little robots, **BIG MISSIONS**



A Competition Motivating Young Minds to Master the Machine

Robofest is a festival of competitions with autonomous robots to master principles of Science, Technology, Engineering, and (STEM), computer science, Information Communication Technologies (ICT), and problem solving skills while designing, constructing, and programming the robots.

Since 1999, over 18,000 students have competed in Robofest, including teams from 13 US States, Brazil, Canada, China, Columbia, Egypt, England, France, Ghana, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Lebanon, Mexico, Singapore, South Africa, and South Korea.

Teams compete in the junior (grades 5-8), senior (grades 9-12), and college divisions in the following wide & deep categories:

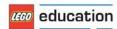
- Game: Students undertake annual robotic missions.
- Exhibition: Teams have complete freedom to show off any creative autonomous robotics project.
- Vision Centric Challenge (VCCTM): Teams develop robots to solve problems with cameras and computer vision algorithms.
- Unknown Mission Challenge (UMC™): Mission tasks will be totally unknown until the day of competition.
- Global Robotics Art Festival (GRAF™): Robotics music, dance, and visual arts competition
- **BottleSumo**™: Push a bottle and/or opponent off the table
- RoboParade®: Parade of Autonomous robots!

In addition, associate programs are:

- Camp: a mini competition after a half-day workshop
- WISER: World conference on Integrated STEAM Education through Robotics
- WRO™: World Robot Olympiad (LTU Robofest was the USA National Organizer in 2014 and 2015)

2015 Major Sponsors

























Unique Features of Robofest

Look Mom, No Hands!: Students must fully program their robots to perform their missions without human assistance. No joysticks or remote controls are allowed.

Your Mission, If You Decide to Accept It: Is (partly) unknown or dynamic. Students must program their robots to accomplish tasks in a dynamic environment.

Students Rule: While adult mentorship is encouraged, students design, construct and program the robots, and students make all decisions during competitions without any direct adult help.

It's Flexible: Any type of robot kit, materials, actuators, and sensors are allowed. Robots can be programmed with any programming language.

Affordable: Team registration is \$30 ~ \$50 per team. Reusing parts and old kits is encouraged. Teams can be formed by any organization, school, home school, club or civic group.

Everyone is a Winner: All registered participants receive medals and personalized certificates. Winners of the qualifying and championship rounds receive trophies. Top teams in the Michigan and World Championship senior division receive \$2,000 LTU renewable scholarships.

2015-2016 Academic Year Timeline

When	Events
~ early Sep, 2015	WRO local tournaments
Sep 19, 2015	WRO USA final at LTU
Oct ~ Nov 2015	RoboParades in various states
Oct 24, 2015	RoboParade and Global Robotics Art Festival at Macomb Community College Expo Center, MI
Dec 4, 2015	Rules for Spring season posted at
(Kick-off meetings)	www.robofest.net. Team Registration begins.
Mid Jan ~ Feb, 2016	Free technical workshops at LTU and Webinars
Feb 20, 2016	Warm-up competition & Judge training (Webinar) at LTU, $2pm \sim 6pm$
Jan* ~ Mid April	Qualifying Competitions (*International Sites)
April 10, 2016	Video Qualifier Deadline
April 30, 2016	Michigan Championships at LTU, MI
May 13, 2016	BottleSumo and UMC at LTU
May 14, 2016	15th World Robofest Championship, VCC at LTU
Summer, 2016	Robofest Summer Camps

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