

**MEDIA ADVISORY:** May 9, 2008

***TECHSTART AND OREGON UNIVERSITY SYSTEM JOIN FORCES TO HOLD  
FIRST ANNUAL OREGON GAME PROJECT CHALLENGE 1.0***

***More Than 150 Oregon High School Students to Compete in Game Programming Contest***

**Portland, Oregon, May 9 2008** – TechStart Education Foundation and the Oregon University System will host 30 teams from high schools around the state on Saturday, May 17 for the Oregon Gaming Project Challenge 1.0 (<http://techstart.org/ogpc.html>) at Chemeketa Community College in Salem. The OGPC 1.0 challenges student teams to develop, design and present a computer game based on the science behind today's energy issues. The contest offers Oregon students an opportunity to have fun and be innovative as they apply their interest in computer science to solving social issues with games. Students will also have the opportunity to meet and hear from speakers from Oregon's computer and game development industry.

After two-plus months spent developing their games, teams will bring their entries to the OGPC 1.0 event for professional and peer judging and a tournament awards ceremony. Games will be recognized in categories such as Best Research, Best Game Design, Best Programming, Best Presentation, Best Teamwork, Best Game Experience and Best Overall Game.

An technology industry keynote will close the competition. Other local industry volunteers will also be on hand along with TechStart board president Chris Brooks, OUS [title] Bruce Schaffer (sp?) and another 50 volunteers and parents. TechStart and OUS plan to continue and expand the OGPC 1.0 in future years by opening the event to the public, extending registration to allow more teams, and having industry sponsorship. This year's event co-incides with the application deadline for TechStart's Student Technologist of the Year scholarship contest.

### **About TechStart Education Foundation**

The TechStart Education Foundation ([www.techstart.org](http://www.techstart.org)) is a 501c3 non-profit that was founded in 2003 by the Software Association of Oregon (<http://www.sao.org>), a trade association with more than 400 member organizations. TechStart strives to awaken a passion for all of technology among all Oregon students by helping to make technology-related educational

opportunities available to them via a number of programs. For more information about TechStart, contact John Ossowski, Program and Advancement Manager, at 503-802-5211.

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