

PRESS RELEASE
YOUNG SCIENTIST RECOGNITION BANQUET

Our country is rapidly declining in the number of scientists and engineers we produce. It is no wonder we are falling behind in technology research and development. A recent article in TIME magazine states "The U.S. still leads the world in scientific innovation. But years of declining investment and fresh competition from abroad threaten to end our supremacy." Science leads to new inventions and discoveries that enable the development of technologies, which sustain our way of life...from cell phones, to medical scanners, to automobiles.

If this nation is to maintain a top position in the world market we need to increase student interest in science and technology and foster programs that excite and educate on local, state, and national levels. Informal learning in science, mathematics, and technology is where we learn most of what we know. Creating new kinds of informal learning environments that go beyond the traditional classroom can have a profound impact on the future of our country.

The Discovery Institute for the Advancement of Science and Technology Education is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit corporation dedicated to the improvement of science, mathematics, health, and technology education at all levels. The Discovery Institute's long-term vision is to fund and construct multi-million dollar complex – the San Luis Obispo Discovery Center - as a focal point of its efforts. The state-of-the-art center will include hands-on exhibits, classrooms, conference center, IMAX Theater, planetarium/observatory, organic research/farm restaurant, and much more.

As a first step toward our vision, the Discovery Institute is sponsoring the FIRST ANNUAL YOUNG SCIENTISTS RECOGNITION BANQUET to encourage, recognize, and reward youth enthusiasm in science, math, and technology. The banquet will take place on Friday, November 3, 2006 from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. at the Madonna Inn in San Luis Obispo, California. During the banquet local middle-school, high-school, and college-level students will share science projects they have completed or are still working on with us through a poster presentation and on-stage live interviews with radio talk-show host, Dave Congalton. The evening will also include remarks from some of our local dignitaries, including San Luis Obispo Mayor, Dave Romero and San Luis Obispo County Supervisor, Jerry Lenthall.

We invite you to take part in supporting this event by joining us for dinner or by sponsoring a Young Scientist. Individual sponsorship Donation: \$90 or more - Includes dinner for two at the banquet, dinner for your sponsored young scientist, and a certificate for the student. Business Sponsorship Donation: \$150 or more - Includes dinner for two at the banquet, dinner for your sponsored young scientist, student certificate, and a linked icon on our website, acknowledging your business and your sponsorship. For a donation of \$35 you will receive a ticket to the banquet which also includes one dinner. All donations towards the banquet must be received prior to October 30, 2006 and are tax deductible. Please visit the website: www.institutefordiscovery.org/events for more information.

We consider our children to be our most valuable asset and it is our job to help shape their minds, their hearts, and their health. After all, our children are our future!