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Chabot Space & Science Center Gets Small For NanoDays™ Celebration



March 23, 2009, – OAKLAND, Calif. – Nano Science, the study of tiny particles, will be celebrated on Saturday, March 28 at Chabot Space & Science Center's NanoDays™ as part of a nationwide week of outreach to engage and excite the public about the science of the very small.

Chabot's teen volunteer docents, the Galaxy Explorers, will lead visitors through demonstrations of nano science applications in such fields as optics, electronics, magnetic storage, and computing. All the activities at Chabot's NanoDays™ Celebration will be free of charge, with general admission and will run from 11am-4pm on Saturday, March 28.

Nanotechnology and nanoscience involve extremely tiny objects that are measured in an incredibly small unit of measurement, the nanometer. A nanometer is one-billionth (1/1,000,000,000) of a meter. When materials are this tiny, they can have exciting new characteristics that we don't see in our everyday, macroscale universe.

Nanoparticles of familiar materials look and behave in unfamiliar ways. By studying the very, very small, scientists have developed disease-fighting drugs, computer components, transparent sunscreen, and ultra-strong sports equipment. The possibilities for future applications are virtually unlimited.

NanoDays™ 2009 is the second annual nationwide festival of educational programs about nanoscale science and engineering and its potential impact on the future. NanoDays™ events are organized by participants in the Nanoscale Informal Science Education Network (NISE Net), and take place at over 200 science museums, research centers, and universities across the country from Maine to Hawaii. For more information about nanotechnology, visit www.nisenet.org.

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Chabot Space & Science Center, a Smithsonian affiliate, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit interactive science center whose mission is to inspire and educate students of all ages about our Planet Earth and the Universe. The Center is located at 10000 Skyline Blvd. just off Highway 13 in the Oakland hills. www.chabotspace.org