

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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2009 SOLAR FIESTA! SHOWCASES CHANGING ENERGY USAGE

Albuquerque, NM -- The [2009 Solar Fiesta!](#), New Mexico's premier educational fair for energy conservation, renewable energy, and sustainable living takes place September 26-27 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Albuquerque's Highland High School. The event offers classes for adults, activities for children, and exhibits of products and services to save money on energy, generate renewable energy, and conserve natural resources.

This year's theme, "Power Shift: It's Our Planet, It's Your Choice," suggests the many ways our relationship to energy is changing. This is the 10th annual Solar Fiesta!, produced by the nonprofit [New Mexico Solar Energy Association](#) (NMSEA).

Both days begin with free workshops at 9:00 a.m. offering easy and inexpensive ways to save money by saving energy. Paid workshops will cover solar electricity, solar heating and cooling, federal and state solar tax credits, green building, water conservation, alternative fuels, and more.

For kids, there will be solar car races, a scavenger hunt, exhibits of science projects by local students, and solar-oven-baked cookies. For auto enthusiasts, an all-electric Tesla Roadster will be on display Saturday from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Technical workshops will be offered for energy business professionals.

The Fiesta's exhibits showcase the latest products for renewable energy, energy conservation and green building, and allow attendees to find qualified installers and ask questions of professionals in the solar and renewable industries.

Admission to the exhibit grounds is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors, \$3 for students with ID, and free for NMSEA members, children under 12, teachers and PNM employees. Workshop costs are \$10 for a single workshop, \$30 for an all-day pass, and \$50 for a weekend pass, with discounts

for NMSEA members. To order tickets, call 505-246-0400 or 1-888-886-6765.

Public transportation, carpooling, or bicycling to the event is encouraged. Highland High School is located at 4700 Coal Ave. SE, two blocks south of Central Avenue's bus routes and west of San Mateo Boulevard.

Solar Fiesta! sponsors include PNM, the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department/Energy Conservation and Management Division ([ECMD](#)), and UniRac. ECMD, as the New Mexico State Energy Office, is using American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) dollars to eliminate barriers to energy efficiency and renewable energy and to increase demand for services that will create jobs throughout the state.

Founded in 1972, NMSEA is the country's oldest solar education nonprofit. For more information, visit www.nmsea.org or email info@nmsea.org.

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