



www.youthscience.org
info@ysi-ca.org

Vasona Center & Administration

296 Garden Hill Drive
Los Gatos, CA 95032
408-356-4945; Fax: 408-358-3683

YSI Thrift and Gift Shop

3151 Alum Rock Avenue
San Jose, CA 95127
408-272-1301

Alum Rock Science & Nature Center

16260 Penitencia Creek Rd.
San Jose, CA 95127
408-258-4322

Sanborn Science & Nature Center

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Contact:

Susanne Mulcahy
Executive Director
Youth Science Institute
408-356-4945 (x11)

Youth Science Institute Challenge Grant Extended through Summer *Opportunity for individuals to support science education*

LOS GATOS, CA – June 1, 2010 — Youth Science Institute announced today that the deadline for its \$125,000 Challenge Grant has been extended through the summer, so community members still have time to donate to YSI and have their contributions doubled, up to a total of \$125,000.

"We are excited to extend this opportunity for donors to double their donations by taking advantage of the Challenge Grant," said Tammy Bigelow, YSI's Resource Development Director. "Our benefactors are interested in helping us expand our already significant donor base, so this new timeline allows us to build on the positive momentum that has been generated."

All donations will support YSI's nature-based science programs, which serve 30,000 Santa Clara County youth annually.

With the school year ending and summer about to begin, YSI is in the midst of transferring its focus from its interactive science programs for schools to its award-winning summer science camps. "Since time and resources for quality science programming in public schools are so scarce, we consider our school programs core," said YSI Executive Director Susanne Mulcahy. "Then during the summer, we reach even more children with hands-on science through our summer science camps. Those programs, combined with community donations like those raised through this campaign, provide us with revenues needed to deliver our school programs to nearly 28,000 students each year."

The community clearly understands the importance of YSI and its programs.

"During our last big campaign, more than 1,000 new donors contributed. That's because they believe in YSI and the need for the interactive science education that we offer," said Mulcahy. "We are so grateful for their belief in YSI and the impact we make every day."

Individuals are encouraged to show their support for science education by participating in YSI's Challenge Grant. Donations may be made online at www.youthscience.org; cash or checks made payable to YSI, may be sent to YSI at 296 Garden Hill Drive, Los Gatos CA 95032.

For questions and updates on YSI's Challenge Grant, visit www.youthscience.org or contact YSI's Resource Development Director, Tammy Bigelow at 408-356-4945 (x30).

About YSI

Youth Science Institute is a nonprofit organization that partners with nature to teach science to preschool through 8th grade students. Since 1953 YSI has inspired children's enthusiasm for science and love of learning, developed critical thinking skills, and forged connections with nature that foster personal health and earth stewardship.

YSI delivers school and community programs, family events, summer science camps, and after-school programs at its Science and Nature Centers at Alum Rock Park in East San Jose, Sanborn Park in Saratoga, and Vasona Park in Los Gatos, at Redwood Grove in Los Altos, and in schools throughout Silicon Valley and the Peninsula.

Families can still register for YSI's award-winning science camp! For more information about the camps or other YSI science programs, visit www.youthscience.org.

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