

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – PHOTOS AVAILABLE

Contact: Sara Wells, Public & Media Relations Manager
(607) 272-0600, ext. 14; swells@sciencenter.org



Celebrate NanoDays In Ithaca! NanoDays will be held at the Sciencenter on Saturday, March 31, noon-4 pm, and at Duffield Hall at Cornell on Sunday, April 1, noon-4 pm

NanoDays at the Sciencenter, Saturday, March 31, noon-4 pm

Gear up for some big fun at NanoDays 2012 and explore the amazing world of nanoscale science and technology. Join the Sciencenter for “The Biggest Event for the Smallest Science,” on Saturday, March 31, from 12-4 pm. Explore our new interactive Nano exhibition, enjoy 20+ special hands-on activities, and participate in 2 family-friendly presentations. Admission to the Sciencenter is FREE from 10 am-5 pm for NanoDays!

Experiment with materials that self-assemble as you learn how some things behave differently at the nano-scale. Other activities include playing *I Spy* to learn about nano in the world around us, making a butterfly change color, and exploring how the world’s thinnest material can be used as a semi-conductor. Sciencenter staff and volunteers from Cornell University, Ithaca College, and the community will staff over 20 special hands-on experiments and activities.

Special presentations include:

- Horten Hears a Who, 1 pm - Families with young children can enjoy Dr. Seuss’s *Horten Hears a Who*, make a pair of elephant ears, and experiment with identifying different smells. Your nose is your very own nano sensor!
- 3D Images, 2 pm - Have you ever watched a 3D movie or looked at 3D pictures and wondered “how did they do that?” Find out how we can see flat images in 3D and how scientists use 3D techniques to look at things on the micro and nanoscale.

NanoDays at Duffield Hall, Cornell University, Sunday, April 1, noon-4 pm

Geared toward families with older children, teens and adults, Cornell’s NanoDays event brings visitors inside the world of nanoscientists and the technologies they advance. The NanoDays celebration continues at Duffield Hall on the Cornell campus on Sunday, April 1, noon-4 pm. The event will feature tours of Cornell’s NanoScale Science & Technology Facility (CNF), special lectures and demonstrations, and hands-on activities for the whole family. Free parking available in the Hoy Road Parking Garage, with limited handicap parking in front of Phillip Hall.

NanoDays 2012 Continued:

Special activities include:

- Tours: Did you know that Cornell is home to one of the premiere nanoscale research labs in the country? Step into the world of a nanoscientist and imagine our nano future. Try on a clean suit—the special protective suit researchers wear—and take a tour of the 20,000 square foot cleanroom. *Tour capacity is limited, please register at the event.*
- Special lecture, 2 pm: Cornell professor and novelist Paul McEuen will talk about his research in new nanomaterials, and the writing of his recently published science-fiction thriller, *Spiral*.
- Special demonstrations and hands-on activities: Find out what happens when gold gets really, really tiny and add to a collaborative stained glass art project, make a giant Carbon Nanotube out of balloons, and sign-up for longer learning labs hosted by the Cornell Institute for Physics Teachers.

More about NanoDays

NanoDays is a national celebration of nanoscale science, technology and engineering hosted by over 200 museums and research institutions from Puerto Rico to Hawaii. Here in Ithaca, the Sciencenter and Cornell University collaborate on a free two-day community event.

The Sciencenter plays an important role in making NanoDays happen because it has a lead role in the NSF-sponsored Nanoscale Informal Science Education (NISE) Network that brings NanoDays to communities across the US every March. Right here in Ithaca, we develop the educational activities used by hundreds of museums every year. Each spring, visitors to NanoDays in Ithaca get to preview and try out activities that will become part of the national NanoDays events the following year!

About the Sciencenter

The Sciencenter inspires excitement for science through interactive exhibits and programs that engage, educate and empower. The hands-on museum offers visitors of all ages more than 250 exhibits, educational programs, a gift shop, an outdoor science park and a seasonal 18-hole miniature golf course. The museum is open on Tuesday-Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm, on Sunday from noon to 5 pm and on holiday Mondays from 10 am to 5 pm. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors, \$6 for children 3-17 years, and free to members and children under 3. For membership information, current programs and activities, please visit www.sciencenter.org. The Sciencenter is a proud member of the Discovery Trail in Ithaca.

###