A Competition Motivating Young Minds to Master the Machine

Robofest, an international competition for students grades 5 - 12, challenges participants to design, construct, and program robots to compete in missions or exhibition. Students have fun while learning computer programming, engineering, math, and science. Started at LTU in 2000, Robofest has grown to over 550 teams and hundreds of students at venues across the US and other countries.

Robofest 2008 will take place at 41 qualifying sites across the United States, Canada, Korea, and United Kingdom. In Michigan, a qualifying site will take place at William D. Ford Career – Technical Center, Westland. Visit the Robofest website at www.robofest.net for detailed rules and other qualifying site locations.

Top teams from each Qualifying Site will move on to compete at World Robofest 2008 Championship April 26th at LTU. Students on Top World Championship Teams will receive \$2,000 LTU Renewable Annual Scholarships as well as other prizes donated by Robofest sponsors.

Student teams, composed of up to seven members each, can compete in several ways:

- Games. Students undertake robotic missions with two autonomous robots programmed to work cooperatively.
- Exhibition. Students demonstrate the creative tasks they
 have designed and programmed their autonomous robots to
 accomplish.
- **RoboSumo.** Push the other robot out of the Sumo ring!
- RoboFashion Show. Teams of two robots will show off their costumes and dance moves.
- Mini Urban Challenge. Senior-level contestants use machine vision to enable a laptop-based robot to maneuver through a course simulating an urban road environment.
- **Pentathlon.** Robot teams can participate in five field events using VEX robots.
- **Bridge Battle (Associate Event).** VEX robots obtain the most points possible on a 12-foot-square field with a bridge.

Age Divisions: Junior, grades 5–9 & Senior, grades 9–12

Robofest's Unique Features

Look Mom, No Hands: Students must fully program their robots to perform their missions without human assistance. No joysticks or remote controls are allowed.

Your Mission, If You Decide to Accept It: Is (partly) unknown or dynamic. Students must program their robots to accomplish tasks in the dynamic environment.

Students Rule: While adult mentorship is encouraged, students design, construct and program the robots, and adult coaches are not allowed to assist during the competition.

It's Flexible: Any type of robot kit, materials, actuators, and sensors are allowed. Robots can be programmed by using any programming language.

Everyone is a Winner: All registered participants receive medals and framed certificates. Winners of the qualifying and championship rounds receive big trophies.

Registration is Affordable: Team registration is \$55 per team. Teams can be formed by any organization, school, home schools, club or civic group.

You can register on-line for the William D. Ford Career – Technical Center, Westland, Michigan competition site at www.robofest.net. William D. Ford Career – Technical Center will be hosting Junior and Senior Games, and Junior and Senior Exhibition. This event is being organized by Zackary MacLean, hosted at William D. Ford Career – Technical Center, Westland, Michigan. Registration space is still available! Register A Team Today!!

William D. Ford Career – Technical Center 36455 Marquette Westland, MI 48185

Thurs., April 3 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m

Zachary MacLean, Site Organizer

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Register at www.robofest.net
Registration questions, robofest@LTU.edu

