



Press Release

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Monarch High School Places Fifth in National 2011 SIFMA Stock Market Game™ – “Capitol Hill Challenge”

June 29, 2011—A team of Colorado high school students took a hypothetical \$100,000 and turned it into \$123,093.69 over 14 weeks, walking away with top honors in the 2011 SIFMA Foundation Stock Market Game.

Mehmed Erkocevic and William Warrilow, students at Monarch High School in Louisville, CO placed fifth among some 6,500 students from more than 200 schools across the country who also researched and traded stocks (through live simulations), earned interest on “cash” balances and paid trading commissions. They were instructed by Rudy Sumpter, who has been using the Stock Market Game™ in his classroom for seven years.

The winners, along with four other high school teams from across the country, won a trip to Washington DC to meet members of Congress, tour the city, and see how economic policies are developed.

The competition uses the highly regarded, curriculum-based Stock Market Game™, a program of the SIFMA Foundation for Economic Education that is presented locally by The Colorado Council for Economic Education (CCEE), to help students develop math, economic, and research skills associated with long-term saving and investing. It also helps them understand how the capital markets work. Over the course of 14 weeks, teams of three to five students each invested a hypothetical \$100,000 portfolio in real-world stocks, bonds and mutual funds.

“Congratulations to Monarch High School on placing fifth in the 2011 Stock Market Game™ – ‘Capitol Hill Challenge,’” said Ken Bentsen, executive vice president, public policy and advocacy at SIFMA. “With so much focus on the nation’s economy, the Stock Market Game™ – ‘Capitol Hill Challenge’ provides the perfect opportunity for students to learn the basics of smart investing in an engaging yet challenging program. On behalf of the financial services industry, we understand the need for greater focus on financial literacy, and programs such as the Stock Market Game™ have proven results in raising the investment knowledge of young constituents.”

“I am extremely proud of Mehmed and Billy. They are outstanding 10th graders. The Stock Market Game™ – ‘Capitol Hill Challenge’ gave these students an opportunity to

demonstrate their knowledge about business and their analytical skills in finance,” Mr. Sumpter said. “Having my own students win in the ‘Capitol Hill Challenge’ reinforces my resolve to keep pushing for more community involvement in the education of our young people.”

About The Stock Market Game™

The Stock Market Game™ is a curriculum-based program where student teams in grades 4-12 learn long-term saving and investing fundamentals by using a hypothetical brokerage account. The program serves 20,000 teachers and 700,000 students annually. Teachers receive grade-level specific curriculum guides, lesson plans and newsletters to incorporate the program into their core mathematics, social studies, business, economics and language arts programs. For more on the Stock Market Game™ please visit: www.stockmarketgame.org.

About the Colorado Council for Economic Education

The Colorado Council for Economic Education works to promote and improve economic and personal financial literacy for K-12 students in all of Colorado’s public, private and parochial schools. CCEE provides superior professional development programs and curriculum resources to their teachers. In addition, CCEE offers the national Stock Market Game™ in Colorado. The SMG is an online, multi-dimensional, teacher-directed, highly educational, classroom simulation and national competition for students. For more information about CCEE, including upcoming events and opportunities to become involved in the organization, visit www.ccee.net.

About the SIFMA Foundation for Investor Education

The SIFMA Foundation is dedicated to fostering knowledge and understanding of the financial markets for individuals of all backgrounds. Drawing on the support and expertise of the financial industry, the SIFMA Foundation provides financial education programs and tools that strengthen economic opportunities across communities and increase individuals’ access to the benefits of the global marketplace. Notable Foundation programs include the Stock Market Game™, which has served more than 12 million students since it began in 1977, the InvestWrite national essay competition, and the Capitol Hill Challenge, as well as educational websites such as Tomorrow’s Money. For more information on the work of the SIFMA Foundation, visit www.sifma.org/education.