

NASA News



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NASA GLENN 75TH ANNIVERSARY – OUR PAST • OUR PRESENT • YOUR FUTURE

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MEDIA ADVISORY: 16-001

The FIRST Robotics Competition Global Kickoff Event

Nearly 100 high school students from across Ohio and Pennsylvania will participate in the 15th annual FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition global kickoff event. Nearly 75,000 students worldwide are eager for inventor Dean Kamen to unveil the 2016 Robotics Competition game: *FIRST STRONGHOLD*SM.

Media are invited to attend the kickoff, originating from Manchester, N.H., on Saturday, Jan. 9, 2016, from 10 to 11 a.m., at Cuyahoga Community College Unified Technologies Center, 2415 Woodland Avenue.

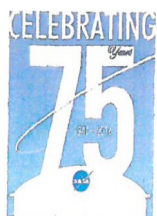
During the broadcast, FIRST Founder, Dean Kamen; FIRST Distinguished Advisor, Dr. Woodie Flowers; FIRST President, Donald E. Bossi; and FIRST students and special guests, will deliver remarks on video.

Students in grades 9-12 will be shown the new 2016 robotics game field and challenge for the first time and will receive an identical, new Kit of Parts made up of motors, batteries, a control system and a mix of automation components – with limited instructions. Teams will have six weeks to design and build a robot to meet this year's engineering challenge.

Once these young inventors build a robot, their teams will participate in one or more of the regional and district events that measure the effectiveness of each robot, the power of collaboration and the determination of students.



*Hathaway Brown High School/The Buckeye Regional
FIRST Robotics Competition
Credit: NASA*



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In Cleveland, teams compete with their robots in the Buckeye Regional FIRST Robotics Competition, March 18-19, at Cleveland State University Wolstein Center – all leading up to the 2016 FIRST Championship at the Edward Jones Dome, April 27-30 in St. Louis.

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Teams registered to attend the kickoff are:

Austintown Fitch High School, Austintown, Ohio
 Avon High School, Avon, Ohio
 Beachwood High School, Beachwood, Ohio
 Berea-Midpark High School, Middleburg Heights, Ohio
 Canfield High School, Canfield, Ohio
 Cardinal Mooney High School, Youngstown,
 Ohio Constellation Schools Parma Community, Parma, Ohio
 EHOVE Career Center, Milan, Ohio
 Gilmour Academy, Gates Mills, Ohio
 Girard High School, Girard, Ohio
 Hathaway Brown School, Shaker Heights, Ohio
 Highland High School, Medina, Ohio
 Hoover High School – North Canton City Schools, North Canton, Ohio
 Hubbard High School, Hubbard, Ohio
 Lorain High School, Lorain, Ohio
 Marion L. Steele High School, Amherst, Ohio
 Marlinton High School, Alliance, Ohio
 MC2STEM High School, Cleveland, Ohio
 Neighborhood Group, Archbold, Ohio
 Northwest Pennsylvania Collegiate Academy, Erie, Pennsylvania
 Orange High School, Pepper Pike, Ohio
 St. Edward High School, Lakewood, Ohio
 St. Ignatius High School, Cleveland, Ohio
 Warren G. Harding High School, Warren, Ohio
 Youth Technology Academy, Cuyahoga Community College, Cleveland, Ohio

Accomplished inventor Dean Kamen founded FIRST in 1989 to inspire an appreciation of science and technology in young people. The FIRST Robotics Competition is an annual competition that challenges high school students, working alongside professional mentors, to construct a robot of their own, and compete in the ultimate Sport for the Mind™ that measures the effectiveness of each robot, the power of teamwork and collaboration, and teams' display of Gracious Professionalism® - away of doing things that encourages high-quality work , emphasizes the value of others and respects individuals and the community.

Through their participation, students experience the excitement of science, engineering, technology and innovation; build well-rounded life capabilities such as self-confidence, communication and leadership; and qualify for over \$25 million in college scholarships.

Media representatives interested in attending the kickoff should contact Jeannette Owens by email at jeannette.p.owens@nasa.gov or by phone at 216-433-2990 or 216-387-1327 to arrange for student interviews.

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To learn more about the Buckeye Regional FIRST Robotics Competition Kickoff, visit:

<http://www.oai.org/firstbuckeye/kickoff.html>

To learn more about FIRST, visit:

<http://www.firstinspires.org>

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