



CHABOT SPACE & SCIENCE CENTER RECEIVES GRANT TO SUPPORT EDUCATION PROGRAMS

—\$15,000 Grant Will Help Students Develop Computer Skills Through Astronomy—

15 March 2005 -- (Oakland, CA) Computer classes at Chabot Space & Science Center bring in to play the science of astronomy in order to teach the necessary technology skills required by the 21st Century. The \$15,000 grant from the Cisco Systems Foundation's San Jose Impact Grants Program will lend overall support to these programs, enabling expanded K-12 access to computer learning.

"We are grateful to the Cisco Systems Foundation", said Chabot's Executive Director Alex Barnett, "as it lends valuable support to our computer education programs. We feel we have a unique and innovative curriculum that engages students not only in computer learning but also in the wonders of the Universe."

Students enrolled in classes such as "Do-It-Yourself Web Design," "PowerPoint to Go" and "Around the Universe in 90 Minutes" learn how to design a Solar System Web site, develop PowerPoint presentations about the Solar System and use the World Wide Web to conduct research about the universe. In addition, the "Young Astronomers" class teaches students how to use Starry Night Pro software to view the night sky, visit the planets and explore the Solar System. On weekends, the computer lab is open to the public where visitors are welcome to learn the astronomy software, visit NASA websites and explore virtual space. Chabot's newly renovated computer lab is a state-of-the art classroom containing 16 computer workstations and an overhead video projection system. Chabot's programs serve nearly 50,000 school children each year and offer over 50 exciting K-12 student programs that put state-of-the-art resources into the hands of public school students and inspire them to take an interest in science.

"At Cisco, we believe in building strong communities in which every individual has access to quality education, the means by which to live, and the opportunity to succeed," said Sylvia Allen, Cisco Systems' Senior Director, Corporate Responsibility. "As a company, we are proud to support these local non-profits who share our values, our vision and our goal to build lasting solutions that will improve the lives of those in the community."

Chabot Space & Science Center is located at 10000 Skyline Blvd. in Oakland's Joaquin Miller Park. **Public hours:** Wed – Thurs, 10 am–5pm; Friday & Saturday, 10 am–10 pm; Sunday, 11 am–5 pm. Closed Mon & Tues. General admission, including free parking and a Planetarium show, is \$13.00 for adults, \$9.00 youth and seniors. Children under 3 are admitted free. *The Sky Tonight* planetarium shows are \$6.00 adult, and \$5.00 youth and seniors; large-format movies in the megaDome Theater are \$8 Adult / \$7 Youth & Senior. Telescopes are open for Free Public Viewing Fridays & Saturdays from dusk – 10 pm, weather permitting. Tickets may be purchased at the door, or by calling (510) 336-7373.

For more information, call (510) 336-7300, or visit www.chabotspace.org