

News from CFALA

For Immediate Release

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Student Team's Economic Advice Wins Them Trip to New York Stock Exchange

LOS ANGELES – Four high school juniors and their teacher will be heading to New York City soon with \$500 each in prize money after taking top honors in the 2010 Capital Markets Contest developed and run by the California Council on Economic Education in partnership with the CFA Society of Los Angeles (CFALA).

Teacher Roland Lewin and students Haley Araki, Owen Chen, Richard Cheng and Peter Shao of Dos Pueblos High School in Santa Barbara will be visiting the New York Stock Exchange, New York Federal Reserve Bank and the headquarters of NASDAQ. Runners-up, who received \$300 each, were students Brian Austin, Jake Howry, Sarah Lenau, and Brian Murphy, and their teacher, Brett Dobson, of Centennial High School in Bakersfield. Taking third place and \$100 each were students Merek Chang, Abraham Kwan, Daniel Lee, and Jeff Lew, and their teacher, David St. Clair, of Troy High School in Fullerton. Other finalist schools were the California Academy of Math and Science, Carson; Hamilton High School, L.A.; Lincoln High School, L.A.; Loyola High School, L.A.; and Los Altos High School, Hacienda Heights.

About 600 students throughout Southern California participated in the contest, with eight teams making final presentations to a panel of investment industry professionals Thursday at Los Angeles branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco. The teams presented economic analyses in answer to the questions on many people's minds: "Where are we, where are we going, and when are people going to get their jobs back?"

Now in its seventh year, the Capital Markets Contest promotes interest in economic education, honors high-achieving students and showcases outstanding high school economics programs.

"The competition continues to extend what we teach in the classroom to real-life situations," said St. Clair, adding that the program was rewarding for both students and teachers.

Students are mentored by investment industry professionals, including members of CFALA.

"The knowledge will be beneficial for students if life even if the students don't major in finance or economics," said Allen Wisniewski, CFA, who helped one team.

"We're delighted with the enthusiasm and skills of these high school students. They are a testament of what economic education can do," said Dr. Jim Charkins, CCEE Executive Director. "This partnership with the California Council on Economic Education, CFALA and other sponsors has provided an excellent opportunity for both teachers and students."

The contest is hosted by CCEE, which advances economic and financial literacy among California's youths. The lead sponsor is the CFA Society of Los Angeles (CFALA), a network of investment management professionals in the greater Los Angeles area working to disseminate useful financial information and increase awareness of the value of the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA®) designation, which is intended to lead the investment profession by setting the highest standards of ethics, education, and professional excellence. Other funders include First Credit Bank, U.S. Bank, State Farm, RMJ Foundation, Bank of the West, City National Bank, Comerica, Wells Fargo, FOX Group and ROTH Capital Partners.

For additional information about the Capital Markets Contest, please contact program manager Bernard Mauricia at 951-296-7499 or bmauricia@ccee.org, or Steve Fox at 805-647-8225 or steve@silverfoxco.com. You may also visit www.ccee.org and go to Programs/Capital Markets Contest.

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