

Media Advisory

For Immediate Release

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University of the District of Columbia to host LifeSmarts State Championship

Washington, DC – LifeSmarts, the consumer knowledge based game show featuring high school students from all over the nation, returns for the 23rd year. LifeSmarts complements preexisting curriculums for both middle and high-schools and aligns with national education standards. The program can be used as an activity for classes, groups, clubs, and community organizations.

LifeSmarts participants include teens in grades 7-12 and tests them on the topic areas of personal finance, health and safety, the environment, technology, and consumer rights and responsibilities. The competition gives students a chance to compete and excel – all while gaining the tools they need to succeed in today's marketplace as consumers. Upon completion, teens are prepared to make smart financial investments and good decisions and avoid the common traps and pitfalls that many consumers encounter in the real world.

The LifeSmarts program in DC is sponsored by the University of the District of Columbia, College of Agriculture Urban Sustainability and Environmental Science. It is under the leadership of Rebecca Bankhead, Director of the Center for 4-H & Youth Development, Cooperative Extension Service, and William Cocke, State Program Coordinator and volunteer. LifeSmarts in DC has

been actively educating DC high school students for over a decade. This year three teams from Columbia Heights Education Campus and two teams from McKinley Tech High School will be competing for the **DC State championship held on March 17th at 9:00 a.m. at UDC David A. Clarke School of Law, Building 52, Room 505.**

Every April teams from around the country gather in a major city for four days of exciting competition, and a national LifeSmarts champion is crowned. This year the championship competition will be held in Pittsburgh, Pa. on April 21-24.

About LifeSmarts

LifeSmarts is a program of the National Consumers League. State coordinators implement the program locally. For more information, visit: www.lifesmarts.org, email lifesmarts@nclnet.org, or call the National Consumers League's communications department at 202-835-3323. The National Consumers League, founded in 1899, is America's pioneer consumer organization. NCL's mission is to protect and promote social and economic justice for consumers and workers in the United States and abroad. For more information about NCL, visit www.nclnet.org or email media@nclnet.org.

About the University of the District of Columbia

An HBCU, urban land-grant, and the only public university in the nation's capital, The University of the District of Columbia is committed to a broad mission of education, research and community service. Established by abolitionist Myrtilla Miner in 1851, the University of DC offers Associate's, Bachelor's and Master's Degrees and a host of workplace development services designed to create opportunities for student success. The University is comprised of the [College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability and Environmental Sciences](#), [College of Arts and Sciences](#), [School of Business and Public Administration](#), [School of Engineering and Applied Sciences](#), a [Community College](#) and the [David A. Clarke School of Law](#). To learn more, visit www.udc.edu. The University of the District of Columbia is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action institution. Minorities, women, veterans and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. For a full version of the University's EO Policy Statement, please visit: http://www.udc.edu/equal_opportunity. The University of the District of Columbia is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education - 3624 Market Street - Philadelphia, PA 19104 - 267.284.5000.

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