Suzanne Matthews, Financial Backpack Co-Chair leads a Virtual Enterprise class April, 2019

The FWA Financial Backpack program has had a busy spring, presenting six different personal finance workshops to over 200 students in the past several months. These lively and informative sessions included half-day workshops at Hunter College High School and Martin Luther King High School, where high school students learned about the basics of banking, credit and investing. We also worked with a new partner organization, Seeds of Fortune, a non-profit that mentors and supports African-American high school students as they pursue a college degree. We were pleased to do a series of three workshops for the Seeds of Fortune students, who were eager to learn about the basics of financial management. We also returned to Baruch College with a program on financial planning for college students in the Rising Starr Sophomore and Passport to Partnership programs.
The feedback from these workshops has been universally positive, with students telling us that the lessons were fun and easy to follow, providing them with critical financial concepts that they can apply to their personal finances. All of the Financial Backpack workshops are delivered by a team of FWA volunteers, along with students from our Baruch College mentoring program, who help to connect with the high school students by sharing their experiences.

What students said about the program:

“Very fun!” | “Good lesson” | “Going through the finance step-by-step helped clarify each of the different ideas.”

“It was easy to follow.” | “The lesson was clear and well explained . . .”
Did you know that April is National Financial Literacy Month?

There's no better time than right now to give back to the community by volunteering to teach young adults how to be financially savvy. The Financial Backpack program is a great way for members to become involved in one of the FWA’s premier outreach programs. FWA volunteers can participate in one or more sessions, as their time permits, and training is offered for those who would like to try it out for the first time. Volunteers love the program, because not only do they give back to young adults, but they also sharpen their presentation skills when teaching the curriculum. For more information, please contact Financial Backpack Co-Chairs, Lindsay Starr (lindsaystarr1@yahoo.com) or Suzanne Matthews (smatthewsnyc@gmail.com).

Volunteers Wanted

Our next scheduled workshop is Monday, May 20th at a Brooklyn location.

Click here for more details and to volunteer.