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CALENDAR ALERT

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Local Students Compete to Qualify for Global Robotics Championship at *FIRST*® Robotics Competition New York Tech Valley Regional Event

More than 36 area high schools and contenders from Canada and Brazil will bring students, teachers, mentors, sponsors and family members to participate in the *FIRST*® Robotics Competition, as teams compete for honors and recognition that reward design excellence, sportsmanship, teamwork, and more.

DESTINATION: DEEP SPACE Presented By Boeing, the 2019 *FIRST* Robotics Competition game, finds teams collecting samples on Planet Primus. Two competing alliances will combat unpredictable terrain and weather patterns, making remote robot operation essential to their mission on the planet. With only two minutes and thirty seconds until liftoff, the alliances must gather as many cargo pods as possible and prepare their spaceships for departure before the next sandstorm arrives.

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.

The 2019 *FIRST*® Robotics Competition New York Tech Valley Regional Event is sponsored by ASML, GE, KLA, GLOBALFOUNDRIES, National Grid and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and additional support by Applied Materials Foundation, AMD, Lam Research, Edwards Vacuum, Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Infrastructure, The Picket Family Foundation, SCREEN, Accumetra, US TEL and Westerwood Global.

- **What:** 2019 *FIRST*® Robotics Competition New York Tech Valley Regional Event
- **When:** March 7-9, 2019
- **Times:** See Public Agenda: <https://www.firstinspires.org/team-event-search/event?id=37476>
- **Where:** Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute East Center Athletic Village (ECAV)

Note: Admission is free.

Details: Math, Science and Engineering as a Sport. Robot Madness: Celebrating local youth creativity, imagination, and achievements in the playing field of math, science and technology. Local youth immersed in engineering innovation with help from local engineer volunteers figuring out how to score high in robotics annual game: DESTINATION: DEEP SPACE
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mew6G_og-PI

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 \$80 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-4. 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.

To learn more about *FIRST* in Tech Valley go to <http://www.techvalleyfirst.org>