



SEM Team Wins Regional Competition for National Science Bowl

Congratulations to our SEM U.S. Department of Energy Science Bowl Teams. The following students were participants in the Regional Science Bowl competition this past weekend at the University of Texas at Arlington:

Team 1: Adrian Trejo, Juan Juarez, Chelsea Swan, Amar Zeynu, Cody Vilathong.

Team 2: Peter Jung, David Shoemaker, Dianne Dimas, Steven Stone, Kelcey de Lara.

Team 2 took 1st place in the regional competition and will advance to the national competition which includes an all expense paid trip to Washington, D.C.!

Congratulations to the all these students and a very special thanks to their sponsors Mr. Benjamin Koh, Mr. Jose Gonzalez and Mr. Tom Flores.

The National Science Bowl® is a highly visible educational event and academic competition among teams of high school students who attend science seminars and compete in a verbal forum to solve technical problems and answer questions in all branches of science and math.

The National Science Bowl is held in Washington, D.C. Regional winners are invited by DOE to attend the national event. In 2008, 67 teams received an all-expense paid trip to compete for the national title. In addition to the academic competition, students were given the opportunity to attend presentations by well-known scientists on current topics in math and the sciences.

Jovan C. Wells, Principal

SEM Soaring Eagles - Third Six Weeks Student Awards 2009

Congratulations to the Third Six Weeks "Soaring Eagles" Outstanding Student Award recipients: Marisol Amaya and Ian Nord (Freshmen), Julianna Hossu and Eduardo Infante (Sophomores), Cindy Santillan and Tyler Morgan (Juniors), and Gabriella Dodd and Glendon Plumton (Seniors).

Award recipients are nominated by their teachers for their outstanding character, commitment to learning, dedication to achieving their goals and motivation for success. Student photographs will be on display near the Science and Engineering Magnet Office. As part of the reward for their recognition, students will receive a certificate of achievement and a coupon for a free pizza at Celebration Station.

February 23, 2009

2009-2010 PTSA Board

★★ We need YOU! ★★

The PTSA provides SEM with every ounce of support we can muster. We have lots of great ideas, but we cannot do it without your help.

If you can help on next year's PTSA board (or just want to know a little more about it), please contact Sylvia Carlson at ddwcmd@aol.com.

Volunteers Needed!

The Hospitality Committee is looking for volunteers to bring bagels, pastries or other goodies and drinks to one of the upcoming morning staff meetings. There are 7 staff meetings between now and the end of the year. The meetings begin at 8:00 a.m. and we have about 20 staff to serve. If you would like to help, please contact Dianna Krueger at (972) 233-4189 or rainbows_01@msn.com. Thanks!

Healthy Snacks and Bottled Water Needed for AP Exams

To help students perform at their best on AP Exams, we ask parents to help the school out with donations of healthy snacks and bottled water. AP Exams will not be until May, but we wanted to give you a heads up now. If we receive enough donations, we would also be able to offer snacks and drinks for TAKS tests. Last year SEM students took nearly 1,000 AP exams and they really appreciate the pick-me-ups! You can bring them to the SEM office anytime.

For snacks, go for more **protein** and **carbs** and less sugar. For drinks, **8 oz** bottles of water are best.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you!!!

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Free Breakfast

In celebration of National School Breakfast Week and TAKS Testing, Food and Child Nutrition Services will be offering FREE BREAKFAST to ALL students the week of March 2-5, 2009.

Texas Retired Teachers Foundation Scholarships & Teacher Grants

- ❖ The Foundation will give 10 \$500 scholarships for the 2009-2010 school year to students who are relatives of Texas retired teachers or school personnel pursuing education degrees at Texas universities. Students can download the application here. Students must submit their applications by email or mail by March 13, 2009.
- ❖ Texas Retired Teachers Foundation 2009-2010 Classroom Teacher Grants will be available to any public education teacher in the state of Texas. The Foundation will give 4 \$500 grants this year. Applications must be submitted by March 13, 2009.

Awards will be announced at the end of March. [Learn more.](#)

Hat Tip: Toni Lewis

Morehouse Summer Program

The Summer Institute at Morehouse College is a four week, on-campus program for rising high school sophomore and junior African American males. The institute replicates the college experience with an intense curriculum and enrichment activities

Participants are taught by college faculty and paired with student tutors and mentors. Enrichment activities include round table discussions on various subjects relating to college life and everyday life experiences. Applicants should have an A or B average with some accelerated level coursework; have taken the PSAT or SAT; and present two letters of recommendation. There is a \$1,400 program fee. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Junior Class Trip Sign-Up Deadline Extended

The deposit deadline for the Junior Class Trip has been extended to Tuesday, March 3rd. The deposit is only \$50. Please write your check out to "Science and Engineering Magnet" and write "Junior Trip" on the memo line. Ms. Granger will collect your check and give you a receipt! Thank you very much. The dates of the trip are May 15-17, leaving the morning of the 15th and return the evening of the 17th. The trip begins by visiting Baylor University in Waco and UT Austin. The \$200 cost of the trip covers most meals [except for the meal at the riverwalk] and 3 days 2 nights at the Sea World Resort where several activities are awaiting the tired students. Other places we will visit are the Missions of San Antonio State Park and The Spanish Governor's Palace. We shop on the Riverwalk and stop by San Marcos Shopping Center as well.

WOMEN EXPLORE ENGINEERING

The **Women Explore Engineering** summer camp [at Texas A&M] is a special 4 day summer program designed to give female high school students with an interest in science, mathematics and engineering an opportunity to explore engineering as a career. The camp will focus on issues important to women and other groups that are under-represented in the field of engineering (African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans). Sessions will include panel and group discussions with women engineering faculty and students that will focus on what it's really like in the workplace and in college for female engineers. Tips on how to balance an engineering career and a family, and other career options for women in engineering will also be discussed. **Who:** Students may apply if they are currently enrolled in the 10th or 11th grade in high school, have As and Bs in their high school courses and have a strong interest in a technical career that could include engineering. Fifty students will be selected for the WEE summer camp. **Cost: \$325** required to cover costs of food, housing and program activities. **Application deadline:** May 15. [Learn more.](#)



BATH HOUSE
CULTURAL CENTER

15th Annual El Corazón Art Exhibition

February 7-March 7, 2009
Bath House Cultural Center
521 E. LAWTHER DRIVE
DALLAS, TX 75218
214-670-8749

Since 1993, this passionate and delightfully eclectic art exhibition has featured diverse creations inspired by the human heart (El Corazón), an important symbol in Mexican and Latin American art, and a significant theme in western culture. This year, this popular show features the work of more than forty artists from the DFW Metroplex, San Antonio, Houston, and Austin. For more information, visit: www.bathhousecultural.com *Hat Tip: Toni Lewis*

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Innovation Opportunity Camp @ The University of Texas at Dallas

Know any budding entrepreneurs at SEM who are convinced that they've got an idea for the "next big thing"? UTD is offering them some training at an on-campus camp this coming summer.

UTD is asking \$845 for tuition, but there is an "Early Bird discount" that will knock the tuition down to \$745, and scholarships are available.

The Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at UT Dallas has an exciting new opportunity for your students to expand their horizons and explore the world of innovation and entrepreneurship. The two-week Innovation Opportunity Camp will teach students how to turn their ideas into new businesses and solutions for the world. Through team-based learning, business simulation games, and interaction with successful entrepreneurs and UTD faculty, students will learn about entrepreneurship as a career option -- how to build a successful new venture and turn it into a career.

[Learn more.](#) *Hat Tip: Alan Gilkes, SBDM Chairman*

Las Llaves del Éxito (Keys to Success) College Fair

The Dallas ISD and the Dallas County Community College District, along with area colleges, universities, and community organizations, will host Las Llaves del Éxito (Keys to Success) College Fair from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, March 7, at Cedar Valley Community College, 3030 N. Dallas Ave.

The free fair is open to Dallas ISD 11th- and 12th-graders and their parents. During the fair, participants will learn how to prepare for college, apply for financial aid, and submit college applications. For more information in English and Spanish, visit www.dcccd.edu/keystosuccess or call (972) 925-3139 for English or (214) 860-2432 for Spanish.

Auditions for School Zone Dallas and Zona Escolar de Dallas

Dallas Schools Television is looking for talented student co-hosts and reporters for the 2009-2010 editions of School Zone Dallas and the Spanish language Zona Escolar de Dallas. Students must be a junior or senior in the 2009-2010 school year to audition. Auditions will be held Saturday, Feb. 28. The deadline to sign up for an audition is Friday, Feb. 20. For more information, visit www.dallasisd.org/schoolzone/auditions.htm.

Sally Ride Science Festival

Come join the fun at Southern Methodist University for the Sally Ride Science Festival.

Place: Southern Methodist University
Date: Saturday April 25, 2009
Time: 11:00 am to 4:15 pm

The festival features:

- An inspiring talk by a featured speaker
- Discovery Workshops for students, given by local scientists and engineers (examples include chemists, veterinarians, microbiologists, and others)
- Workshops for parents and teachers on ways to support students' interests in science and math
- A Street Fair with booths, hands-on activities, food, and music

Register by March 26, 2009 for only \$15 per person. Registration increases to \$20 per person on March 27. See you there! Visit: www.sallyridescience.com/festivals/09smu0425 or call: 800.561.5161

P.S. While our festivals are primarily focused on encouraging girls to pursue their interests in science, everyone is welcome to attend!

FREE SAT Math & Critical Reading/Writing Prep

Grades: 9th-12th
At South Oak Cliff High School
3601 S. Marsalis Ave.
Dallas, TX 75216

Presented by Dallas ISD Princeton Review Trained Teachers

No Preregistration Required.
Students Register on site

Dates and Times:
February 14, 21, 28 9-12:00 noon
March 7, 14 (pretest) From 9-1:30 on these days only
April 4, 11, 18, 25 9-12:00 noon

The Program concludes the week before the May 2nd SAT Administration (Registration deadline March 31st)

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Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Time	
F	February 27	End of Six-Week Period	
Tu	March 3	English/Language Arts TAKS (9 th - 11 th grade)	
M	March 9	Report Cards Issued	
	March 16-20	Spring Break	
M	April 20	PTSA Staff Appreciation Luncheon in Room 211	Noon
Tu	April 21	PTSA General Meeting: Election of Officers Program: College Application Process	6:30 – 8:00p
	April 27 – May 1	TAKS Testing (Donations of snacks and drinks needed)	
	May 4 – 8 and May 11 – 15	Advanced Placement Exams (Donations of snacks and drinks needed)	
Tu	May 19	SEM Awards Ceremony	6:30p

New and changed events are in bold.

Events are subject to change. Check the SEM [calendar](#) for updates. www.semagnetschool.org

SpringFest is a casual, one-day event on Saturday, March 21, 2009, from 9 a.m. (registration at 8:30) until 3:30 p.m., to introduce you and your parents to university life at SMU. We can answer your questions about choosing the right college, making the most of your college application and financing your education. The cost for you to attend is just \$20, and your parents can come for free.

Register by Monday, March 16, **online** or by calling 214-768-2058 or 1-800-323-0672. For more information, visit us on the **Web** or send us an **e-mail**.

It's the thing for spring

SMU SpringFest

March 21

SMU SpringFest details at: http://smu.edu/admission/visit_0_springfest.asp