

Robofest e-Newsletter, 9-4-17

(1) Robofest 2017-2018 IMPORTANT DATES

(2) Robofest Exhibition Competition at MSU sponsored by IEEE Robotics & Automation Society

(3) Exciting Changes to Michigan Championship Structure

(4) Robofest 2018 World Championship Schedule

(5) Official Robofest 2016-2017 Report and Overview Video published

(6) Seeking Site Hosts for 2017~18 Competitions

(1) Robofest 2017-2018 IMPORTANT DATES

- October 2017: International Rules will be posted to website – International team registration begins
- November 2017: Kick-off, Official US rules for spring season will be posted and US team registration begins - International competitions begin
- Jan ~ Feb 2018: Technical workshops and webinars for teams
- Feb ~ April 2018: Qualifying competitions for Games and Exhibition
- Week of April 23, 2018: Michigan Invitational Qualifiers at LTU
- May 17-19, 2018: World Championship and WISER Conference at LTU in Michigan

(2) Robofest Exhibition Competition at MSU sponsored by IEEE Robotics & Automation Society

On Saturday, October 14, IEEE Robotics & Automation Society and Robofest are hosting a competition as part of the Humanitarian Technology Day at Michigan State University. Teams of 2-5 students (7th-12th grades) will exhibit a humanitarian robotics and automation (R&A) project using robotics kits (LEGO MINDSTORMS, TETRIX, VEX, etc.). The project objective must be to tackle and solve a humanitarian problem across the globe. Prizes will be awarded to first, second, and third places. For rules, information **and to register** visit <http://sites.ieee.org/sb-msu-htc/competitions/>

(3) Exciting Changes to Michigan Championship Structure

New for 2018, teams will have a second chance to qualify for the World Championship. Michigan teams who participate in local qualifiers will be invited back to compete in one of four small Michigan Invitational Events (10-12 teams) in the CS Robotics Lab during the week of April 23, 2018 instead of one large Michigan Championship. More details will be presented at the Kickoff meeting & webinar in November.

(4) Robofest 2018 World Championship Schedule

The 19th World Championships and WISER Conference will be back at LTU in Southfield, MI. Team events on May 18 and 19, 2018 will include the Game and Exhibition Championships as well as the open category events of RoboParade, RoboArts (Formerly GRAF), BottleSumo, Unknown Mission Challenge, and Vision Centric Challenge. We will once again host the Robot Drawing contest for younger students on May 17.

(5) Official Robofest 2016-2017 Report and Video published

2016-2017 Annual Report: <https://robofest.net/2017/robofest17report.pdf>

2016-2017 Robofest Overview Video (13 min): <https://youtu.be/gLf188cUGTw>

(6) Seeking Site Hosts for 2017~18 Competitions

Robofest is once again seeking site hosts for the 2017~18 year for Robofest Game and Exhibition Qualifiers as well as BottleSumo and RoboParade open categories in Feb ~ early April of 2018. Interested individuals, organizations, or schools should contact the Robofest office at robofest@ltu.edu or visit <http://robofest.net/index.php/forsitehosts>

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