

MEDIA ADVISORY: May 14, 2008

***TECHSTART AND OREGON UNIVERSITY SYSTEM JOIN FORCES TO HOLD
FIRST ANNUAL OREGON GAME PROJECT CHALLENGE 1.0***

Nearly 150 Oregon High School Students Expected to Compete in Game Programming Contest

Portland, Oregon, May 14, 2008 – TechStart Education Foundation and the Oregon University System (OUS) will host 30 teams representing approximately 150 students from high schools around the state on Saturday, May 17 for the Oregon Gaming Project Challenge 1.0 (<http://techstart.org/ogpc.html>) at Chemeketa Community College in Salem. The OGPC 1.0 challenges student teams to develop, design and present a computer game based on the science behind today's energy issues. The contest offers Oregon students an opportunity to have fun and be innovative as they apply their interest in computer science to solving social issues with games.

Students will also have the opportunity to meet and hear from speakers from Oregon's computer and game development industry.

After two-plus months spent developing their games, teams will bring their entries to the OGPC 1.0 event for professional and peer judging and a tournament awards ceremony. Trophies will be awarded to teams who are judged highest overall in the following categories: Game R&D, Programming, Game Experience, Presentation, and Teamwork. An overall champion will also be named for creating the best game.

A technology industry keynote will close the competition. Other local industry volunteers will also be on hand along with TechStart board president Chris Brooks, OUS Director of Industry Affairs Bruce Schafer and an additional 50 volunteers and parents. This year's event coincides with the application deadline for the Oregon Student Technologist of the Year scholarship contest.

About TechStart Education Foundation

The TechStart Education Foundation (www.techstart.org) is a 501c3 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 awaken a passion for all of technology among all Oregon students by helping to make technology-related educational opportunities available to them via a number of programs. For more information about TechStart, contact John Ossowski, Director of Programs, at 503-802-5211.

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