# Fostering Creativity through Global Robotics Art Festival (GRAF)

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# 1010

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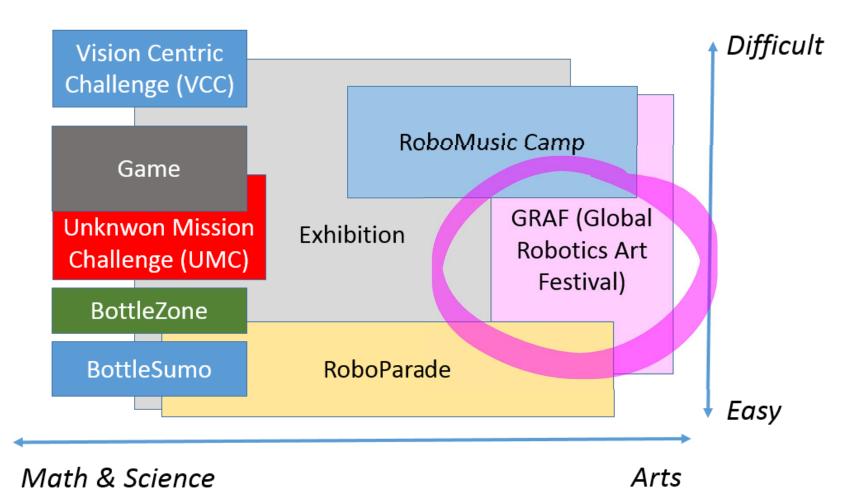
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### Why Arts and Robots?

- Art is about expressing creativity
- People love arts that have also strong connection with all the S. T. E. M components
- Robotics is all about the STEM
- The combination of the two would create a true interdisciplinary (wide), in-depth, and lifelong natural learning environment fostering creativity

### Robofest is Wide and Deep







### Definition: Robotics Art

- Any artwork that employs some form of robotic or automated technology
- programmed to respond to viewer interactions, by means of computers, sensors and actuators



### The goals of GRAF

- To attract more students to pursue STEM fields
- To prepare them to excel in advanced education
- To promote/foster creativity





### Global Robotics Art Festival

- Inaugural event
- November 23, 2013 9am-4pm, Macomb Community College Expo Center
- Robots must have computational components programmed by participants and must employ sensors
- Open to students grades 4-12
  - Performing Arts & Visual Arts divisions



#### Performing Arts Division: suggested categories

- Dance
- Synchronized Group Dance
- Fashion Show
- Music Band
- Robot and Human Playing music together
- Robotic musical instruments played by humans
- Robot Skit





#### **Visual Arts Division**

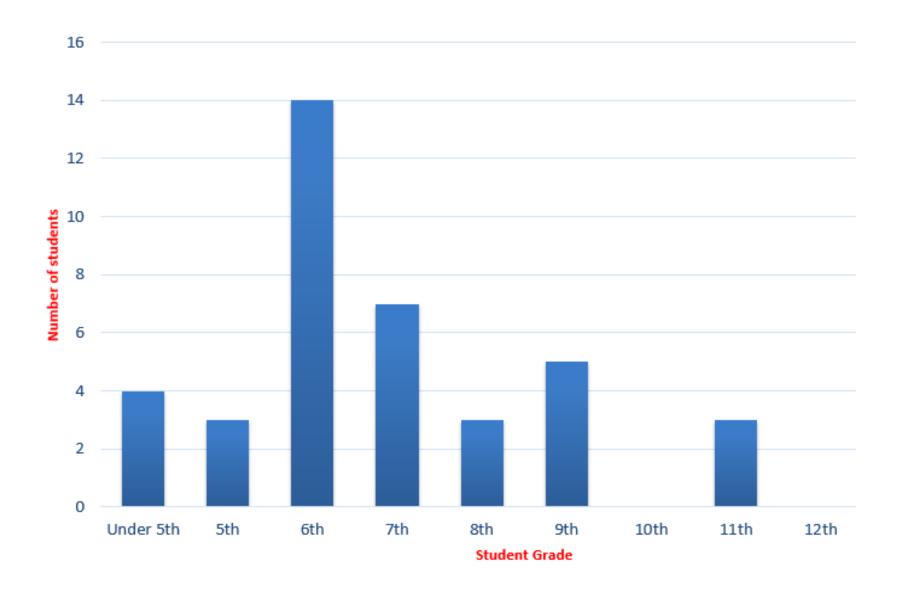
- Kinetic Sculptures
- Kinetic Canvas
- Robotic Painting



### **GRAF 2013 Participation Data**

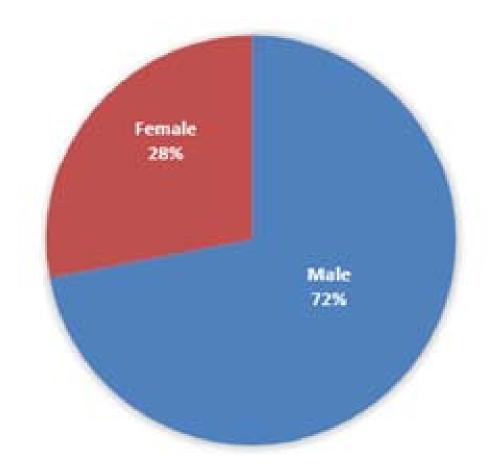
- 15 teams registered
- 13 teams came from Michigan and Ohio,
   Canada, and Mexico
- A total of 39 students
- Average team size was 3, which provides an ideal learning environment to develop both independence and collaboration for the "TEaMS (or STEaM)" paradigm.

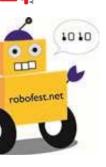
### 79% were young students in either elementary or middle school



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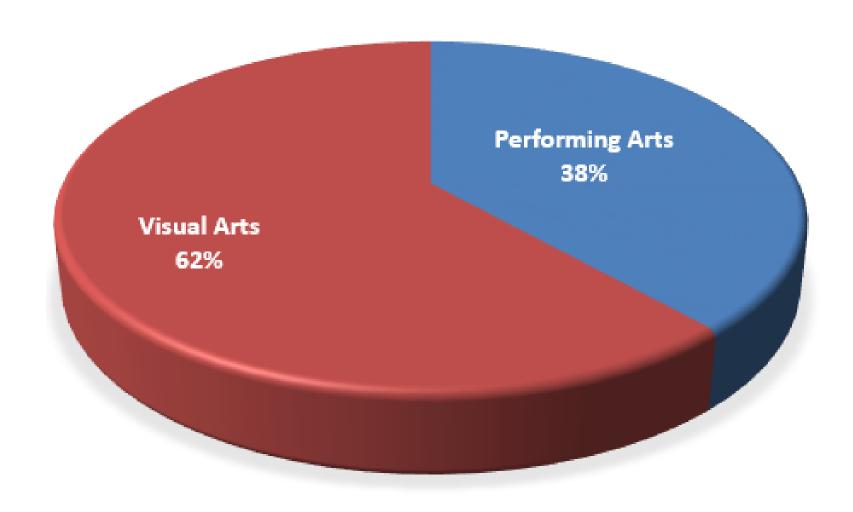
### 28% of the participants were female students





higher than the female college student participation rate - ~15%, in college engineering programs

### Participation Categories

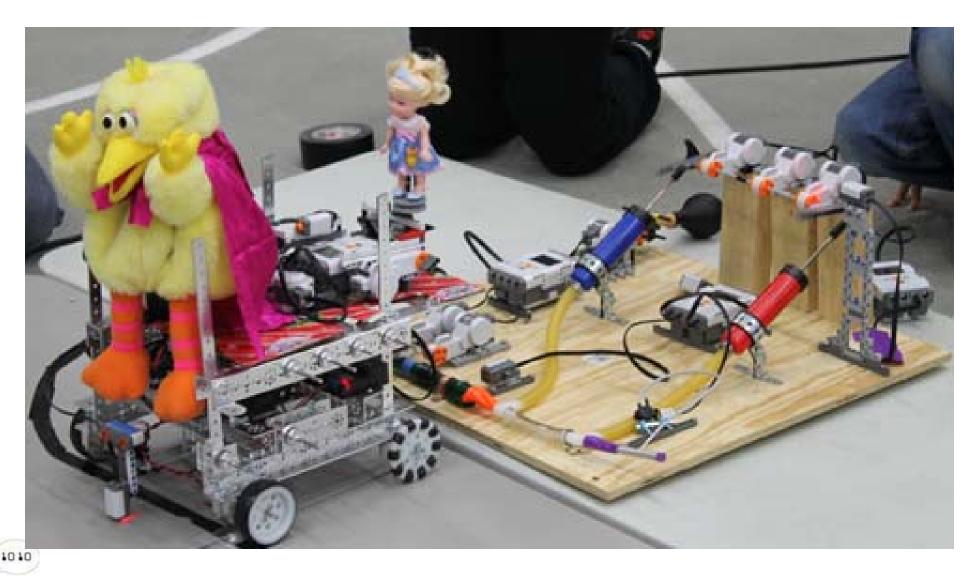


## robofest.net

### See how creative they are!



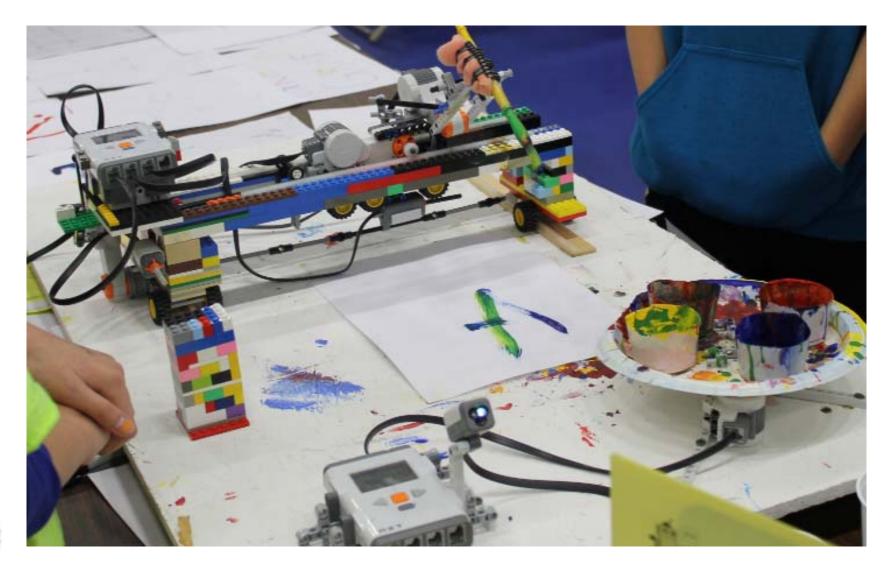
### Performing Arts Entries







### **Visual Arts Entries**

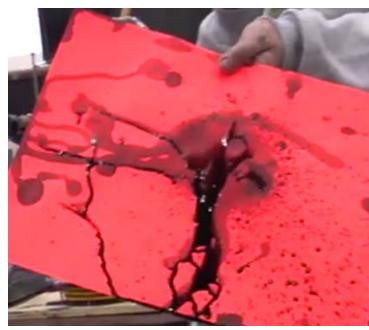


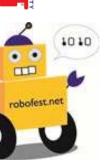




### **Mood Painter**







http://youtu.be/dUhMSFq4lpg

#### MARGO – Kinect Art Patterns





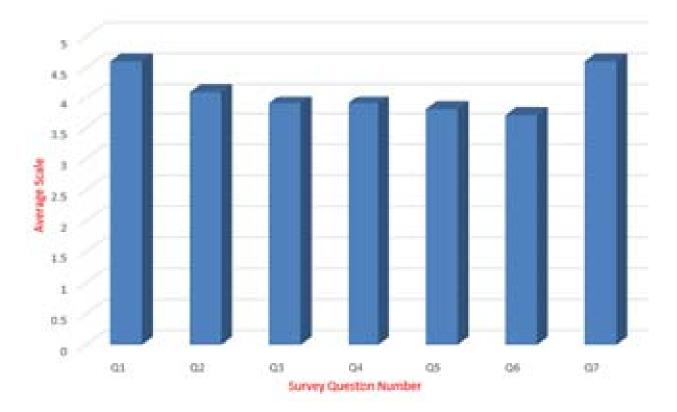




### Survey Results



- 4: Agree
- 3: Neutral
- 2: Somewhat disagree
- 1: Disagree



- Q1. I had fun doing robotics arts project
- **Q2**. I am interested in a career or job involving Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics (STEM)
- **Q3**. Combining robotics and arts gave more motivation to learn STEM than traditional STEM only projects.
- **Q4**. Doing a hands-on project combining robots with arts makes me want to learn more about STEM
- Q5. I am more likely to take STEM related classes after this event
- **Q6**. I am more likely to take arts related classes after this event
- Q7. I would like to participate in GRAF next year too.





### **Survey Comments**

- It was fun. (x 4)
- This project was very enriching and interesting because besides of the robotics part, I'm a musician.
- I'm very impressed about all the robots. They are great.
- I had a lot of fun designing this project, but I would prefer a standard competition like Robofest.
  - Very good organization.

- More people should know about this and participate.
- I like everything.
- I am going to do more robotic arts after this event.
- It was a very good idea to mix robotics and art and I am looking forward to next year.
- I really enjoyed it!!
- Love it!!!

### **Summary & Conclusion**

- Fun, beauty, and joy
- Express, discover, and <u>create</u>
- Female and young students friendly
- Possibly an effective way to improve STEM fluency since students felt they gained knowledge in STEM subjects
- STREaM: STEM, Arts, and Robotics



### Future Work in 2014

- Developing rigorous methodologies to measure and assess STREaM successes
- Assessing the degree of creativity learning through GRAF 2014 (Oct. 25, 2014 at Macomb Community College, Michigan)

