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***Students invited to enter environmental video contest***

KAMUELA, Hawai‘i—May 2, 2011—Island high school students are invited to create a video on caring for the earth and submit it to win a scholarship to the University of California at San Diego's (UCSD) Academic Connections' Global Environmental Leadership and Sustainability Program on Hawai‘i Island in August.

The theme of the 2011 Hawai‘i Scholarship Contest is "How to Care for the Earth," and entrants are asked to submit a short video on a variation of this theme. Videos may be animations, photo slide shows, or live action, and high school students are encouraged to share how they care for the earth and what they do to help sustain the planet. The contest is open to high school students currently enrolled in 9th through 11th grade.

Videos will be featured on the Academic Connections Web site and the UCSD Extension YouTube channel. The scholarship contest winner will receive full tuition and airfare (up to \$5,000 in value including room and board) for a weeklong course that will examine the diverse ecosystems and climate zones of the Island of Hawai‘i. UCSD partners with The Kohala Center to offer this hands-on environmental leadership program for precollege students. Program dates are August 17-24.

“The course teaches students about the diverse ecosystems, climate zones, and cultures of Hawai‘i Island, and how to apply what they learn towards future leadership roles in sustainability by continuing their education in science to achieve that goal,” said Ed Abeyta, director of K-16 programs at UC San Diego Extension.

Scholarship applications, as well as specific guidelines concerning video length, formatting, and judging criteria, can be found at the Academic Connections Web site at <http://www.extension.ucsd.edu/scholarships>. The scholarship application deadline is June 30, and contest winners will be notified by the end of July. A tuition discount is available for Hawai‘i Island students who do not receive a scholarship; please contact [sbirch@kohalacenter.org](mailto:sbirch@kohalacenter.org), or call 443-2755 for details on the special kama‘aina rate.

The Kohala Center is an independent center for research and education *about* and *for* the environment, which operates in partnership with local, national, and international research and educational institutions. To learn more about The Kohala Center's programs, see [www.kohalacenter.org](http://www.kohalacenter.org).