

- (1) 2017 Registration is open:**
- (2) Judging Webinar for Game: Thursday, March 2, 2017 7:00 pm ~ 8:30 pm**
- (3) Judging Webinar for Exhibition:**
- (4) Wanted: Volunteers:**
- (5) Free RobotC for Robofest Teams:**
- (6) NDIA STEM Scholarship Opportunity:**
- (7) Robofest 2017 Important COMPETITION DATES:**
- (8) WISER Conference 2017:**
- (9) NEW LTU Scholarship Opportunity for all Robofest Participants:**
- (10) Computer Vision workshop for Vision Centric Challenge (Vcc)**
- (11) Robofest 2017 Sponsors**

Note: All times are listed in Eastern Standard Time

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**(1) 2017 Registration is open:**

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.

**(2) Judging Webinar for Game: Thursday, March 2, 2017 7:00 pm ~ 8:30 pm**

We will be hosting a Webinar for Game for all Judges, Site Hosts and Coaches to review the Game Rule Changes and clarifications that were discussed during the Warm Up event. Official documents will be loaded to the Robofest.net website just prior to the webinar. To log in from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android use the link: <https://zoom.us/j/2482043568>

Please make sure that you can access and log into the session using the link provided. You can log into the virtual room up to 1 hour before the session begins, this should give you ample time to test your settings and install the needed plug-ins.

**(3) Judging Webinar for Exhibition:**

We will be also be hosting a webinar for Exhibition for Judges, Site Hosts and Coaches in Mid-March. Details will be provided when available.

**(4) Wanted: Volunteers**

Robofest qualifying competitions are in need of volunteers to staff their events. To sign up online, go to <https://robofest.net/rms/appPages/volunteerPages/YearLocationLookup.jsp>  
You will see a list of sites with dates. Select a site and then click on New Volunteer Registration link. Thank you in advance for supporting Robofest!

**(5) 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.

**(6) 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>

#### **(7) 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

#### **(8) 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.

#### **(9) 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>

#### **(10) Computer Vision workshop for Vision Centric Challenge (Vcc)**

Sat. March 4, 9am ~ 11am and Sat. March 18, 9am ~ Noon

Room M138, Lawrence Tech Univ. in Southfield, MI

Emgu CV with C# will be covered for advanced high school students.

A few seats are available. Questions or to reserve seats, email Dr. Chung at [cchung@LTU.edu](mailto:cchung@LTU.edu)

#### **(11) Robofest 2017 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/2017/sponsors.htm>

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<http://www.robofest.net>

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