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STEP 4 Conference

Riverside Convention Center
Student Conference
November 6-7, 2003
Teacher Conference
November 8, 2003
www.myScienceEducation.com

STEP 4 Conference Offers Hands-on Education

The STEP 4 Conference promises to live up to past performances with high-tech, hands-on education. STEP is partnering with some of the country's leading companies to make this year's event the best ever. Some of the exhibits scheduled at this year's conference include:

Oh! Zone

Explosions... lightning... smoke... It could be a natural disaster, but it's not. No, there's no reason for alarm. It's just our favorite zany scientists, Rick and Alex, back for a fourth year to inform, entertain, and dazzle us on the Oh! Zone stage.

This hour-long science show will give students insight into various scientific properties and principles and will explain such subjects as plasma, atomic structures, heat, radiation, and more through experiments and demonstrations. Selected students from the audience will even get a chance to join Rick and Alex on stage for several of the amazing demonstrations. If you're not careful, you just might learn something.

Rick and Alex's show is presented at STEP 4 through the generous support of our friends at General Atomics.

Discovery Zone

Brown Foundation - Over 30 hands-on exhibits, demonstrations, experiments and K-12 curriculum to encourage people of all ages and backgrounds to experience the excitement of space, technology, earth, and health.

Riverside City Fire Department - Demonstrations of medical equipment and firefighting tools.

Western Municipal Water District The Splash Mobile, a completely self-contained mobile laboratory gives students the opportunity to use microscopes (with live specimens), play with chemistry experiments, and use state-of-the-art computers.

STEP is partnering with some of the country's leading companies to make this year's event one of the best ever.

Tech Zone

General Atomics (GA) - Plasma and fusion are the focus of this exhibit. Students will be able to

interact with GA engineers and scientists while learning about and playing with plasma globes, infrared detectors, and more.

United States Navy - The Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) booth will feature an infrared camera to display students' thermal image (emitted body heat).

California Space Authority (CSA) - The CSA booth will provide a picture of the diverse space industry in California and will focus on

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Learning is fun at the STEP 4 Conference on November 6-8 at the Riverside Convention Center. Photo by Michael J. Elderman



There are all sorts of new experiences at the STEP 4 Conference. Photo by Michael J. Elderman

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STEP Honors Chauncey Veatch

National Teacher of the Year Gives Speech at Luncheon

Each year, STEP presents the STEP Award to recognize individuals who make considerable contributions to our youth and education and who serve as inspirations for others to follow. This year, STEP will honor Chauncey Veatch, a Coachella Valley high school teacher and recipient of the 2002 National Teacher of the Year award.



Prior recipients of STEP awards include Jaime Escalante, Inductee of the National Teachers Hall of Fame; Dr. Mae Jemison, former NASA astronaut and the first woman of color in outer space; former First Lady of California Gayle Wilson, Westinghouse Science Talent Search Honoree; and Governor-Elect Arnold Schwarzenegger, actor and education advocate.

President Bush described Veatch as a teacher who turned discipline-problem students into honor roll members, then noted how some boys dropped out of gangs to join the California Cadet Corps,

a leadership and citizenship development program that Veatch revived on campus.

"In short, he's changed a lot of lives for the better," Bush said.

Veatch will be speaking at the STEP 4 Award Luncheon on Friday, November 7, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost to attend is \$45 per person. Contact the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce at

(909) 683-7100 to make reservations.

Thanks to the generous support of sponsors, the STEP 4 Conference is free for students and teachers to attend. For more information on sponsorship, call Troy Clarke at (909) 805-7837.

Founded by Congressman Ken Calvert, STEP's mission is to inspire youth to pursue careers in science, math, engineering, and technology. Although the morning sessions of the conference targets grades 4 - 8, STEP has an afternoon session on Thursday, November 7, open to all grades in public, private, and home schools.

STEP 4 Conference

Continued from page 1

space technologies.

Charter Communications - The booth will explain how Cable TV works and will make connectors for the children.

GIDEP - The Government Industry Data Exchange Program (GIDEP) will demonstrate the valuable technical link between the government and private business.

Lockheed Martin - The exhibit booth will showcase Lockheed's aerospace technology.

PITSCO - They will provide a hands-on exhibit to showcase some of their learning tools.

Guidant - Displays of high-tech, life-saving cardiac products and provide big screen video images of their applications.

Kaiser Permanente - Exhibit featuring a live sonogram demonstration for the students.

Student Wins New Car from Singh

Danielle Robinson of Corona placed first at the California State Science Fair for her project titled "A Stroke of Propulsion," but she walked away with much more than a trophy. Thanks to the generosity of Singh Chevrolet, Danielle received a 2002 Chevy Cavalier, worth more than \$15,000. Singh Chevrolet had pledged a free car to any student that placed first at the state fair, resides in Southwest Riverside County and is admitted to an accredited college or university for the fall. Singh has been a great supporter of STEP and education in Riverside. Danielle placed first in the aerodynamics / hydrodynamics category and is attending the University of Redlands. Congratulations Danielle!



Danielle Robinson of Corona was awarded a car, courtesy of Singh Chevrolet and STEP, for her first place science fair award at the State Science Fair.

Thank You STEP 4 Sponsors

The Science and Technology Education Partnership is made possible by the donations and support of several businesses.

The STEP 4 Conference is sponsored in part by:



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Special thanks to CSC/DynCorp and NSW-Corona Division

Students Benefit From STEP

By Dr. David Long,
Riverside County Superintendent of Schools

As we look forward to the Fourth Annual Science and Technology Education Partnership (STEP) Conference we need to keep in mind just how important these types of programs are for thousands of students in Riverside County.

We recently hosted a press conference at which we celebrated our students' continued improvement on the state's STAR test. In short, test scores in Riverside County are going up in reading, math, and science.

While we celebrate that success, it is important to look at all the factors that have contributed. The STEP conference and other programs like it can spark a desire to learn about science and technology in many of our students, a desire that can lead to overall academic performance and personal success.

Students are exposed to ideas and

concepts that they may not see anywhere else. They are motivated by experts in science and technology industries who are the best role models for students with interest in these fields.

The three days of STEP, November 6-8, include two days devoted to students and one for teachers. As we look to continued success for our students, what better way to instill interest in science and technology for students than to get teachers excited about these subjects.

STEP has become another valuable addition to our kit of tools to help Riverside County students succeed academically and prepare them for entry into their lives surrounded by technology that is progressing at unheard of speed.

I want to personally thank Congressman Calvert for his continued high level of leadership in bringing quality programs such as the STEP conference to our students.

Events

2004 Science Olympiad

The 2004 area Science Olympiad competition will be conducted on February 21, 2004, at the Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC), Corona Division. If you would like more information please contact Jean Easum at 909-273-5034 or easumjm@corona.navy.mil. We are looking for event coaches and volunteers.

STEP REPs Attend Meeting

On June 17, 2003 the NSWC, Corona Division hosted the first Science and Technology Education Program Representatives (STEP Rep) Meeting. Many ideas were discussed that could be used to assist in the planning of the Teachers' Conference. Troy Clarke, STEP Chairman, stressed that the success and growth of these conferences is largely the result of volunteer efforts, like STEP Reps.

STEP Sends Three Teachers To Science Olympiad Institute

The Science Olympiad Summer Institutes were held in Michigan (July 7 through 12, 2003) and in Arizona, (July 28 through August 1, 2003). STEP sponsored three area coaches to attend: Rick Loomis, Cajon High School, San Bernardino; Colleen Sumner, Moore Middle School, Redlands; and Eric Olson, Hemet High School, Hemet. The days were long, starting at 8:30 a.m. and ending after 9:00 p.m. Over 50 teachers/coaches from more than ten states attended the Michigan Institute. Because STEP believes it is important for our region to compete more strongly at the national level, STEP has sponsored these area coaches to attend. The group was treated to an evening of Observatory Class by Mr. Wheeler (a teacher at Leelanau School) followed by a trip to the school planetarium for midnight viewing of Jupiter, the double star at the bend of the handle of the Big Dipper, the Coma Berenices galactic star cluster, and the Lagoon Nebula, a cloud of gas and dust out of which stars are forming.

STEP,
11/4/02
Thank you fo letting me
come. I really liked the
presentation with plasma
and liquid nitrogen. I
loved the free stuff
you gave us. I wished
I could have stayed
longer. I wish I could
go there again.
THANK
YOU!

Top Honors For Her Commitment To Children

STEP volunteer Dr. Aban Daruwalla is honored by two organizations for her commitment to promote mathematics and science education for girls. She is a recipient of the 2003 YWCA Women of Achievement Award and the Community Service Award from Riverside City College, Norco Campus. A scientist at the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona Division, she serves as a role model to young leaders.



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