

MEDIA ADVISORY: May 13, 2009

40+ STUDENT TEAMS FROM HIGH SCHOOLS AND MIDDLE SCHOOLS STATEWIDE SET TO COMPETE IN SECOND ANNUAL OREGON GAME PROJECT CHALLENGE

Oregon Technology Notables to Judge Student-Made Computer Games, Present Winner Trophy and Prizes

Event: **Oregon Game Project Challenge 2.0 (ogpc 2.0)**
Event Organizers: **TechStart Education Foundation, Oregon University System, Oregon Computer Science Teachers Association**
Event Date: **Saturday, May 16, 2009, 8 am - 5 pm**
9 am to 2:30 pm: Judging, Peer, Professional Presentations
2:45 to 3:15 pm: Keynote Scott Hanselman, Microsoft
4 to 5 pm: Awards Ceremony
Event Location: **Chemeketa Community College**

About ogpc 2.0

Oregon Game Project Challenge, in its second year, is a competition that brings together teams of 4-7 students and introduces or nurtures their interest in computer science. Participating teams at this year's competition are from schools as far away as Gold Beach to the South and Condon to the East. There are also a few all-female teams, and two teams from Washington. More than 250 students make up the 45 competing teams, representing a significant increase in participation over the 2008 inaugural event.

The ogpc competition season runs from December to May each year, concluding with a statewide tournament in Salem which will be held this year on Saturday, May 16. Both high school and middle school teams will compete by presenting original computer games designed to be fun, challenging and innovative that educate and promote possible solutions to environmental concerns. The 2009 game theme is water resources.

Games are judged based on the following criteria:

- The depth and breadth of research the team does on this year's theme.
- How well the game was designed.
- The quality of the presentation that the team makes at the tournament.
- How well the game incorporates the annual theme.
- How much fun the game is to play.
- Advanced use of technology or programming features.

For more information and to view a promotional video that features activity at last year's event visit <http://www.techstart.org/ogpc>.

About TechStart Education Foundation

The TechStart Education Foundation (www.techstart.org) is a 501(c)3 non-profit that was founded in 2003 by the Software Association of Oregon (<http://www.sao.org>), a trade association with more than 400 member organizations. TechStart strives to nurture a passion for all of technology among Oregon's K-12 students by promoting and supporting wider access to technology learning to transform how students learn, to sharpen their thinking and to influence their success beyond graduation. For more information about TechStart, contact Natasha MacDonald, Executive Director, at 503-228-5429.

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