



*Harvard Honors Our Financial Literacy Program as a Bright Idea in Government*

Transparency, accountability and giving back to the community we serve drive our mission, vision and values at the Clerk & Comptroller's office. Because of this, I am honored to announce that Harvard University has recognized our Summer Financial Literacy Program with the 2017 Innovations in American Government Bright Ideas Award. The Bright Ideas Award recognizes innovative government work that improves services, resolves problems and works on behalf of the people.

For the past five years, this program has provided over 65 teens from Suncoast High School with practical and financial lessons not typically covered in school. Included in the curriculum is effective communication skills, paying for college and financial credit.

As we prepare for this year's group of students, there is no better time than Financial Literacy Month to emphasize the importance of strong fiscal knowledge, especially for young people. The Summer Literacy Program allows students the chance to experience firsthand and participate in the daily activities of government such as procurement, revenue and cash management, payables and more.

Working in teams and small groups, students experience financial decisions such as handling the County's debt and financial reporting requirements. Each day student then discuss with their peers what they have learned and how this knowledge can be applied to their personal lives. It corresponds to how to apply for college, find a first job and time management.

Our many educational programs do not stop with high school students, however. Through our [Speakers Bureau](#), we offer various programs covering topics such as finance, access to public records and the court system, and identity theft prevention – just to name a few. Learn more about our programs and schedule a speaker for your organization on our website, [mypalmbeachclerk.com/speakersbureau](http://mypalmbeachclerk.com/speakersbureau).

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharon R. Bock".

Sharon R. Bock, Esq.  
Clerk & Comptroller, Palm Beach County

*The Florida Constitution established the independent office of the Clerk & Comptroller as a public trustee, responsible for safeguarding public records and public funds. Clerk Sharon Bock is directly elected by and accountable to Palm Beach County residents. She serves as your Clerk of the Circuit Court, County Recorder, Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Auditor for Palm Beach County.*