

## Caring for the Community: UC San Diego Dedicates Week to Service

*9th annual UCSD Cares Week showcases student philanthropy and service*

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Mural painting, a photography contest and a "Careers that Make a Difference" workshop are all part of the University of California, San Diego's annual celebration of *UCSD Cares Week*. From May 1-7, a week of events will raise awareness and inspire activism for local, national and global social issues.

*UCSD Cares* is a community service campaign that brings students, staff, faculty and nonprofit organizations together to promote philanthropy awareness, raise funds for charities and create a unified community that reflects UC San Diego's commitment to community service. This year, more than 25 different organizations are slated to participate in the week-long event.

"Our biggest goal is to give back to our communities and strive for a higher level of community service," said Allison Spivack, one of the student organizers for the event.

In 2009, *UCSD Cares* raised more than \$13,000 for the Rady's Children Hospital through the course of the week. This year, proceeds from *UCSD Cares* will benefit the International Rescue Committee (IRC), a nonprofit organization committed to helping those who have been displaced by violence, natural disasters and oppression. San Diego's chapter of the IRC receives more than 150 cases of refugees each week, and in recent months it has taken in more than 80 refugees from all over the world.

Throughout the week, students will participate in special events, including:

**Cares Volunteer Resource Fair**, 11 to 3 p.m., May 5 at Library Walk

**University Centers Concert**, 8 p.m., May 4 at Porter's Pub

**"Careers that "Make a Difference"** career workshop, 2 to 3:30p.m., May 5 at the Career Services Center

**UCSD Cares Closing Celebration**, noon, May 7 at the International Center.

For more information about *UCSD Cares* and a complete listing of events, please visit <http://ucsdcares.ucsd.edu>.

*UCSD Cares* began in 2001 in response to the September 11 tragedy. Over the years, it has become the signature philanthropic event on campus. Previous *UCSD Cares* events responded to the 2005 hurricane Katrina and the 2008 San Diego fires, providing support to the local and national community.

Now in its 9th year, *UCSD Cares* promises to be another memorable and inspiring week of community, philanthropy and service at UC San Diego that will instill a tradition of giving back for future students. "There are a number of economic, social and political issues that still need to be addressed," said Spivack. "The possibilities are endless for what *UCSD Cares* can achieve in the future."

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