

# Georgia FLL Super Regional at Clayton State University

Saturday, January 7, 2017

Clayton State University first hosted the Georgia *FIRST* LEGO League (FLL) Super Regional competition in January 2012. Since then, volunteers from the university and the surrounding community, together with the teams, coaches, and their friends and families, have made the events an amazing success. The Super Regionals are returning to Clayton State University on **January 7, 2017**. We are looking for volunteers, and local organizations and businesses to host booths.

## About FIRST LEGO League



In 1998, *FIRST* Founder Dean Kamen and the LEGO Group's Kjeld Kirk Kristiansen joined forces to create FLL, a powerful program that engages children (ages 9-14) in playful and meaningful learning while helping them

discover the fun in science and technology through the FIRST LEGO League experience. Dean and Kjeld have a shared belief that FLL inspires teams to research, build, and experiment, and by doing so, they live the entire process of creating ideas, solving problems, and overcoming obstacles, while gaining confidence in their abilities to positively use technology. Teams composed of up to ten children (which could be associated with a pre-existing club or organization, homeschooled, or even just a group of friends) are led by at least two coaches or mentors from the organization or community.

The FLL Core Values are the cornerstones of the FLL program. By embracing the Core Values, participants learn that friendly competition and mutual game are not separate goals, and that helping one another is the foundation of teamwork.

- We are a team.
- We do the work to find solutions with guidance from our coaches and mentors.
- We know our coaches and mentors don't have all the answers; we learn together.
- We honor the spirit of friendly competition.
- What we discover is more important than what we win.
- We share our experiences with others.
- We display Gracious Professionalism and Coopertition in everything we do.
- We have FUN!

## Challenge: Overview and History



In late summer FLL releases a Challenge, which is based on a real-world scientific topic.

Each Challenge has three parts: the **Robot Game**, the **Project**, and the **FLL Core Values**. Teams of up to ten children,

with at least one adult coach (two coaches required in U.S./Canada), participate in the Challenge by programming an autonomous robot to score points on a themed playing field (Robot Game), developing a solution to a problem they have identified (Project), all guided by the FLL Core Values.

Teams may then attend an official tournament, hosted by our FIRST LEGO League Partners.

Past Challenges have been based on topics such as nanotechnology, climate, quality of life for the handicapped population, and transportation. By designing our Challenges around such topics, participants are exposed to potential career paths within a chosen Challenge topic, in addition to solidifying the STEM principles that naturally come from participating in the program. Team members also learn valuable life and employment skills which will benefit them no matter which career path they choose.

## 2015 Competition Season



to help each other?

Get ready. Get set. Roar! Or you could bark, quack, or squeak, because the 2016 ANIMAL ALLIES season is all about our furry, feathered, and finned friends. In the 2016 *FIRST* LEGO League Challenge, more than 28,000 teams of students aged 9 – 14 will look into the eyes of our ANIMAL ALLIES. What might become possible when we learn

## A CSU Initiative

The CSU LEGO Bowl was started in the fall of 2012 by Scott Bailey and Jarrett Terry. Its objective is to provide the students of Clayton State University the opportunity to apply the knowledge imparted by their STEM to design, build, and program a robot to perform tasks analogous to those found in the workplace on a larger scale. Additionally, it provides the students of Clayton State University the opportunity to assist, and engage students, in programs currently found in area K-12 schools and/or after-school programs (or develop programs which currently do not exist, but are in demand).

## A Clayton County Initiative

Dr. Tonya Clarke (Georgia Master Teacher, Coordinator of K-12 Mathematics for Clayton County Public Schools) received a Verizon Innovative Learning Grant. In its first year, it brought after-school robotics programs to six Clayton County middle schools: Jonesboro, Kendrick, Lovejoy, MD Roberts, Mundy's Mill, North Clayton, and Rex Mill. This year, it has been used to bring teams and programs to more schools, including two high schools.

Eric Stallings, the general manager for the Chick-fil-A at the Forest Park Dwarf House, is committed to provide added exposure to local STEM/Robotics programs. He has worked with Clayton State University, in particular, on several community engagement activities such as hosting the 2015 CSU Robotics Bowl at his restaurant.

## Booths/Tables



32 teams of 10 students, together with their coaches, families, and friends will visit Clayton State University on Saturday, January 7, 2017 from approximately 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. We would love to have booths set up where local organizations

can reach out to our visitors and make potentially important connections! If your organization has an initiative that reflects this year's theme of ANIMAL ALLIES, then even better!

## Volunteers

If you, or your organization, would like to sign up to be a volunteer (whether it is a judge for presentations, a referee for the robot game, or a general volunteer) please fill out the Qualtrics survey at:

[https://claytonstate.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_ahPJ0sHnpCdD6UR](https://claytonstate.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_ahPJ0sHnpCdD6UR)