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The California Science Center Joins over 200 Sites Nationwide in NanoDays

Los Angeles -- The California Science Center will join in a nationwide celebration of NanoDays™ 2009 on March 28-29 and April 4-5, 2009. Guests will be able to join in several exciting hands-on activities that explore nanoscale science, the world of the very small. Participants can explore measurement at the nano-scale and learn how tall they are in nanometers, investigate the properties of a heat sensitive liquid crystal and make their own liquid crystal sensor to take home, and make their own model of a "buckyball," a tiny, soccer ball-shaped molecule made of carbon, as they explore how the structure of materials at the nanoscale affects their properties. The event takes place in the Creative World gallery from 10:30 AM to 3:30 PM each day.

NanoDays is part of the second 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 2009 activities. For NISE Net NanoDays information or to download a digital NanoDays kit, visit <http://www.nisenet.org/nanodays>.

Admission to NanoDays 2009 is free.

About the California Science Center

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. General admission is free. For recorded information, including IMAX show times, call 323.SCIENCE (323.724-3623). IMAX ticket prices range from \$4.75 to \$8.00. 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 Street at \$8 per car, \$10 for buses or oversized vehicles. Both the Science Center and IMAX Theater are wheelchair accessible. For further information, please visit our website at www.californiasciencecenter.org.

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