

Robofest eNewsletter 02-09-21

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Note: All times are listed in EST

(1) Robofest 2021 Workshop Schedule

All of the 2021 workshops will be held online through the Zoom platform. Teams will provide and use their own robot during the session. Instructions on configuring the robot for the workshop will be sent. Workshops are free to teams that register for competition. Note that additional workshops may be added based on the demand. To register your students, select *Available Workshops* on the left menu of the registration page on Robofest.net.

Robot Mesh - VEX IQ for Game - Sat, Feb 13, 9:00am ~ Noon

SCRATCH - Robot Inventor /SPIKE Prime - Sat, Feb 20, 9:00am ~ Noon

SCRATCH - EV3 for Game - Sat, Feb 20, 1:00pm ~ 4:00

(2) Final Rules Posted and Team Registration Open

The Robofest 2021 Season General rules and Category rules have been posted to the Robofest.net website under the *Get Involved* tab. US Teams can pre-register for the 2021 season either in the Pre-Registration site for Online competitions or through the USA Video Submission Qualifier event. International Teams in non-member countries can register in the International Video Submission Qualifier event. To register, click the *Registration* tab on Robofest.net.

(3) MCWT Grants for All-Girl Robofest Teams: Deadline is February 19, 2021

The Michigan Council of Women in Technology Foundation, 17-year sponsor of Robofest, is once again providing \$500 grants for up to Six Michigan all-girl Robofest teams for the 2021 Robofest Game and Exhibition competition. More information and the application have been posted to their webpage:

<https://www.mcwt.org/programs/list/K-12-Initiatives/ROBOTICS-GRANTS>

(4) Robofest 2021 Warmup Competition and Judge Training for Game Online

Saturday, March 13, 2021 1:00pm ~ 4:00pm Online through the Zoom Platform.

We are looking for a few interested teams to participate in the Warm Up competition before the Robofest Qualifiers begin. The main purpose for this event is to train judges for the upcoming season. Please only one Game team per coach. Coaches and Judges who would like to participate should send an email to Shannan Palonis (spalonis@ltu.edu) to request a slot. We encourage Site Hosts and Volunteer Game Judges to attend.

(5) LTU Engineers Week Competition: Deadline is February 27

Engineers Week 2021 is dedicated to the education of the future diverse and inclusive engineering workforce by increasing the awareness of engineering and technology careers. The celebration was founded by the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) in 1951 and this year we celebrate it from Sunday, February 21, 2021 to Saturday, February 27, 2021.

We invite middle school and high school students to celebrate with us! Lawrence Tech's College of Engineering and the Marburger STEM Center are sponsoring an E-week Challenge. Submit a Written Essay (limit 500 words) or a 1-min Video Essay for the chance to earn a spot in an LTU Residential Summer Camp or

A Day in the Lab with Students event along with recognition and participation certificate. More information is available: <https://www.ltu.edu/stem-center/competition.asp>

(6) Robofest 2021 IMPORTANT DATES

The final decision has been made to host the Robofest World Championship events online again this year due to the continued uncertainty of travel and visa restrictions. Qualifier Sites will be added to the registration system as Site Host applications are submitted, and the Robofest-hosted qualifiers will be opened by February 19, 2021. (Teams may pre-register now)

Feb ~ Mar, 2021: Online Technical workshops for teams

Mar ~ Jul, 2021: USA and International Round 1 Qualifiers (In-Person, Online and Video Submission)

May 16, 2021: USA and International Video Submissions Due

Jun ~ Jul, 2021: Round 2 Online Qualifiers hosted by Robofest Office

Aug ~ Oct, 2021: Robofest Online World Championship

(7) LTU Scholarship Opportunity for all Robofest Participants: Deadline is May 1

High School students who have participated in Robofest at any time and who are planning to attend LTU, can apply for a \$3,000 renewable scholarship (Total of \$12,000). Submit a 400-word essay describing your Robofest experience and your career goals, a letter of recommendation from one of your Robofest adult coaches or mentors, and the Scholarship Application by May 1. To find more information visit:

<https://www.ltu.edu/futurestudents/scholarshipopportunities.asp#tab3>

(8) Seeking Site Hosts for 2021 Competitions

Robofest is seeking site hosts for the Competition Season for Robofest Game, BottleSumo Time Trial, and Exhibition Style Qualifiers for the 2021 season. Sites can host their own Local Online, Video or In-Person Qualifier events this season. More information will be sent to former site hosts and posted to the Robofest website *For Site Hosts*

<https://robofest.net/index.php/for-site-hosts>

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