

- (1) **FINAL Robofest 2016~2017 Kickoff Meeting (Updated Time)**
- (2) **Robofest 2017 Warmup Competition**
- (3) **MCWT Grant for All-Girl Robofest Teams DEADLINE ANNOUNCED**
- (4) **Robofest 2017 COMPETITION DATES**
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- (7) **WISER Conference 2017**
- (8) **New LTU Scholarship Opportunity for all Robofest participants**
- (9) **Students in Search of a Robofest Team**

Note: All times are listed in Eastern Standard Time

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**(1) FINAL Robofest 2016~2017 Kickoff Meeting: (Updated Time)**

Plan to attend or view the final kick-off Meeting (either at LTU or via Webinar) where the rules of the 2017 competition will be announced on:

Saturday, January 14, 2017, **1:00pm ~ 2:30pm**, Local and Webinar.

The meetings will be 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 in Lot E. The link for the webinar will be posted on the Robofest.net home page 24 hours prior to the event.

**(2) Robofest 2017 Warmup Competition for Game at LTU:**

On Saturday, Feb 18, 2017 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 in Lot E.

- Judge Training: 9:00am ~ Noon
- Warmup Competition: 1:00pm ~ 5:30pm

Due to the popularity of this event, we are holding a lottery for interested Game teams who are ready to test their skills and help train judges. Coaches who would like to participate should submit a request via email to [spalonis@ltu.edu](mailto:spalonis@ltu.edu) for **one** Game team per coach by 11:59 pm January 11.

Include **\*Warmup Lottery\*** as the Subject Line and provide a team name and Jr/Sr Division in the body of the email. Coaches will be notified of the team selections via email on January 13. There will be 2 extra teams selected per division for a wait list in case the selected teams are not able to attend.

**(3) MCWT Grants for All-Girl Robofest Teams:**

The deadline to apply is January 8, 2017 for the \$500 grants available to all-girl Robofest teams. The Michigan Council of Women in Technology Foundation will award up to 6 grants support team expenses for the 2017 Robofest Game and Exhibition competitions. Please visit their webpage <http://mcwt.org> for more details and to submit your application.

**(4) Robofest 2017 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, 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

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

Get your team together to attend a free workshop or webinar to get started or sharpen your skills. The on-site workshops will be 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 in Lot E.

- **EV3 Workshops for RoboHit Game at LTU:**

- Jan 14, 9:00am ~ Noon
- Jan 21, 9:00am ~ Noon
- Jan 21, 1:00pm ~ 4:00pm
- Jan 28, 9:00am ~ Noon
- Feb 4, 9:00am ~ Noon

- **EV3 Online Webinars for RoboHit Game** (attend live or review a recording to be made available on the Robofest.net website): **Jan 24, 7:00pm ~ 9:00pm** and **Feb 4, 2:00pm ~ 3:30pm**

- **RobotC Workshops at for RoboHit Game LTU:** Jan 28, 1:00pm ~ 4:00pm and Feb 11, 9:00am ~ Noon

- **L2Bot Workshop for Vision Centric Challenge (Vcc) at LTU: Mar 4, 9:00am ~ 4:00pm**

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

### **(6) Seeking Site Hosts for 2016~17 Competitions:**

Robofest is still seeking site hosts for the 2016~17 season. Hosting opportunities for Robofest Game and Exhibition in Feb. through mid~April of 2017 are available. Interested individuals, organizations, or schools should contact the Robofest office at [robofest@ltu.edu](mailto:robofest@ltu.edu) or visit <http://robofest.net/index.php/forsitehosts>.

### **(7) 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.

### **(8) 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>

### **(9) Students in Search of a Robofest Team:**

There are two local students who are in search of a Robofest team. Both are currently in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and both have robotics experience. One lives in Sterling Heights, one in Farmington Hills. If you have room on your team for an eager student, please contact Shannan Palonis, Robofest Coordinator ([spalonis@ltu.edu](mailto:spalonis@ltu.edu)) to get the student's contact information.

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<http://www.robofest.net>

<http://facebook.com/robofest>