

## “INFINITE RECHARGE<sup>SM</sup>” IS UNVEILED AS 2020 *FIRST*<sup>®</sup> ROBOTICS COMPETITION CHALLENGE DURING SBPLI-*FIRST* LONG ISLAND’S REGIONAL KICK-OFF

*LIU Post Tilles Center Hosted More Than 47 Local FIRST Robotics Teams, Mentors and Advisors, and Their Families, at the Annual Event*

The Tilles Center at LIU Post was abuzz with anticipation on January 4 as students, educators and families from across Long Island joined together for the unveiling of the 2020 *FIRST*<sup>®</sup> (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition challenge, “INFINITE RECHARGE<sup>SM</sup>”.

INFINITE RECHARGE is part of the 2020 *FIRST* season, *FIRST RISE*, powered by *Star Wars: Force for Change*. *FIRST* has teamed up with Lucasfilm and parent company Disney as part of the *Star Wars: Force for Change* philanthropic initiative to inspire the next generation of heroes and innovators, creating a place where collaboration and collective wisdom can elevate new ideas and foster growth. *FIRST RISE* empowers *FIRST* participants to explore the future of cities and architecture, building communities filled with inspiration, creativity, and — most importantly — hope.

In INFINITE RECHARGE, two alliances work to protect *FIRST* City from approaching asteroids caused by a distant space skirmish. Each Alliance, along with their trusty droids, race to collect and score Power Cells in order to energize their Shield Generator for maximum protection. To activate stages of the Shield Generator, droids manipulate their Control Panels after scoring a specific number of Power Cells. Near the end of the match, droids race to their Rendezvous Point to get their Shield Generator operational in order to protect the city.

Presented by School-Business Partnerships of Long Island (SBPLI), also known as *FIRST* Long Island, this annual event served as the official Kick-Off of the 2020 *FIRST* Long Island season and included a live broadcast of the game reveal direct to the Tilles Center. Hundreds of eager *FIRST* Long Island students and their parents and coaches listened with rapt attention as *FIRST* Founder Dean Kamen and *FIRST* President Larry Cohen discussed the program as well as the 2020 theme and objective.

“I hope you tackle this season by working together to explore new ideas, to be innovative and inclusive, to strive to make an impact, and — of course — to have fun,” Mr. Cohen said. “I know you’ll rise to the challenge. What you learn in *FIRST* will make you better prepared for the future and enable you to solve our toughest challenges.”

Before the broadcast, members of SBPLI-*FIRST* Long Island, sponsors and alumni addressed the crowd, including *FIRST* Robotics Competition Co-Director Larry Toonkel, Executive Director Bertram Dittmar and Board Member Jeffrey Stern. The presentation also featured New York State Senator James Gaughran, LIU Post Director of Employer Relations Christopher A. Bates, *FIRST* alumna Taylor Pedley

(formerly with Smithtown High School Team #810) and Matt Boehm, an Engineer with Zebra Technologies, a co-sponsor of the SBPLI Long Island Regional *FIRST* Robotics Competition.

Immediately following the game reveal broadcast, the visiting teams received pertinent competition details, a first-hand look at the game field, and were handed their build kits, which contained motors, batteries, control system components, construction materials and a mix of additional automation components, along with limited instructions.

“Leading up to the main competition, *FIRST* Long Island students will work with coaches and mentors to apply concepts of math, science and engineering to build their robots to meet the game’s objectives,” Mr. Toonkel said. “The *FIRST* Robotics Competition is not just about the design and build of sophisticated robots, our students will also



SBPLI *FIRST* Long Island students, educators and parents await the announcement of this year’s challenge at the *FIRST* Robotics Competition season kickoff at LIU Post Tilles Center on January 4.

learn important concepts such as teamwork, problem solving and healthy competition. Over the years, *FIRST* students from Long Island received more than \$8 million in scholarships for higher education, in areas of science, technology, engineering, business or math in college. These students also develop maturity, professionalism and teamwork skills that enrich their lives. Our graduates often pursue careers with sponsoring companies, meeting the businesses’ needs for well-rounded, technically skilled employees.”

“This Kick-Off event was a success from all perspectives,” said David Seinfeld, LIU Post’s director of school planning and partnerships. “The students were inspirational. Their energy for the program, their honor for each other and their respect for the university’s facilities was truly outstanding.” LIU Post offers full scholarships to high school seniors with a 1300+ SAT (28 ACT equivalent) and a 90+ GPA and is encouraging students from Long Island teams participating in the *FIRST* Robotics Competition to apply.

*FIRST* isn’t limited to Long Island; nearly 3,900 teams from all over the world came together as a community to share in the excitement of seeing the new game unveiled and will draw on this enthusiasm during the build period. During this time, all *FIRST* students will be asked to design, build, test and update their robots before the start of the 2020 competition, which includes more than 170 Regional and District events which began in late February. These events measure the effectiveness of each robot’s design and control, the power of teamwork and the determination of participating students not only to win, but to learn and have fun.

To learn more about INFINITE RECHARGE, visit <https://www.firstinspires.org/robotics/frc/game-and-season>.

## SBPLI REMEMBERS WOODIE FLOWERS

The SBPLI community was saddened to learn of the passing of Woodie Flowers. Woodie created *FIRST*<sup>®</sup> (For Inspiration and Recognition in Science and Technology) along with *FIRST* Founder Dean Kamen. He also co-chaired *FIRST*'s Executive Advisory Board and was a Distinguished Advisor to *FIRST*.

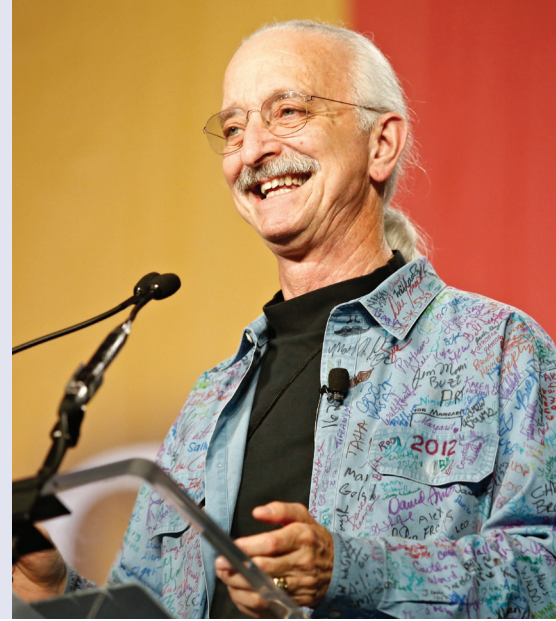
Woodie also coined the term Gracious Professionalism<sup>®</sup>, which is part of the ethos of *FIRST*. It's a way of doing things that encourages high-quality work, emphasizes the value of others and respects individuals and the community.

At its Long Island Regional *FIRST* Robotics Competition, SBPLI gives out its Regional Woodie Flowers Award. This is given to a

team mentor who has done an outstanding job of motivation through communication while also challenging the students to be clear and succinct in their communications.

Those who wish to remember Woodie may do so by contributing to the Woodie Flowers Memorial Fund. All proceeds will help memorialize Woodie and carry on his legacy to inspire young people through the art and science of engineering and design. For more information on this fund, please contact *FIRST* Vice President of Development Mark Giordono at [mgiorodono@firstinspires.org](mailto:mgiorodono@firstinspires.org). To make a donation, visit [give.firstinspires.org](http://give.firstinspires.org).

Pictured to the right is Woodie Flowers  
(Courtesy of *FIRST*<sup>®</sup>)



## FIRST<sup>®</sup> LONG ISLAND CELEBRATED THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SBPLI LONG ISLAND REGIONAL FIRST ROBOTICS COMPETITION

Last year, School-Business Partnerships of Long Island, Inc. (SBPLI), also known as *FIRST*<sup>®</sup> Long Island, celebrated the 20th anniversary of its SBPLI Long Island Regional *FIRST*<sup>®</sup> Robotics Competition.

In celebration of this milestone, *FIRST* Long Island created a 20th anniversary logo, displayed programs and merchandise at the Long Island Regional *FIRST* Robotics Competition and showed videos made by local robotics teams celebrating the event's 20 years. Nassau County Executive Laura Curran and *FIRST* then-President Donald E. Bossi were on hand to congratulate *FIRST* Long Island for presenting this competition for the past two decades.

The introduction of the *FIRST* Robotics Competition to Long Island was the convergence of the vision of SBPLI's late founder, Fred Breithut, for the students of Long Island and the innovative program developed through *FIRST*. Mr. Breithut, a former educator, founded SBPLI in 1984 to address the gap between the skills needed by Long Island's business community and the relevant preparation provided by local school districts. In the first 15 years of its operation, SBPLI formed over 100 successful partnerships between high schools and local businesses.

Following an inspirational and captivating presentation in the late 1990s by *FIRST* Founder Dean Kamen to the SBPLI Board of Directors, SBPLI was determined to make the commitment to bring the *FIRST* Robotics Competition to the students on Long Island. Under Fred's leadership, guidance and persistence, SBPLI has tirelessly stayed on track to enhance and expand these incredible programs. Fred believed that industries on Long Island specializing in manufacturing, engineering and technology would require Long Island youth to become more educated, engaged and excited about Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). *FIRST* Robotics would provide the perfect path for this to occur.

In 2000, the inaugural SBPLI Long Island Regional *FIRST* Robotics Competition was held under a tent at Suffolk County Community College's Ammerman Campus in Selden, with 23 teams participating. Since then, the *FIRST* Robotics Competition on Long Island has grown

tremendously. In 2019, SBPLI-*FIRST* Long Island hosted 85 teams – the most in the region's history – requiring two, rather than one, Regional events.

During the past twenty years, SBPLI has been proud to provide students with practical experience while helping the business community develop its future workforce. SBPLI is an all-volunteer organization funded by sponsorships and donations by industry, educational services, government and individuals who believe that STEM-oriented education will provide Long Island students with the tools and skills needed to enter the 21st-century workforce.

Festo USA, SBPLI's initial and dedicated sponsor, has supported SBPLI for all 20 years. "Looking at Festo's core values of being ambitious, dependable, determined, visionary, and valuing each other, it was easy for Festo to recognize these same values in the students who participate in *FIRST*, making this a natural partnership that we felt was important to support," said Festo USA President Richard Huss. "Over the years, we have seen the program grow and, during the same time as our company has grown, we have had the opportunity to have interns who had participated in *FIRST* and now have several engineers on

staff who participated in the *FIRST* programs on Long Island, further strengthening our partnership."

"I can still vividly remember Dean Kamen enthusiastically sharing his passion with us about his dream of celebrating smarts and changing our culture by creating technology leaders and innovators!" recalled Joani Madarash, former executive director of SBPLI and current member of the organization's Executive Management Team. "We didn't miss a beat in embracing *FIRST* Robotics as an integral part of the SBPLI mission. I still hear Fred Breithut's words echoing... 'Folks, we must do this for our Long Island students!'"



Nassau County Executive Laura Curran speaks at the Long Island Regional *FIRST* Robotics Competition.



FIRST Robotics Competition  
SBPLI Long Island Regional

# FIRST® LEGO LEAGUE SBPLI LONG ISLAND CHAMPIONSHIP AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Award	Team #	Team Name/Town
Champion's Award		
First Place	92	Sea Lions*/Seaford
Second Place	33410	Taco Brothers**/Garden City
Robot Performance		
First Place	27741	Think Outside the Earth/Jericho
Second Place	5357	Imagination In A Nutshell/Jericho
Alliance Award (Score: 140)	37507 37857	WALL-E Workers/New Hyde Park Time Travelers/Island Park
Research	11363	Bear Force One/Jericho
Innovative Solution	38503	Techno Queens***/Jericho
Global Innovation	38503	Techno Queens***/Jericho
Judge's Award	14823	Teach Me How To LEGO/Baldwin
Presentation	16174	Meteorites/Hicksville
Mechanical Design	6116	Rocky Point Robo Eagles/Rocky Point
Programming	4756	Diamond Cube***/Jericho
Strategy & Innovation	1087	BRAINSTORMERS/Bayport
Inspiration	5357	Imagination in a Nutshell/Jericho
Teamwork	37506	Microchip Cookies/Plainview
Zebra Award	11362	Solar Flare Bears/Stony Brook
Gracious Professionalism	27743	The Robosaurus/Stony Brook

Longwood High School was once again home to the *FIRST*® LEGO League SBPLI Long Island Championship Tournament, which took place on March 3, 2019. The event challenged Long Island middle school students to demonstrate their problem-solving skills, creative thinking, teamwork, competitive play, sportsmanship and sense of community.

After eight weeks of research and design, 200 teams competed in six Qualifiers for an opportunity to be one of 39 teams to participate in the Championship Tournament. This season's challenge was INTO ORBIT<sup>SM</sup>, in which teams chose and solved a real-world problem faced by humans during long-duration space exploration within our sun's solar system. They also built, tested, and programmed an autonomous robot using LEGO MINDSTORMS® technology to solve a set of missions in the Robot Game. Throughout their experience, the teams operated under the *FIRST* signature set of Core Values, celebrating discovery, teamwork, and Gracious Professionalism®.

The *FIRST* LEGO League competition is judged in three areas: project presentation; overall robot performance, design and programming; and teamwork, with a consideration of the *FIRST* LEGO League Core Values. The highest honor went to the team that best succeeded in these areas and exemplified the spirit and values of the program.

\* Denotes teams which advanced to the *FIRST* World Festival in Detroit, Michigan on April 24-27, 2019.

\*\* Denotes teams which advanced to the Razorback Invitational in Fayetteville, Arkansas on May 16-19, 2019.

\*\*\* Denotes teams which advanced to the Mountain State Invitational in West Virginia on July 12-14, 2019.



Members of *FIRST*® LEGO League Team #38503 “Techno Queens” of Jericho and *FIRST*® LEGO League Team #33410 “Taco Brothers” of Garden City pose together on the competition floor with their LEGO robots at the SBPLI *FIRST* LEGO League Championship Tournament.



Members of Team #15262 “Mattlin Pride” of Plainview prepare to place their robot onto the field while members of Team #2757 “Space Falcons” of Locust Valley set up theirs.

## FIRST® LONG ISLAND ANNOUNCES AWARD WINNERS FROM THE 20TH ANNUAL SBPLI LONG ISLAND REGIONAL FIRST® ROBOTICS COMPETITIONS

School-Business Partnerships of Long Island held its weeklong Long Island Regional FIRST® Robotics Competitions on March 26-27 and March 29-30 at Hofstra University's David S. Mack Sports and Exhibition Complex. Between both events, eighty-five teams from Long Island, the metropolitan New York area, upstate New York, New Jersey, Texas, China, Chinese Taipei, India, Norway and Turkey competed. Both two-day tournaments culminated with awards and honors for areas such as design excellence, competitive play, sportsmanship and high-impact partnerships among schools, businesses and local communities.

This year's competition was dubbed DESTINATION: DEEP SPACE<sup>SM</sup> Presented by The Boeing Company, in which two three-team alliances attempted to complete a variety of tasks in order to score points and win the round, with the hopes of eventually advancing to

the elimination round and the finals. This year's competition proved to be more challenging, as human drivers had their visibility limited for the first 15 seconds of a game due to a "sandstorm" as the robots were deployed from their habitat, prepared the rockets and cargo ship with hatch panels and loaded the cargo pods onto their rockets and cargo ship. The robots were either independently operated or controlled by their human drivers via video from their stations. Once the "sandstorm" cleared, the alliances have two minutes and 15 seconds to prepare the rockets and cargo ship with hatch panels, load as many cargo pods as possible and return the robot to its habitat.

alticeUSA, a corporate sponsor of the FIRST Robotics Competition, provided video coverage of the event and offered 90 of its employees to volunteer at the tournament. The event was covered by News 12, FiOS1 News and News 4 New York.

### EVENT #1 RESULTS: MARCH 26-27

Award	Team #	Team Name	School/Town
Imagery Award in honor of Jack Kamen	7748***	TECHTOLIA ROBOTIC	Tenzile Erdogan Kiz Anadolu Imam Hatip Lisesi/Istanbul, Turkey
Rockwell Automation Innovation in Control Award	7239	Hell Robotics	Ole Vig Upper Secondary School/Hell, Norway
Xerox Creativity Award	28	Pierson Whalers	Pierson Middle/High School/Sag Harbor
Delphi Excellence in Engineering Award	3173	IgKnights	McQuaid Jesuit High School/Rochester
Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers Entrepreneurship Award	2638	Rebel Robotics	Great Neck South High School/Great Neck
National Instruments' Rookie Inspiration Award	7611***	AMAL HAWKS	Adnan Menderes Anatolian High School/Istanbul, Turkey
General Motors Industrial Design Award	6024	R Factor	Neighborhood Group/Mumbai, India
Ford Autonomous Award	3646	INTEGRA BAHCESEHIR	Bahcesehir High School for Science and Technology/Istanbul, Turkey
Motorola Solutions Foundation Quality Award	11	MORT	Mt. Olive High School/Flanders, New Jersey
Johnson & Johnson Gracious Professionalism	4641	United	Red Oak High School/Red Oak, Texas
FCA Foundation Team Spirit Award	2905	Sultans of Turkiye	Darussafaka Educational Institutions/Istanbul, Turkey
Underwriters Laboratories Industrial Safety Award	2638	Rebel Robotics	Great Neck South High School/Great Neck
Judges' Award	4567	The Mechanized Mafia	Seaford Senior High School/Seaford
Highest Rookie Seed	7539***	Elev8	Dhirubhai Ambani International School/Mumbai, India

Award	Team #	Team Name	School/Town
Zebra Technologies Championship Award #1	353	POBots	Plainview-Old Bethpage JFK High School/Plainview
Zebra Technologies Championship Award #2	1468	Hicksville J-Birds	Hicksville High School/Hicksville
Zebra Technologies Championship Award #3	2638	Rebel Robotics	Great Neck South High School/Great Neck
Regional Finalist #1	3646	INTEGRA BAHCESEHIR	Bahcesehir High School for Science and Technology/Istanbul, Turkey
Regional Finalist #2	11	MORT	Mt. Olive High School/Flanders, New Jersey
Regional Finalist #3	2905	Sultans of Turkiye	Darussafaka Educational Institutions/Istanbul, Turkey
Regional Winner #1**	2638	Rebel Robotics	Great Neck South High School/Great Neck
Regional Winner #2**	1468	Hicksville J-Birds	Hicksville High School/Hicksville
Regional Winner #3**	6911	SO BOTZ	Tappan Zee High School/Orangeburg
Rookie All Star Award**	7673***	FORMOSAN SIKA	Heng Yee Catholic High School/New Taipei City, Chinese Taipei
Regional Engineering Inspiration Award**	564	Longwood Robotics	Longwood High School/Middle Island
Wildcard #1**	11	MORT	Mt. Olive High School/Flanders, New Jersey
Wildcard #2**	2905	Sultans of Turkiye	Darussafaka Educational Institutions/Istanbul, Turkey
Regional Chairman's Award* **	353	POBots	Plainview-Old Bethpage JFK High School/Plainview

## EVENT #2 RESULTS: MARCH 29-30

Award	Team #	Team Name	School/Town
Imagery Award in honor of Jack Kamen	6746	Mustangs	Our Lady of Mercy Academy/Syosset
Rockwell Automation Innovation in Control Award	329	Mohawks	Patchogue-Medford High School/Medford
Xerox Creativity Award	871	Robotechs	West Islip Senior High School/West Islip
Delphi Excellence in Engineering Award	340	G.R.R. (Greater Rochester Robotics)	Churchville-Chili Senior High School/Churchville
Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers Entrepreneurship Award	870	TEAM R.I.C.E.	Southold Junior-Senior High School/Southold
National Instruments' Rookie Inspiration Award	7732 <sup>***</sup>	Artificial Intelligence	Jiangsu Tianyi High School/Wuxi, China
General Motors Industrial Design Award	533	The PSICotics	Lindenhurst Senior High School/Lindenhurst
Ford Autonomous Award	1796	RoboTigers	Queens Technical High School/Queens
Xerox Creativity Award	871	Robotechs	West Islip Senior High School/West Islip
Motorola Solutions Foundation Quality Award	3015	Ranger Robotics	Spencerport High School/Spencerport
Johnson & Johnson Gracious Professionalism	810	The Mechanical Bulls	Smithtown High School/Smithtown
FCA Foundation Team Spirit Award	6422	GearHeadz	Family/Community/Rocky Point
Underwriters Laboratories Industrial Safety Award Winner	533	The PSICotics	Lindenhurst Senior High School/Lindenhurst
Underwriters Laboratories Industrial Safety Award Runner-Up	5099	Northport High School Robotics	Northport Senior High School/Northport
Underwriters Laboratories Industrial Safety Award 2nd Runner-Up	6969	Cyborgs	Clarkstown South Senior High School/West Nyack

Award	Team #	Team Name	School/Town
Judges' Award	287	Floyd	William Floyd High School/Mastic Beach
Highest Rookie Seed	7522 <sup>***</sup>	Make1Robot	21st Century Learning Center/Shanghai, China
Zebra Technologies Championship Award #1	870	TEAM R.I.C.E.	Southold Junior-Senior High School/Southold
Zebra Technologies Championship Award #2	3624	ThunderColts	Half Hollow Hills High School/Huntington Station
Zebra Technologies Championship Award #3	7400 <sup>***</sup>	ThunderMiners	Family/Community/Melville
Regional Finalist #1	3015	Ranger Robotics	Spencerport High School/Spencerport
Regional Finalist #2	340	G.R.R. (Greater Rochester Robotics)	Churchville-Chili Senior High School/Churchville
Regional Finalist #3	263	Aftershock	Sachem High School/Ronkonkoma
Regional Winner #1 <sup>**</sup>	1796	RoboTigers	Queens Technical School/Queens
Regional Winner #2 <sup>**</sup>	870	TEAM R.I.C.E.	Southold Junior-Senior High School/Southold
Regional Winner #3 <sup>**</sup>	3624	ThunderColts	Half Hollow Hills High School/Huntington Station
Rookie All Star Award <sup>**</sup>	7400 <sup>***</sup>	ThunderMiners	Family/Community/Melville
Regional Engineering Inspiration Award <sup>**</sup>	6806	Mineola Wild Reds	Mineola High School/Mineola
Wildcard #1 <sup>**</sup>	340	G.R.R. (Greater Rochester Robotics)	Churchville-Chili Senior High School/Churchville
Wildcard #2 <sup>**</sup>	263	Aftershock	Sachem High School/Ronkonkoma
Regional Chairman's Award <sup>**</sup>	564	Longwood Robotics	Longwood High School/Middle Island



Members of the Plainview-Old Bethpage/JFK High School Team #353 "POBots" pose with their Chairman's Award banner and plaque after the conclusion of the Long Island Regional FIRST® Robotics Competition #1.



The winning Alliance of Southold Junior-Senior High School Team #870 "TEAM R.I.C.E.," Half Hollow Hills High School Team #3624 "ThunderColts" and Queens Technical High School Team #1796 "RoboTigers" display their championship banners and trophies during the awards ceremony at the second Long Island Regional FIRST® Robotics Competition.

<sup>\*</sup> The Chairman's Award is the most prestigious award of the event and recognizes the team that embodies the goals and purpose of FIRST and best represents a model for other teams to emulate.  
<sup>\*\*</sup> These teams were eligible to participate in the 2019 FIRST® Championship presented by Qualcomm® Incorporated at either the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, Texas on April 17-20, 2019 or the Cobo Center in Detroit, Michigan on April 24-27, 2019.  
<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Denotes a rookie team.

# MORE THAN 80 TEAMS TAKE PART IN THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL FIRST® LEGO® LEAGUE JR. EXPOS

For two days, hundreds of students, parents and volunteers convened for learning, technology and fun at this year's *FIRST*® LEGO® League Jr. Expos. The events were held on March 2, 2019 at Mineola High School and March 3, 2019 at Longwood High School.

During the two Expo days, children ages six to nine from teams across Long Island presented their projects for this year's challenge, MISSION MOON<sup>SM</sup>, in which children discovered what space travel is all about. While exploring this theme, teams studied rocket ships as they built a LEGO model that represented their solutions to big questions about space travel, such as what astronauts eat and drink, how they breathe, and what they do for fun. They also learned to present information through a Show-Me Poster. Throughout their experience, teams operated under the signature set of *FIRST* Core Values.



*FIRST*® LEGO® League Jr. Team #13877, “Team Deluxe” of Plainview, which received the Model Design Award at the *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. Expo, was one of several teams invited to participate in the *FIRST* World Festival in Detroit.

## AWARDS: MARCH 3, 2019

Award	Team #	Team Name/Town
Creative Model Award	2853	Space Invaders/Middle Island
	10272	LEGO Curve Balls/Ridge
	2856	Star Wars LEGO Makers/Middle Island
	2848	Expert Orbit Troopers/Middle Island
Model Design Award	13559	GM Team B/Bay Shore
	2849	Moon Lords/Mineola
	18656	Shooting Stars/Patchogue
Innovative Poster Award	449	Neptune Builder/Middle Island
Discover and Show Award	10169	Mini Marauders B/Bay Shore
	3645	Moon Rangers/Middle Island
	18478	LEGO Angels/Ridge
	12320	Night Wings/Port Jefferson
Research and Discovery Award	2857	LEGO Space Force/Middle Island
	18484	Flying Tigers/Great Neck
	12321	Super Sonic Moonstronauts/Port Jefferson
	6317	Space Troopers/Bayport
Cooperative Research Award	13558	GM Team A/Bay Shore
	2852	Apollo 19/Middle Island
	7482	Mini Marauders A/Bay Shore
	16956	The Rocket CHAMMS/East Setauket

## AWARDS: MARCH 2, 2019 MORNING SESSION

Award	Team #	Team Name/Town
Creative Model Award	18481	Solar Heroes/Syosset
	13892	Awesome Moon Turtles/Plainview
	18010	Mini Moon Land/East Setauket
	11494	LEGO Space Intruders/East Islip
	3698	Titanium Keys/Bayville
18009	Big 5 Magic Warriors/East Setauket	
Model Design Award	13665	LEGO Jedi Progressive School/Merrick
	17209	Twinkle Stars/Great Neck
	14820	Lunar Scientists/Plainview
	6183	Milky Way/Mineola
	14101	Jefferson Jaguars/Huntington
	2728	LEGO NASA Jrs/Mineola
Innovative Poster Award	11163	Bayville Moon Builders/Bayville
	14860	Master LEGO Warrior/East Setauket
	17669	LEGO Dragons/Elmont
Discover and Show Award	18849	Alden Mini Machines/Elmont
	3699	Out of this World Builders/Locust Valley
	16527	The I.P. Boxes of Juice/Island Park
	17030	LEGO Rockets/Syosset
	16365	Moon Legion/Plainview
	16482	Alden Mini Bots 2/Elmont
Research and Discovery Award	15675	Robo Wiz Kids/Hicksville
	2730	The Moon Bananas/Mineola
	6174	Moon Miners/Mineola
	14102	Jaguar Space Warriors/Huntington
Cooperative Research Award	13493	Team Moon/Merrick
	2619	Galaxy Gators/Mineola
	6176	Project Moon/Mineola
	18367	Pink Fluffy Unicorns/Great Neck
	2726	Rocket Launchers/Mineola
	6175	Moon Makers/Mineola

## AWARDS: MARCH 2, 2019 AFTERNOON SESSION

Award	Team #	Team Name/Town
Creative Model Award	10427	Jack Abrams STEM Legonauts/Huntington
	15518	The Stags and Great Horned Owls/Bellmore
	18358	Mega Rockets/Rego Park
	17055	Moon Rovers/Syosset
	15176	Stratford Space Explorers/Plainview
Model Design Award	16490	Sea Lion Pups/Seaford
	18030	Twin Time/Huntington
	13877	Team Deluxe/Plainview
	11405	Apollo Astronauts Craft Team/Jersey City, NJ
	12653	Y & J/Roslyn Heights
Innovative Poster Award	13670	Magical Bots/Garden City
	10238	Brick Creators/Hicksville
	11164	LEGO Pro's/Bayville
	18219	Robopandas Jr./New Hyde Park
Discover and Show Award	18357	LEGO Makers/Rego Park
	18356	Moon Explorers/Rego Park
	18359	The Fortniters/Rego Park
	6760	Moon Walker/Jericho
Research and Discovery Award	18047	Block Heads/Rego Park
	2545	LEGO Einsteins/Floral Park
	18183	NASA's Team 6/Jersey City, NJ
	15023	I-SMASH/Jericho
	18231	Smarties/Hicksville
Cooperative Research Award	4322	LEGO Lunatics/Melville
	13449	LFH/MLK Wyandanch/Wyandanch
	4433	Beach Bricks/Long Beach
	4644	Moon Rockers/Bayville
	18632	LEGO Lambs/Floral Park

Three Long Island teams advanced to the FIRST® Tech Challenge World Championship after competing in a series of local tournaments, including the Long Island Championship that was held at Syosset High School on March 9, 2019. The SBPLI Long Island Championship featured 24 teams vying for the opportunity to compete for a chance to advance to the FIRST Tech Challenge World Championship in Detroit, Michigan on April 24-27, 2019.

Throughout the season, the teams, comprised of students ages 12 to 18, used their problem-solving skills, creative thinking and sportsmanship to build and program robots for FIRST ROVER RUCKUS™ (presented by Qualcomm), during which two alliances of three teams attempted to score as many points as possible by having the team's robot descend from the Lander, collect Minerals from the Crater, sort and score Minerals into the Cargo Hold of the Lander, perform autonomous tasks and navigate to specific parts of the Playing Field.

The three FIRST Tech Challenge teams that received a spot at the World Championship were Team #10738 "Stony Brook Bears" from Stony Brook School; Team #6438 "Syndicate" from Syosset High School; and Team #11517 "Digital Darlings" from Girl Scouts of Nassau County in Garden City. In addition to being recognized for advancing, each of the teams also received numerous awards that were presented during a ceremony following the FIRST Tech Challenge event.

Additionally, three students were named FIRST Tech Challenge Dean's List Finalists during the awards ceremony: Cameron Best of Team #13847 "At Least It Didn't Explode" from Harborfields High School; Andreas Kaimis of Team #12387 "Dagas" from Half Hollow Hills High School; and Gabriel Wong of Team #4017 "Robopandas" of Sewanhaka High School. Sponsored by the Kamen Family, the FIRST Tech Challenge Dean's List Award celebrates outstanding student leaders who present a passion for attaining FIRST ideals and have led their teams and communities to increased awareness for the program. FIRST Dean's List finalists and award recipients are highly recruited to some of the country's top colleges and universities.

Victoria Mercouri of Team #7035 "Radical Robots" of the Girl Scouts of Suffolk County in Bayport received the Compass Award. This award is given to an adult coach or mentor who has provided outstanding guidance and support for a team throughout the year and demonstrates to the team what it means to be a Gracious Professional.

Local sponsors included School-Business Partnerships of Long Island, Inc. and the Syosset Board of Education; national sponsors included Qualcomm, Rockwell Collins and PTC.



Members of Team #11517 "Digital Darlings" of the Girl Scouts of Nassau County in Garden City program their robot during one of the playoff matches at the FIRST Tech Challenge Long Island Championship.

## AWARDS: FIRST® TECH CHALLENGE LONG ISLAND CHAMPIONSHIP

Award	Team #	Team Name/Town
Motivate Award Winner	3540	Roboboogie/Hewlett
Motivate Award 2nd Place	10419	Syosset Elite/Syosset
Motivate Award 3rd Place	4017	Robopandas/Floral Park
Connect Award Winner	7120	Bionica/Hewlett
Connect Award 2nd Place	11517	Digital Darlings/Garden City
Connect Award 3rd Place	14461	RoboHawks/Jericho
Rockwell Collins Innovate Award Winner	4017	Robopandas/Floral Park
Rockwell Collins Innovate Award 2nd Place	10738	Stony Brook Bears/Stony Brook
Rockwell Collins Innovate Award 3rd Place	11517	Digital Darlings/Garden City
Design Award Winner	11988	LuHi Robotics/Glen Head
Design Award 2nd Place	11517	Digital Darlings/Garden City
Design Award 3rd Place	7035	Radical Robots/Bayport
Think Award Winner	10738	Stony Brook Bears/Stony Brook
Think Award 2nd Place	11517	Digital Darlings/Garden City
Think Award 3rd Place	12428	Syosset Vortex/Syosset
Control Award	4137	Islandbots/East Setauket
Control Award 2nd Place	10738	Stony Brook Bears/Stony Brook
Control Award 3rd Place	10696	Syosset Syborgs/Syosset
Inspire Award Winner*	11517	Digital Darlings/Garden City
Inspire Award 2nd Place	10738	Stony Brook Bears/Stony Brook
Inspire Award 3rd Place	4017	Robopandas/Floral Park
Judges' Award	10419	Syosset Elite/Syosset
Finalist Alliance Captain	11517	Digital Darlings/Garden City
Finalist Alliance, 1st Team selected	12428	Syosset Vortex/Syosset
Finalist Alliance, 2nd Team selected	123	Vanguard/Syosset
Winning Alliance Captain*	10738	Stony Brook Bears/Stony Brook
Winning Alliance, 1st Team selected*	6438	Syndicate/Syosset
Winning Alliance, 2nd Team selected	10419	Syosset Elite/Syosset

\* Denotes teams that advanced to the FIRST Tech Challenge World Championship in Detroit, Michigan on April 24-27, 2019.

# SEVENTEEN TEAMS TAKE PART IN EIGHTH ANNUAL HALF HOLLOW HILLS INVITATIONAL

Event was Presented by Half Hollow Hills High School West with Support from School-Business Partnerships of Long Island



The winning alliance of (left to right) Sachem High School Team #263 “Sachem Aftershock,” Westhampton Beach High School Team #3171 “Hurricanes” and Hicksville High School Team #1468 “J-Birds” is joined by event referees after the awards ceremony of the Eighth Annual Half Hollow Hills Invitational.

Teachers, principals, administrators and community members from Long Island school districts came out to Half Hollow Hills High School West in Dix Hills on November 2, 2019 to watch the Eighth Annual Half Hollow Hills Invitational, which was presented

by the school and SBPLI. The *FIRST*® Long Island Half Hollow Hills Invitational has become a staple of the local *FIRST* Robotics Competition season and had come to signify the conclusion of the 2019 season.

## MELISSA A. LUFF LOIZIDES JOINS SBPLI'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Melissa A. Luff Loizides has joined the Board of Directors for SBPLI. She replaces Joe Sicinski, who retired from the board.

Ms. Loizides is a Senior Human Resources Executive at Zebra Technologies Corporation in Holtsville, New York, which sponsors SBPLI's Long Island Regional *FIRST* Robotics Competition. In her role, she serves as the senior human resources business partner to the chief product and solutions officer and the chief supply chain

and services officer, both of whom report to the chief executive officer.

Prior to joining Zebra, Ms. Loizides was the Vice President of the Equities Division at the Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. in New York, New York. She has a Bachelor of Science (*cum laude*) degree and a Master of Science degree from St. Joseph's College in Patchogue.

Pictured to the right is Melissa A. Luff Loizides



## ABIGAIL HOLMES RECEIVES *FIRST*® DEAN'S LIST AWARD AT FRC CHAMPIONSHIP

Abigail Holmes of Huntington High School Team #5016 “Huntington Robotics” was named a recipient of the *FIRST* Dean's List Award at the *FIRST* Robotics Competition Championship in Detroit, Michigan on April 24-27. Sponsored by the Kamen family, the award is presented to a *FIRST* Robotics Competition team member who is in the 10th or 11th grade in an effort to recognize their leadership and dedication. Abigail was named a Dean's List Finalist at this year's Long Island Regional.

Pictured to the left is Abigail Holmes





## FRANK LANGRO AND JEFF STERN HONORED AS THE 2019 *FIRST*® LONG ISLAND VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR



SBPLI Board Members Frank Langro and Jeff Stern each received the "Volunteer of the Year" Award during a special presentation at SBPLI's Volunteer VIP Reception, which took place at Hofstra University's President's Club on March 29, 2019.

Mr. Langro, who is the director of product market management for pneumatic automation products at Festo Corporation, has been involved with SBPLI for more than a decade. He has arranged for the donations of solenoid valves to the *FIRST* Robotics Competition teams to be placed in their kits of parts. He has also served as a judge during the competitions.

Mr. Stern, who has been a practicing attorney for over 40 years, has been volunteering for *FIRST* Long Island for almost 15 years. Affectionately known as the "Chicken Judge," he always wears a chicken hat given to him by a *FIRST* LEGO League team many years ago while judging these events. He attended the inaugural SBPLI Long Island Regional *FIRST* Robotics Competition in 2000 with his home team, *FIRST* Robotics Competition Team #353, "the POBots." His family has been involved in *FIRST* as well: his wife Stephanie is currently the co-director of the *FIRST* LEGO League program on Long Island, and three of his children have participated in *FIRST*.

Pictured to the left are Jeff Stern and Frank Langro

## ZEBRA SPONSORS LONG ISLAND REGIONAL *FIRST* ROBOTICS COMPETITION



This year, Zebra Technologies, a technology developing company, became a major sponsor of SBPLI's Long Island Regional *FIRST* Robotics Competition. During the tournament, Zebra provided data analytics, measuring the distances and speeds at which the robots traveled during the qualifying and playoff rounds.

"From all of us here at SBPLI, we are so honored and excited to have such an amazing company

sponsor programs for our students across Long Island," said Larry Toonkel, SBPLI's *FIRST* Robotics Competition program director. "It is Zebra's commitment to technological advances and innovations that we believe makes them a great fit to sponsor the *FIRST* Robotics Competition. We hope students will be inspired by Zebra's accomplishments and future goals so that our students will aspire to become just as successful in the engineering and technology fields."

## GERSHOW RECYCLING DONATES ALUMINUM SCRAP TO LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL ROBOTICS TEAMS

For the eleventh year in a row, Gershow Recycling opened its Medford facility to local high school robotics teams participating in SBPLI's Long Island Regional *FIRST*® Robotics Competition to receive free aluminum scrap. Eight high school robotics teams took advantage of the program and visited Gershow on December 14, 2019: Half Hollow Hills, Hauppauge, North Shore, Patchogue-Medford, Plainview-Old Bethpage, Southold and Westhampton Beach. The teams thanked Gershow for its support.

Pictured (left to right): Gershow Manager Jonathan Abrams, Hauppauge High School Robotics Team Advisor Anthony Gibson, Team Co-Presidents Daniel Panaro and Kassiem Jennings and Team Vice President Seamus Buckley.





**FIRST LEGO League  
Jr. BOOMTOWN  
BUILD Expos**

February 29, 2020  
Mineola High School  
10 Armstrong Rd.  
Garden City Park, NY  
11040



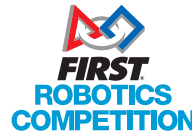
**FIRST Tech Challenge  
Championship**

March 7, 2020  
Syosset High School  
70 S. Woods Rd.  
Syosset, NY 11791



**FIRST LEGO League  
Jr. BOOMTOWN  
BUILD Expos**

March 1, 2020  
Longwood High School  
100 Longwood Rd.  
Middle Island, NY 11953



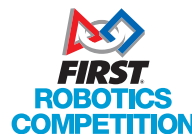
**21st Annual FIRST  
Robotics Competition  
Long Island Regional #1**

March 22-25, 2020  
Hofstra University  
1000 Hempstead Tpke.  
Hempstead, NY 11549



**FIRST LEGO League  
Championship**

March 1, 2020  
Longwood High School  
100 Longwood Rd.  
Middle Island, NY 11953



**21st Annual FIRST  
Robotics Competition  
Long Island Regional #2**

March 25-28, 2020  
Hofstra University  
1000 Hempstead Tpke.  
Hempstead, NY 11549

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- The Stern Family




PO Box 101  
Kings Park, New York 11754

## Inspiring Students to Pursue Careers in Science, Technology, Engineering & Math

### ABOUT SBPLI

School-Business Partnerships of Long Island, Inc. (SBPLI) DBA *FIRST*® Long Island is a fully volunteer-run 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 1984 by Fred Breithut with the goal of developing partnerships between local high schools and businesses. His goal was to provide students with practical experience and curriculum development, while helping the business community develop its future workforce, which resulted in the formation of over 100 partnerships. In 1999, SBPLI brought *FIRST*® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) to Long Island, which featured just eight *FIRST*® Robotics Competition high school teams. Since then, the Long Island Regional *FIRST*® Robotics Competition has grown to two events with over 80 teams competing each year. SBPLI also hosts Long Island's annual *FIRST*® LEGO League Qualifying and Championship Tournaments and the *FIRST*® LEGO League Junior Expos, in which over 2,500 elementary and middle school students from Nassau and Suffolk Counties take part each year. In 2016, SBPLI added the *FIRST*® Tech Challenge to its roster of programs.



  
**FIRST**  
ROBOTICS  
COMPETITION  
GRADES 9-12

  
**FIRST**  
TECH  
CHALLENGE  
GRADES 7-12

  
**FIRST**  
LEGO  
LEAGUE  
GRADES 4-8

  
**FIRST**  
LEGO  
LEAGUE JR.  
GRADES K-3



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**FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [WWW.SBPLI-LIFIRST.ORG](http://WWW.SBPLI-LIFIRST.ORG)**