

THE OUTREACH ORBIT

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF WPAFB STEM OUTREACH

THIS MONTH'S NEWS:

FIRST at the State Championship:

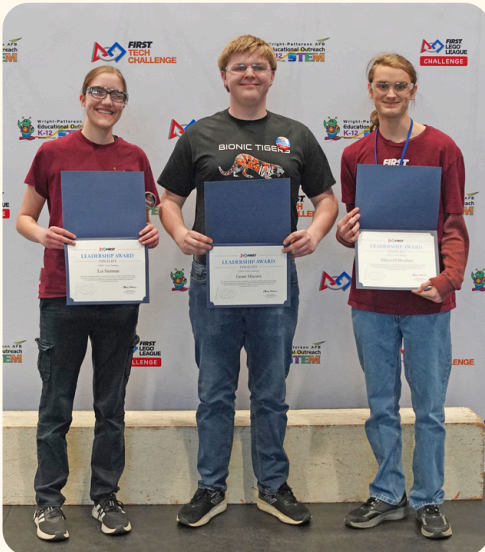
- **FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC)**
- **FIRST LEGO League Challenge (FLL)**

FTC at the State Championship

On March 14 at the Hobart Arena in Troy, Ohio, the WPAFB STEM Outreach Office hosted the exhilarating state championship for FIRST Tech Challenge. 38 teams from across the state showcased their creativity, problem-solving skills, and robotic engineering prowess. The competition was fierce, with teams demonstrating exceptional teamwork and innovative designs. After a day of intense matches, four teams earned the coveted opportunity to advance to the



FIRST Championship in Houston, TX, where they will compete on a global stage. Additionally, seven teams secured spots at various prestigious Premier Events and 3 students were selected as the FIRST Leadership Award Finalists, further highlighting the talent and dedication within Ohio's FIRST community. This exciting event marked a significant milestone for all the participants, as they



continue to inspire the next generation of engineers and innovators. Congratulations to all of the teams involved and thank you to the venue staff, coaches, parents, families, mentors, and volunteers who made this event a great success. Continue to the next page for the results of the event. Next season's theme will be announced in September of 2026. Registration opens in May. Specific dates are to come. We are looking forward to what next season will bring!




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More of FTC at the State Championship



PRESENTED BY 

FIRST Tech Challenge 2026 Ohio Championship Results



<p>Inspire Award Winner Team 20744 – 24 Karat</p> <p>Inspire Award 2nd Place Team 6133 – The “NUTS!”</p> <p>Inspire Award 3rd Place Team 10464 – The Bionic Tigers</p> <p>Winning Alliance Captain Team 23435 – Gyrobotic Droids</p> <p>Winning Alliance 1st pick Team 10084 – Team Calamari</p> <p>Finalist Alliance Captain Team 3311 – Innovators Robotics</p> <p>Finalist Alliance 1st pick Team 21865 – Fe2O3</p>	<p>Think Award 1st place: Team 16449 – Juniper Robotics 2nd place: Team 17978 – Robo Kai</p> <p>Connect Award 1st place: Team 8120 – Electric Hornets 2nd place: Team 23927 - INTERSTELLAR</p> <p>Sustain Award 1st place: Team 23493 Techno Domination 2nd place: Team 12802 – We Will Bot You</p> <p>Innovate Award 1st place: Team 5140 – WACO Aerobotics 2nd place: Team 32896 – Droid Squad</p> <p>Control Award 1st place: Team 23435 – Gyrobotic Droids 2nd place: Team 3311 Innovators Robotics</p>	<p>Reach Award 1st place: Team 21865 – Fe2O3 2nd place: Team 16657 We Did Start the Fire</p> <p>Design Award 1st place: Team 10084 – Team Calamari 2nd place: Team 12569 - STEMstangs</p> <p>Judges’ Choice Award Team 30334 – Blood, Sweat, and Gears</p> <p>Compass Award Dave Barth – Team 5140</p> <p>Volunteer of the Year Award David Fort</p> <p>Advancing Teams: 6133, 10084, 20744, 23435, 16657, 6298, 10464, 26708, 3311, 21865, 22858</p>
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2026 FIRST Leadership Award Finalists
Grant M – Team 10464, Lei S. – Team 21865, Maxwell B. – Team 21874



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FLL at the State Championship

The 2026 Ohio FIRST LEGO League Challenge State Championship brought together 40 outstanding teams from across the state, each earning their place through dedication, creativity, and a passion for discovery. This remarkable event showcased the very best of what young innovators can achieve when they combine curiosity with teamwork.



Throughout the season, these teams demonstrated exceptional commitment—designing, building, and programming LEGO-based robots to tackle complex challenges, while also researching real-world problems and presenting thoughtful, innovative solutions. Reaching the state championship is no small feat, and every team in attendance exemplified perseverance, collaboration, and ingenuity. At the two-day championship event, participants not only competed at a high level but also embodied the core values of FIRST: teamwork, inclusion, innovation, discovery, and impact. From creative robot designs to compelling project presentations, students impressed judges, mentors, and spectators alike with their confidence and problem-solving abilities.



While awards were presented to top-performing teams, the true achievement lies in the journey each team undertook—months of learning, testing, failing, improving, and ultimately succeeding together. Every participant contributed to an atmosphere of encouragement and mutual respect that defines the FIRST community.

We proudly recognize all qualifying teams for their hard work and accomplishments. Your dedication represents the future of science, technology, engineering, and innovation in Ohio and beyond. Congratulations to all teams on an incredible season—we look forward to seeing where your creativity and determination take you next! Continue reading for results.



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More of FLL at the State Championship




Ohio Championship Results

Core Values Award: 66935 - Dr. Pepperbots
65836 - Cyborg Rangers
38303 - The Science Sisters!

Innovation Project Award: 35772 - The Winners
70453 - Byte Force
50927 - Positive Protons

Robot Design Award: 37732 - Power Pandas
58764 - Robocats
57825 - Double Digits

Robot Performance Award: 2751 - Lego Legion
6704 - Platinum Pizzeria
63673 - SmartBots

Engineering Excellence Award: 67464 - RoboTigers

Rising All-Star Award: 72913 - Smart Builders

Breakthrough Award: 74472 - Cosmic Lego Builders

Motivate Award: 71182 - Lego Legends

Judges Award: 63804 - DeBRICKable Me! 2.0

Coopertition Award: 69320 - Robotic Rookies

WPAFB STEM Outreach Office's Founders Award: 70453 - Byte Force

Champion's Award Finalist: 2751 - Lego Legion
37348 - Charged Up

Champion's Award: 56510 - Innov8




Ohio Championship Advancing Teams

56510 - Innov8 - World Festival
Champion's Award Winner

37348 - Charged Up - World Festival
Champion's Award Finalist

2751 - Lego Legion - Western Edge Open
Champion's Award Finalist

37732 - Power Pandas - WPI Open
Robot Design Award Winner

70453 - Byte Force - WPI Open
Innovation Project Award Winner
WPAFB STEM Outreach Office Founder's Award Winner

35772 - The Winners - Canada Cup
Innovation Project Award Winner

Ohio Championship Results

Coach Awards: Josh Crawley - 37348
Pat Dollard - 2751
Deepa Chelladurai - 65836

Volunteer Awards: Caroline Buckey - 25 years
Betrina Reimer
Tabitha Blakenship

FIRST® Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award: Sabrina Barnett

FIRST® Outstanding Volunteer Family Award: Milligan Family



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