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## **California Science Center Joins over 200 Sites Nationwide in NanoDays**

**Los Angeles** -- The California Science Center will join in a nationwide celebration of NanoDays™ 2011 on April 2, 2011. Guests will be able to join in several exciting hands-on activities that explore nanoscale science, the world of the very small. Participants can investigate the properties of a heat sensitive liquid crystal and make their own

liquid crystal sensor to take home, and explore how the structure of materials at the nanoscale affects their properties. The event takes place in the Disney Science Court and the Creative World gallery at the California Science Center.

NanoDays is part of an annual festival of educational programs about nanoscale science and engineering and its potential impact on the future. The largest public outreach effort in nanoscale informal science education, NanoDays events are organized by the Nanoscale Informal Science Education Network (NISE Net) at over 200 science museums, research centers, and universities across the country.

NanoDays activities will bring university researchers together with science museum educators to create unique new learning experiences for both children and adults to explore the miniscule world of atoms, molecules, and nanoscale forces. Most NanoDays sites will combine simple hands-on activities for young people with presentations on current research for adults. NanoDays activities demonstrate unexpected properties of materials at the nanoscale -- sand that won't get wet even under water, water that won't spill from a teacup, and colors that depend upon particle size.

Through activities like NanoDays, the NISE Net is building partnerships between science museums and research centers to increase the capacity of both kinds of institutions to engage the public in learning about nanoscale science and engineering. In addition to the individual museums and research centers, two major professional organizations -- the Materials Research Society and the Association of Science-Technology Centers -- are supporting NISE Net and NanoDays 2011 activities. For NISE Net NanoDays information or to download a digital NanoDays kit, visit <http://www.nisenet.org/nanodays>.

Admission to NanoDays 2011, as well as Science Center exhibits, is free.

Visitors to NanoDays can also enjoy the Nikon exhibit "Small World," which features stunning images from the winners of the 2010 Nikon Small World Photomicrography Competition. The photomicrographs are taken through a microscope, and reveal elaborate detail, color, and clarity of objects too small to be seen by the human eye.

### **About the California Science Center**

The **California Science Center** is a dynamic destination where families, adults and children can explore the wonders of science through interactive exhibits, live demonstrations, innovative programs and awe-inspiring films. Its mission is as follows: "We aspire to stimulate curiosity and inspire science learning in everyone by creating fun, memorable

experiences, because we value science as an indispensable tool for understanding our world, accessibility and inclusiveness, and enriching people's lives."

**General Info:** The California Science Center and IMAX Theater are located in historic Exposition Park just west of the Harbor (110) Freeway at 700 Exposition Park Drive, Los Angeles. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., except on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. Admission to *Goose Bumps! The Science of Fear* and general admission are free. For recorded information, including IMAX show times, call 323.SCIENCE (323.724-3623). IMAX ticket prices range from \$5.00 to \$8.25. For advance ticket purchases, group rates, or to make reservations for any visiting group of 15 or more (required), call 213.744-2019. Parking is available in the guest lot at Figueroa and 39th/Exposition Park Drive at \$8 per car, \$25 for oversized vehicles. Both the Science Center and IMAX Theater are wheelchair accessible. For further information, please visit our website at [www.californiasciencecenter.org](http://www.californiasciencecenter.org).

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