

PRESS RELEASE

**CLEAN ENERGY ROCKS!**

Ever feel like clean energy is boring? Well, put your seatbelts on, because clean energy rocks! The USF Clean Energy Research Center (CERC) will showcase practical solar energy applications at the 2010 Earth Day Tampa Bay, to be held at Lowery Park April 18 from 11-4 pm.

We'll have an exciting game show with the audience designing their own energy efficient house. Those who show a savings of money through green engineering will win a snazzy solar powered toy! But this is just one part of the CERC's cool exhibits ... featuring ...

- Solar powered computers and other solar displays
- Fresh popcorn cooked in solar ovens
- Demonstration of practical energy saving compact fluorescent lamps
- Demonstration of nuclear fusion

Participating with the CERC are two USF student groups: Students for Marketing and Advancement of Renewable Technologies (SMART), and the X-Labs. SMART organized the first ever Tampa Bay Solar Tour in 2009, as part of the National Solar Tour of the American Solar Energy Society. The X-Labs promote awareness of engineering and the sciences through impressive and often spectacular demonstrations.

Forty years after the first Earth Day, the world is in greater peril than ever. While climate change is the greatest challenge of our time it is also a huge opportunity to build a healthy, prosperous, clean energy economy now and for the future. Earth Day 2010 can be a turning point to advance climate policy, energy efficiency, renewable energy and green jobs.

*For more information about Tampa Bay's Earth Day, see:*

<http://www.earthday.net/node/18037>

*For more information about worldwide Earth Day, see:*

<http://www.earthday.net/earthday2010>

*For more information about CERC see:*

<http://cerc.eng.usf.edu>