Robofest e-Newsletter, 01-28-16

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Note: All times are listed in EST
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(1) 2016 Registration is open and ongoing:
Game, Exhibition, and Vision Centric Challenge (Vcc) registration is open for all sites. Please register early as some sites are filling up quickly. Additional local Michigan sites have be added. If you have already registered for a site and wish to transfer your registration to a different site, please contact the Robofest staff and we can easily transfer your team to the new site.

(2) Robofest 2016 Workshop Schedule and Registration
There are still opportunities to attend a free workshop to get started or sharpen your skills. Teams must be REGISTERED AND PAID for a qualifying event. Registration for the Workshops can be found on www.robofest.net/rms under *Workshops 2016* on the left menu. Registered coaches outside Michigan will receive links for the webinars.
- Saturday January 30, 9:00 am ~ Noon: EV3 workshop for Game
- Saturday January 30, 1:00 pm ~ 4:00 pm: RobotC workshop for Game
- Saturday February 6, 9:00 am ~ Noon: EV3 workshop for Game
- Saturday February 6, 2:00pm ~ 3:30pm: EV3 workshop for Game (Webinar Only)
- Saturday February 13, 9:00 am ~ Noon: RobotC workshop for Game
- Saturday February 27, 9:00 am ~ 4:30 pm: RobotC for EV3 workshop Sponsored by LEGO Edu.
- Saturday, March 12, 9:00 am ~ 4:00 pm: L2Bot workshop
- TBD April: BottleSumo Workshop

(3) Robofest 2016 Important COMPETITION DATES:
- Saturday, February 20: Warm-up Competition and Judge Training (webinar) 2 pm~6 pm at LTU. Registration is open for Michigan teams who have registered for a qualifying event. Since space is limited for this event, we are asking coached to only register one team per competition category.
- Saturday, April 30: Michigan Championship (for teams who participate and advance from a Michigan Qualifying Event)
- Friday May 13: World Championship BottleSumo and Unknown Mission Challenge
- Saturday May 14: World Championship Game, Exhibition, and Vision Centric Challenge

(4) Free RobotC for Robofest Teams:
Carnegie Mellon Robotics Academy and Robomatter Inc. provide Robofest 2015 teams with a FREE License of ROBOTC for use in Robofest 2015! ROBOTC is a C-based programming language for the LEGO MINDSTORMS and VEX Robotics platforms. It is the only programming language at this level that offers a comprehensive, real-time debugger, along with a host of other features. In order to obtain your license, please contact robofest@LTU.edu with your registered team ID.

(5) Team Looking for Mentor:
A local team from Lincoln King Academy on Grandmont Ave in Detroit is seeking the help of a technical mentor. If you have time and talent to mentor a new team, please email Ms. Veronica Killebrew at vkillebrew1 [at] gmail.com

(6) MCWT Announces Grant Winners:
The Michigan Council of Women in Technology (MCWT) is pleased to announce its **2016 Robofest Grant Winners**. Each of the following teams will receive $500 to use toward supplies, robot sensors, registration fees, a laptop, or other expenses.

Team Name	School or Affiliation	City	Coach Name
4 Twirps	GEE White Academy	Detroit	Mr. E. Knust
AOW Robogirls	Academy of Warren	Warren	Ms. Horn, Ms. Hayes, Mr. Sutgrey
Cyborg Waffles	Bethany Christian Sch.	Troy	Dr. Brudnak
Dynamic Robo Pandas	Lincoln King Academy	Detroit	Ms. Killebrew
Lego Girls	Novi Meadow Woods	Novi	Ms. Palakodati
Robotech Girls	Emerson Elementary	Detroit	Ms. Vyas

Because of the generous support of our Partners, MCWT is providing six grants this year. We look forward to seeing these teams in action at Qualifying Competitions which begin in March. MCWT is proud to be a Silver sponsor of LTU Robofest. Please visit www.mcwt.org. The Programs tab provides information about additional programs for K-12 girls as well as information about college scholarships.

(7) WORKSHOP - Advanced Programming for LEGO® MINDSTORMS® with ROBOTC®:
On Saturday, FEB 27, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm - LEGO and Lawrence Technological University will be hosting a hands-on workshop for educators exploring the world of robotics and how these motorized machines that requires coding can positively impact classroom learning! Middle school and above teachers, robotics coaches, mentors, PLTW teachers, 4-H instructors, and career tech educators welcome. $30 per person. Continental breakfast and lunch included. Payment confirms registration. Limited seating. Please arrive 20 minutes early. Registration closes Feb 15, 2016. Additional information and registration can be found at: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/advanced-programming-for-lego-mindstorms-with-robotc-tickets-19561329463

(8) STEM Scholarship Opportunity:
The NDIA (National Defense Industrial Association) Michigan Chapter, a sponsor of Robofest, offers scholarships to competitive high school and college students pursuing education in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). To be eligible, applicants must be a U.S. citizen; have Michigan residency or active military parent serving in Michigan; planned enrollment in pursuit of a STEM-related BS degree program at a Michigan college/university prior to the start of the 2016 Fall Semester; possess a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 (basis 4.0 scale); demonstrate a growing interest in college preparatory studies; and be active within the school or local community. Applications will be accepted on-line starting January 1, 2016 through March 1, 2016.
For more details or to submit an application visit http://www.ndia-mich.org/index.php/stem/scholarships

(9) Robofest is Seeking Sponsors for 2016:
In an effort to keep Robofest an affordable, yet highly educational competition for everyone, we are seeking sponsors for the 2016 season. If you or your organization is interested in helping to support the important work of Robofest, please email robofest@LTU.edu. Robofest appreciates all support, big or small. Robofest accepts both monetary contributions and in-kind donations. Please contact us if you are able to support Robofest in any way. Sponsorship (pledge) form can be found at http://www.robofest.net/SponsorshipForm.pdf

(10) Career Opportunities at Lawrence Tech:
Tenure-Track faculty position in Computer Science
The Mathematics & Computer Science Department at LTU invites applications for a full time tenure-track Assistant Professor in Computer Science to start in the fall 2016 semester. The ideal candidate will have a Ph.D. in computer science, will have experience in Software Engineering, Cyber Security, or Intelligent Systems (Intelligent Robotics). Our Robofest program was started in the Department 17 years ago, and we welcome Robofest alumni to apply for the position. For more info:
http://www.ltu.edu/human_resources/jobpostings.asp?_job=119&_sid=121

Executive Director of the Marburger STEM Center
For more details, please go to:
http://www.ltu.edu/human_resources/jobpostings.asp?_job=172&_sid=178

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