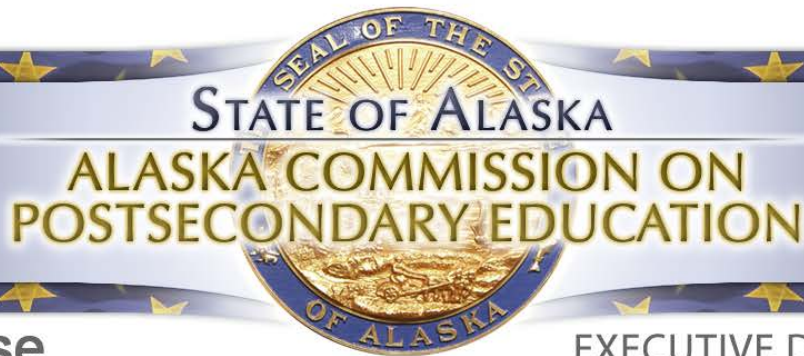


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Press Release

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 11, 2013

***Kids2College* Program Prepares Students For Success**

Helping 5th & 6th Grade Students Connect Their Interests to College and Careers

ANCHORAGE – This spring, nearly 2,200 Alaskan 5th and 6th grade students in 13 communities will take what for many will be first steps toward exploring their college and career interests.

Building on the success of the *I'm Going To College* program, the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education and UA College Savings Plan have partnered to take *Kids2College* across Alaska.

Kids2College students visiting college campuses in their communities will experience a day in the life of a college student, with fun, hands-on classes and age-appropriate lessons. Building a battery-operated robot, digging up archeological artifacts, or learning how to use a fire hose are intended to engage and stimulate career exploration and college preparation concepts in their young minds.

To prepare for their campus visit, students research what is involved with pursuing different careers and present the information to their classmates. Along the way, they learn about various academic options and the steps they can take today to prepare for college. *Kids2College* teaches students about local high school graduation and test requirements, college admissions, and how to qualify for financial aid opportunities like the Alaska Performance Scholarship.

Now in 28 states, *Kids2College* encourages students to aspire to education and training beyond high school – whether it's an apprenticeship, a one-year technical program or a seven-year professional degree sequence; by learning that postsecondary training is important *and* attainable.

Kids2College alumni are more likely to discuss college preparation with parents and teachers, and to understand college is possible for them. For those children whose families may not have a college-going history, it's an opportunity to learn first-hand about the career avenues and life experiences college offers.

Students will visit the following college campuses between Feb 28 and April 26, 2013.

ANCHORAGE: Friday, April 12: University of Alaska Anchorage

Contact: Brian McDermott: 907-786-1543; anbpm@uaa.alaska.edu

BARROW: Thursday, February 28: Ilisagvik College
Contact: Janelle Everett: 907-852-1799; janelle.everett@ilisagvic.cc

BETHEL: Friday, April 19: UAF Kuskokwim Campus
Contact: Quentin Simeon: 907-543-4599; qmsimeon@alaska.edu

DILLINGHAM: Friday, April 26: UAF Bristol Bay Campus
Contact: Cody Larson: 907-842-5109; cqlarson@alaska.edu

FAIRBANKS: Thursday, April 18: University of Alaska Fairbanks
Contact: Ashley Munro: 907-474-1934; akmunro@alaska.edu

HOMER: Friday, April 12: UAA Kenai Peninsula College, Kachemak Bay Campus
Contact: Kim Frost: 907-235-1658; kafrost2@kpc.alaska.edu

JUNEAU: Tuesday March 12/Wednesday March 13: University of Alaska Southeast
Contact: Janelle Cook: 907-796-6257; janelle.cook@uas.alaska.edu

KODIAK: Friday, March 22: UAA Kodiak College
Contact: Sandra Chichenoff: 907-486-1219; schichenoff@kodiak.alaska.edu

NOME: Friday, April 5: UAF Northwest Campus
Contact: Miranda Musich: 907-443-8427; mbmusich@alaska.edu

PALMER: Friday, April 26: UAA Matsu College
Contact: Amy Seamans: 907-745-9799; aseamans@matsu.alaska.edu

SITKA: Thursday, March 28: UAS Sitka Campus
Contact: Bob Love: 907-747-7777; rwlove@uas.alaska.edu

VALDEZ: Friday, April 19: Prince William Sound Community College
Contact: Heidi Franke: 907-834-1626; hafranke@pwsc.edu

To schedule a media visit to a local *Kids2College* event, please contact the local coordinator.

For more information on the statewide program, please contact Shelly Morgan, K-12 Specialist with the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education at 907-269-7972 or shelly.morgan@alaska.gov

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