



MEDIA ADVISORY

The Office of the City Treasurer of Chicago, the Economic Awareness Council and the Chicago Public Library will be holding a financial education conference for teens; Young Chicago Saves on February 22nd. The conference will involve the participation of over 200 teens in Chicago who are leaders in their schools and communities. The event will kick off America Saves Week 2011 for the Young Illinois Saves campaign which is part of the Young America Saves program of the Consumer Federation of America. The event is hosted by the Chicago Public Library and is sponsored by HSBC North America. Program partners & exhibitors include: True Star Magazine; Illinois Student Assistance Commission; United States Department of Education; Financial Planning Association of Illinois; Money Sharp Credit Counseling; Chicago Summer Business Institute; Money Smart Week Program of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago; Nicole Jones – Sensual Steps Shoe Salon; P.U.M.P.S. and Jobs for Youth. Participants include Chicago Talent Development, Gage Park High School and Perspectives – Joslin Campus.

WHAT: The Young Chicago Saves conference will kick off the 2011 statewide savings initiative for teens and young adults, Young Illinois Saves. Young Illinois Saves is one of the first statewide initiatives to encourage students to take action to improve their financial future through saving. Young Illinois Saves is a collaborative initiative led by over 40 Illinois organizations including the Office of the City Treasurer of Chicago and the Chicago Public Schools. Young Illinois Saves is part of a national initiative to motivate youth to save and manage money, Young America Saves. Young America Saves is a program developed by the Consumer Federation of America. Young Illinois Saves focuses on having students establish real savings goals and reach these goals through committed monthly savings. Currently, America Saves has over 180,000 adults and youth committed to saving and reducing debt on a monthly basis.

The Young Illinois Saves campaign involves over 1200 students that have committed to saving over \$500,000 this year. At the Young Chicago Saves conference, students will learn from other student leaders and financial experts concerning credit, budgeting, saving, financing college and saving at the library. Comments from past participants include: *“I will share this information with others and apply this to my life. It really made me think. [I liked] learning about how to budget & future expenses.”*

WHO: Young Chicago Saves is presented by the Economic Awareness Council; the Office of the City Treasurer, Stephanie D. Neely and the Young America Saves program (led by the Consumer Federation of America) and is hosted by the Chicago Public Library. The conference is sponsored by HSBC North America. This free, educational program will serve 150-200 area teens, ages 13 through 18.

WHERE: Chicago Public Library, Harold Washington Library Center, 400 S. State St., Lower Level, Multi-purpose Rooms A & B

WHEN: Tuesday, February 22nd, 9:30 am – 1:30pm

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