

2025 ANNUAL REPORT





OUR MISSION: Helping K-12 teachers teach economics and personal finance in the public and independent schools of Georgia.

OUR VISION: Students leaving school prepared for their economic roles as productive workers, informed consumers and savers, involved citizens, and lifelong decision makers in a globally interdependent world.

THE GCEE TEAM:

Serving Georgia's K-12 teachers and students



MIKE RAYMER
EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR



DR. CHRIS CANNON
ASSOCIATE
DIRECTOR



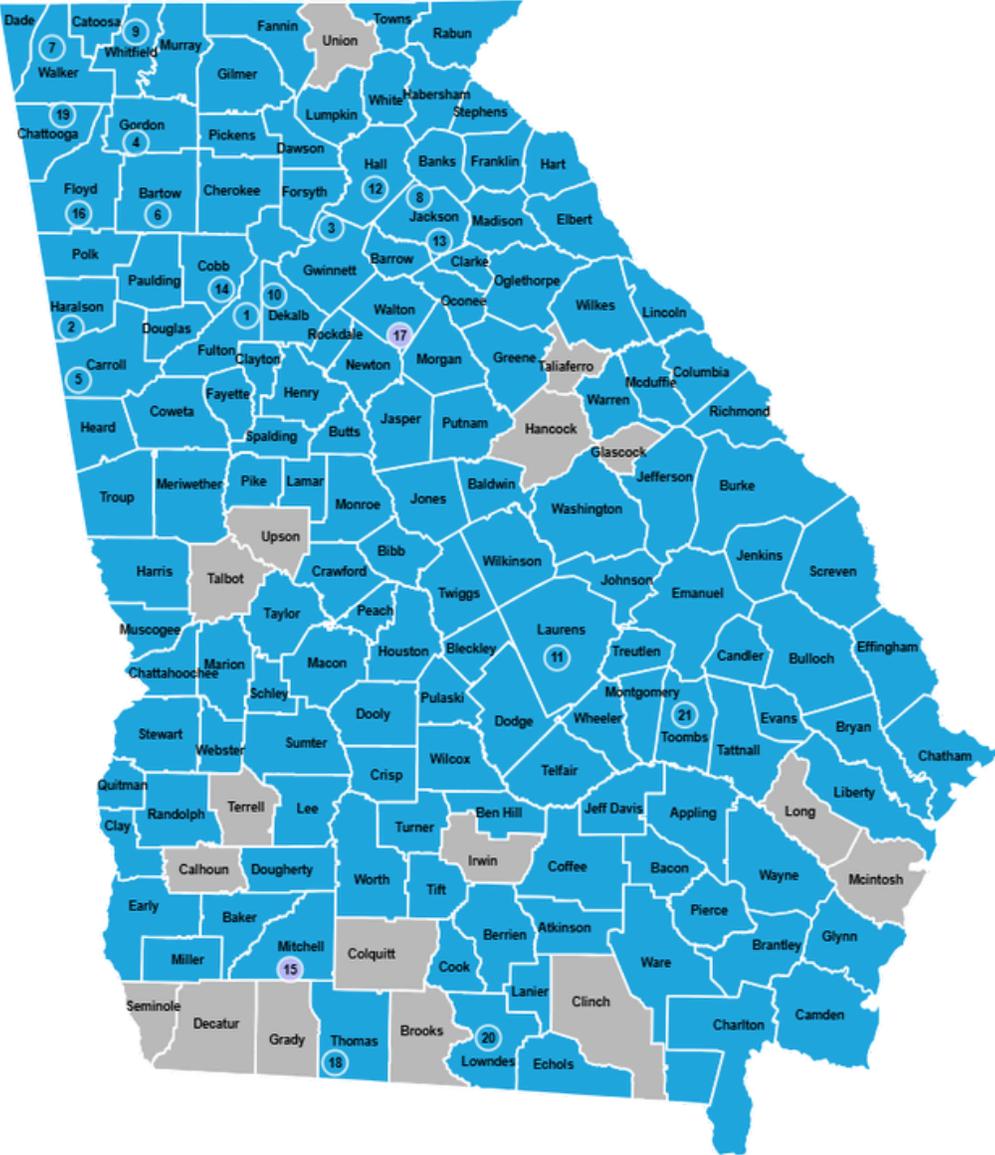
ANGIE BATTLE
PROGRAM
MANAGER



CAREY LAMANNA
STOCK MARKET GAME
COORDINATOR



Public School Systems Served



165 of 181 (91%)

Blue = Teachers and students from county and city systems served by GCEE in 2025

By the Numbers

4,002

Teachers Served

167

**Professional Development
Workshops Delivered**

29,396

**Student Competition
Participants**

15,307

**Miles Driven to Serve
Teachers & Students**

Student Competitions

Recognizing Student Excellence

The Georgia Council conducts numerous student competitions throughout the year to give students opportunities to showcase their economic and personal finance knowledge.



A quiz bowl style competition for high school students covering multiple areas of economics. 2025 winners:

David Ricardo Division for general econ students:
Lambert High (Forsyth County)

Adam Smith Division for AP/IB econ students:
Lambert High (Forsyth County)



A 10-week competition in which students invest a hypothetical \$100,000. 2025 winners:

Spring Winner: Woodville-Tompkins High
(Savannah/Chatham Schools)

Fall Winner: Cambridge High (Fulton County)



A competition in which 4th and 5th grade students compete in three rounds: productivity, economics knowledge, and entrepreneurship. 2025 rural and metro winners:

4th Grade Division: Kings Chapel (Henry County),
Springdale Park (Atlanta Public Schools)

5th Grade Division: Schley County Elementary,
Crabapple Lane (Fayette County)



A competition that asks high school students to demonstrate their financial literacy knowledge. 2025 winners:

Salem High (Rockdale County)
Access Zone Winner

Lambert High (Forsyth County)
State Winner



A competition in which 8th grade students compete in three rounds: productivity, economics knowledge, and entrepreneurship. 2025 winner:

Fall winner: Blake Bass Middle
(Coweta County)

Partnering Organizations

Booth Western Art Museum

The College Board

Consulate General of Canada in Atlanta

Council for Economic Education

Econiful

Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta

FINRA Investor Education Foundation

Foundation for Economic Education

Foundation for Teaching Economics

Georgia Council for the Social Studies

Georgia Dairy Alliance

Georgia Department of Education

Georgia Humanities

Georgia-Pacific

Georgia Peanut Commission

Georgia Power

Georgia Public Broadcasting

Georgia Securities Association

Georgia State University

Global Economic Education Alliance

Japan-America Society of Georgia

Library of Congress

National Assoc. of Economic Educators

Regional Educational Service Agencies

SIFMA Foundation

TeachRock

University of Georgia - Studio 220

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Georgia Economics Teacher of the Year



Jeff Foley
Douglas County
High School

In high school, Jeff Foley planned to major in some kind of science when he went to college, with the possibility of becoming a doctor. But taking AP economics his senior year changed his plans.

“On the first day, that class changed the way I think about everything,” Foley remembers. “I learned that economics explains choices, tradeoffs, and incentives and gives you a framework for understanding life. I fell in love with the subject.”

After graduating with an economics degree from the University of Georgia, he took a job as a mortgage examiner, and later as an accountant at UGA. But he didn’t feel like he was making an impact. He felt a calling towards teaching. And

since his wife, mother, father, brother and cousins are all in the education field, it wasn’t too far of a stretch. “Teaching seemed to be the best of both worlds,” says Foley. “It combined my love of economics and social sciences with my desire to mentor students.”

After earning a master’s degree in teaching, Foley began teaching history and – the subject he loves – economics. He now teaches IB economics and IB history at Douglas County High School.

He comes up with interactive and creative approaches – such as simulations and real-life examples – to bring economics to life for his students, and constantly looks for new ways to illustrate how economics is relevant. He’s also been known to throw in a few dad jokes.

“I want to equip my students with the tools to make sound economic decisions, think critically about the world, and contribute meaningfully as producers, consumers, citizens, and investors,” Foley says. “If I can inspire my students the way my teacher once inspired me, then I will have succeeded.”

Foley has also honed his skills by attending GCEE workshops.

“I wouldn’t be the teacher I am without GCEE and the wonderful work they do,” he says. “I love the ready-made resources that you can use in your classroom the very next day. GCEE’s resources are practical, engaging, and relevant, and they’ve helped me become a better teacher. GCEE truly helps me bring economics to life for my students every single day.”



VanLandingham Commitment to Education Award

Bobbie McCrackin believes that the time to establish a solid foundation for economics and personal finance education is during the K-12 years of a student's education. And knowledgeable teachers who are comfortable and confident with the material are the key to helping children build that foundation.

Because of that belief, McCrackin has spent her entire career – first as an economics teacher and then during her 30+ years at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta – championing economic education.

McCrackin joined the Atlanta Fed in 1982 as a research economist. Five years later, she was named Public Information Officer.

"I realized my calling was more in explaining than researching," she says. "I could help educate and inform the public on monetary policy, the Federal Reserve's purpose and role in the economy, and other subject matter that many found confusing."

She also extended this to teachers. She expanded the bank's education efforts, adding hands-on classroom materials, teacher workshops, and instructional videos matched to state teaching standards. She also grew the program outside Atlanta, establishing economic education specialist positions in the Atlanta Fed's five branches around the Southeast.

McCrackin also helped promote economic education by volunteering her time with GCEE, serving on the board from 1990 to 2014, including chairing several committees and serving as Secretary-Treasurer.

McCrackin accomplished much in her long career at the Atlanta Fed but says her proudest achievement was The Georgia Summit on Economic and Financial Literacy, which led to an advisory board she put together of economists, outside subject experts, teachers, and other education professionals.

"What we learned was that many teachers felt inadequate when teaching economics and personal finance," she says. "A lot of them didn't have the specific knowledge with a general social studies certification."

The result was a financial literacy course for teachers that encompassed a broad spectrum of personal finance and economic concepts to help them attain basic competency in teaching the subject that McCrackin feels is important to everybody.

"In a democratic society, everyone is making economic decisions all the time," she says. "Whether it's deciding what groceries to buy, saving for a home, making investments, and even influencing public policy by voting. Every citizen needs to be informed to make good decisions."



Bobbie McCrackin
Federal Reserve Bank
of Atlanta (retired)

Program of Excellence



Whitfield County Schools

At the beginning of each semester, Amy Smith, High School Curriculum Director for Whitfield County Schools, calls GCEE to see what workshops are available and offers to host them. She does this to provide teachers with an opportunity to improve their skills and confidence in teaching economics and personal finance.

“Teachers benefit tremendously from GCEE workshops because they are practical and teacher-focused,” Smith says. “Teachers walk away with a stronger understanding of economics and personal finance concepts, along with ready-to-use lessons and activities they can take directly back to their classrooms.”

As a district, Whitfield County School Schools has long recognized that economic and financial literacy are not merely academic subjects—they are life skills that shape students’ futures. Since 2019, the district has hosted 12 different GCEE workshops for more than 200 teachers.

It is for this commitment to promoting economics and personal finance education that the Georgia Council is recognizing Whitfield County with its 2026 Program of Excellence Award.

“Whitfield County is one of the most proactive districts, often asking for the latest workshops before we even put them out to the public,” says GCEE Associate Director and Chief Program Officer Chris Cannon. “They market, promote, and encourage their teachers to come to workshops.”

Whitfield County’s commitment goes beyond workshops. Through partnerships with the Georgia Department of Economic Development and the Dalton Chamber of Commerce’s Joint Development Authority, the district offers bus tours that educate the community on the economic impact of industry in the area.

“Economic education gives students the tools to make informed decisions about money, work, and resources while teaching them how to think critically about choices and consequences,” Smith says. “When students understand economics and personal finance, they are better prepared to navigate adulthood, contribute to their communities, and participate thoughtfully in our economy. Simply put, economic education equips students with knowledge they can’t afford not to have.”

Dr. David Martin Teacher of Promise Award

When Shannon Zangas first began teaching economics and personal finance at the beginning of the school year, she felt intimidated by her limited background in the subject, but support from the Georgia Council on Economic Education (GCEE) quickly changed her way of thinking.

“Through GCEE’s high-quality professional development, classroom-ready resources, and a supportive community of fellow educators, what once felt daunting has become a subject I love teaching,” Shannon says.

“Hands-on workshops and site visits, such as experiences at the Federal Reserve, have helped bring lessons to life, while activities like Econoland, Scarcity Zoo, PACED decision-making, supply and demand simulations, and international trade games have transformed student engagement and energized my classroom,” she says. “I would advise any new economics/personal finance teacher who is looking for help to attend a GCEE workshop. I am so happy I found them this early in my career!”

“Through teaching economics/personal finance, I have the opportunity to empower students with financial literacy skills that they can use for the rest of their lives. GCEE is helping me in this journey.”



Shannon Zangas
Campbell High
School

2025 Stock Market Game Hall of Fame Inductees



Georgia Securities
Association



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Blankenship

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William Wesley, Delta Community Credit Union
Rob Wicking, BNY Mellon Wealth Management
Matt Wolfersberger, Georgia Retirement System
Scott Wolle, Invesco
Brett Wooten, Landmark Financial Capital



Statement of Assets and Net Assets

<u>Assets</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2,483,709	2,291,234
Investments Held:		
General Endowment Fund	5,708,284	4,815,031
Compton Endowment Fund	<u>121,848</u>	<u>118,994</u>
	8,313,841	7,225,259
<u>Net Assets</u>		
<i>Without Donor Restrictions</i>		
Undesignated	434,436	376,917
Board Designated	<u>5,683,284</u>	<u>4,790,031</u>
Total Without Donor Restrictions	6,117,720	5,166,948
<i>With Donor Restrictions</i>	<u>2,196,121</u>	<u>2,058,311</u>
Total	8,313,841	7,225,259

GCEE is the beneficial owner, but not the legal owner, of the GCEE Fund, which had a market value of \$2,071,919 as of 12/31/25. The fund is owned by the Community Foundation of Greater Atlanta, and, accordingly is not included in GCEE’s statement of assets and balances.



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\$100,000 or More

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\$50,000 to \$99,999

Community Foundation of
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Georgia-Pacific
Georgia Power Foundation
Georgia Securities Assoc.
Library of Congress
Regions Foundation
UPS Foundation

\$25,000 to \$49,999

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Kazanjian Foundation
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