



MIT MUSEUM PRESS RELEASE

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SOAP BOX

Debating Cutting Edge Issues with World-Class Scientists and Engineers

MIT Museum Presents Mitchel Resnick

Professor of Learning Research at the MIT Media Lab

Tuesday May 23, 6:00 – 8:00 P.M.

Preparing Today's Children For Life In Tomorrow's Creative Society

Professor Mitchel Resnick's research explores new technologies and how they help people, especially children, learn new things in new ways. At MIT's renown Media Lab, Resnick oversees research that is rooted in communications and the computer and cognitive sciences, as well as in design and the expressive arts. Resnick's Lifelong Kindergarten Research Group at the MIT Media Lab works with young students and has developed a variety of educational tools, including the "programmable bricks" that are the basis for the award-winning LEGO MindStorms robotics kit. Resnick also co-founded the Computer Clubhouse project, an international network of after-school centers where low-income students learn to creatively express themselves using new technologies.

"Success in the future - for individuals, companies, and nations - will be based not on what we know, or how much we know, but on our ability to think and act creatively," says Resnick "So many of our educational practices were developed in a different era. Now we must ask: how can we best make new technologies and educational initiatives that help children learn to design, invent, and express themselves creatively? How can we best prepare them for life in a creative society?" These are some of the questions that Resnick will explore during the May 23 Soap Box event at the MIT Museum.

Soap Box is a public forum for debate about important ideas and issues in science and technology. Begun in partnership with the Boston Globe, *Soap Box* gives its audience the chance to debate serious issues with world-class scientists and engineers in an intimate

setting at the MIT Museum. While over 150 people have attended each event, even more have been drawn to the conversations through the online forum posted at:
<http://web.mit.edu/museum>.

More Information about Mitchel Resnick and the MIT Media Lab

http://www.media.mit.edu/people/bio_mres.html

Overflow accommodations will be held in the Museum's large conference room with a television monitor to the main event. Look for a profile of Professor Mitchel Resnick in the May 22 *Boston Globe* Health and Science Section.

Soap Box will be filmed by MIT Video for release via **MIT World**.
Free Admission/Refreshments served.