

Exhibition

Bios of 2023 Senior Exhibition Judges

Competition Chair: Emma Alaba

May 13, 2023

Emma Alaba - Currently serves as the Robofest Director, Site Organizer in Florida (2009-present); Organizer /Nielsen Media as Host Regional/Qualifying Competitions (13 years); Organizer /Host St Pete Beach, FL RoboParade (4 years); Organizer /Host Clearwater FL Main Library World Robot Olympiad (2 years); Organizer /Hosts: St Pete Beach FL & Nielsen Media Oldsmar FL 2017 Robofest World Championship; Organizer /Host Computer Learning Center /Nielsen Media 2021 Robofest ONLINE Qualifying Competition. She is the Owner /Director of Computer Learning Center in Clearwater Florida since 1998. Professional Software Trainer teaching Computer Literacy to professionals, adults and students; Robotics Camps (STEM) to middle and high school students since 1996. She received B.A. in Management from the University of South Florida and A.S. in Computer Science from St. Petersburg College. Board Member Florida Robotics Association and Robotics Alliance at HCC Brandon; programmer, software administrator and consultant; officer's positions in Toastmaster International Club; presenter at Robotics Academy at Carnegie Mellon, Web 2.0, Blended Learning Environments for Robotics (where the Robofest adventure began 2008); presenter at the WISER (World conference on Integrated S.T.E.A.M Education through Robotics).

Jonathan Berent earned his B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Michigan Technological University and his M.S. in Computer Engineering from University of California at Santa Barbara. He helped start the South-Eastern Michigan IEEE Robotics and Automation Society and is currently the Secretary. His first RoboFest was in 2007. Jonathan has been actively coaching FIRST Tech Challenge and FIRST Robotics Challenge teams in the Ann Arbor area. He is a Senior Software Engineer for VSolvIT LLC.

Sharan Kalwani is currently working as a High Performance Computing (HPC) engineer and Project Specialist. His responsibilities include active participation in several initiatives, helping users harness the power of HPC towards solving many of the world's tough problems. Sharan brings a high degree of engineering, industrial business and strategic value perspective towards greater adoption of use of HPC in many facets of our lives. Sharan has a Master's degree in Computer Science (Wayne State University) and Bachelor's degree in Engineering (Delhi College of Engineering). He has 30+ years of experience in major areas of architecture, systems, development, device driver writing, networking, a myriad of several engineering design applications, technical & scientific frameworks, and compilers and libraries. He enjoys teaching, history, social media, public speaking, tech advocacy and outreach. He has been the Chair of the IEEE Southeastern Michigan since 2021. He also leads the SIG for Linux in the SEMCO

users group and has been a founding member of MUG.org (the oldest open source users group in Michigan).

Victor Manske, IEEE

Dr Eric Martinson is a Principal Robotics Scientist at iRobot, and the technical lead for object detection and spatial reconstruction. He received a B.S. in Computer Science and Mechanical Engineering from the University of California, Irvine, and a M.S. and Ph.D. in Computer Science from the Georgia Institute of Technology. In 2008 he was the recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship to conduct research at the Kharkiv Institute of Radio-electronics in Ukraine. Over the course of his career in robotics and machine learning, he has led research and development efforts in support of multiple industries including autonomous cars, factory manipulators, healthcare robots, and most recently, floorcare. This work has resulted in 14 patents and 46 peer reviewed publications to date, and afforded Dr Martinson the personal privilege of working with more than a dozen types of commercial robots.

Daniel Oliver is a Radar Application Calibration Engineer at Bosch working on Advanced Driver Assist Systems. He does verification and validation of Automatic Emergency Braking and Adaptive Cruise Control. He has a B.S. in Robotics Engineering from Lawrence Tech and is a former Robofest Student Assistant.

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Nathaniel Enright is a physics teacher and long time robot enthusiast. After working in the hazardous waste industry and performing tasks to build his skill base, including a Braille transcriptionist, Nathan returned to school to receive his B.S. in Secondary Education Physics and is now teaching University Prep Science and Math High School where he is passionate about helping students excel in S.T.E.A.M. education.

Daniel Oliver is a Radar Application Calibration Engineer at Bosch working on Advanced Driver Assist Systems. He does verification and validation of Automatic Emergency Braking and Adaptive Cruise Control. He has a B.S. in Robotics Engineering from Lawrence Tech and is a former Robofest Student Assistant.

Dr Choongbae Park is an Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Lawrence Technological University. He received Ph.D. and M.S. degrees in Mechanical Engineering from Purdue University and worked as a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Park's ongoing research includes fluid Mechanics, microfluidics, and opto-electrokinetics, micron-resolution particle image velocimetry (μ PIV), microfabrication, biosensor, bioMEMS, and computational fluid dynamics (CFD).