

Rachel Teasdale, Acting Executive Director
(530) 898-4121, rteasdale@csuchico.edu

Debra Johnson, Marketing
(530) 898-4690, dejohnson@csuchico.edu

Joe Wills, Public Affairs Director
(530) 898-4143



GATEWAY
SCIENCE
MUSEUM
CALIFORNIA STATE
UNIVERSITY, CHICO

For Immediate Release

June 7, 2011

Gateway Science Museum Receives LEED Gold Certification

LEED tour to be held Saturday, June 11

The U.S. Green Building Council awarded LEED Gold certification to the Gateway Science Museum at California State University, Chico. The certification is one of the highest levels of achievement in the green building industry.

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, or LEED, is an internationally recognized rating system for sustainable building and development practices.

Gateway Science Museum was designed and built with an emphasis on sustainability with the ultimate goal of reducing the impact of construction and operations on our environment. Building features that helped it to achieve LEED Gold include water conservation methods both inside and outside of the museum, the use of natural light via the volcano skylight and Valley Gallery windows to illuminate the museum's interior, and the use of wood products that are certified as sustainably forested.

To celebrate the LEED Gold achievement, museum Acting Executive Director Rachel Teasdale will host a walking tour of the museum's green features at 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 11. The tour will provide an in-depth look at the range of sustainable components, from outdoor ecoregions to interior energy and water conservation systems. The tour is included with admission to the museum.

Saturday's visitors can also enjoy the new summer exhibits, Sustainable Choices and Climate Science. The interactive exhibit Sustainable Choices focuses on the sustainability of decisions each of us makes every day. Visitors will explore themes of electricity, water, transportation, shopping and landscaping. Hands-on activities challenge visitors to sort objects to determine which is trash and which is recyclable. They'll also create their own pedal power to explore energy consumption. Climate Science provides hands-on activities exploring climate and how climate is studied. Sustainable Choices is organized by NRG! Exhibits, an organization that works to excite and engage museum visitors.

Gateway Science Museum's summer hours are Wednesday–Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. The museum is located at 625 Esplanade. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children, and free for museum members. For more information, please visit www.gatewayscience.org.

###