Israeli Students Demonstrate High-Tech Inventions in Union Square

By **Heather Holland** on May 7, 2013 7:20am

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UNION SQUARE — High-tech inventions created by Israeli high school students will go on display in Union Square on Tuesday.

More than a dozen tech students from Israel planned a full-day interactive science lab, allowing passersby to try their inventions, including a system that controls how far a sound travels.

"The students will be bringing the physical prototypes of their inventions and people can watch the prototypes working," said Joel Roth Child, a teacher from Israel's Sci-Tech School Network. "To start, the students needed to come up with a need, or an opportunity to solve a problem."

One student who will be presenting on Tuesday has developed a loudspeaker that is able to limit how far sound travels, which is useful for people who want to listen to music in an office or keep sound from bothering their neighbors, said Keren Gelfand, a spokeswoman for the consul general of Israel.

Another prototype is a system that prevents people from illegally parking in a handicapped parking spot by issuing an automatic ticket that will be mailed to the driver's home, Gelfand said.

None of the prototypes will be for sale, she added.

Throughout the event, students from Union Square's own Academy of Software Engineering will invite the public to join interactive workshops and challenges, including a lesson on how to create a hovercraft using a balloon and a DVD.

Ambassador Ido Aharoni, the acting consul general at the Consulate General of Israel in New York, planned to introduce the event, which runs from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

"The Street Lab will showcase a variety of student-created technological solutions that can benefit the everyday lives of New Yorkers," Gelfand said. "We want to bring regular people from the streets to the tent to teach them how the inventions work and get them to do some hands-on science."