Robofest e-Newsletter 03-29-18

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Note: All times are listed in Eastern Standard Time

(1) Deadline Approaching - \$12,000 LTU Scholarship Opportunity for all Robofest Participants

Has your Robofest Student received an LTU Acceptance Letter? He or she could earn money for College! High School Juniors and Seniors who have participated in Robofest at any time and who are planning to attend LTU, could earn a \$3,000 renewable scholarship (Total of \$12,000). To apply, submit an application, along with a 400-word essay regarding their Robofest experience, career goals, and a letter of recommendation from a Robofest coach or mentor. Robofest can assist with the recommendation letter if desired. The deadline to apply is April 1. **To find more information and download the application, visit**

https://www.ltu.edu/futurestudents/scholarshipopportunities.asp#tab3

(2) Studio Time Available for Game Teams

In preparation for the Michigan Invitational events (see item 5), we are hosting Studio time for game teams to practice in the Robofest/Computer Science Robotics Lab — Room J234 in the Taubman Complex at LTU. The fields will be set up and teams can use the time to test lighting conditions and different types/colors of tables. No registration or appointment necessary.

Dates and times available are:

Tuesday, April 17 -- 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm Wednesday, April 18 -- 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm Thursday, April 19 - 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

(3) BottleSumo Registration extended at Cranbrook

There are still slots available for the BottleSumo event a Cranbrook Institute of Science on April 7. We are looking for a few more Senior teams - We need at least 5 teams to host the division. Registration has been extended to April 3.

Admission to the Cranbrook Science Institute is included with the \$20 team site check-in fee for all Game, Exhibition and BotleSumo participants competing that day along with their family members. The museum is open until 10pm on Saturday.

(4) Video Qualifier and Video Screening for Virtual Regional Deadlines

- USA_Video_Qualifier and International _Video_Qualifier Game and Exhibition teams must upload a video to the Team Registration page on Robofest.net to be screened and scored by **April 15.**
- Exhibition trophy winners in all US competitions including Michigan must upload a presentation video to the Team Registration page on Robofest.net to be screened in the Robofest Virtual Regional by April 22.

For more information, please see official rules on the Get Involved – 2018 Main page on Robofest.net.

(5) Michigan Invitational Registration to open Monday, April 2

Game Teams who participated in Michigan Qualifiers who did not advance to the Robofest World Championship may register for a second chance to qualify at one of the MI Invitational events in the Robofest/Computer Science Robotics Lab - Room J234 in the Taubman Complex at LTU:

- Jr Game -
 - Group A Saturday, April 21 9:00 am 1:00 pm
 - o Group B Monday, April 23 − 5:00 pm − 9:00 pm
 - Group C Tuesday, April 24 9:00 am 1:00 pm
- Sr Game
 - Wednesday, April 25 5:00 pm 9:00 pm

Registration will open on noon on April 2, 2018. New registration including registration fee is required.

(6) Wanted: Robot Drawing Challenge Contestants

Again this year, we are hosting the Robot Drawing Challenge where *Imagination is more important than knowledge.* Children from around the world will gather to draw pictures of robots of the future. The Robot Drawing Contest is open to individual students from Kindergarten through 3rd grade. Judges decide winners. The contest will be held during the World Robofest Championship at LTU on Thursday, May 17 2018, 1:30 - 4:00 pm. This Contest is also good for the younger siblings of team members. Registration is will open on April 2, 2018, and the registration fee is \$20 per individual. All participants take home a participation medal and the Winner earns a trophy.

(7) 2018 Open Category Team Registration to open Monday, April 2

Registration will open at 7:00 pm (note new time) on Monday, April 2, 2018 for US Teams wishing to participate in the Open Category Events at the World Championship event:

RoboParade	May 18	8:30am – 11:30am
Jr. & Sr. UMC	May 18	12:30pm – 4:00pm
Jr. & Sr. BottleSumo	May 18	5:00pm – 8:00pm
Jr. & Sr. RoboArts	May 19	9:30am – 3:45pm
Sr. & College Vcc	May 19	9:30am - 3:45pm

US teams should register for the *USAOnly* events listed on the registration page:

https://robofest.net/rms/SharedPagesServlet?cmd=getSitesTable&action=orderByDate&year=2018&superAdminMen u=1&siteAdminMenu=1&coachMenu=1

Once registration closes, the US teams will be transferred from the *US Only* sites to the official World Championship event sites. The World Championship schedule can be accessed at: https://www.robofest.net/2018/WC18plan.pdf

International teams who do not have a Robofest Director in their country may send an email requesting registration to robofest@ltu.edu.

(8) Wanted: Robofest Ambassadors Volunteers for World Championship Events

We are looking for Middle School and High School students to represent the Robofest Community and assist our outof-state and international guests in finding their way around the various venues on LTU during Robofest World Championship events on May 17 – 19. To sign up online, go to

https://robofest.net/rms/appPages/volunteerPages/YearLocationLookup.jsp

You will see a list of sites with dates. Select one of the 3 sites:

WC Volunteers Thursday WC Volunteers Friday

WC Volunteers Saturday

Click on New Volunteer Registration link and enter your contact information. Thank you in advance for supporting Robofest!

(9) Coach Awards

We would like to acknowledge our coaches who have 5, 10, and 15 years with Robofest as a coach! To submit your name, please send an email to robofest@ltu.edu with the subject *Coach Award*. Please include the coach name, coach ID, and number of years coaching. We will recognize these dedicated coaches at the World Championship Awards Ceremony.

(10) Students from China would like to visit Michigan Robotics in Schools

The Robofest delegation from China is interested in visiting a local school in Michigan during their trip to the Robofest World Championship in May. The students would like to see the US classrooms and how their peers in the US are studying robotics and the coaches would like to learn how robotics is incorporated into teaching activities.

A short visit for around 2 to 3 hours will be perfect. They look forward to communicating with your team, and they will be responsible for all the fees occurred in this activity. Please contact zhaoyang@youngplus.net if you are interested and to discuss further.

(11) Mentorship /Volunteer Opportunity

Robofest is are searching for advanced/experienced Robofest participants of any age as well as adults who are interested in volunteering to mentor new Robofest teams. Service Hours can be earned toward the Presidents Volunteer Service Award, National Honor Society, Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts, Church or School, etc.

We are also searching for new teams who are interested in finding a mentor. Robofest will screen and coordinate teams with volunteers. Contact Elmer Santos esantos@ltu.edu to register as a mentor or mentee.

(12) WISER Conference 2018

Call for participation is open for the 3rd World conference on Integrated STEaM Education through Robotics (WISER 18) May 18, 2018 in conjunction with World Robofest 2018.

Since robotics is all about STEM and art is tightly connected to all the S. T. E. M. components, interest in integrated *STEaM learning through robotics* has been increased. We would like to gather together to share experiences and knowledge and exchange ideas in Robotics education as well as educational robotics for the effective STEaM learning environment. In addition, we would like to discuss how to advance robotics education and educational robotics for humanity through the STEaM learning paradigm. Visit https://robofest.net/index.php/current-competitions/wiser for more information or to submit an abstract.

(13) Robofest 2018 Sponsors

Robofest would not be possible without the support from the following our generous sponsors. Thank you to all of our sponsors, past and present! Complete list can be found on the web at: https://www.robofest.net/2018/sponsors.htm

Robofest 2018 would not be possible without the support from our generous sponsors: DENSO, Toyota, Hyundai MOBIS, The Michigan Council of Women in Technology Foundation, Robomatter, National Defense Industrial Association Michigan Chapter, IEEE Southeast Michigan Section and Region 4, RIIS Inc., Realtime Technologies Inc., and Young+.

Friends of Robofest include: Aramark, ART/DESIGN Group in Clawson, CJ Chung, Robin G. Leclerc, Howard Davis, Erik Rosvold, Dennis J. Howie, Dieter Giese, Wei Jiang and Wei & Yan Liu.

Lawrence Technological University / Robofest / J-233 / 21000 W. Ten Mile, Southfield, MI 48075 CJ Chung, Professor, Director, chung@ltu.edu
Elmer Santos, Assistant Director, esantos@ltu.edu
Shannan Palonis, Coordinator, spalonis@ltu.edu
http://facebook.com/robofest