



Fairchild Challenge October E-news

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Student Spotlight



How could I not be interested in an internship that studies biofuels considering I want to be an environmental major? I wanted to join the internship to receive an in-depth look of college lab studies. The network opportunities were

Dear Challenge9-12,

Happy October everyone! Although October is the tenth month in our calendar, early Romans saw it differently. For the Latin speakers, this month was the eighth one of the year, hence the name Oct-ober.

No matter which calendar you might follow, this month is a busy one. School is in full swing and the Fairchild Challenge is rolling well into our tenth year. Environmental Immersion Day, professional development, student workshops and performances are some of this month's upcoming events, sure to inspire and excite!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION & DUE DATES

Environmental Immersion Day (EID)

Event date; Tuesday, November 8

Click [here for more information](#) and [here for the entry form](#).

Environmental Debates: Water for Life

[Click here to see the 2011-2012 debate topics](#).

South Florida Ecosystems Workshop (for students)

Extended Deadline!!! Wednesday, October 12.

Event Date; Saturday, October 15

Are you designing T-shirts or banners for Challenge 3? Come spend the day with us in the Garden and learn about South Florida ecosystems. The workshop is open to middle and high school students and will take place

amazing! Having the privilege to meet with several doctors who are studying my proposed field, when I am still in high school, definitely gives me a step ahead.

My favorite event was our visit to the extension lab where I met with Dr. Vendrame. I loved learning about *jatropha* and all the experiments that have been conducted with one little species. Writing research papers and comprehending primary sources will help me in my last year of high school this year when it comes to APA and MLA formatting for my AP classes. Andrew Jungman was the best mentor I learned so much from him and the help from the other professors such as Dr. Von Wettberg, Dr. Jay, Dr. Bhat made my learning atmosphere rewarding!

-Karly P. FIU-USDA
Summer Intern 2011
Karly continues to participate in the Fairchild Challenge at the high school level.

We are Social!



Join Our Mailing List!



from 9:00-12:30pm. [Click here for more information.](#)

Performance: Policy, Words and Movement [SEE E-VITE!!!](#)

Due Wednesday, October 12

Event Date; Wednesday, October 26

Dust off the thesaurus and the dancing shoes, the high school performances are quickly approaching! [Click here for the Entry Form](#) and [here for the Table.](#)

M-DCPS Proclamation

On October 19th, Miami-Dade County Public School Board Member, **Raquel A. Regalado**, will pass a resolution recognizing The Fairchild Challenge for its **ten years of environmental education** for the students of Miami-Dade County and for its continuing efforts to foster interest in the environment by encouraging students to appreciate the beauty and value of nature, develop critical-thinking skills, understand the need for biodiversity and conservation, tap community resources, become actively engaged citizens and recognize that individuals do indeed make a difference.



T-shirt and Banner Design

Due Wednesday, November 2

Visual artists unite! [Click here for the Entry Form.](#)

School Garden Grant

Proposal due Wednesday, November 2

[Click here for the grant application.](#)

CHALLENGE RESOURCES

Jonathan Walton

October 24-26

Nationally recognized, spoken word artist, Jonathan Walton, will be back in Miami for three days visiting schools and inspiring students to make a better life for themselves. [Contact us](#) to book a visit to your school, first come, first served.

FIU College Fair

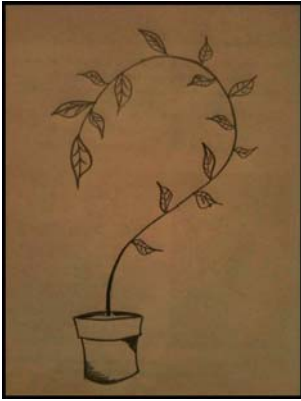
Saturday, November 5

High School students, grades 10-12, meet Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden scientists and Florida International University faculty from the Schools of Environment, Arts and Society Department at the FIU College Fair. The fair will be held at the Fairchild Ballroom and students will be able to speak directly with faculty about research, opportunities, mentorships and scholarships. [Click here to see the E-VITE!!!](#)

Connect to Protect Network

FTBG's Center for Tropical Plant Conservation's Connect to Protect Network newsletter [is available here.](#)

Question of the Month



Q: For the Olympic Wreath, can we use non-native, naturalized, exotic or even invasive plants as long as the chosen plants are "representative" of our region?
- representative of a site participating in the Global Competition

A: While the plants that may be used in the wreath design are not required to be native plants (although they must be representative of your region's biodiversity), **we were informed by BGCI, our partner for the Global Competition, that the use of invasive plants is discouraged.**

To find out more answers to some frequently asked questions, [visit our website's FAQ.](#)

If you have current or past student(s) that you would like to highlight, please send us a picture of the student(s) and a 250-word article to be featured in our monthly E-newsletter. Staff will select featured articles.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & OPPORTUNITIES

Raised Bed Garden Workshop

Saturday, October 15

Saturday, January 7

Interested in starting or improving your school's raised bed garden? Join us for this bi-annual workshop from 8:30-4:00pm.



School Garden Workshop

Saturday, October 15

Join us for a one-day workshop, offered bi-annually, for teachers to explore how to create a school garden with their students. Teachers will learn the basics of planning, designing, and implementing a school garden.

To register, please visit <http://calendar.dadeschools.net>. For more information, contact Kiki Mutis at 305.667.1651 x 3330 or kmutis@fairchildgarden.org.

For more classes offered to teachers in Miami-Dade county by the Education Department at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden please visit our [Teacher Professional Development Courses](#) page.

AT THE GARDEN

3rd Annual Bird Day

Sunday, October 9

This fun and educational day will be full of activities to inspire life-long 'birders' and bird novices alike. Leading ornithological experts will give presentations and answer your bird questions. Take a Bird Walk with an expert birder, buy bird attracting plants for your garden



and learn all about our feathered friends at Fairchild's [Third Annual Bird](#)

[Day!](#)

Edible Garden Festival

Saturday and Sunday, October 22-23

The Edible Garden Festival will feature delicious food, cooking demonstrations, a [scarecrow competition](#), plant sales and gardening demonstrations and lectures on how to create your own edible garden.

For more information on events happening throughout the month of October, please visit Fairchild's [Events website](#).

Sincerely,

Sarah Vatland and Thaddeus Foote
Education Outreach Coordinators
Fairchild Challenge High School Coordinators
www.fairchildchallenge.org

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