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SUMMER OF SCIENCE KICK-OFF PARTY: EDUCATION CENTER OPENS NEW EXHIBITS

(INCLINE VILLAGE, NV) (May 26, 2007) — Kick off a Summer of Science and celebrate the opening of a special exhibit, "A View from Space," Saturday, May 26 from 2 to 9 p.m. in the Thomas J. Long Education Center. The newly opened and fully-operational education center is located in Tahoe Center for Environmental Sciences on the campus of Sierra Nevada College in Incline Village, Nevada.

Join UC Davis, Space Science for Schools and KidZone Museum of Truckee, for an afternoon and evening of activities for visitors both young and old. Scientists and volunteer docents will be on hand to answer questions, guide tours, provide demonstrations, and make your visit special.

Since the launch of the world's first artificial satellite Sputnik in 1957, satellites have dramatically changed the way we study our planet. *A View from Space*, a new, bilingual, highly interactive, hands-on science exhibit, will allow visitors to see the world from a satellite's perspective. They can track a hurricane from space, send a satellite spinning into orbit around a model earth, study incredible images of our planet captured by NASA's Earth Observing System, and more. *A View from Space* is designed to introduce visitors to the latest and greatest of the earth observing satellites and give them an appreciation for the value of studying earth from space.



See the world from a satellite's perspective in the exhibit, A View from Space, opening May 26 at the UC Davis Thomas J. Long Foundation Education Center inside the Tahoe Center for Environmental Sciences.

Special exhibits include Hubble ViewSpace. The Hubble Space Telescope is among many NASA science missions that are delivering breathtaking views of the cosmos, forever altering our understanding of space and our place in it. The Hubble Update shows the latest images and science discoveries from the Hubble Space Telescope and news from the frontiers of astronomy. The entire program lasts one hour and is presented

hourly. Visit Mars on the Mars Exploration Rovers and get reports from the Saturn orbiter and Titan lander with the Cassini-Huygens update. See beautifully illustrated introductions to the constellations, planets, deep sky objects, and special astronomical events of the night sky, including comets, extra-solar planets and the latest images and discoveries from the largest telescopes in the world.

Additional special exhibits include models of earth, the solar system, NASA equipment, and the cool tools of astronomy. Various hands-on interactive activities allow visitors the opportunity to interact with the tools used by astronomers and cosmologists.

Events include hourly "Fly Through the Universe" on a guided tour with Dr. Paul Guttman of Space Science for Schools. Each Mataka 3-D Interactive Universe presentation lasts 15 – 20 minutes and takes you from planet earth out into space for views of various objects such as planets, star clusters, nebula, and more! Shows are at 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8 p.m.

Watch the NOVA "Powers of Ten" video produced by IMAX every half hour at 2:30, 3:30, 4:30, 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. "Powers of Ten" is an adventure in magnitudes. Starting at a picnic by the lakeside, this famous film transports viewers to the outer edges of the universe. Every ten seconds we view the starting point from ten times farther out, until our own galaxy is visible only as a speck of light among many others. Returning to earth with breathtaking speed, we move inward - into the hand of the sleeping picnicker - with ten times more magnification every ten seconds. Our journey ends inside a proton of a carbon atom within a DNA molecule in a white blood cell.

Also available are permanent exhibits that include the Research Vessel John LeConte, the Laboratory, microscope interactive activities, and tours of the "green" Tahoe Center for Environmental Sciences.

With all these exhibits and educational tools available in one place, you can learn more in one hour than in years of studying from a book!

Call 775-881-7560 for more information and find out about other upcoming events at <http://terc.ucdavis.edu/calendar.html>.

