

**PRESS RELEASE – ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT** For immediate release Information: Superintendent's Office (714) 628-4487

## SCIENCE IS FUN AT COMMUNITY SCIENCE NIGHT

ORANGE, CA, March 18, 2013 – Orange Unified School District's Eighth Annual Community Science Night took place Friday, March 15, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Santiago Community College (SCC).

Community Science Night is a partnership between Santiago Canyon College and Orange Unified School District's K-6 Science Center.

Up to 3,000 students and parents participated in the hands-on, inquiry-centered science activities designed to showcase the fun and exciting aspects of science.

About 30 different activities were available, including: snail races, making rockets out of straws, and creating a polymer out of glue and borax ("Gobs of Fun!"). Participants could also learn how an infrared camera discovers and displays heat, build with Legos, observe a Vortex Cannon, and get their picture taken with Darth Vader. The hands-on science projects were presented by 55 OUSD teachers and 60 SCC instructors.

Additional activities were provided by Farmers Insurance, Reserve at Rancho Mission Viejo, El Dorado Nature Center, Energy Coalition, Inside the Outdoors, Bricks 4 Kidz, municipal water districts, and the 501st Legion Orange County Garrison and their Storm Troopers.

This year's event was organized by Martin Stringer, Interim Dean of Math and Science at Santiago Canyon College, and Julie Roney, K-6 Science Coordinator for OUSD. Funding for the OUSD Science Center and its program of hands-on inquiry-based classroom activities is provided by the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation.

Select kindergarten through sixth grade OUSD students are invited by their teachers to participate each year.

The Orange Unified School District is located at 1401 North Handy Street in Orange, CA