



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

North Carolina Students Honored For Excellence in Economic and Financial Education

*Teams Recognized in the Fidelity Investments® Stock Market Game™ Challenge for Eighth-Graders;
Company Commits to Continued Support of Student Participation*

RALEIGH, N.C. (Dec. 15, 2010) — [The North Carolina Council on Economic Education](#) (NCCEE) today announced the top performing North Carolina students, educators and middle schools participating in the 2010 Stock Market Game™ Challenge during the fall session. In addition, [Fidelity Investments®](#) has renewed its sponsorship, which will enable continued program participation for eighth-graders statewide for the 2010-2011 school year.

The [Stock Market Game](#) is a nationwide, interactive, online stock market simulation that teaches students in grades four through 12 about the financial markets and investing, while reinforcing concepts taught in economics, math, technology, social studies, business and language arts classes. Additionally, the program fosters the 21st century skills of integrating technology, teamwork, research, communication, cooperation and financial literacy.

The program, which offers spring and fall sessions, helps students learn the importance of saving and investing at an early age. Company-sponsored support makes an impact through program expansion and increased enrollment in the game at participating schools. Through Fidelity Investments' support, middle school participation in North Carolina showed a significant increase. Of the roughly 1,000-plus N.C. teams registered, 813 were from middle schools.

Students in schools around the state compete against each other. Mecklenburg County had three middle school teams ranked in its region's top 10 (with McClintock Middle School in Charlotte at sixth, seventh and eighth); Wake County had three middle school teams ranked in the top 20, two of which were in the top 10 (with Sterling Montessori Academy in Morrisville at third, fifth and 16th); and Orange County had three teams in the top 40 (with Guy Phillips Middle School in Chapel Hill at 17th, and 34th, and 40th).

“As part of our ongoing commitment to education, Fidelity Investments is happy to continue to bring the Stock Market Game to eighth-grade students across the state. We are so proud to partner with the North Carolina Council on Economic Education on this important initiative and applaud the Council's efforts in helping students learn basic economic principles in a collaborative and meaningful way,” said Laura Hudson Hamre, senior manager of community relations at Fidelity Investments.

A program of the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA) [Foundation for Investor Education](#), the Stock Market Game has served as a popular source of curriculum enrichment in U.S. schools since 1977. Student teams utilize a true portfolio trading system and invest a hypothetical \$100,000 in stocks that they research, select and track while working in teams made up of three to five students. Students compete for awards regionally and statewide.

“The generous support provided by Fidelity Investments is helping us reach unprecedented numbers of eighth-grade students,” said Sandy Wheat, executive director of the North Carolina Council on Economic Education said. “Not only was 2010 participation record-breaking, 2011 registration is already surpassing expectations with 500-plus teams registered for spring, well in advance of the February deadline.”

About the North Carolina Council on Economic Education (NCCEE)

The North Carolina Council on Economic Education was founded in 1970. NCCEE is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization working with K-12 teachers statewide to give our students a better understanding of economics and to prepare them for personal financial decision-making. With support from private businesses and foundations, the Department of Public Instruction, and the University of North Carolina system, NCCEE has been a tremendous example of an effective public-private partnership. More information on the NCCEE is available at www.nccee.org.

About Fidelity Investments

Fidelity Investments is one of the world's largest providers of financial services, with assets under administration of nearly \$3.3 trillion, including managed assets of \$1.5 trillion, as of September 30, 2010. Founded in 1946, the firm is a leading provider of investment management, retirement planning, portfolio guidance, brokerage, benefits outsourcing and many other financial products and services to more than 20 million individuals and institutions, as well as through 5,000 financial intermediary firms. For more information about Fidelity Investments, visit www.fidelity.com.

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