



The Science Scoop



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Dear Principals and Science Colleagues,

Hope you had a Happy Valentine's Day! Here are some quotes for the passionate scientist!



"Gravitation is not responsible for people falling in love."
Albert Einstein

"Love - a wildly misunderstood although highly desirable malfunction of the heart which weakens the brain, causes eyes to sparkle, cheeks to glow, blood pressure to rise and the lips to pucker." **Author Unknown**

"Love is a canvas furnished by Nature and embroidered by imagination." **Voltaire**

Sue

"Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work." **Thomas Edison, American inventor**

INTERFACE 2009 "Math and Science for All"

The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is celebrating their 25th Anniversary this year of cooperation with the MU Conference Office in sponsoring Interface. This yearly event is held at the Tan-Tar-A Resort in Osage Beach, Missouri. Interface A for grades K-6 is Thursday, February 19th through February 21st. Interface B for grades 7-12 is Sunday, February 22nd through February 24th.

Interface provides an opportunity for math and science educators to network and share best practices. The Interface website is <http://muconf.missouri.edu/interface>

MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN EVENT

American Heritage Cultural Curriculum: St. Louis' Black Legacy
Presentation by Dr. Robert Tabscott

The Elijah Lovejoy Society, a not-for-profit educational organization, was founded in 1975 to research and develop a study of the heritage of cultural diversity that under girds the American experience. Over the past thirty-five years the Society

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS



National Science Organizations

National Science Teachers Association

<http://www.nsta.org/>

National Science Foundation

<http://www.nsf.gov/>

National Science Educational Leadership Association

<http://www.nsela.org/>

School Science and Math Association

<http://www.ssma.org/>

National Association of Biology Teachers

<http://www.nabt.org/>

National Association of Physics Teachers

<http://www.aapt.org/>



Local Science Organizations

Science Teachers of Missouri (STOM)

<http://www.stom.org>

The Academy of Science of St. Louis

http://www.academyofsciencestl.org/initiatives/junior_academy.php

has worked with administrators, teachers and students to provide inclusive programs and materials for K-12 classrooms. The Society has collaborated with the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in developing a groundbreaking American Heritage Cultural curriculum.

The presentation will have a special emphasis on St. Louis' Black Legacy from statehood to the present. A variety of classroom resources will be available including DVDs, curriculum guides, books and other materials.

WHEN: Friday, February 27, 2009

WHERE: Missouri Botanical Garden, Ridgway Visitor Center

TIME: 3:30 to 5:00 pm

RSVP: tracie.cain@mobot.org

Following the presentation, all attendees are invited to visit the Missouri Botanical Garden's Orchid Show.

YEAR OF SCIENCE (YoS09)

The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) in collaboration with the Coalition on the Public Understanding of Science (COPUS) have designated 2009 as the *Year of Science*. The central premise of *YoS09* is "How We Know What We Know".

Each month has a particular focus with theme-related resources available at <http://www.yearofscience2009.org>. These organizations are commemorating the historic events of the births of Charles Darwin (February 12, 1809) and the founder of the NAS, Abraham Lincoln. The themes are:

- * February: Evolution
- * March: Physics and Technology
- * April: Energy Resources
- * May: Sustainability and the Environment
- * June: Oceans and Water
- * July: Astronomy
- * August: Weather and Climate
- * September: Biodiversity and Conservation
- * October: Geosciences and Planet Earth
- * November: Chemistry
- * December: Science and Health

NSTA is a *YoS09* project co-sponsor and its website provides links to its state chapters and associated groups at <http://www.nsta.org/about/collaboration/chapters>

If you are interested in registering your school (at no charge) to be notified of upcoming local and national activities go to <http://copusproject.org>. Schools that register can receive monthly newsletters about what others are doing to celebrate.

MISSOURI GEOGRAPHIC ALLIANCE

Missouri Geographic Alliance is once again partnering with the National Weather Service to offer the Weather, Climate and Change workshop here in St. Louis.

“The student who is able to discover the harmony between faith and science will, in future professional life, be better able to put science and technology to the service of men and women, and to the service of God. It is a way of giving back to God what He has first given to us.”

The Religious Dimension of Education in a Catholic School, 1988, #54

Mark your calendars for Friday, March 13th 2009.

Participants will learn about weather and climate, explore the impacts on and of society, discover online resources for use in the classroom, and receive free materials for students.

For more information, click on "professional development" on the MGA website. <http://www.ngsednet.org/missouri>.

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF ASTRONOMY

Jeffrey Bennett is an astrophysicist and author of numerous books including "Beyond UFOs" and the children's book "Max Goes to Jupiter."

He writes, “Four hundred years ago, in 1609, Galileo built a telescope and turned it to the heavens, making crucial discoveries that helped overturn the ancient belief in an Earth-centered universe. In celebration of the 400th anniversary of these discoveries, the United Nations has designated 2009 as *International Year of Astronomy* (IYA). Planetariums, science centers, and universities around the world are planning a wide variety of activities for IYA. In addition to scientific opportunities, IYA provides a great opportunity to think about the *meaning* of Galileo’s discoveries.”

Bennett has posted new activities and resources for students and teachers on his *Big Kids Science Activities Resources* page. They include new interactive tutorials on phases of the Moon and seasons, and long-promised pages (noninteractive) on “secrets of the paintings” in the Max science adventure books.

<http://www.bigkidscience.com>