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Note: All times are listed in EST

(1) WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IMPORATANT INFORMATION:

We are finalizing the list of teams who have advanced to the World Championship. Please review the team lists and let us know via email (spalonis@itu.edu) if you have a team that has been confirmed as advancing but is missing from the list. We have extended the time for coaches to edit team names, player's names and upload team photos until Wednesday, May 24 at Noon.

For Open Categories, the USA teams have been transferred from the *USA Only* Registration Sites to the Official Sites for each category if the fees have been paid. International teams have also been added to the roster. Coaches can edit team names, player's names and upload team photos until Wednesday, May 24 at Noon.

All World Championship teams should review the World Championship page (<https://robofest.net/index.php/current-competitions/world-championship>) of the robofest.net website for important information regarding schedule, travel, rules clarifications and other important information.

(2) Wanted: Robot Drawing Challenge Contestants

Imagination is more important than knowledge. Children from around the world will gather together to draw pictures of robots of the future. The Robot Drawing Contest is open to individual students from Kindergarten through 3rd grade. Judges decide winners. The contest will be held during the World Robofest Championship in St. Pete Beach, FL on Thursday, June 1, 2017, 1:00 - 4:00 pm. This Contest is also good for the younger siblings of team members. Registration is open at: https://www.robofest.net/rms/SharedPagesServlet?cmd=getGenericSiteWebPage&year=2017&location=World_Championship_RobotDraw

The registration fee is \$20 per individual. There is no additional site fee for this event.

(3) Robofest World Championship Sponsorship Opportunities:

In order to make this a rewarding and fun event for all the students, we need your support. The Site Host, Emma Alaba is seeking donations to help support the expenses for the teams, volunteers and judges and organizers. We need Supplies and equipment for the teams, volunteers, and the competition. Pizza dinner on Friday and Volunteer's food for Thursday, Friday and Saturday: they are the ones that are going to make this a great event for the students. If you are interested in supporting the World Championship Venue and Site Host, a GoFundMe account has been set up:

<https://www.gofundme.com/Robofest2017WorldChampionship-Support-OrganizedBy-Emma-Alaba>

Individual teams have also set up sponsorship sites. Please visit their sites to learn more:

<https://www.gofundme.com/lms-robofest>

<https://www.gofundme.com/bcsrobotics>

(4) Robofest 2017 World Championship events will be broadcasted online

Live Streaming of the RoboHit competitions on Saturday, June 3rd as well as BottleSumo on Friday evening is being planned. Details will be announced on Robofest Home page at www.robofest.net

(5) 5, 10, 15 year coaches

Robofest is not possible without coaches' leadership and dedication. We have recognized the following coaches who have reached their anniversary year.

- 15 year coach: Scott Eisele, 2003-2017
- 10 year coach: Zachary MacLean and Lynn Okamura
- 5 year coach: Jackie Ryan, Rick Draper, Jason Mastropietro, Timothy Grau, and Elizabeth Kissner

If we missed anyone who reaches anniversary year, please contact Dr. Chung at cchung@LTU.edu

(6) Robofest welcomes Elmer Santos:

Elmer Santos is a Mechanical Engineer with a BS in Mechanical Engineering from Cornell University and MS in Manufacturing Systems Engineering from Stanford University. He worked for General Motors for 30 years in body assembly, industrial engineering, injection molding, paint engineering, and advanced vehicle development as an engineer and an engineering group manager. At GM, Elmer has worked with various robotics applications in Body Shops (resistance spot welding, material handling) and Paint Shops (sealing, painting). He has been involved with student robotics activities since 2001, mentoring teams and volunteering in Robofest, First Lego League, First Tech Challenge, First Robotics Challenge, Vex Robotics Competition, Vex IQ Challenge, and World Robot Olympiad. He recently started his new role as Assistant Director of Robofest.

(7) Robofest 2017 Sponsors:

A List of official Robofest 2017 sponsors can be found at: <http://www.robofest.net/2017/sponsors.htm>

Robofest 2017 would not be possible without the support from our generous sponsors: DENSO, Toyota, Lego Education, The Michigan Council of Women in Technology Foundation, Robomatter, National Defense Industrial Association Michigan Chapter, IEEE Southeast Michigan Section and Region 4, RIIS Inc., Realtime Technologies Inc., Hanyang University, and Hyundai MOBIS.

World Championship Local Sponsors in Florida include: City of St. Pete Beach, Computer Learning Center, Neilsen, and IEEE Florida West Coast Chapter - Robotics & Automation Society.

Friends of Robofest include: aramark.com, homeAdvisor.com, redfin.com, ART/DESIGN Group in Clawson, CJ Chung, and Howard Davis

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