

*** Calendar Alert ***



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**Local Students Demonstrate Engineering Excellence in “FIRST STRONGHOLDSM”
FIRST® Robotics Competition New York Tech Valley Regional Event**

Event: FIRST® Robotics Competition New York Tech Valley Regional Event

What: More than 36 high schools from across New York State, Ohio, Massachusetts and 3 foreign countries will compete in the FIRST® Robotics Competition Regional. The Capital Region will be represented by 12 high local high schools. This high-tech sporting event will produce excitement and energy for participants and spectators alike, as teams compete for honors and recognition that reward design excellence, sportsmanship, teamwork, and more.

In FIRST STRONGHOLDSM, two Alliances of three robots each are on a Quest to breach their opponents' fortifications, weaken their tower with boulders, and capture the opposing tower. Robots score points by breaching opponents' defenses and scoring boulders through goals in the opposing tower. During the final 20 seconds of the Quest, robots may surround and scale the opposing tower to capture it.

FIRST® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) is a not-for-profit organization, founded by inventor Dean Kamen, dedicated to inspire an appreciation of science and technology in young people. The FIRST Robotics Competition is a program that challenges high school students – working with professional Mentors – to design and build a robot to contend in competitions that measure the effectiveness of each robot, the power of collaboration and the determination of students.

When: March 17,18,19

Time: 8 a.m. – 5p.m.

Where: Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute East Center Athletic Village (ECAV)
80 People's Drive, Troy, NY 12180

Details: Admission is free. Space is limited. More information & webcast access: www.techvalleyfirst.org

About FIRST®

Accomplished inventor Dean Kamen founded FIRST® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) in 1989 to inspire an appreciation of science and technology in young people. Based in Manchester, N.H., FIRST designs accessible, innovative programs to build self-confidence, knowledge, and life skills while motivating young people to pursue opportunities in science, technology, and engineering. With support from over 200 of the Fortune 500 companies and more than \$25 million in college scholarships, the not-for-profit organization hosts the FIRST® Robotics Competition for students in Grades 9-12; FIRST® Tech Challenge for Grades 7-12; FIRST® LEGO® League for Grades 4-8; and FIRST® LEGO® League Jr. for Grades K-3. Gracious Professionalism® is a way of doing things that encourages high-quality work, emphasizes the value of others, and respects individuals and the community. To learn more about FIRST, go to www.firstinspires.org

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About New York Tech Valley FIRST® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology). New York Tech Valley FIRST is a regional office of FIRST. The New York Tech Valley Regional is in its third year providing access to FIRST programs for youth across New York Tech Valley Communities thanks to the sponsorship of NASA, General Electric, GLOBALFOUNDRIES, National Grid, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and a GLOBALFOUNDRIES led coalition of companies including ASML, KLA Tencor, M+W Group, Mattson Technology, Applied Materials, Lam Research, Turner Construction Company, SCREEN USA, Wonik IPS, Edwards Vacuum, PDF Solutions, and nrastructure. To learn more about New York Tech Valley FIRST, go to www.firsttechvalley.org.

