

Robofest eNewsletter 2-22-24

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Note: All times are listed in Eastern Time unless noted

(1) Robofest World Championship Schedule Announced

The 25th Robofest World Championship Game and Exhibition Finals and Open Categories will be hosted on Lawrence Technological University's campus on May 9 ~11, 2024 with the following schedule:

May 9: Unknown Mission Challenge and Jr BottleSumo (Group 1)

May 10: Jr BottleSumo (Group 2), RoboParade, RoboMed, Sr BottleSumo Classic and Unlimited

May 11: Jr BottleSumo Final Match, Vision Centric Challenge, RoboArts, Game Finals, Exhibition Finals

More details including practice times, event start times and campus locations can be found on the schedule: https://www.robofest.net/images/2324/WC2024Schedule022124.pdf

Registration will open at 3:00pm Monday, March 18, 2024 for US Teams wishing to participate in the Open Category events. International teams who do not have a Robofest Director in their country may send an email to robofest@ltu.edu requesting registration.

Additional information regarding travel, nearby hotels and other important announcements will be posted on the World Championship page on the Robofest.net website, so check back often.

(2) 2024 Game Judge Training Video and Presentation Available

A recording of the Game Judging Training presentation and a pdf of the Judge Training slides have been posted on the Game page on the website. All Game Qualifier Site Hosts and volunteer Game judges should review the training.

(3) Team Registration is Still Open for Many Qualifiers

Please be sure to register your team for Qualifying and Open Competitions at local sites. Teams who do not have a local competition can also compete through the US and International Video Qualifier options for a chance to advance to the Robofest World Championship at LTU in May.

(4) Michigan Invitational Events to Open Monday, April 1

These events, hosted in the LTU Computer Science Robotics Lab, offer Game teams who do not advance from a Michigan Qualifier a second chance to compete. The 2024 Michigan Invitational Schedule for both Junior and Senior Divisions is as follows:

April 20, 9:00am ~ 1:00pm

April 20, 2pm ~ 6:00pm

(5) Video Qualifier and Video Screening for Exhibition Team Deadlines

Video_Qualifier_USA and Video_Qualifier_International Game and Exhibition teams must upload a link to a video to the Team Registration page to be screened and scored by April 15.

Exhibition trophy winners in all US competitions including Michigan must upload a link to a presentation video to the Team Registration page by April 15 to be screened before the World Championship. Teams that did not automatically advance may receive an invitation to the World Championship based on the video. For more information, please see official rules on the 2024 Main page on the Robofest.net website.

(6) In Search of 5-, 10-, 15- and 20-Year Coach Award Recipients

We would like to acknowledge our coaches who have coached Robofest teams for 5, 10, and 15 and 20 years! To submit your name, please send an email to robofest@ltu.edu with the subject *Coach Award*. Please include the coach name, coach ID (include all IDs used), and number of years coaching. We will recognize these dedicated coaches at the Robofest World Championship Awards Ceremony on May 11.

(7) MCWT \$750 Grants for All-Girl Robofest Teams in Michigan: LAST CALL

The Michigan Council of Women in Technology Foundation, a Gold Sponsor of Robofest, is once again providing \$750 grants for up to ten Michigan all-girl Robofest teams for the 2024 Robofest Game and Exhibition competitions. More information and the 2024 season application are now available on the MCWT webpage: https://mcwt.org/programs/list/K-12-Initiatives/ROBOTICS-GRANTS

(8) LTU Robofest Scholarship Opportunities

In order to truly recognize the effort and exceptional talent of the Robofest competitors, Lawrence Technological University has updated the Robofest Champion LTU Scholarship Award Offer for 2024. Each team member of the top 3 Senior Division Game, Exhibition, RoboArts, RoboMed, UMC and Vcc teams at the World Championship events will receive a scholarship certificate to attend LTU:

- 1st Place: \$20,000 annual scholarship (\$80,000 for 4 years)
- 2nd Place: \$16,000 annual scholarship (\$64,000 for 4 years)
- 3rd Place: \$14,000 annual scholarship (\$56,000 for 4 years)

Robofest participants who have competed at any time in any category may still apply for the annual \$3,000 LTU Robofest scholarship. More details will can be found on the Scholarship page: https://www.robofest.net/index.php/about/scholarship

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