



Robofest eNewsletter 08-09-24

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Note: All times are listed in Eastern Time unless noted

(1) [Robofest 2024 Appreciation Dinner Scheduled](#)

Save the Date: Thursday, August 22, 5:30 pm~7:30 pm. We are hosting our Site Host, Volunteer and Coach Appreciation Dinner at LTU in the Computer Science Robotics Lab, Room J234. In addition to dinner, we will have some giveaways, share our wrap-up video and season statistics, and announce plans for the 2025 Robofest season. Please RSVP: <https://forms.gle/tK9ZNRvtRn36JQXL6> We hope you can join us!

(2) **Introduction to C with Robots Dual Enrollment Class for Fall 2024 Semester**

An introduction to C Programming language using VEX IQ Robots is now offered through LTU's Dual Enrollment program for local High School students. The 2-credit class, instructed by Professors Elmer Santos and CJ Chung, runs on Tuesdays from 8:20 am to 10:00 am. Interested students should have completed intermediate algebra/geometry. Contact Professor Santos (esantos@ltu.edu) or the LTU Admissions office (specialadmit@ltu.edu) for more information.

(3) [Fall RoboParade in Clinton Township, Michigan](#)

Robofest is hosting RoboParade at the Macomb Intermediate School District (MISD) 44001 Garfield Rd, Clinton Twp., MI on **Saturday, November 16, 2024** 9:00 am ~ 1:00 pm. Teams of up to 5 students can build, program and decorate a robotic float in any theme related to fall (Halloween, Pumpkin Spice, Football, Back to School for example). Registration will open on September 2. More information can be found on the RoboParade page: <https://www.robofest.net/index.php/current-competitions/roboparade>

(4) **MathDance Hands-on Workshop offered through United Nations AI for Good**

The MathDance program offers a unique learning experience by integrating math, physical activities, coding, and AI. Developed by Dr. CJ Chung, a Professor of Computer Science and Founder of Robofest, this program provides an innovative approach to education.

Teachers, parents, and young learners from around the world are invited to participate in this interactive online workshop, sponsored by the United Nations' AI for Good program.

For more information and free registration, please visit the UN/ITU website:

September 18: [MathDance Workshop](#)

September 25: [MathDance Workshop](#)

For any questions, please contact Dr. CJ Chung at cchung@ltu.edu.

(5) Autonomous Robotics Field Trips Available for High School Students

The Robofest Office would like to invite High School Robotics Clubs or Teams and Computer Science, Math, or Science Classes to participate in a half-day or full day field trip activity that may include mini Robofest competitions. This is a unique opportunity to visit the LTU campus and learn about the exciting Computer Science and Intelligent robotics research currently being conducted in the Computer Science Robotics Labs. Students will also get hands-on experience with coding using Python with Robots.

Coaches, Teachers or Parents interested in coordinating a field trip to campus should contact Prof. Elmer Santos, Director of Robofest at esantos@LTU.edu.

(6) Congratulations to Gordon Stein, PhD

Gordon Stein recently completed his PhD in Computer Science at Vanderbilt University. Gordon first joined the Robofest community as competitor and while a student at LTU, he worked with the staff as a lab assistant. He continues to provide support by managing the Robofest Server. Gordon is currently a member of the Robofest Advisory Board.

(7) 2025 Season Kickoff and World Championship Dates

The Robofest 2025 Season International Rules will be released on Saturday, **September 28, 2024**. We will host a series of kickoff meetings to review the rules for clarification prior to the US release in November. All rules will be finalized in January 2025.

The kickoff meetings will be held:

Friday, October 4, 2024 9:00 am ~ 10:30 am (Zoom only)

Thursday, November 7, 2024 7:00 pm ~ 8:30 pm (Zoom only)

Saturday, January 11, 2025 10:00 am ~ 11:30 am (In person and Zoom)

The 26th Robofest World Championship will be hosted on the campus of Lawrence Technological University on **May 15, 16 and 17, 2025**

(8) Fall UMC Scholarship Competition and Workshop for High School Students

Robofest is hosting our second annual Unknown Mission Scholarship Challenge this fall for High School students to compete to win up to a \$17,000 Annual LTU Scholarship. Individual students will be challenged to build and program a robot kit to solve a task in a limited amount of time. The registration fee is \$25. Review the 2024 UMC Scholarship Rules on the UMC page: <https://www.robofest.net/index.php/current-competitions/unknown-mission-challenge>

Competition: Sat, Nov 2, 2023, 1:00 pm ~ 5:00 pm

At Lawrence Technological University, Computer Science Robotics Lab, J234

21000 West 10 Mile Road, Southfield Michigan 48075

Building No. 8 on the LTU campus map: <https://www.ltu.edu/about/map> Use parking lot E.

A free workshop has been scheduled for registered students to prepare for the competition using VEX IQ robot kits and VEXcode. Students who attend this optional UMC workshop may borrow a VEX IQ robot kit for the competition on November 2.

Workshop: Sat, Oct 19, 2024, 1:00 pm ~ 5:00 pm

At Lawrence Technological University, Computer Science Robotics Lab, J234

Registration links for the workshop and competition will be opened on the Robofest registration site on September 2.

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Dr. CJ Chung, Professor of Computer Science, Robofest Founder, Executive Council Chair, cchung@ltu.edu

Dr. Chris Cartwright, Associate Professor of Math, Executive Council Member

Dr. Eric Martinson, Chair of Math & Computer Science Dept, Executive Council Member

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