

## MEDIA ADVISORY

**TO:** Assignment Editors/News Directors

**WHAT:** St. Mary's University College Discovering Science program sold-out in 30 minutes when it opened to the public on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014. On January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014, St. Mary's Science Professors will welcome students aged 12-14 into their classrooms and labs to discover that science is fun, accessible and hands-on in its first session of the semester.

**PHOTO OPP:** Twenty-five junior high school students will explore alchemy with help from St. Mary's University College science faculty. Through a series of experiments, students will light fires with water, change the colour of fire and turn ordinary pennies into gold.

**WHERE:** St. Mary's University College  
Room C120 in Main Classroom Building  
14500 Bannister Way SE, just off Macleod Trail South

**WHEN:** Wednesday, January 22, 2014, 7:30pm - 9:00pm.

**WHY:** "Discovering Science" was created by St. Mary's science faculty to turn kids on to science at an early age and encourage them to study the sciences in high school and university.

"Discovering Science allows students aged 12-14 to experience the fascination and excitement of science first-hand," said Dr. Clay, an Assistant Professor of Chemistry at St. Mary's University College and one of St. Mary's professors running the program. "Many of the experiments we do are inaccessible to students outside a university setting, affording participants a glimpse into the exciting future that awaits them in science. In this chemistry-based session, students will turn regular pennies into what appears to be silver and gold, start fires with water, and experiment with the chemicals that give fireworks their brilliant colors. In addition to these hands-on activities, students also learn how the experiments work, revealing the chemistry and science behind this apparent magic."

### ABOUT DISCOVERING SCIENCE

Discovering Science has been in operation since the fall of 2009, delivering hands-on science experiments to youth covering a broad range of topics. The program has become immensely popular and regularly sells out in less than one hour. The sessions are open to all students aged 12-14 for a nominal fee, although the program is particularly popular with homeschooled children. Discovering Science has been supported in the past by NSERC PromoScience and Alberta Ingenuity; we are currently seeking future funding to expand the program to meet the significant demand for it. Learn more about Discovering Science at <http://www.discoveringscience.org/>

### ABOUT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE IN CALGARY

St. Mary's University College is a liberal arts and sciences post-secondary institution in Calgary offering degrees in Education, English, Liberal Studies, Biology, General Studies, History and Psychology as well as transfer programs in business and the sciences.

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