In March 2023, I had the honor and privilege to take the reins of the ANA’s Education Department. Together, with the amazing team of Numismatic Education Manager Sam Gelberd and eLearning Program Coordinator Paula Knepper, we created a new vision and mission to guide our work.

Collaboratively we decided that we would create a learner-centered, open-minded environment that epitomizes the statements below:

**Mission Statement:** To lead the world in numismatic education

**Vision Statement:** To welcome all learners by providing dynamic, engaging, relevant, and organized learning opportunities for the lifelong love of numismatics

Excitedly, we were able to revise and develop a learning continuum for our young numismatists (YNs) based on best practices for 21st-century learning. These programs will launch on our eLearning Academy on April 29, 2024.

Each grade group (K-5, 6-8, and 9-12) will have specific activities designed to progressively challenge YNs to first **EXPLORE** in lower grades, **STUDY** in middle grades, and **CONNECT** in upper grades. Think of our learning continuum as a road where students move from grouping to grouping based on age and completion of activities.

To help students along their journey, we are happy to introduce our YN program mascot, Ernie the Education Owl (see sidebar). You will also earn YN Dollars for completing projects in the learning continuum. These can be used to purchase items at YN Auctions.

I want to personally welcome all YNs to start this new journey with us. We look forward to helping you learn!

—Christian Strayhorn
ANA Education Director

### Coin Explorers
**Grades K-5**

Coin Explorers will complete the **The Dollar Project**, a series of four educational activities where you can research and get directly involved in engaging topics. Along the way, you’ll earn numismatic prizes and YN Dollars.

Coin Explorers will have to complete four activities in the following order:

1) **Create a coin rubbing.** Choose your favorite coin of any denomination and prepare a rubbing by placing a piece of paper over the coin and gently dragging the point of a pencil over the entire obverse (front) and reverse (back). **Prize: Uncirculated cent or nickel in original government packaging**

2) **Create your own commemorative dollar.** Design your own commemorative based on a specific person, place, or event. **Prize: Susan B. Anthony, Presidential, or Sacagawea dollar**

3) **Participate in a scavenger hunt.** **Prize: Eisenhower dollar**

4) **In the Year...** Choose one U.S. coin from a specific year and choose five world events that took place in the year the coin was minted. **Prize: U.S. Mint or proof set of coins**

### Meet Ernie

Ernie the Education Owl will serve as your guide and friend as you work your way through the ANA’s online courses. If you are lucky, you may just catch Ernie at Summer Seminar or at his treehouse during the National Money Show® and World’s Fair of Money® conventions!
MONEY STUDY BUDDIES
GRADES 6-8

Part of being a numismatist requires researching, studying, and participating in the different facets of numismatics. The Money Study Buddies Project asks you to contribute and grow in the world of numismatics.

Money Study Buddies will be asked to complete six projects in any order they choose.

1) Write a nonfiction numismatic article.
2) Write a fictional numismatic story.
3) Build an exhibit for a coin show or other public venue.
4) Present on a numismatic topic.
5) Volunteer at a coin show.
6) Recruit two friends to join the ANA.

You will earn a coin for each activity that you successfully complete.

CURRENCY CONNECTORS
GRADES 9-12

The Currency Connectors Project is designed to help you continue your exploration and study of numismatics, as you begin to connect with the bigger numismatic world.

Strong connections in the numismatic world not only provide guidance when it comes to studying and collecting, but they also create a network for numismatists to communicate, build trust, contribute, and provide service. Many numismatists attend shows and/or Summer Seminar, participate in e-learning, and/or make charitable donations to help build these connections.

Currency Connectors earn unique numismatic items specialized in your area(s) of interest.

This four-step program can be completed in any order and includes tasks from the David R. Cervin Ancient Coin Project, the Early American Copper Coin Project, The Scripophily and Exonumia Project, and the Paper Money Project.

Currency Connectors can receive “Extra Credit” for completing the Advanced Numismatist Program (see below).

EXTRA CREDIT: ADVANCED NUMISMATIST PROGRAM

The items below can be completed in any order. These advanced study options are tasks that many adult numismatists do. When a YN achieves any one of these tasks, they will receive a special numismatic item!

1) Publish a numismatic article in a regional or national publication.
2) Complete an ANA Correspondence or Summer Seminar course.

COINS for As

YNs in grades K-12 who earn three or more “A” grades on your report card will receive a FREE collectable coin and a one-year membership to the ANA! Just email your report card to Paula Knepper (pknepper@money.org).

LEARN MORE! Visit money.org/education starting April 29 to access all the ANA’s new educational content.