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[Cal Poly](#)

[News](#)

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California Polytechnic State University

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Presentation in Spanish To Be Among Engineering Students' Outreach Projects as Part of Engineers Week**

Fourth graders all over San Luis Obispo will have a chance on Wednesday (Feb. 20) to investigate the engineering design process by building "flinkers" -- a name for things that neither float nor sink, they "flink" -- thanks to Cal Poly engineering students.

The "Be an Engineer" fourth-grade outreach project, organized by the Cal Poly Society of Women Engineers, involves more than 20 Cal Poly engineering student volunteers. Members of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers will make their presentation in Spanish to the dual-immersion classes at Pacheco Elementary School.

The activity is part of National Engineers Week, being celebrated this week.

Another community outreach project scheduled this week is an Engineering Club Fair on Garden Street in San Luis Obispo during Farmers' Market Thursday evening. A modified tractor and Cal Poly's new solar car will be on display, and interactive engineering displays and activities will be available at six Cal Poly engineering club booths.

Other National Engineers Week activities include a career symposium and corporate recognition and honors banquets. Student scholars will be awarded corporate scholarships totaling almost \$40,000, and the Society of Women Engineers will name five students Outstanding Women in Science and Technology.

Founded in 1951 by the National Society of Professional Engineers, National Engineers Week is celebrated annually by engineers, engineering students, teachers and leaders in government and business.

Cal Poly volunteers hope to inspire a new generation of youngsters to consider careers in engineering, said Amy Hewes, the College of Engineering's director of publications and communications.

"We've planned an outstanding week," says Will Wertenberg, chair of the Engineering Student Council, "and we're especially looking forward to getting out into the community to share the excitement of engineering."

- 30 -

(MEMO TO EDITORS: "Be an Engineer" presentations will take place Wednesday in various classrooms at the schools listed below. If you are interested in coverage, please contact the particular school.

- Pacheco School: 10:30-11:30, the classrooms of Ms. Schmidt and Mrs. Tanikawa-Brown.
- Hawthorne School: 10:45-11:30, the classrooms of teachers Carol Caccese and Cecil Johnson.
- Monarch Grove School: 1:00-2:00, the classroom of Mrs. Schmaelings.
- Sunnyside School: 1:00-2:00, the classrooms of Mr. Manfield and Mrs. Jenison.
- Bishops Peak School: 1:00-2:00, the classroom of Paulette Aurignac.
- Del Mar School: 1:25-2:25, the classrooms of Elizabeth Morin and Vicki Furnis-Sawren.)

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