

Top Performing Investors in The Stock Market Game for Fall 2022

The [Montana Council on Economic Education](#) (MCEE) is pleased to congratulate the top finishing teams in the Fall 2022 [Stock Market Game](#).

The top 10 teams and coaches/teachers in both the High School Division and Junior High Division are listed below. With the support of sponsors at Glacier Bank, the top five teams receive the noted cash prizes.

Rank	Earnings	High School Division	Teacher	Prize
1	\$127,813.65	Hellgate High School	Klimkiewicz, Steven	\$250
2	\$122,099.49	Laurel High School	Condon, Lisa	\$200
3	\$121,276.07	Frenchtown High School	Goris, Ryan	\$150
4	\$118,702.63	Laurel High School	Kimmet, Matt	\$100
5	\$117,789.08	Sidney High School	Biniek, Russell	\$50
6	\$113,398.77	Laurel High School	Kimmet, Matt	
7	\$113,103.36	Frenchtown High School	Goris, Ryan	
8	\$112,139.93	Laurel High School	Leinwand, Jeannie	
9	\$111,604.18	Frenchtown High School	Goris, Ryan	
10	\$111,367.87	Manhattan High School	Adams, Kay	

Rank	Earnings	Junior High Division	Teacher	Prize
1	\$114,837.20	Dillon Middle School	Anderson, Jeremy	\$250
2	\$112,380.25	Washington Middle School	Stickel, Lisa	\$200
3	\$110,239.63	Dillon Middle School	Anderson, Jeremy	\$150
4	\$109,147.49	Dillon Middle School	Anderson, Jeremy	\$100
5	\$108,032.62	Dillon Middle School	Anderson, Jeremy	\$50
6	\$105,124.78	Dillon Middle School	Anderson, Jeremy	
7	\$104,946.48	Dillon Middle School	Anderson, Jeremy	
8	\$104,595.45	Dillon Middle School	Anderson, Jeremy	
9	\$104,401.43	Dillon Middle School	Anderson, Jeremy	
10	\$104,269.77	Washington Middle School	Stickel, Lisa	

Each semester, over 1300 students and 450 teams compete in the Stock Market Game across more than 40 schools. Students are able to gain financial and investment education while competing for cash prizes. Glacier Bancorp and its family of Montana Banks sponsor all team fees.

The Stock Market Game is a nine-week simulation in which students are given a hypothetical \$100,000 to invest in the stock market. Students must have at least five separate stocks and/or mutual funds at the end of the simulation, so research and diversification are crucial for success. Top state winners are given cash awards thanks to the generous sponsorship of Glacier Bancorp and its Montana family of banks.

The Spring 2023 registration of the Stock Market Game will open after the first of the year. To learn more, visit the [The Stock Market Game](#) page of the MCEE [website](#).

Early Bird Registration & Hotel Room Block for WBEA 2023 Conference Ends in 11 Days

The Western Business Education Association's [2023 Conference](#) will be February 16-19, 2023, in Helena at the [Best Western Premier Helena Great Northern Hotel](#).

January 15 is the deadline to [register for the conference](#) at the early bird rate of \$250 and to [reserve rooms](#) at the Great Northern Hotel at the conference rate of \$140, plus taxes, and includes daily breakfast.

The conference registration includes the Exhibitors' Networking Reception on Friday evening, the Saturday Luncheon, and the Awards Banquet and Closing Session on Sunday evening. Other conference activities include the WBEA Silent Auction, the Great WBEA Pineapple Pull, and Saturday's Dining Up the Gulch.

There are currently 28 breakout sessions available focusing on a variety of topics and technologies, including accounting, classroom activities and management, computer programming, cybersecurity, drones, economics and financial literacy, entrepreneurship, eSports, leadership, and many, many more.

Please visit the [WBEA 2023 Conference](#) website for more details and to register and book hotel rooms.

Friday, January 6, is First Submission Deadline for The Prospects Fall Competition

The [Montana Chamber Foundation](#) is excited to again be hosting this [competition](#) and cannot wait to see what ideas are submitted. There are thousands of dollars in cash, scholarships, and experiences available. Last year there was over \$75,000 in cash and prizes awarded. This is a great opportunity to get your students ideas exposed to business leaders in Montana.

[Tiana Yates](#) (tiana@montanachamber.com), the Montana Chamber Empowered Coordinator, will be your main contact for this year's competition. You do not have to be teaching [Empowered](#) to participate in the contest.

[The Prospects](#) includes both a high school and a middle school division. The Fall competition is open now with first submissions due January 6, 2023. Spring, or final submissions, are due March 10, 2023. The Awards Show will be held virtually, April 20.

Key Dates for The Prospects 2023

- January 6: First Submission Date
- January 12: Advancements Announced
- March 10: Final Submission Date
- March 24: Final Advancements Announced
- April 20: Virtual Awards Show
- May 21-23: In-person competition in Bozeman for the Grand Champion prize

After the first submission date (January 6), the current entries will be reviewed and then those to be judged for prizes will be announced. After the final submission date (March 10), any new submissions will be reviewed and the submissions out of that group that will be moving on to be judged for prizes will be announced. Judges will have four (4) weeks to review all the advanced submissions and winners from those will be announced on the virtual awards show, April 20.

The submissions that place in the top 5 for new and existing businesses (10 submissions total) will be invited to Bozeman to compete for the Grand Champion prize. They will have in person mentorship opportunities, get a tour of the college, explore Bozeman, and compete Shark Tank style with their submission.

Eligibility: Any of Montana's high school and middle school students are encouraged to submit their innovative ideas and solutions or enter their existing businesses.

Submissions: Pitch Video (2 minutes or less), Business Summary (1,000 words max.), a Waiver Form signed by an Educator and/or Parent or Guardian, and a completed W-9 Form.

Complete contest and submission details can be found on [The Prospects page](#) of the Montana Chamber Foundation website.

For questions, please contact Tiana Yates at tiana@montanachamber.com.

January Activity from Start Here, Go Places.®—The Adviser: Sweater Weather

[The Adviser](#) is a monthly activity where students take on the role of an accounting adviser. Each month, students will accept a challenge from a local business that needs accounting help. Through a variety of individual and team exercises, your students will learn and incorporate both technical accounting concepts and soft skills needed to be successful.

This month, students will tackle the concepts of supply and demand through a fun, engaging activity. [SubZero](#), a popular local clothing store, needs help with pricing their new line of holiday sweaters. It is up to students to help design a sweater concept, run market research with their classmates, and suggest a selling price for SubZero to receive the highest monetary profit.

The [downloadable activity](#) includes a student worksheet and a teacher answer key can be downloaded from the Start Here, Go Places.® [website](#).

NGPF Opens Registration for Cohort 30 Certification Course—Course Begins January 9

Make 2023 the year of becoming more confident in the classroom, boosting your personal finance knowledge, and maybe even becoming a [Next Gen Personal Finance](#) (NGPF) Distinguished Educator.

[Cohort 30](#) runs from January 9 to February 9, with an exam window from February 10-17.

Cohort 30 course offerings include

- Consumer Skills: Tuesdays, 3-5 pm (MST)
- Psychology of Money: Tuesdays, 5-7 pm (MST)
- Credit: Wednesdays, 3-5 pm (MST)
- Banking & Budgeting: Wednesdays, 5-7 pm (MST)
- Insurance: Thursdays, 3-5 pm (MST)

[Register](#) today or visit the [Cohort 30 website](#) for complete course descriptions.

Certification Courses are NGPF's most in-depth professional development format. Each course combines nine hours of live virtual sessions focused on a core personal finance content area with a one-hour assessment exam.

These courses are 100% free. Complete six certification courses and earn [NGPF Distinguished Educator](#) status.

Center for Economics Education Offering Free Personal Finance Workshops for High School Girls

The Montana Council for Economics Education is excited to announce a new opportunity from the national Center for Economics Education—[Invest in Girls](#).

[Invest in Girls](#) is a FREE online program tailored to teen girls so they can learn about money matters in a supportive environment.

This winter, Invest in Girls is inviting your high school students to learn about personal finance through three offerings--

- Master the basics of personal finance,
- Learn how to invest money, and
- Discover careers in finance.

As a bonus, after students complete a course, they will unlock access to summer fellowships, mentorships, and more.

All programs listed are online and free to attend. The winter term starts January 23, 2023.

To learn more about the upcoming offerings and to sign up, click [here](#).

For questions, please reach out to Cristina Medina at cmedina@investgirls.org.

Results Announced for the Fall 2022 Edition of Big Sky Biz Sim

The [Montana Council on Economic Education](#) (MCEE) is excited to announce the results of the Fall 2022 semester edition of the [Big Sky Biz Sim by First Interstate Bank](#).

The top three teams, and prize winnings, are from Sidney High School and coached by Business teacher Russel Biniek:

- First Place: Three Queens Inc., winning \$500
- Second Place: Back Row Widget Co., winning \$250
- Third Place: Schmooze, winning \$150

MCEE will also send a \$50 Visa Gift Card to each of the Industry Winners listed below.

- Industry A: J.A.S.H. East Helena High School; teacher Angela Huschka
- Industry B: YNW, Glacier High; teacher Josh Munro
- Industry C: NN&B, Laurel High School; teacher Lisa Condon
- Industry D: Wreckers Inc., Laurel High School; teacher Lisa Condon
- Industry E: The Terrible Threes, Sidney High School; teacher Russel Biniek
- Industry F: a.k.g., Sidney High School; teacher Russel Biniek
- Industry G: G9; Heritage Christian School; teacher Bethany Alberda
- Industry H: Keepin' It Reel Fishing, Three Forks Schools; teacher Jessica Oehmcke
- Industry I: Taylors T-Shirts, Helena Capital High School; teacher Terri Norman
- Industry J: Stork Industries, Corvallis High School; teacher Alyce Leonardi
- Industry K: Cheese Time, Skyview High School; teacher Molly Barta

Big Sky Biz Sim by First Interstate Bank is Montana's premiere student business simulation. This is an in-class business simulation where students make all of the operating decisions for their business to produce, sell and distribute widgets. The decision inputs are then matched against other teams competing across Montana for the highest stock market price at the end of eight quarters, or weeks in the simulation.

Registration for the Spring 2023 semester will open after the first of the year. To learn more, visit the [Big Sky Biz Sim by First Interstate Bank](#) page of the MCEE [website](#).

Register for NGPF's First Virtual Conference of 2023—January 21

[Next Gen Personal Finance](#) (NGPF) announces its first virtual event of 2023—[Tools for Teaching Excellence Conference](#)—on Saturday, January 21, 2023.

The [Tools for Teaching Excellence Conference](#) will be held from 8 am-3:30 pm (MST) with everyone who attends at least two hours of conference programming qualifying to win \$1000 in prizes at the end of the conference during the Raffle and Wrap-Up session.

[Register today](#) for the virtual conference.

ISTE is Heading to Philly for ITSELive 23

The International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) will be holding the 2023 national conference, [ITSELive 23](#), in Philadelphia, PA, June 25-28, 2023. Registration for ITSELive 23 opens January 10, 2023. Set a reminder now, then be among the first to discover all the ways to engage and learn—and save your seat.

ISTE is offering both an in-person and virtual option for ITSELive 23. Pricing and registration deadlines are available on the [ITSELive 23](#) website.

Mark Your Calendars for Empowered's RiseUp Summer PD Event—July 18-20 in SLC

[Empowered](#) will be hosting a Northwest regional [RiseUp](#) in Salt Lake City, July 18-20, 2023. [RiseUp](#) events are the flagship of Empowered's in-person training and professional development program. These three day, regional programs are designed to assemble 300+ educators (each) to share a truly unique PD experience. Speakers, panels, sessions, and leave-to-learns are specifically designed to be hands-on and foster participation and exploration.

Thanks to the generous support of Empowered's donors and financial partners, registration for RiseUp events is free. Meals and snacks are included as part of the program and hotel scholarships are available for those traveling to participate. Teachers attending RiseUp are responsible for their transportation costs and incidentals. Professional Development Certificates will be issued to all participants.

For more information about [Empowered](#) and the 140+ engaging learning activities, a collection of tools and resources to help bring learning to life, and training and professional development opportunities, please visit the [Empowered website](#). For details regarding [RiseUp](#) and to sign up for Salt Lake City-specific event news and updates, please visit the [RiseUp website](#).

Encourage High School Seniors to Apply for the Cutler-Bell Prize

The [Computer Science Teachers Association](#) (CSTA) has opened applications for the [2022-2023 Cutler-Bell Prize](#), which looks to recognize up to four high school senior students residing in the US for their projects in computer science.

Winners will receive a \$10,000 prize to go to their college/university of choice. [Applications](#) are due by January. 27, 2023.

Up to four winners will be selected annually and will receive:

--A \$10,000 scholarship (administered through the financial aid department at the university the student will attend).

--Complimentary registration to the virtual CSTA 2023 Annual Conference, a "VIP" swag box with their award, and a featured video spot on the main stage.

--Recognition on CSTA and ACM's websites.

Have questions about the award? [Join the CSTA Awards committee](#) on December 15 for a Q&A session about the award.

NBEA 2023 Annual Convention & Trade Show Registration Now Open—Attend Live or Online

The [National Business Education Association](#) (NBEA) is again offering the [2023 Annual Convention and Trade Show](#) as hybrid event, April 3-6, 2023.

The [NBEA 2023 Annual Convention](#) will be held in Kansas City Missouri, at the Kansas City Marriott Downtown as well as online via Zoom. There will be a streamlined convention schedule with an abundance of concurrent sessions that guarantee something for everyone, keynote speakers to spark your passion and drive, and new networking opportunities.

Registration is now open for both the participation options. The early bird NBEA member registration rate for the in-person option is \$399 and \$249 for virtual. Early bird registration rates end February 20, 2023.

Fun Facts & Trivia

The Sword in the Stone is an animated feature set in the medieval era at a time when the English king dies leaving no heir.

In the churchyard of a cathedral in London a sword appears imbedded in a stone, inscribed: "Who so pulleth out this sword of this stone and anvil is rightwise king born of England."

Although many try, no one can budge the sword from the stone.

Meanwhile, deep in the dark woods, kindly, but absentminded Merlin the Magician begins to teach eleven-year-old Arthur.

Arthur, who is called "Wart," lives in the castle of Sir Ector where he is an apprentice squire to burly, oafish Sir Kay.

By being changed by Merlin into various animals, Wart learns the basic truths of life, but he also runs into the evil Madam Mim, who tries to destroy him.

Merlin and Mim have a Wizard's Duel during which each change into various creatures, with Merlin using his wits to win.

On New Year's Day a great tournament is held in London to pick a new king.

Wart, attending as Kay's squire, forgets Kay's sword, and runs back to the inn to get it, but the inn is locked.

Seeing the sword in the stone, Wart, innocently, and easily, pulls it out.

When the knights marvel at the wondrous sword, and question where he got it, Wart has to prove himself all over again, and again he pulls the sword from the stone.

Wart is proclaimed king by the marveling warriors.

Wart as King Arthur is apprehensive of his ability to govern, but Merlin returns to reassure him.

The Sword in the Stone was released on December 25, 1963.

The movie is based on the 1938 book by T. H. White.

The motion picture inspired the Sword in the Stone ceremony at the Disney theme parks.

During the Sword in the Stone Ceremony, Merlin challenges young guests to pull the sword from the stone in regular presentations.

The Sword in the Stone Ceremony is held in Fantasyland at both Disneyland and in Walt Disney World's Magic Kingdom Park.

If you are able to release the sword from the stone, you can claim to be the Hero of Fantasyland.

The Sword in the Stone Ceremony opened in Disneyland in 1983, in Magic Kingdom in 1994, and at Disneyland Paris in 1992 where it is known as Merlin L'Encanteur.

Issues of the Wednesday Reader are archived on the Montana Business Education Association (MBEA) website at www.mbea.info. The Wednesday Readers are under the Newsletter section and listed most recent first.

Eric Swenson
Business Education Specialist
Montana Office of Public Instruction
PO Box 202501
Helena, MT 59620-2501
406.444.7991
406.444.1373 (Fax)
eswenson@mt.gov



"You don't make decisions because they are easy; you don't make them because they are cheap; you don't make them because they're popular; you make them because they're right." ~Rev. Theodore Hesburgh