

# News from CFALA

**For Immediate Release  
with Photo**

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## **CFALA Names Shondale Pagano As Teacher of the Year**

LOS ANGELES – Shondale J. Pagano, a social science teacher at Bassett High School in La Puente, has been named Teacher of the Year by the Chartered Financial Analyst Society of Los Angeles (CFALA).

“Shondale is that rare teacher we all remember from our own school days – the one that made a subject come alive for us and kindled an ongoing interest in learning more,” said CFALA President George Dennis.

“At a time when high school dropout rates in some parts of California exceed 50%, Shondale truly has made a difference in the lives and future prospects of her students. Encouraging economic and financial literacy is part of CFALA’s mission, and we are proud to honor her for her skill, energy and dedication.”

Ms. Pagano, has been a teacher for 12 years. She has coached several teams of students in the annual Capital Markets Contest, which is administered by the California Council on Economic Education (CCEE) on behalf of CFALA. CFALA funds the program with donations raised at its Annual Economic and Investments Forecast Dinner.

She has participated in a number of programs administered by the CCEE, including Living the American Dream, Moneywise Teen, and the Teacher Guide to the California Economic Standards. Through the Foundation for Teaching Economics, she has taught courses such as Economics for Leaders, Is Capitalism Good for the Poor? and The Economics of Water and the Environment.

“Economics rocks,” said Ms. Pagano. “Once students learn that economics isn’t just about money or graphs, but that it’s about choices and costs, they come to the conclusion – on their own - that Economics is involved in every aspect of their lives – and that’s the hook .”

A graduate of Claremont McKenna College, Ms. Pagano has been a Fulbright-Hayes fellow twice - to Argentina and to Morocco. She has entered three classes in the



CFALA Teacher of the Year Shondale J. Pagano in front of the Center of Economic Education in the Democratic Republic of Georgia during her study tour there with the National Council on Education and the Economy (NCEE).

Federal Reserve's International Economic Summit program. Many of those students were ESL (English as a Second Language) learners who said the program gave them a good grasp of basic economics. She also attended a Stanford University seminar on Health Care Economics and adopts some of the curriculum in her Health Academy Economics course. She also participated in a 2008 study tour to the country of Georgia sponsored by the CCEE that provided information for both her economics and world history classes.

The CFA Society of Los Angeles is a network of investment management professionals that works 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. Additional information is available at [www.cfala.org](http://www.cfala.org).

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