



**OFFICE OF  
STATE TREASURER  
DENISE L. NAPIER**

---

# **NEWS**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Thursday, May 19, 2005

**STATE TREASURY, BANK OF AMERICA, JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT, CT  
DEPT. OF EDUCATION, UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD,  
HOLD CT'S FIRST YOUTH FINANCIAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE**

***High School Students Learn to Plan for Financial Future***

The Office of State Treasurer Denise L. Nappier, the State Department of Education and the University of Hartford held the first Connecticut Youth Financial Education Conference on Thursday, May 19, 2005 which was made possible by generous support from Bank of America. The half-day Conference which was organized by Junior Achievement of Southwestern New England brought together approximately 250 high school juniors and seniors from around the state to learn about money management, budgeting, responsible use of credit and savings and investment strategies.

"Young adults should possess one of the most fundamental skills to economic survival - a basic understanding of personal financial management," Nappier said. "The urgency for personal finance instruction has never been greater."

Featured speakers included:

- Denise L. Nappier, State Treasurer
- Chandler Howard, CT Co-President of Bank of America
- Lou Golden, President of Junior Achievement of Southwestern New England
- Brian Shactman, Channel 30 WNBC Television Morning News Anchor
- Other CT Business professionals and financial educators speaking on topics of investing, college savings, automobile finance and credit.

The conference built on the 2003 Summit on Youth Financial Education, held by the Treasurer's Office, Fleet Bank and Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy. The 2003 Summit brought together personal finance teachers and administrators, finance professionals, business leaders, policy makers, state agencies and community-based organizations in an effort to assess the status of personal financial education for Connecticut youth.

"Bank of America is proud to invest in the communities where we live and work, particularly when it comes to investing in our children's education," said Chandler J. Howard, co-president, Bank of America Connecticut. "We are very pleased to work with these fine officials and institutions to create an inclusive program to instruct these motivated students in how to manage their personal finances and run a business. Our hope is that these children will be

CONTACT: **ROBYN BELEK**  
**DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS**  
(860) 702-3013 FAX (860) 702-3043  
[ROBYN.BELEK@PO.STATE.CT.US](mailto:ROBYN.BELEK@PO.STATE.CT.US)

---

inspired by what they learn during this conference and take this skills into whatever personal passion they choose to pursue."

Bankruptcy filings for individuals 18-25 years of age have been at an all time high, representing a ten-fold increase in the last five years, and a recent study by the Jump\$tart Coalition revealed a failing score, indicating that the majority of America's young adults are ill prepared to make critical financial decisions affecting their lives.

"Junior Achievement is committed to helping our young people learn to manage their money responsibly," said Lou Golden, president of Junior Achievement of Southwest New England. "It is gratifying that so many students and schools are participating in this conference."

The Treasurer's Office, Bank of America and Junior Achievement of Southwestern CT have been working in partnership with public, private and community based organizations to develop and provide financial education programs for Connecticut residents.

#### **MEDIA CONTACTS:**

Robyn Belek  
State Treasurer's Office  
(860) 702-3013

Alexandra Liftman  
Bank of America  
(617) 346-5431

Lou Golden  
Junior Achievement  
(860) 525-4510

#### ***Participating High Schools***

- Avon High School
- Berlin High School
- Bolton High School
- Bristol Eastern
- Career High School, New Haven
- Central High School, Bridgeport
- Conard High School, West Hartford
- Coventry High School
- Daniel Hand High School, Madison
- Ellington High School
- Enfield High School
- Ella T. Grasso Southeastern Technical High School, Groton
- Griswold High School
- Hamden High School
- Harding High School, Bridgeport
- Lewis Mills, Burlington
- Lyman Hall High School, Wallingford
- Manchester High School
- Masuk High, Monroe
- New Britain High School
- New Milford High School
- Newington High School
- RHAM High School
- Simsbury High School
- Stafford High School
- The Morgan School, Clinton
- Thomaston High School
- Tolland High School
- Wamogo Regional High School, Litchfield
- Waterford Schools
- Weaver High School, Hartford
- West Haven High School
- Wethersfield High School
- Wilby High School, Waterbury
- Windsor High School
- Hill Region Career High School, New Haven

CONTACT: **ROBYN BELEK**  
**DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS**  
(860) 702-3013 FAX (860) 702-3043  
[ROBYN.BELEK@PO.STATE.CT.US](mailto:ROBYN.BELEK@PO.STATE.CT.US)