



**MEDIA ADVISORY**  
July 5, 2007

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### **WHO SAYS SCIENCE ISN'T FUN?**

*Summer Camp Participants to Explore Math and Science with ExxonMobil and Howard University Engineers During "Media Day"*

**WHAT:** Eagerly putting aside their popsicles and tossing the TV remote, local middle school youth have packed up for a different kind of camp that includes summer fun and an opportunity to get ahead in school.

As a part of the ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp hosted by Howard University, participants are gearing up for a special "Media Day." Students will have the opportunity to conduct hands-on experiments, participate in highly interactive demonstrations, and learn about engineering and other science careers with ExxonMobil and Howard University engineers and scientists during the event.

**WHO:**

- Dr. Bernard Harris, former NASA astronaut and first African American to walk in space
- Theresa Hochhalter and Anastasios Skoulidas, ExxonMobil engineers
- James Johnson, dean, Howard University College of College of Engineering, Architecture and Computer Sciences and Howard University faculty and students
- 40 middle school youth from Washington, D.C. area

**WHEN:** Wednesday, July 11, 2007  
2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Howard University  
Blackburn University Center - Auditorium  
2397 Sixth Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20059

**WHY:** Studies show that the United States will face a critical shortage of engineers, scientists and other technically trained workers in the future. To help address this crisis, former astronaut Dr. Bernard Harris and ExxonMobil have teamed up to develop 20 two-week summer camps across the country that offer innovative math and science programs to encourage middle school students to stay in school, develop their knowledge in these disciplines and foster their interest to eventually pursue careers in these fields.

Selection criteria for students included good grades, teacher nominations and a genuine interest in math and science.

**Photo Opportunities:**

- Local middle school students will be participating in a science experiment with Dr. Harris and ExxonMobil and Howard University employees called Raft Rally.
- The experiment demonstrates the scientific concepts of Archimedes' Principle of buoyancy and its relationship to density using aluminum foil, straws and pennies.

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