

Robofest e-Newsletter 02-11-20

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Note: All times are listed in EST

(1) Robofest 2020 Warmup Competition and Game Judge Training at LTU

LAST CALL FOR TEAMS: We are looking for local teams who would like to participate in the mock competition to train Site Hosts and Judges on Saturday, Feb 15, 2020 1:00pm ~ 6:00pm. Room J234 in the Taubman Complex ~ Building # 8 on the LTU Campus Map: <https://www.ltu.edu/map/ltu-campus-map.pdf>

Please register and pay the registration fee for a local qualifier to be eligible. Send an email to spaloni@ltu.edu. Check-in for registered teams begins at 1:00 pm and Judge training will start at 1:50 pm.

ALL MICHIGAN SITE HOSTS and Site Game Judge Volunteers are encouraged to attend the Warmup. Please register as a Judge on the volunteer registration page: <https://robofest.net/rms/appPages/volunteerPages/index.jsp?siteID=1174>

(2) UPDATED Robofest 2020 Workshop Schedule

All of the 2020 workshops will be held in Room J234 in the Taubman Complex*. Building # 8 on the LTU Campus Map: <https://www.ltu.edu/map/ltu-campus-map.pdf>. Free parking is available in all campus parking lots.

- **NEW!! Robot C for VEX IQ**
 - Monday, Feb 17, 3:00 pm ~ 6:00 pm - Contact Elmer Santos (esantos@ltu.edu) directly to register
- **EV3 for RoboParade**
 - Sat, Feb 22, 9:00am ~ Noon – Register on Robofest.net
- **Python/Open CV - EduBot for Vcc** (*Location: Room M138 Buell Building #5)
 - Sat, Feb 22, 9:00am ~ 3:00pm– Register on Robofest.net

(3) 2020 Qualifier Registration is open

We have added new sites! Registration is open for all Qualifying and Open Competition local sites. Please make sure you register soon before your preferable site becomes full.

(4) MCWT Increases Sponsorship and Announces Grant Recipients

The Michigan Council of Women in Technology Foundation recently increased their Robofest Sponsorship to the Gold-Level and is pleased to announce its 2019-2020 Robofest Grant Winners. Each of the following 10 teams will receive \$500 to use toward supplies, robot sensors, entrance fees to competitions, a laptop, or other expenses. Please visit www.mcwt.org. The Foundation tab provides information about additional programs for K-12 girls as well as information about college scholarships.

Team Name	School or Affiliation	City	Coach's Name	Grade Level
STEAM Robo Builders	Farmington STEAM Academy	Farmington Hills	Neelima Chalasani	5th
Robotic Retrievers	Gallimore Elementary	Canton	Cara Wegrzyn	5th
Dragon Coders	Syring Elementary	Swartz Creek	Eureka McCormick	5th
Duke Ellington Music & Art @ Beckham	Duke Ellington Conservatory of Music & Art at Beckham Academy	Detroit	Kim Quarles	5th & 7th
MS - Team 1	Southfield Christian School	Southfield	Leann Bigos	6th
The Defending Ducklings	Warren Woods Christian School	Warren	Becky Branch	6th & 7th
Mae's Bots	Madison Carver Academy	Detroit	Brent White	6th & 7th
SMART Labs	Hart Middle School	Rochester	Erik Rosvold	8th & 9th
UPSM Robotics	University Prep Science & Math High School	Detroit	Pam Sparks/ Jim Riske	9th
Techno Twins	Henry Ford Academy	Dearborn	Shardai White	10th

(5) Career Opportunity at William D Ford Career-Technical Center

Robofest Partner, William D Ford Career-Technical Center in Westland, Michigan is searching for an Electronics / Robotics teacher to start the 2020-2021 academic year. If you have the desire to bring the excitement of what Electronics and Robotics can be for High School students, please contact Dr. Jennifer LaDuke at 734-419-2106 for more information.

(6) Robofest Final Rules Published – Check for Updates

The 2020 Final Robofest Rules for all competition divisions have been posted to the robofest.net webpage. Each division is listed under the *Get Involved* tab.

(7) LTU Scholarship Opportunity for all Robofest Participants

High School students who have participated in Robofest at any time and who are planning to attend LTU, can apply for a \$3,000 renewable scholarship (Total of \$12,000). Submit an application, along with a 400-word essay regarding your Robofest experience, your career goals, and a letter of recommendation from one of your Robofest adult coaches or mentors to apply. The deadline to apply is April 1. To find more information and download the application, visit <https://www.ltu.edu/futurestudents/scholarshipopportunities.asp#tab3>

(8) Check your Spam Folder for Robofest Emails

Due to many email platforms tightening their security protocols to reduce phishing, many of the system-generated emails (Robofest – Do Not Reply) are ending up in a spam folder. These important emails include Coach, Team and Volunteer Registration confirmations, Consent Form requests and important announcements. Since email is the official communication tool for coaches, please check your spam folder (and ask parents to check, too) for Robofest emails and select “Not Spam” so you receive them. It is also a good idea to make sure that the email in your Coach Profile is up to date.

(9) Free Software for Registered Robofest Teams

A) ROBOTC Software for EV3 and NXT

Once again, Carnegie Mellon, Robotics Academy and Robomatter Inc. partners with Robofest in order to provide Robofest 2020 teams with a FREE annual License of ROBOTC for use in Robofest 2020! ROBOTC is a cross-robotics-platform (LEGO Mindstorms and VexIQ) solution that allows students to learn the type of C-based programming used in advanced education and professional applications. It is the only programming language at this level that offers a comprehensive, real-time debugger.

Download ROBOTC for Mindstorms at <http://robotc.net/> and contact esantos@ltu.edu with your registered team ID to obtain your license key.

B) Robot C Virtual World Available for Robofest Teams

No Robot, No Problem! Robot Virtual Worlds (RVW) is a high-end simulation environment that enables students, without robots, to learn programming. Robofest sponsor RoboMatter Inc. is providing free RVW licenses for Robofest teams using VEX robots. If you are interested in using it, please email at robofest@LTU.edu

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