

# WPAFB E.O. NEWSLETTER

December 2024

### **ANNOUNCEMENT**

LEGACY Craftsman camp applications are now open

#### What's Happening?

FIRST Lego League Discover FIRST Tech Challenge SEMEDS

#### What's Coming Up?

*FIRST* Lego League Explore SEMEDS

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FIRST LEGO League Discover is a playful introductory STEM program for children ages 4-6, that builds confidence, habits of learning, and teamwork skills with activities designed to harness young minds' natural curiosity using LEGO DUPLO bricks. By the end of the program, children emerge more confident, better equipped to face future challenges, and discover the joy of learning.





Students at a Xenia preschool are engaged in exploring space with Mission Moon FIRST LEGO League

## E.O. DECEMBER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

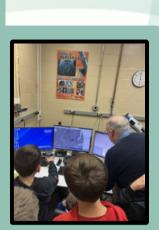


FIRST Tech Challenge in Ohio is fully underway for the INTO THE DEEP presented by RTX season. The Cleveland Metropolitan School District hosted their very first qualifier. 14 teams competed throughout the season at scrimmages held by CMSD. All teams that competed are in their rookie season and were so excited for the conclusion of the CMSD events. Two teams advanced to the Ohio FTC Championship. Congratulations to all of the teams and thank you to all who made this event a success.

The Aurora League Tournament was completed this month and consisted of 15 teams competing for the title of League Champion. The teams participated in four league meets leading up to the final tournament. It was a great showing of gracious professionalism and intense competition. Two teams advanced to the Ohio FTC Championship from this event. Congratulations teams and thank you to the volunteers, coaches, and parents who support these teams in Northeast Ohio.

## E.O. DECEMBER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS







A group of enthusiastic students visited Wright-Patterson Air Force Base to engage in an exciting handson experience using the scanning electron microscopes (SEMs). Guided by expert scientists, they learned how these powerful tools allow researchers to see tiny details at the nanoscale.

The students examined various materials, discovering the intricate structures of everything from insects to metals. This experience not only sparked their curiosity about science and technology but also inspired them to think about future careers in STEM fields. It was an evening filled with learning, exploration, and fun!



LEADERS IN STEM EDUCATION



Students at DECA Middle School, using the WOW! Bridges lesson.

Students received a brief introduction to the beginnings of bridge design starting with the ancient aqueducts, moving into stronger steel bridges, and suspension bridges. Students discussed what Engineers have to think about in planning the building of a bridge using vocabulary words like tension and compression. Students then became civil engineers and experienced the design and assembly of a bridge that they could travel across.