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Subject: **Oahu Sci-Tech Day April 30 grades 6-8**
Date: April 20, 2010 5:45:34 PM HST
To: hasta-list <hasta-l@lists.hawaii.edu>

Aloha all here is an opportunity for Oahu Students (6-8) next April 30th.
Please refer to the website below.
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Honolulu, HI – Professionals from the science and technology industry are answering the call to share lessons in their fields on Friday, April 30, 2010 at three regional centers. **Sci-Tech Day** will be offered to students in grade levels 6th through 8th and each center will be limited to 80 students. The cost for this full day of ultimate learning is FREE and lunch is included.

Sci-Tech Day centers are Honolulu Community College, Leeward Community College, and Windward Community College.

Sci-Tech Day will be a full day of learning on April 30th beginning at 7:30 a.m. and ending at 4:30 p.m. There will be four classes in the following areas:

- Life Sciences/Biotechnology
- Renewable Energy
- Engineering/Product Development/Application Research
- Software Development/Digital Media

Students will receive an hour-long lunch period. Bento lunches for the students are being donated by L&L Hawaiian Barbecue/L&L Drive-Inn.

The website (www.hiscitech.org/institute) has all the information regarding classes, schedule, cost (FREE), etc....

Key takeaways:

1. FREE, science and technology education for grades 6-8 on Friday April 30th
2. Full day, kids can get dropped off at 730am and picked up at 430pm
3. Lunch and snacks provided
4. Hands-on learning experience from scientists and engineers working for Hawaii companies.

Mahalo for your assistance in spreading the word. It's an incredible learning opportunity for our keiki!

Hawaii Science and Technology Council and Institute President and CEO, Keiki-Pua Dancil, Ph.D., is the lead organizer of **Sci-Tech Day**. "Many of us in the Science-Technology Industry want to give back a day of education, especially in light of the continuation of Furlough Fridays," said Dr. Dancil. "Science and math are not usually viewed as fun subjects, but we want to show students how science and technology are essential to our future and just how fun it really is."

Studies indicate that the motivation to pursue science and/or math-based pathways drops dramatically when students transition from primary level education to secondary levels (i.e. grades 6th through 8th).

Contributing factors include an inadequate supply of qualified math and science teachers, negative stereotypes of certain professions, lack of family support and outdated or nonexistent infrastructure.

Curricula incorporating hands-on, project-based, inquiry-led instruction have been successful in fostering student retention in science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM).

Interaction with local professionals provides role models and exposure to additional career options that may be unfamiliar to many students and their families.

Dr. Dancil has pulled together a variety of science and technology professionals to donate their time in teaching the courses. Each classroom will be supervised by volunteers.

“We are extremely grateful to our sponsors and volunteers who are helping to make Sci-Tech possible,” said Dr. Dancil. “It really is a collaborative community effort. Everyone understands the value of education for our keiki; they are our future.”

Sponsors of **Sci-Tech Day** include Hawaii Science and Technology Council and Institute, Leeward Community College, Windward Community College, Honolulu Community College, L&L Hawaiian Barbecue/L&L Drive-Inn, Hawaii National Bank, Women in Technology, Alaka‘ina Foundation, Shee Atika Technologies, LLC., Wall-to-Wall Studios Inc., and Go! Mokulele Airlines.

Peter Quigley, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs stated, “The University of Hawaii Community Colleges is pleased to partner with the community volunteers from our science and business sectors. Because of what this could mean for the children and because of Dr. Keiki-Pua Dancil's enthusiasm and commitment to this project, our involvement was an easy thing to say yes to.”

“Sci-Tech Day is a great learning event for our keiki and it fits with the University of Hawaii's commitment to STEM education,” added Quigley.

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