



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contact: Dr. Sat Bhattacharya
President & CEO Harlem Children Society
T: (646) 643-8563
E-mail: bhattacs@harlemchildrensociety.org

Harlem Children Society Hosts 3rd International Harlem Science Street Fair & Festival *Bringing Scientific Awareness to the Streets of New York, Arizona and Montreal*

Harlem Children Society Hosts 3rd International Harlem Science Street Fair & Festival Bringing Scientific Awareness to the Streets of New York, Arizona and Montreal New York, NY, September 25, 2006 – The Harlem Children Society's 3rd International Harlem Science Street Fair & Festival will be held Saturday, October 7 from 11am – 4pm at 129th St. and 7th Avenue (Adam Clayton Powell Blvd.). The fair promotes access to education in under-served and under-represented communities by bringing the sciences directly to the urban streets of Harlem, New York. In partnership with the New York Academy of Sciences, Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society and Salem United Methodist Church, the fair showcases the hands-on research of high school and undergraduate students from these communities. Featured experiments, based in the sciences, engineering, mathematics and medicine, employ a unique combination of fundamental principles found in both the sciences and the arts.

This year, for the first time ever, sister fairs will be held concurrently, on the same date, at the same time, in both Arizona's Hopi Reservation and Montreal, Canada. All three events will be broadcast live, electronically, across the country and internationally.

Additionally, the fair will honor various outreach programs that aid youth in under-served, under-represented communities and school districts in New York City; Jersey City and Camden, New Jersey; the Navajo and Hopi Reservations in Arizona; Detroit; Tennessee; and Florida.

“This fair keeps the dream alive – both in Harlem and, now, across state and international borders – that science can be fun and exciting and that all children are entitled to the tools and knowledge which prepare them to be successful entrepreneurs and productive world citizens,” says Dr. Sat Bhattacharya, Founder of the Harlem Children Society and world-renowned research scientist at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. “We are committed to empowering the youth of tomorrow with the skills to pursue higher education and career achievement so they can give back to their communities. It is thrilling to give the gift of hands-

on learning to young people, and to see them share in the excitement of discovery. If we are able to bring science out of the academic stratosphere and give it a context, which attracts and inspires young people, we are accomplishing a great deal.”

FAIR FEATURES

This year’s fair features both the hands-on research exhibits for which the fair is known and the Harlem Science Poster Competition. An array of representatives from prestigious colleges and universities, hospitals, city and government agencies and participating corporations will also be on hand.

Reflecting the rich culture of these communities, the fair’s entertainment program includes:

- Use of the **Image and Forum Theater** as a ‘**Science Theatre**’ to address health, environmental and socio-economic issues affecting the masses (conducted by internationally-acclaimed stage director, Turkar Cokar)
 - An all-star international musical line-up, including:
 - New York-based Afro-Cuban jazz quintet **Hot House** (with Pablo Maya, Chinchilita and Jorge Bringas from Havana, and Art Bailey and Steve Gluzband from Boston)
 - Modern jazz by **Neal Haiduck and Friends**
 - Fusion ensemble of Shaker music and jazz by **Shakers n’ Bakers**
 - Brazilian Samba percussion by highly acclaimed **students from the Frederick Douglas Academy.**

“The HCS goal is to nurture the seeds of tomorrow with the knowledge of today. I have made lasting bonds with other students as we worked together to achieve in our research,” says one graduate of the program.

“Working with NASA opened up many fields to me. I realized I had more of an interest in space exploration, space technology, and space engineering than architecture. In helping design our hybrid rocket with my mentor, I realized that I should venture into the fields of aerospace, aeronautics, and mechanical engineering. HCS lights the way to achieving your dreams and creating a better tomorrow.”

For more information on HSC and this year’s fair, visit www.HarlemChildrenSociety.org.

ABOUT THE HARLEM CHILDREN SOCIETY

Since 2000, the Harlem Children Society (HCS), a nonprofit organization, has drawn upon numerous resources to foster young people’s interest and develop their talent in health, science, and engineering. HCS identifies at-risk youth in under-resourced and under-served communities and introduces them to career options in science and technology. The organization offers them the resources and opportunities they need to explore the world and their future through science and to revitalize their communities. Students

are selected based on their motivation, enthusiasm and performance at school, on recommendations from principals and science teachers, and the strength of a personal interview.

'HCS' highly intensive hands-on research internship, after-school and summer "bridge" programs pair high school students (9-12) from low-income areas in the tri-state area and nationally with some of the top scientists, doctors and engineers from over 50 leading scientific and medical institutions, from Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center to NASA, to work on specific projects within these fields. Students receive a handsome stipend for their work. The program is rated as one of the largest and best programs of its kind in the country. Six students from Harlem, the Bronx and Camden, New Jersey participated in one of the hallmarks of this year's internship program in rocket science and technology at the NASA Laboratories in Florida with all expenses, including research, covered by HCS.

HCS has increased enrollment from 3 students from 2 high schools guided by one mentor in 2000 to over 183 students from 50 schools, guided by over 250 mentors in 50 institutions in 2006. HCS's rate of success is exemplified in the number of former students in MD/Ph.D. Engineering, Nursing, Mathematics and other science programs in some of the top colleges, including Rutgers, Dartmouth, Penn State, UMDNJ, Swarthmore, Columbia, Cornell Universities, and more.