

# Solar Decathlon Opening Ceremony and VIP Ribbon Cutting

Written by Australian Business

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## **Solar Decathlon Opening Ceremony and VIP Ribbon Cutting *Wednesday Media Preview; Thursday Opening Ceremony* Program Features *City of Irvine Officials, Students and Special Guests***

IRVINE, Calif., Oct. 2, 2013 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Collegiate teams involving more than 1,000 students from around the world are racing to complete construction of their highly energy-efficient solar-powered houses for the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon 2013. Hosted outside Washington, D.C. for the first time, Solar Decathlon 2013 officially begins tomorrow at the Orange County Great Park with an opening ceremony featuring City of Irvine officials, participating students, special guests and event sponsors. [See early photos here](#)

**WHO:** □□□□□□□□

***Collegiate teams from across the country and around the world***

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***Steven Choi, Mayor, City of Irvine***

***Father Jim Reites, Professor & Team Faculty Advisor, Santa Clara University***

***Competition sponsors including: Cisco, Edison International, Robert Bosch LLC, Schneider Elec***

**WHAT:** □□□□□□

Official kick-off of global to compete spanning 10 days that gauge each house's performance with a final

**WHEN:** □

**Media Preview Day:** □

Wednesday, October 2

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Media registration; welcoming program and guided tour through the Solar Decathlon village, featuring st

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12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Sneak peek inside completed houses; advance interviews with students; compelling video and photo op

**Opening Ceremony:** □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Thursday, October 3

8:30 a.m.

All-team student photo in east end of Solar Decathlon village

9:00 – 9:30 a.m.

Media set-up and advance seating in Hangar 244

9:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Opening ceremony in Hangar 244 with students, elected officials, sponsors, special guest speakers, and

11:00 a.m.

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Ribbon-cutting and opening of Solar Decathlon village

11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m

Interview availability with students, guided tours, and house access

## WHERE:

Orange County Great Park [Link, Drive, Call and map](#)

## RSVP:

Media wishing to attend [should RSVP by contacting Jason \(202\) 772-3295](#) E media lead for the Solar Decathlon

Solar Decathlon 2013 teams competing at the Orange County Great Park:

- **Arizona State University and The University of New Mexico**
- **Czech Republic** (Czech Technical University)
- **Kentucky/Indiana** (University of Louisville, Ball State University, and University of Kentucky )
- **Middlebury College**
- **Missouri University of Science and Technology**
- **Norwich University**
- **Santa Clara University**
- **Southern California Institute of Architecture and California Institute of Technology**
- **Stanford University**
- **Stevens Institute of Technology**

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- **Team Alberta** (University of Calgary)
- **Team Austria** (Vienna University of Technology)
- **Team Capitol DC** (The Catholic University of America, George Washington University, and American University)
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- **Team Ontario** (Queen's University, Carleton University, and Algonquin College)
- **Team Texas** (The University of Texas at El Paso and El Paso Community College)
- **University of Nevada Las Vegas**
- **The University of North Carolina at Charlotte**
- **University of Southern California**
- **West Virginia University**

Team houses will open to the public free of charge **October 3-6 and October 10-13** from **11:00 a.m.**

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**7:00 p.m.**

The overall winner will be announced

Saturday, October 12

at

10:00 a.m.

Media interested in covering the Solar Decathlon 2013 may visit our [online press room](#) and download our

[online media kit](#)

. For full event information, shuttle options, current standings, high-resolution photos, videos, an event schedule and daily results, visit

[www.SolarDecathlon.gov](http://www.SolarDecathlon.gov)

. You may also follow the competition in real time on Facebook at

[Facebook.com/DOESolarDecathlon](https://www.facebook.com/DOESolarDecathlon)

and Twitter at

[@Solar\\_Decathlon](https://twitter.com/Solar_Decathlon)

. Photos are also available on Flickr at

[http://www.flickr.com/photos/solar\\_decathlon/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/solar_decathlon/)

For the first time, the Solar Decathlon will be hosted alongside XPO, a clean, renewable and efficient energy exposition, featuring visionary and innovative companies, products, and educational opportunities, organized by the City of Irvine and Orange County Great Park. Through fun, interactive exhibits and activities, the XPO will provide visitors with information about the broad spectrum of energy efficiency in home design, transportation, consumer

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products, food production and education. Visitors will experience a 21st century festival of creativity, technology, design, and educational experiences that will inspire children and adults alike. Learn more at [www.The-XPO.org](http://www.The-XPO.org)  
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SOURCE U.S. Department of Energy

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