

#### **INSPIRING STUDENTS IN STEM**

March 2021

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#### ...Join Us Next Month

- FTC
- *FIRST*<sup>®</sup> LEGO League GIA
- Future Fair

# K-12 STEM ENQUIRER FIRST<sup>®</sup> LEGO League

Ohio's FIRST LEGO League Challenge Championship has wrapped up. Teams from across the state joined with judges and referees online to run their robot matches and judging sessions. While this season has been quite different than any other, the 57 teams competing at the Ohio Championship demonstrated the ingenuity, persistence, and passion we are used to seeing. It's absolutely incredible to see their accomplishments this season! To say we are proud of them is an understatement.

40 volunteers were on board to help score the teams and provide feedback. We were fortunate to have many of our regular volunteers, but also a few from other parts of the US joined us for this Remote Championship! Thank you to all of our volunteers! We literally could not have done this without you. Special thanks to the volunteers from FROS (FIRST Robotics and Alumni at Ohio State), FTC 8642 8 to Automate, and FRC 7460 Avi for the tech support you provided during the judging sessions!

These teams have advanced from our Championship and are still competing: 37575 Howl Bout It (Cincinnati) and 33533 The Five Elements (Beavercreek) will represent Ohio at the Virtual Open Invitational in June. Teams 2751 Lego Legion (Cincinnati), 1923 Robo Raptors (Dayton), and 5736 Techno Botz (Dublin) are competing for the Global Innovation Award sponsored by Disney. We have heard that there is a chance we could get invites to two additional Remote Opens and a few teams have been encouraged to keep practicing as they are next in line to advance: 2751 Lego Legion, 1923 Robo Raptors, and 45871 Positive Protons (Aurora). Good luck, teams!

Full Championship results can be found here: Award Results (flltournament.com)



# STARBASE Wright-Patt

STARBASE Wright-Patt had a very busy March. With all 7 staffers fully active, we were able to reach almost 500 5th graders with our 3 STARBASE COVID options. We traveled to Fairborn Intermediate with our STARBASE on Wheels in the classroom, as well as held 2 fully remote demo days with their students who are working from home. After, we visited 2 Beavercreek schools and a West Carrollton school with our STARBASE on Wheels in the classroom and then ended with a Kettering school who had to utilize our STARBASE on Wheels gone virtual due to remaining visitor restrictions. It was a busy month and we look forward to April and visiting 4 more schools with our STARBASE on Wheels in the classroom option, all while preparing for our upcoming summer camps!! Be on the lookout for registration information!



### Read America

### Virtual Read Across America

As with many other events, this year was quite a bit different for Read Across America. Hosted by the National Museum of the United States Air Force, five age-appropriate books were chosen by the Museum's Education Division. With permission of the authors and publishers, the books were read by volunteers from the Ohio Education Association and WPAFB. The virtual sessions were uploaded to YouTube and video links were made accessible to a maximum of 1,500 requestors and were able to be viewed the entire month of March! To date, over 4,000 students have been able to participate!



Mark Hill OEA Sec/Treas Scott DiMauro OEA President

Col Trauna James AFLCMC/LZI

Erika Tate AFMC/EN Jeff Wensing OEA Vice President

# **FIRST** FIRST<sup>®</sup> Tech Challenge

### Ohio FIRST® Tech Challenge Wraps-Up Qualifying Events in March

Ohio *FIRST*<sup>®</sup>Tech Challenge wrapped-up its remote qualifying events for the season in March. Since January, seventy-one (71) teams of 7th-12th graders have been competing for the opportunity to advance to the Ohio *FIRST*<sup>®</sup> Tech Challenge State Championship. Wright Patterson Air Force Base's Educational Outreach was pleased to host two of the eight remote qualifying events this season. With over 600 students participating in *FIRST*<sup>®</sup> Tech Challenge events in Ohio this season, it has been an extraordinarily successful year for the program. Teams have put in months of work to design, build, and program their robots, as well as prepare for judging at competitions where they are evaluated on skills such as outreach, leadership within their communities, creativity of their robot design, use of the engineering design process, and much more. Forty-four (44) teams from across the state will now have the opportunity to compete for top honors at the Ohio *FIRST*<sup>®</sup> Tech Challenge teams the opportunity to participate in the program this year! We wish all of our teams good luck!



## WOW! Remote Lessons

The WOW! program continues to offer WPAFB volunteers as presenters in classrooms. The teaching of STEM lessons, educational hands-on activities, and the opportunity for students to interact with Scientists, Engineers and members of the military is the cornerstone of the program.

We have pivoted this year, offering a new way for students to experience lessons, participate in activities, and meet volunteers. We now offer WOW! Remote Lessons.

These are the same WOW! in the Classroom presentations, but now it can be done through video communication like Zoom and Google Meet when a visitor cannot come into the classroom.

How will this work?

wow

- Requests are submitted through Survey Monkey.
- Materials can be delivered through WOW! on Wheels.
- Materials will be delivered a few days early so you have a chance to go through everything, and set it up in a way that works best for you and your students.
- At the scheduled time, the Wizard can lead the lesson from the WOW! studio.



We are able to present our Remote Lessons for classes and groups of students across the country. Here's one of our volunteers working with a Girl Scout Troop from Maryland!

### For Questions or for More Information:

Contact Angel Callahan: 937-938-4868 antoinette.callahan.ctr@us.af.mil or antoinette.callahan@arctos-us.com http://wpafbstem.com/pages/wow\_overview.html

Go directly to these links to submit your requests. WOW! in the Classroom: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/wowic2021 WOW! on Wheels: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/wow2021 WOW! Remote Lessons: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/wowrl2021







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