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Note: All times are listed in Eastern Standard Time

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**(1) Final Game Rules Uploaded:**

Please review the clarifications and new FAQs in Final Version 1.7.1 of the 2017 Game Rules:  
[https://www.robofest.net/images/2016-2017/PDFs/RoboHit\\_Final\\_1.7.1.pdf](https://www.robofest.net/images/2016-2017/PDFs/RoboHit_Final_1.7.1.pdf)

**(2) 2017 Registration is open:**

We have added new sites! Registration is open for all Qualifying and Open Competition sites. For Michigan teams, if you have registered for a site (Including USA Video Qualifier) and another site has opened that you would like to move to, we can easily transfer your team to the new site. Just send an email to [shannanpalonis@ltu.edu](mailto:shannanpalonis@ltu.edu). Include your coach ID, current site registration and "move to" site.

**(3) Free RobotC for Robofest Teams:**

ROBOTC is a C-based programming language for the LEGO MINDSTORMS and VEX Robotics platforms. It is the only programming language at this level that offers a comprehensive, real-time debugger. Carnegie Mellon Robotics Academy and Robomatter Inc. provide Robofest 2017 teams with a FREE License of ROBOTC for use in Robofest 2017! In order to obtain your license, please contact [spalonis@ltu.edu](mailto:spalonis@ltu.edu) with your registered team ID.

**(4) Robofest 2017 Workshop Schedule:**

Only registered and paid Game teams are eligible to register for on-campus workshops.

- EV3 Workshop for RoboHit Game at LTU - Feb 4, 9:00am ~ Noon:
- EV3 Online Webinar for RoboHit Game - Feb 4, 2:00pm ~ 3:30pm
  - Attend live - login information on the 2017 Main Page
    - <https://robofest.net/index.php/current-competitions/2017-main-page>
  - Review a recording <https://robofest.net/index.php/tech-resources>
- RobotC Workshops at for RoboHit Game LTU: Feb 11, 9:00am ~ Noon
- L2Bot Workshop for Vision Centric Challenge (Vcc) at LTU: Mar 4, 9:00am ~ 4:00pm

The on-site workshops are held in Room J234 in the new Taubman Complex ~ Building # 4 on the LTU Campus Map: <https://www.ltu.edu/map/ltu-campus-map.pdf> . Free parking is available directly behind the building in Lot E.

**(5) Robofest 2017 Warmup Competition and Judge Training for Game at LTU:**

On Saturday, Feb 18, 2017 1:00pm ~ 5:30pm (**Note time update**) in Room J234 in the new Taubman Complex ~ Building # 4 on the LTU Campus Map: <https://www.ltu.edu/map/ltu-campus-map.pdf> . Check-in for registered teams begins at 1:00 pm and Judge training will start at 1:50 pm

**(6) LEGO Education Workshop for Educators:**

For all educators (including principals, teachers, administrators, librarians, PLTW instructors, 4-H Leaders, robotic coaches, mentors).

- February 15, 2017 -- 8:30 a.m. ~ 2:30 p.m.

Kent ISD - ESC, 2930 Knapp Street NE Grand Rapids, MI 4952 Parking Lot #11- Pine  
\$30 per person. Continental breakfast and lunch included.

For more information or to register visit: <http://marketing.legoeducation.com/acton/rif/2543/s-0c8f-1701/-/l-dyn-lsc-0c7f:7/l-dyn-lsc-0c7f/showPreparedMessage?sid=TV2:ZAMisWisj>

### **(7) MCWT Announces Grant Winners:**

The Michigan Council of Women in Technology (MCWT) is pleased to announce its **2017 Robofest Grant Winners**. Each of the following teams will receive \$500 to use toward supplies, robot sensors, registration fees, a laptop, or other expenses. Because of the generous support of our Partners, the Foundation is able to increase the number of grants this year to seven (7). We look forward to seeing these teams in action at District Competitions. The MCWT Foundation is proud to be a Silver sponsor of Robofest at Lawrence Tech University. Please visit [www.mcwt.org](http://www.mcwt.org).

| <b>Team Name</b> | <b>School or Affiliation</b> | <b>City</b> | <b>Coach Name</b>     |
|------------------|------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| SavvyBots        | Canton Charter Academy       | Canton      | Mr. Don Wilson        |
| Robogirlz        | Lake Orion Middle School     | Lake Orion  | Mrs. Jane Tarakhovsky |
| TechSisters      | Canton Charter Academy       | Canton      | Mr. Ajay Choudhary    |
| AOW ROBO GIRLS   | Academy of Warren            | Warren      | Mrs. Carmela Hayes    |
| Pink Eagles      | Hartland Middle School       | Hartland    | Mr. Frank Tappen      |
| Golden Bots      | Macomb Christian Schools     | Warren      | Mrs. Becky Branch     |

### **(8) NDIA STEM Scholarship Opportunity:**

The NDIA (National Defense Industrial Association) Michigan Chapter offers scholarships to competitive high school and college students pursuing education in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). To be eligible, applicants must be a U.S. citizen; have Michigan residency or active military parent serving in Michigan; planned enrollment in pursuit of a STEM-related BS degree program at a Michigan college/university prior to the start of the 2017 Fall Semester; possess a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 (basis 4.0 scale); demonstrate a growing interest in college preparatory studies; and be active within the school or local community. Applications will be accepted on-line through March 5, 2017. For more details or to submit an application visit <http://www.ndia-mich.org/index.php/stem/scholarships>

### **(9) Robofest 2017 Important COMPETITION DATES:**

- Saturday, April 23, 2017 11:59 pm: US and International Video Qualifier Submission Deadline
- Saturday, May 13, 2017: Michigan Championship at LTU
- Thursday, June 1, 2017: World Championship Robot Drawing Contest in St. Pete Beach, FL
- Friday, June 2, 2017: World Championship RoboParade, WISER, BottleSumo, and Unknown Mission Challenge in St. Pete Beach, FL
- Saturday, June 3: World Championship Game, Exhibition & GRAF, and Vision Centric Challenge in St. Pete Beach, FL

### **(10) WISER Conference 2017:**

Call for participation is open for the 2<sup>nd</sup> World conference on Integrated STEaM Education through Robotics (WISER '17) June 2, 2017 in conjunction with World Robofest 2017.

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.

### **(11) NEW LTU Scholarship Opportunity for all Robofest Participants:**

We are very pleased to announce a new scholarship opportunity for distinguished Robofest team members who attend Lawrence Technological University. Submit your 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 for a chance to earn a \$3,000 renewable scholarship. Deadline date: April 1st. The application can be found on the LTU.edu website here: <https://www.ltu.edu/cm/attach/44851ee6-dffc-48f0-8c4e-cb0c0ea8bace/robofestscholarshipform-1.pdf>

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Katie Bis, Coordinator [kbis@ltu.edu](mailto:kbis@ltu.edu)

<http://www.robofest.net>

<http://facebook.com/robofest>