC provides exposure and insight into many careers at all levels of responsibility within the firm.

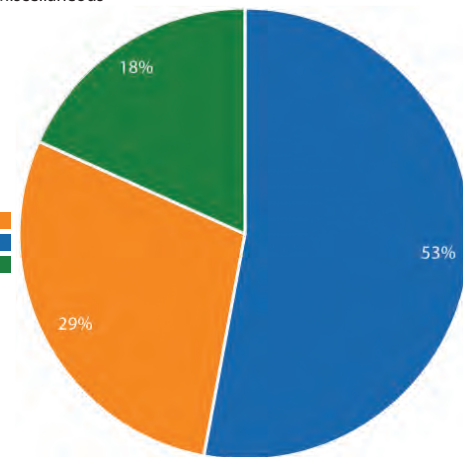
# BY THE NUMBERS



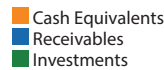
## REVENUES



## ASSETS



## EXPENDITURES



## REVENUE

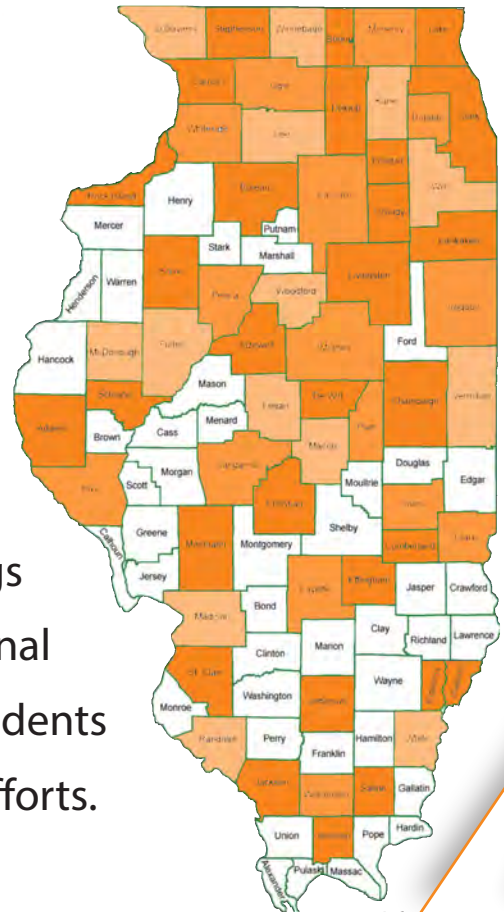
Individuals	\$20,103
Investment Income	\$20,569
Corporate Contributions	\$101,611
Special Events	\$291,731
In-kind Contributions	\$348,478
Government Grants	\$55,000
Miscellaneous	\$60
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$837,552</b>

## EXPENDITURE

Programs Services	\$389,416
Fundraising/Marketing	\$212,026
Management & General	\$134,608
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>\$736,050</b>

## NET ASSETS

Receivables	\$14,955
Cash & Equivalents	\$327,482
Investments	\$320,899
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$663,336</b>



Over 1,500 educators throughout the State of Illinois participate in Econ Illinois offerings such as our signature programs, professional development and training. Thousands of students are impacted annually as a result of these efforts.

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