



# NEWS RELEASE

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*The Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis*  
St. Louis Little Rock Louisville Memphis

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**Contact:**  
**Charles B. Henderson (314) 444-8311**

## **Upward Bound Students Recognized at Fed Challenge**

ST. LOUIS — A team of five high school students representing Harris-Stowe's Upward Bound Program competed April 1 against teams from five other area schools in the Fed Challenge, an economics competition sponsored by the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

Upward Bound is a program to assist and encourage high school freshmen, sophomores and juniors to become more interested and successful in high school so they possess the skills needed to enter and graduate from institutions of higher education.

The five students from Upward Bound were Anjenette Gilbert (Gateway), Tomika Jones (Cardinal Ritter), Jerry Long (Riverview), Shanika Price (Hazelwood East) and Timothy Savage (Jennings). They were led by Niketia Coleman, a teacher at Gateway Junior High, and Carolyn Sweets, director of Upward Bound. Their coach for the competition was Harris-Stowe professor Dr. James Bell. They competed against students from Clayton High, Marquette High (which won first place), Priory, St. Genevieve High and St. Louis University High.

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## **Fed Challenge/2**

Designed to bring real-world economics into the classroom, the Fed Challenge helps both students and their teachers better understand the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC), the Fed's policymaking arm, and how the FOMC makes decisions on monetary policy.

Each of the six teams made a 15-minute presentation, based on their research, before a panel of judges at a mock meeting of the FOMC. Team members also had to answer the judges' questions about their research and the Federal Reserve. Although five students made up each team, the Fed Challenge in many cases involved the teams' entire classes, who served as researchers, advisors, technical and graphic support, and practice-session judges.

The Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis provided each participating class a variety of materials, including data on past and present economic indicators, and background on the Federal Reserve's role. In addition, the students were encouraged to consult the business sections of local and national newspapers, financial journals and the Internet, including the Federal Reserve Web pages.

The Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis has branches in Little Rock, Louisville and Memphis. It serves the Eighth Federal Reserve District, which includes all of Arkansas, eastern Missouri, southern Indiana, southern Illinois, western Kentucky, western Tennessee and northern Mississippi. In addition to serving as a bank for depository institutions and the U.S. government, each Reserve Bank supervises state-chartered member banks and bank holding companies, monitors economic conditions in the District and participates in formulating monetary policy.

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