

8045 E. Chapman Ave., Orange, CA, 92869-4512

March 8, 2010 Media Alert Contact: John Weispfenning 714-628-5030 Weispfenning\_John@sccollege.edu

## Santiago Canyon College Hosts Fifth Annual Community Science Night 500 Area Families Explore the Wonders of Science on March 12

WHAT For the fifth consecutive year, Santiago Canyon College (SCC) has created a night devoted to science. Some 500 families from elementary schools in Orange Unified School District and Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District have received special invitations to an opportunity for hands-on science experimentation and exploration.

More than 30 different activities have been planned for classrooms campus-wide, including:

- SCC physics instructor Craig Rutan and geology instructor Eric Hovanitz will host, "Seeing the Structure in the Stars" to permit children and their parents to see the unique pattern of light given off by the elements in the stars.
- SCC biology instructors Mark Smith and Denise Foley will host, "Looking Closely at Some 'Icky' Life Forms" allowing the college's guests to look through microscopes at various organisms.
- SCC astronomy instructors Morrie Barembaum, Danny Martino, Mark Maier, and Hassi Norlen will have their telescopes set up to view the night sky and to answer questions.
- WHERE Santiago Canyon College 8045 E. Chapman, Orange, CA 92869
- **WHEN** Friday, March 12, 2010 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- WHO This event is made possible through a generous donation from the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation. In addition, volunteers and additional support were provided by Chick-fil-A Restaurant, Inside the Outdoors, Irvine Ranch Conservatory, Municipal Water District of Orange County, Rainforest Café, and Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary.
- **WHY** For many families, Community Science Night is their first visit to a college campus. The event reveals the excitement of inquiry-based science and learning. Event co-coordinator and SCC physics instructor Cindy Swift says, "This night really makes science come alive and creates a lot of excitement."
- **HOW** This event is **by invitation only** to the elementary school in Orange Unified and Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School Districts.