

8/21/2026

Contents:

1. Analysis of Robofest Team Participation Data	2
2. Workshops and Outreach	9
3. Initiatives in 2026 and Plans for 2027	9
4. Revenue/Expense Summary	10
5. Recognition & Acknowledgement	11



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(Figure 1) Robofest World Championship 2026 participants and sponsors

1. Analysis of Robofest Team Participation Data

Robofest® is Lawrence Technological University's world-wide robotics program for students in 4th - 12th grade. Student teams design, construct, and program their autonomous robots to compete for trophies in a variety of competitions. Robofest's mission is: to generate excitement & interest among young people for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM), AI and Computer Science; to develop essential skills such as teamwork, creative thinking, communication and problem solving; and to prepare them to excel in higher education and technological careers.

During the 2025-2026 academic year, US Site Hosts, International Partners and the Robofest staff held in-person and video submission events. The Robofest World Championship events were held at Lawrence Technological University. A total of **24 countries/territories** scheduled or participated in events during the season including Algeria, Bangladesh (new), Canada, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Jordan, Libya, Macau, Malaysia (new), Mexico, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine (new), Peru (new), Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Taiwan, Tunisia, USA. In the USA, students represented **5 States**: Florida, Michigan, New Jersey, Ohio, and Texas.

A total of **2530** students in **794** teams participated in events and workshops that utilized the Robofest Registration Management System (RMS). There were **521** site volunteers registered as judges, proctors, check-in, setup/cleanup crew, etc. Table 1 shows the total number of officially registered coaches, teams, participants, and volunteers for each site.

Site ID in Robofest Management System	Coaches	Teams	Participants	Volunteers
AddisAbaba_Ethiopia	19	47	131	19
Amman_Jordan	58	101	361	45
Bangalore_India	8	27	71	4
Bellevue_Cornerstone_FL	4	30	102	17
Bellview_MiddleSchool_FL	2	15	48	8
BloomfieldHills_Cranbrook_MI	7	10	35	18
ClintonTwp_MISD_MI	6	8	26	9
Dunedin_FL	5	19	46	27
Grandville_MI	1	5	14	4
Grandville_MI_2	1	5	15	4
Grandville_MI_BottleSumo	1	5	14	4
Grandville_MI_BottleSumo_2	2	10	24	4
Hebron_Palestine	23	33	85	40
Houston_UrbanSTEM_Tx	23	25	80	6
Hyderabad_India	3	44	200	6
Lutz_FL	2	8	31	6
Muscat_Oman	5	8	28	7
RoyalOak_MiddleSchool_MI	4	20	55	15
Tripoli_Libya	7	11	45	11
UMC_Scholarship_LTU	4	5	7	4
Video_Qualifier_International	1	1	3	2
Video_Qualifier_USA	11	19	52	5
Warmup_LTU	1	3	12	15
Warren_WWMS_MI	2	4	16	3
Windsor_Canada	8	28	81	28

Wolfville_Acadia_Canada	30	56	205	49
In-Person and Video Qualifiers (A)	238	547	1787	360
WS_GAME_EV3_SPIKE_Scratch	2	11	26	4
WS_UMC_Oct18	1	4	6	3
Workshops (B)	3	15	32	7
World_Champ_Exhibition	21	24	82	19
World_Champ_Game	30	44	145	30
World_Champ_JrBottleSumo_Group1	12	14	38	8
World_Champ_JrBottleSumo_Group2	17	22	61	11
World_Champ_JrBottleSumo_Group3	7	11	29	0
World_Champ_RoboArts	15	21	64	12
World_Champ_RoboMed	5	2	7	7
World_Champ_RoboMed_Round2	10	13	45	10
World_Champ_RoboParade	22	24	89	18
World_Champ_SrBottleSumo	22	27	63	17
World_Champ_UMC	20	26	78	16
World_Champ_Vcc	4	4	10	6
World Championship (C)	185	232	711	154
Grand Total (A) + (B) + (C)	426	794	2530	521

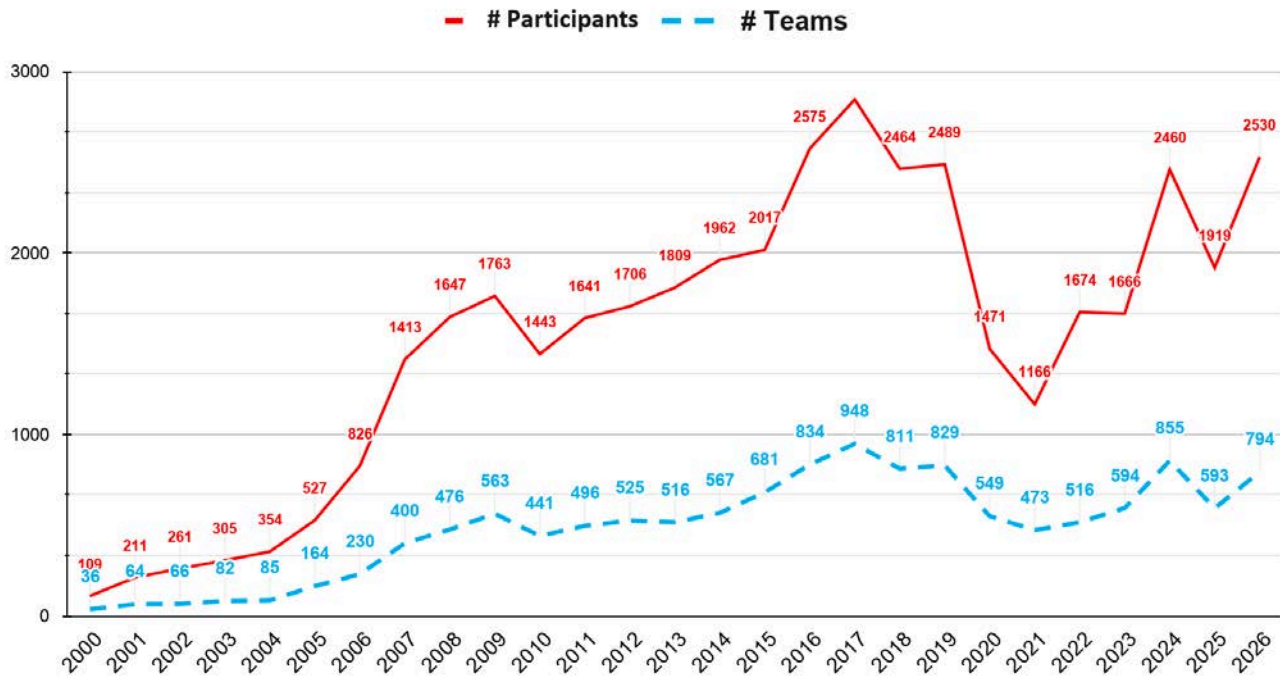
(Table 1) Number of Registered Participants at Robofest 2025-2026 Official Competition Sites

Events that were hosted by international partners in countries that utilized their own registration systems for their regional competitions reported an additional **2,466** teams that are in addition to the official number registered in RMS.

International "Option 3" competitions	Teams		Teams
Algeria	53	LATAM - Mexico	77
Bangladesh	50	Malaysia	15
China	426	Pakistan (no data submitted)	
Egypt	166	Saudi Arabia	108
Ghana	62	South Korea Imagine	8
Greece (5 locations)	184	South Korea LuxRobo	326
Hong Kong - Macau	447	Taiwan	497
India	27	Tunisia	20
		Total - International Option 3	2,466

(Table 2) Number of Reported Teams at Robofest 2025-2026 Option 3 Competition Sites

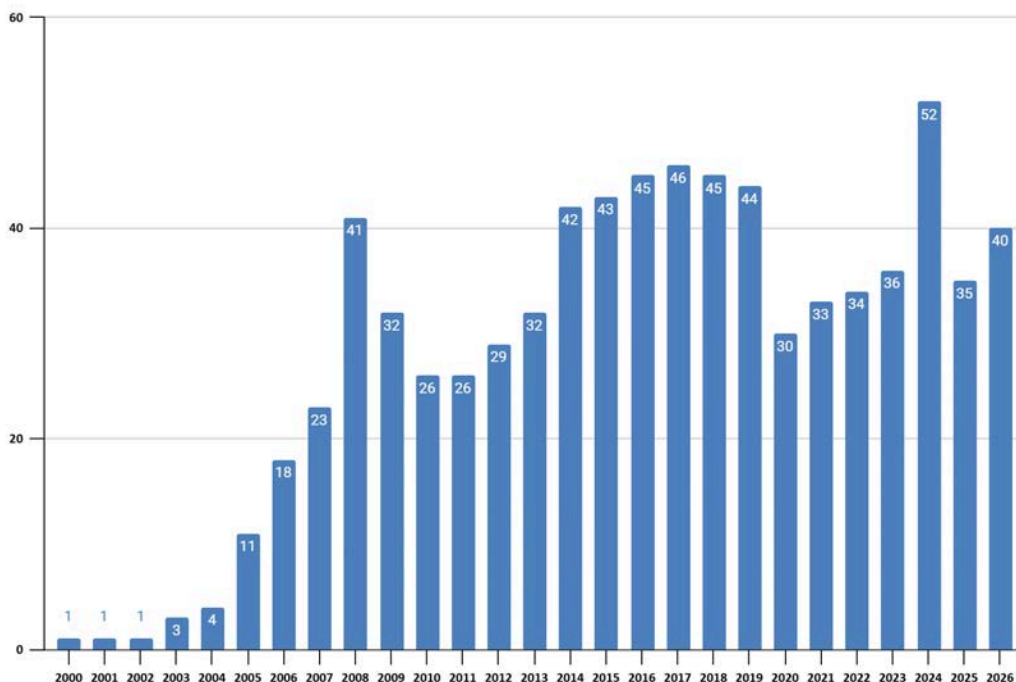
The annual number of teams and participants in our registration database increased from 2025 to 2026. The number is the 3rd highest. Figure 2 shows the number of Participants and Teams registered in RMS since 2000. The cumulative number of registered students in our registration database since 2000 has reached **41,254**.



(Figure 2) Number of Robofest student participants and teams since 2000

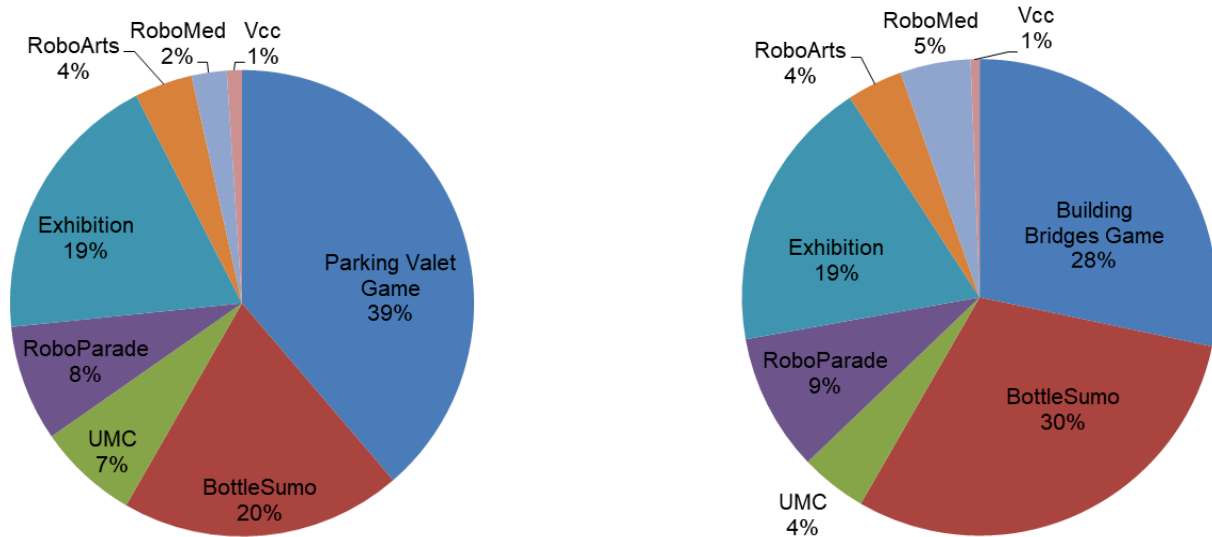
The average Robofest team size in 2026 was **3.2** participants, which was stable compared to 2025. At Robofest, we believe this small team size is good for effective learning, because each student has more opportunities to contribute to the team's objectives.

The total number of Robofest competition site locations for the 2025-2026 season listed in Table 1 was **40**. On average, **63.62** students and **19.9** teams participated per competition site in RMS. Figure 3 shows the history of the number of official competition sites since the inception of Robofest.



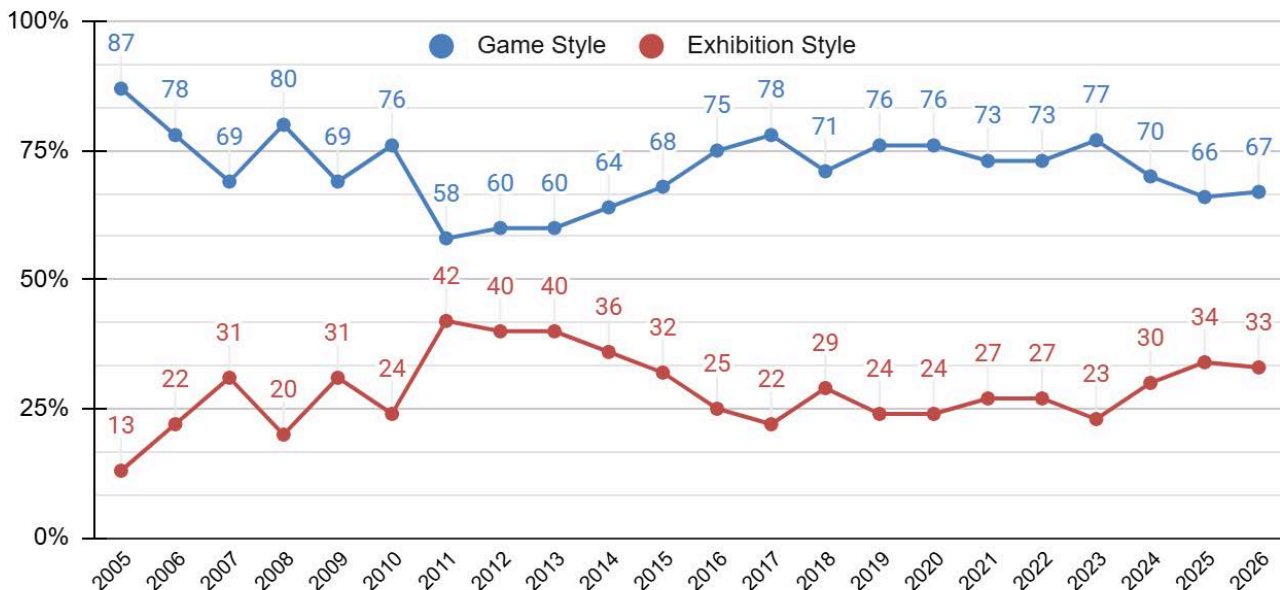
(Figure 3) Number of official Robofest competition site locations since 2000

Robofest offers a variety of categories in which to compete. In 2026, 30% of teams participated in BottleSumo, the Game category “Building Bridges” with 28% and then Exhibition with 19% of teams participating. Charts in Figure 4 show percentages of teams by competition category for 2025 and 2026.



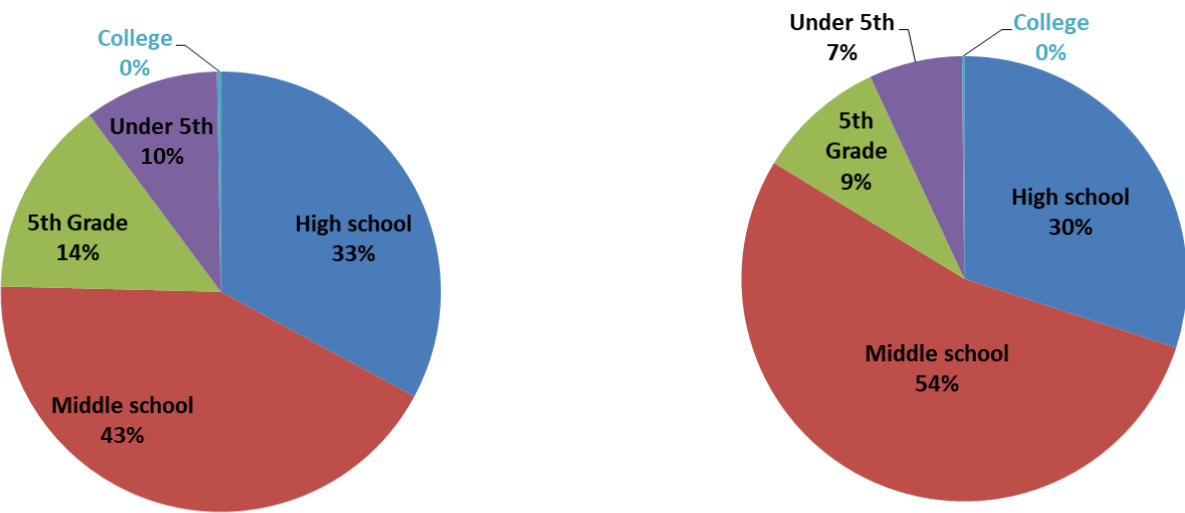
(Figure 4) Percentages of Teams per Robofest Competition Category in 2025 (left) and 2026 (right)

Robofest competitions can be generalized into two categories: (1) Game style that uses fixed rules including Game, BottleSumo, Unknown Mission Challenge, and Vision Centric Challenge, and (2) Exhibition style that has no or a few fixed rules including Exhibition, RoboParade, RoboArts, and RoboMed. Figure 5 shows the trend of number of teams between Game Style and Exhibition Style since 2005. The percentage of Game Style teams increased while Exhibition Style teams decreased from 2025 to 2026.

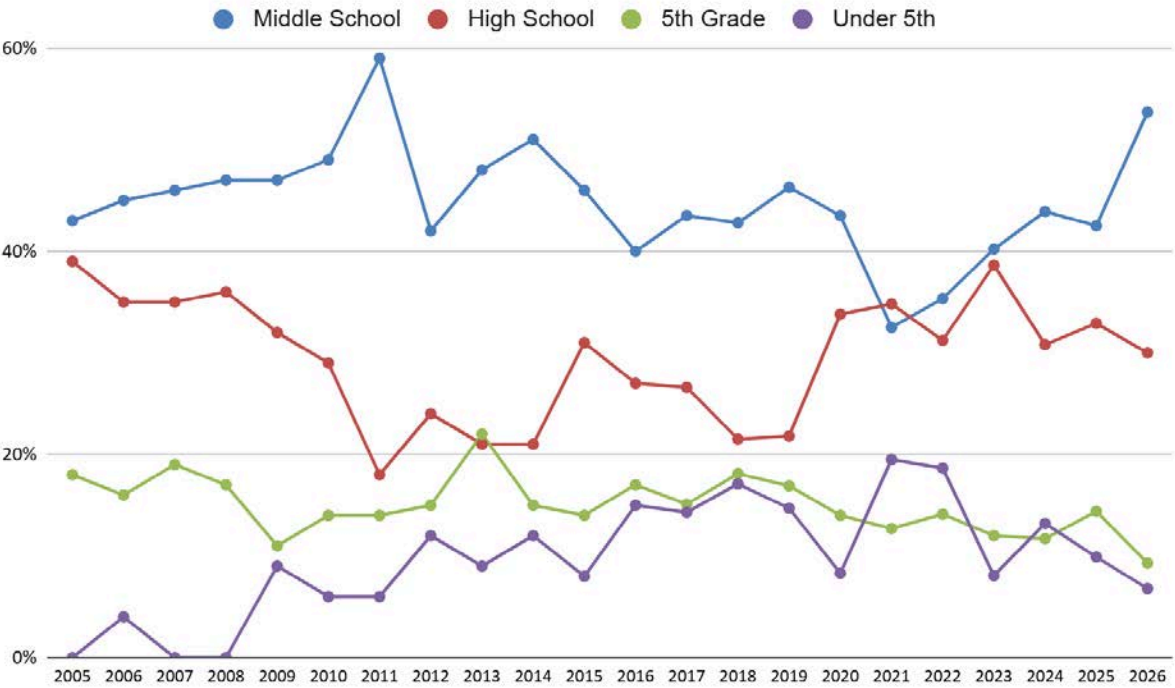


(Figure 5) Percentages of Robofest Game style teams and Exhibition style teams since 2005

The charts in Figure 6 show student participation by academic level for 2025 and 2026. For the 2026 season, 54% of the students were middle school aged (6th through 8th grade) and 30% of the students were high school aged (9th through 12th grade). Increasing participation of High School students is currently a focus of Robofest. Figure 7 shows the trend of each age group since 2005. Note that the grade level data is taken directly from our registration database and therefore “Option 3” international student data is excluded.

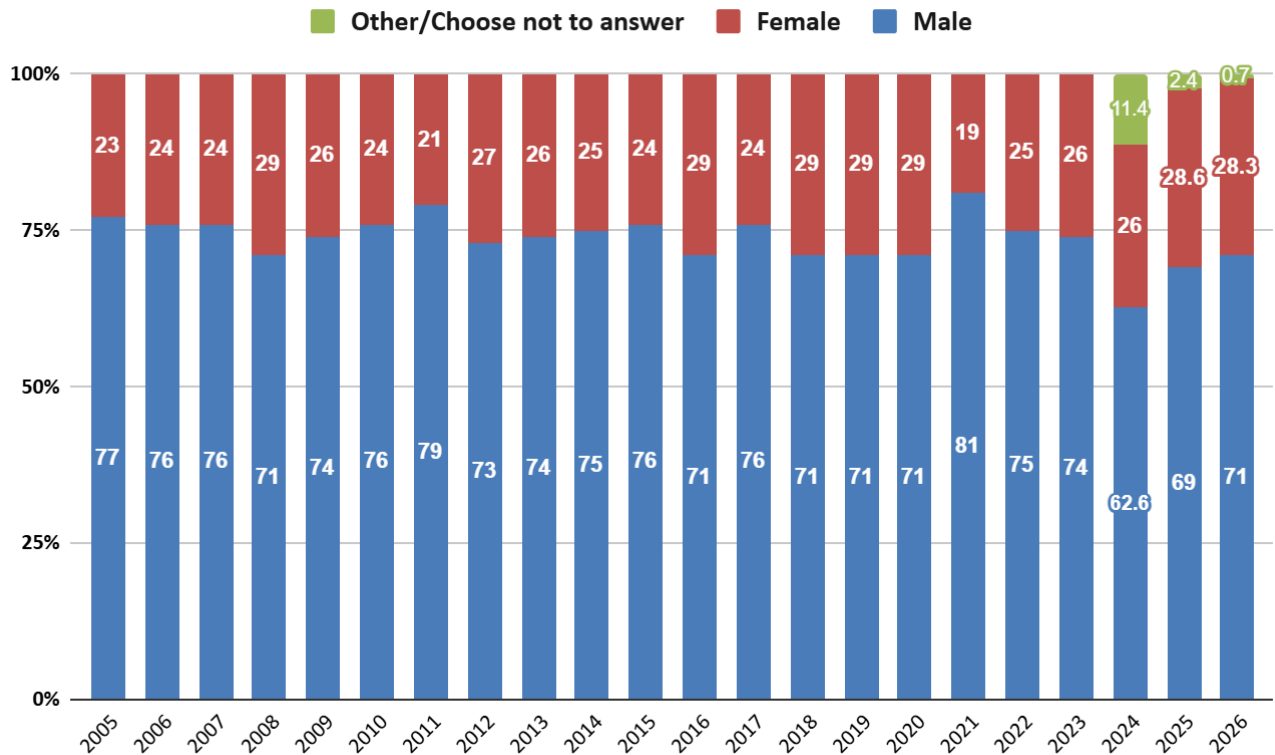


(Figure 6) Percentage of Robofest student participation per age group in 2025 (left) and 2026 (right)



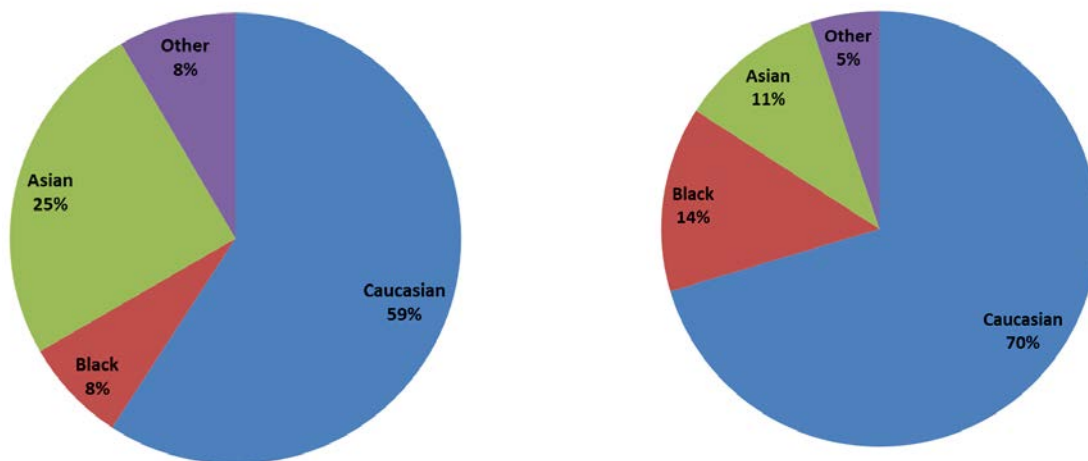
(Figure 7) Percentages of Robofest participants by age group since 2005

Gender ratios are shown in Figure 8. The option, “Other/Choose not to answer”, was added in 2024. Note that the gender data is taken directly from our registration database and therefore “Option 3” international student data is excluded.



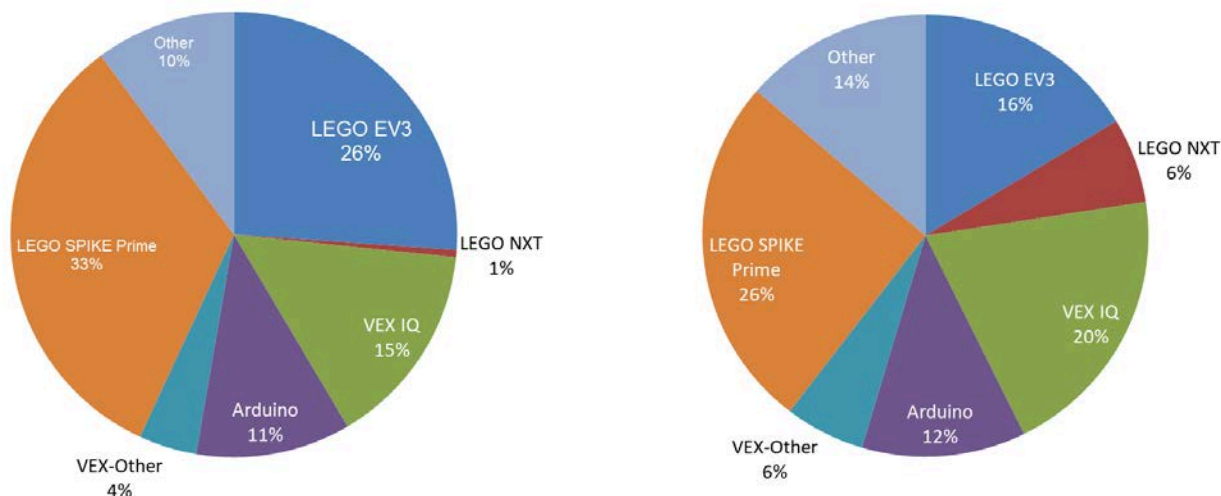
(Figure 8) Ratios of Robofest students by gender since 2005

In 2018, we introduced a new optional field on the registration system to identify ethnicity when a coach registers team members online. Because the field is not required on the online form, a majority of coaches did not provide the students' ethnicity information. The following data is from only 233, or 15.7% of US, Canada, and World Championship participants registered in the system. The charts in Figure 9 show student participation by ethnic group for 2025 and 2026.



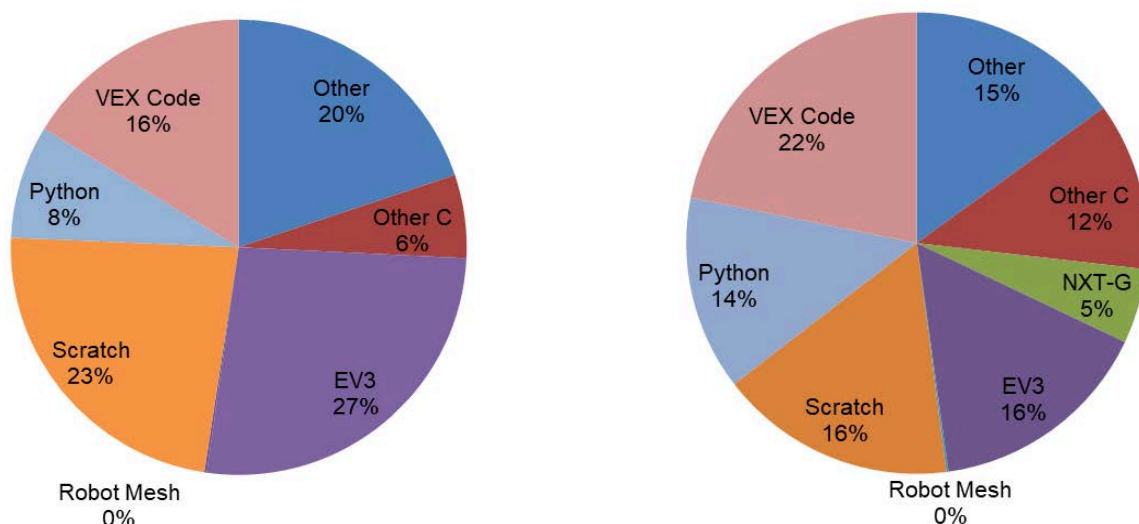
(Figure 9) Percentages of Robofest US/Canada and World Championship Student Participation by Ethnicity Data in 2025 (left) and 2026 (right)

One of the unique features of Robofest is that it allows the use of *any* robotics platform for most categories. Figure 10 shows the data on robotics kits used by teams in 2025 and 2026. The majority of the teams (48%) are using LEGO products including the SPIKE Prime/Robot Inventor (26%), EV3 (16%) and 2nd generation LEGO NXT (6%). The use of VEX platforms has increased from 2025 to 2026 from 19 to 26%. The use of Arduino increased from 11% to 12%. Other kits increased from 10% to 14%.



(Figure 10) Percentages of robotics kits used by teams in 2025 (left) and 2026 (right)

Robofest remains focused on getting student participants to learn STEM through computer programming/coding and testing. Allowing students to use whichever programming language they prefer is one of the unique features of Robofest. Figure 11 shows the data on programming languages used by teams in 2025 and 2026. In 2026, student teams continue to use advanced and varied forms of programming languages. VEXcode was the most popular (22%) this year, followed by EV3 and Scratch (16%). Python increased to 14%. “Other C” totaled 12%. “Other” includes Java, and other languages. Robofest provides opportunities to learn professional programming languages and helps prepare our students for future professional career paths. Robofest students continue to show advanced technical skills and improvements in their STEM and Computer Science abilities. This is possible because of the many dedicated coaches and technical mentors associated with Robofest.



(Figure 11) Percentages of programming languages used in 2025 (left) and 2026 (right)

2. Workshops and Outreach

Workshops:

Robofest hosted 2 official technical workshops during the 2026 Season. Table 3 shows the instructors and the classes during the 2025-2026 season. The total number of workshop attendees was 32. The Lawrence Tech Help Desk provided laptops for the workshops. Most of the workshop materials were posted on the web for on-site and online participants.

Date	Workshop Topic	# Attendees	# LTU Student Assistants	Lead Instructor
Sat Oct 18	WS_UMC_Oct18	6	2	Elmer Santos
Sat Jan 31	WS_GAME_EV3_SPIKE_Scratch	26	3	Chris Cartwright

(Table 3) 2025-2026 Workshops

Robofest Outreach Initiatives:

Robotics Education and Outreach Alliance Meeting, May 2026:

Shannan Palonis represented Robofest at the annual "Robotics Education and Outreach Alliance" meeting for robotics competition leaders at the AUVSI XPO in Detroit, MI. Coordinated by The Institute of Competition Sciences and hosted by the National Center for Autonomous Technologies in partnership with MATE Inspiration for Innovation. Its overarching goal is to increase communication and collaboration amongst robotics program practitioners.

The group reviewed data standardization opportunities in both Rubrics and Surveys, State legislation that supports funding to schools, and background checks for volunteers. Travel grant support was provided by NCAT.

3. Initiatives in 2026 and Plans for 2027

Michigan 99h Grant Funding:

In 2023, LTU Robofest became an approved provider for the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) Robotics Competition Grant Program funded through section 99h of the State School Aid Act. The purpose of the grant is to improve student proficiency in mathematics and science by participating in Robofest competitions. The grant provides funding to Michigan Public School Districts, Intermediate School Districts and Non-Public Schools to participate in Robofest.

For the 2025/2026 season, 61 teams received a combined total of \$27,388 from the Michigan Department of Education through the 99h Robotics Grant funding that may be applied toward registration fees, training, hardware & materials, tools, travel, meals, and other team expenses. (increased from 52 teams/\$24,722 in 2024/2025)

UMC Scholarship Competition:

Robofest hosted the 3rd annual Scholarship competition based on the Unknown Mission Challenge competition in November 2025. A workshop to help participants prepare was also offered. The Scholarship Competition was successful in generating interest in LTU and attracting prospective students.

Technical Committees:

Robofest continued the initiative of engaging Technical Committees for each competition category. The Technical Committees helped develop and improve the rules. Members were also judges at the Robofest World Championship. The list of individuals is also included in Table 11 in the recognition and acknowledgement section.

New Sponsorship Tier Benefits:

We have updated our Sponsorship opportunity to provide sponsors with additional benefits including naming rights for an Open or Qualifying competition category, or the entire 2027 Robofest season.

World Championship Moves to South Korea:

The 2027 World Championship events will be hosted outside the US for the first time, at the Campus of KwangWoon University in Seoul, South Korea on May 28-31, 2027.

4. Revenue/Expense Summary

Financial results for the 2025-2026 Robofest season (August 1, 2025 through July 31, 2026) are as follows: **\$63,502.04** in cash revenue. With the carried deficit of **8,375.18** transferred from 2024-2025 season, the income totaled **\$55,127.86**. Net expense was **\$76,945.75**. **The Robofest department has a current deficit of \$21,817.89***. LTU College of Arts and Sciences supported **\$47,913.29** to pay full-time staff wages for the full season and part-time staff wages until October 31, 2025. The College also covered expenses for the Robofest Executive Director to travel to Robofest in Mexico. The Math and Computer Science Department supported \$5,700.00 for part time staff wages during the Spring 2026 semester. **The current deficit is primarily due to the transfer of the Part Time staff wage support from the College to the Robofest Department.* Tables 4~6 show the summary of cash revenue and expenditures.

Deficit Transfer from 2024-2025 as of 7/31/25	-8,375.18
Individual donors	\$11,095.04
Corporate/Org. Cash Sponsorship (<i>In-kind donations not included.</i>)	\$8,200.00
Team registration fees, Licensing Fees, Admin Fees, WC Retail Sales	\$44,208.00
Total net cash income without transfer from prior year	\$63,503.04
Total revenue including transfer from last year	\$55,127.86

(Table 4) 2024-2025 Cash Revenue

Part Time staff, faculty summer hours, and workshop lead instructor wage	\$23,036.77
Student assistants' wage (4 students)	\$4,311.49
RMS Database Upgrade	\$16,920.00
Qualifier & Championship Trophies and Host Plaques	\$5,174.50
Qualifier and Championship Medals	\$4,265.08
Supplies, Amazon web services, Cloudflare, game field materials, signs, workshop food	\$1,907.03
Gifts & Retail Merchandise items; Shirts, Hoodies, Mugs, Lapel pins	\$3,973.03
Table & chair rental for World Championship	\$3,366.00
Office copier and printing	\$480.22
Robofest staff travel, WC Hotels & Judge travel support	\$1,250.54
UPS shipping	\$1,636.23

World Championship food (includes 2025 Pizza Dinner)	\$10,624.86
Net expense (E1)	\$76,945.75

(Table 5) 2025-2026 Robofest Account Expense Summary

Full time Staff wage support from College of Arts & Sciences	\$44,608.08
Part time Staff wage support by College of Arts & Sciences (Aug - Oct, 2025)	\$823.71
Part time Staff wage support by Dept of Math & Computer Science (Jan - Jun, 2026)	\$5,700.00
Travel to Robofest LATAM for Chris Cartwright	\$2,481.50
Total LTU Cash Support (E2)	\$53,613.29

(Table 6) LTU CoAS's & MCD Direct Support Expense Summary in 2025-2026

Note that Table 5 does not include Lawrence Technological University's indirect overhead cost such as office space, electricity, heating and A/C, water, etc. The total direct program cost (**E1+E2**) was **\$130,559.04**. Table 7 shows cost per student data history since 2018.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Direct expense	\$155,482	\$115,177	\$66,623	\$84,955	\$123,867	\$132,322	\$137,671	\$130,559
# Students Served	2489	1471	1166	1674	1666	2460	1919	2530
Cost / Student	\$62.47	\$78.30	\$57.14	\$50.75	\$74.35	\$53.79	\$71.74	\$51.60

(Table 7) Cost per student, since 2019

5. Recognition & Acknowledgement



(Figure 12) IEEE Sponsored Medals

Each participant of a Robofest World Championship event received a medal sponsored by IEEE SEM (Southeastern Michigan Section); see Figure 12.

Several IEEE Members participated in the season as Technical Committee Members and/or Judges including: **Exhibition:** Sam Raj Selvadhas, Gaurav Pokharkar, Manikandan Harigovinda Menon, Federico Lovato, Eric Martinson, Josh Siegel, Ajay rasad, Raghu C Nallapati, George Pappas, Gopi Krishna Gaddamadugu, Ojas Deshpande, Aishwarya Gavali, Victor Manske, Karthikeyan Rajagopal, Nitin Vishnoi (15 members) **RoboMED Round 2:** Ashok Chintalapati, Venkata Prasad Dabbiru, Venkata Krishna Cheemalakonda, Hao Jiang, Lalit Kumar, Abhijit Nikhade, PRIYA BOOPALAN, CJ Chung (8) **RoboMED Round 1:** Ajay Prasad, Raghu C Nallapati, UMESH NITNAWARE, Vamsi Krishna Konka, Victor Manske, CJ Chung, Abhijit Nikhade (7) **BottleSumo:** Maya Luster, Priya Boopalan, Sudhakar Dakshinamoorthy (3) **RoboParade:** Paula Lauren (1) **Game:** Sreekanth Narayan, Venu Gopal Thirakanam, Vijay Sudhakar (3) **Vision Centric Challenge (Vcc):** Tao Liu (1)

The List of Winning Teams with participant names can be accessed at:
https://www.robofest.net/images/2526/WC_2026_ThursFri_AwardList.pdf
and
https://www.robofest.net/images/2526/WC_2026_Sat_AwardList.pdf

We would like to thank all the Robofest World Championship UMC, Exhibition, Vcc, RoboArts, RoboMed, RoboParade, BottleSumo, and Game Judges, especially those who participated in the closing ceremony as shown in Figure 13.



(Figure 13) Volunteers at Robofest World Championship Closing Ceremony

Table 8 summarizes Robofest World Championship categories, program/agenda and judge bios (exhibition style events).

Category	Program and Agenda	Judge Bios
Unknown Mission Challenge	UMC Program	
Jr BottleSumo (Group 1)	Jr BottleSumo Group 1 Program	
Jr BottleSumo (Groups 2 & 3)	Jr BottleSumo Groups 2 & 3 Program	
Sr BottleSumo	Sr BottleSumo Program	
RoboParade	RoboParade Program	RoboParade Judge Bios
RoboArts	RoboArts Program	RoboArts Judge Bios
RoboMed	RoboMed Round 1 Program RoboMed Round 2 Program	RoboMed Round 1 Judge Bios RoboMed Round 2 Judge Bios
Exhibition Finals	Exhibition Program	Jr Exhibition Judge Bios Sr Exhibition Judge Bios
Vision Centric Challenge (Vcc)	Vcc Program	
Game Finals	Game Program	

(Table 8) Robofest World Championship categories, program/agenda and judge bios

Robofest was fortunate this year to have 1 corporate/foundation Silver and 2 corporate/foundation Bronze sponsors, 3 Friends level sponsors, and 2 World Championship event sponsors as shown in Figure 14. Sponsor logos were shown on programs for warm up, qualifying, and WC competitions as well as all the highlight videos.

SPONSORS



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(Figure 14) Official Robofest Sponsors for 2025-2026

Robofest cannot reach our students without volunteer site hosts. We would like to recognize all the work done by our great site host organizers. Without their leadership, dedication and sacrifice, the Robofest 2025-2026 season would not have been possible. Table 9 lists US Site Hosts and International Directors who organized competitions in their states/countries utilizing RMS. Table 10 lists the International Directors who organized events using their own system.

Site Name in Robofest Management System	Site Host Organizer Name(s)
AddisAbaba_Ethiopia	Eng. Mehiret Walga, Abugida Robotics & STEAM Center
Albayda_Libya & Tripoli_Libya	Nagla Elmadani, Lybotics
Amman_Jordan	Farah Hourani, STEAM Center
Bangalore_India & Hyderrabad_India	Imtiaz Ahmed Khan, Novatech Robo
Bellevue_Cornserstone_FL	Dan Peterson
Bellevue_MiddleSchool_FL	Joseph Landrum
BloomfieldHills_Cranbrook_MI	Katie Bis
Canton_CCA_MI	Lalita Mishra
ClintonTwp_MISD_MI	Mark Muzzin
Dundedin_FL	Phyllis Gorshe & Bianca Gittinger-Linzer
Grandville_MI & Grandville_BottleSumo_MI	Adam Draa
Hebron_Palestine	Hajar Ayman Abu-Rmeileh
Houston_UrbanSTEM_TX	Dr. Monique Micheaux
LiveOak_FL	Dr. Gavin Coleman
Lutz_FL	Dr. Gavin Coleman
Muscat_Oman	Mohamed ElMogey
Nairobi_Kenya	Christine Onyango
Novi_AccelerateKID_MI	Thanh Tran
RoyalOak_MiddleSchool_MI	Michael Holden

Saline_WCA_MI	Micah Donegan
Warren_WWMS_MI	Michael Mahar
Windsor_Canada	Peri Mahmoud
Wolfville_Acadia_Canada	Hannah Fisk

(Table 9) Site Host Organizers using Robofest Management System

Country	National Director
Algeria	Fouad Lemmouchi, Robot Educatif Algerie
China	Zhao Yang, YelGea Event
Egypt	Ayman El Kabbany, TechnoFuture
Ghana	Dr. Yaw Okraku-Yirekyi, GRAF
Greece Crete	Kamnaki Chara, H.E.R.O.
Hong Kong	Jacky Yau, RIHK
Macau	Justin Chan, RIHK
Malaysia	Camila Lau
Mexico / Latin America	Dr. Ramiro Marrero, CENIPAD
Pakistan	Amir Ali Padaniya, The Mind Explorer
Saudi Arabia	Hassan Habib & Manal Osman, SAQR
South Korea (2 Locations)	Hyorim Choi, Sangsang Corporation & SangHun Oh, LuxRobo
Taiwan	Jason ChienTai Lo, International AI Education Association
Tunisia	Wahid Nasri, Tunisian Assoc. for Educational Robotics and Artificial Intelligence

(Table 10) National Directors who organized competitions not using RMS and/or sent teams to WC

All the US and International Site venues are listed on the 2026 Robofest poster shown in Figure 15.



Robofest World Championship 2025 Contestants, May 15-17, 2025
Lawrence Technological University

WORLD ROBOFEST 2026

Lawrence Technological University, MAY 14-16

Sponsors

LEGO LEGION IEEE Southeastern Michigan SW

Partners

MICHIGAN Education STATES CHARTERS ROBOZONE

Friends of Robofest

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COMPETITION CATEGORIES

Game: Building Bridges Exhibition BottleSumo

RoboArts RoboParade RoboMed

Unknown Mission Challenge (UMC) Vision Centric Challenge (VCC)

Top teams from each U.S. and international qualifying site compete at the 2026 Robofest World Championship. Robofest challenges teams of students to design, build, and program autonomous robots using any type of robot kit.

OFFICIAL QUALIFYING LOCATIONS

AccelerateKID Novi, MI Bellevue High School Bellevue, FL; Hosted by The Cornerstone School Bellevue Middle School Bellevue, FL Canton Charter Academy Canton, MI Cranbrook Middle School for Boys Bloomfield Twp, MI Dunedin Public Library Dunedin, FL Grandville Robotics Grandville, MI Houston City College, SE Houston, TX; Hosted by Urban STEM Macomb Intermediate School District Clinton Twp, MI Royal Oak Middle School Royal Oak, MI Sunlake Academy of Math and Science Lutz, FL; Hosted by Avachyle STEM Academy Warren Woods Middle School Warren, MI Washtenaw Christian Academy Saline, MI Westside Baptist Church Live Oak, FL; Hosted by Avachyle STEM Academy	Robot Educatif Algerie Batna, Algeria International Hope School Bangladesh Dhaka, Bangladesh Acadia Athletics Complex Wolfville, NS Canada; Hosted by Acadia Robotics St. Clair College of Applied Arts and Technology Windsor, ON Canada; Hosted by GenioTech Robotics Beijing University of Science and Technology Beijing, China; Hosted by YelGee Event Bibliotheca Alexandrina Alexandria, Egypt; Hosted by Smart Integrated Solutions Abrehot Library Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; Hosted by Abugida Robotics Technology Center University of Ghana Accra, Ghana; Hosted by Ghana Robotics Academy Foundation K. Kottaris Indoor Gymnasium Athens Anavyssos, Greece; Hosted by H.E.R.O. Vardinoyiannio Indoor Sports Center Heraklion Crete, Greece; Hosted by H.E.R.O. University of Thessaly Larisa, Greece; Hosted by H.E.R.O. Cultural and Multipurpose Center of Orestiada Orestiada, Greece; Hosted by H.E.R.O. Sport Club in Patras Patras, Greece; Hosted by H.E.R.O. Public Central Library of Sparta Sparta, Greece; Hosted by H.E.R.O. Anatolia College Thessaloniki, Greece; Hosted by H.E.R.O. Robot Institute of Hong Kong Kowloon, Hong Kong St. Thomas Parish Hall Bangalore, India; Hosted by Novatech Robo Pvt. Ltd.	Oak Valley International School Telangana, India; Hosted by Novatech Robo Pvt. Ltd. STEAM Center Ammman, Jordan St. Andrew's Turi Molo, Kenya; Hosted by STEMTRIX EA Ltd. SPARC Club, American University of Kuwait Salmiya, Kuwait Al-Qalam Model Education Institute Albayda, Libya; Hosted by LYBOTICS INC. International Knowledge School Tripoli, Libya; Hosted by LYBOTICS INC. Colégio Diocesano de São José 5 Macaui; Hosted by RIHK The MIECC Selangor, Malaysia; Hosted by Be STEM Ready Pachuca Institute of Technology Pachuca, Mexico; Hosted by CENIPAD A.C. OurPlanet International School Muscat, Oman; Hosted by STEAM Leaders The Mind Explorer Karachi, Pakistan Al-Jazari Grandsons Institution Hebron, West Bank, Palestine LuxRobo Seoul, Republic of Korea Gangneung Olympic Park Speed Skating Stadium Gangwon State, Republic of Korea; Hosted by SangSang Technology College of Almadina Almadina, Saudi Arabia; Hosted by Stem Alliance for Quest and Robotics Nanya Institute of Technology Taoyuan City, Taiwan; Hosted by International AI Education Association The Tunisian Association for Robotics and AI Medenine, Tunisia
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Video Qualifier Submission
Lawrence Technological University

Detailed information on registration, competition categories, rules, and prizes can be found at www.robofest.net.
For more information, contact 248.204.3568 or robofest@ltu.edu.

Lawrence Technological University
Be curious. Make magic.

ROBOFEST

College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, 21000 West Ten Mile Road, Southfield, MI 48075-1058 | ltu.edu

(Figure 15) Robofest 2026 Official Poster

The Robofest World Headquarters Staff consists of **Dr. Christopher Cartwright**, Executive Director, **Elmer Santos**, Technical Director, **Shannan Palonis**, Assistant Director, **Pam Sparks** and **Anne Ruch**, Part Time Coordinators. We also had 4 LTU Student Assistants during the season: **Aria Arnold** (Computer Science Game Design), **Sebastian Beristain** (Mechanical Engineering), **Adrian Lopez Olmos** (Mechanical Engineering), and **Urjil Pankajbhai Patel** (Masters of Mechatronic and Robotics Engineering). **Steven Kryskalla** is the Robofest Management System (RMS) Administrator who is currently working on a complete database upgrade.

Dr. CJ Chung, Robofest Founder, Advisory Board Chair, and Executive Council Chair, volunteers for many aspects of Robofest administration & program evaluation including Co-Chairing the RoboMed Technical Committee and the annual assessment.

LTU Administrators, Staff and Faculty who *directly* supported Robofest this year include:

- **Dr. Tarek Sobh**, President of Lawrence Technological University: Opening Remarks via video recording at the Robofest World Championship Opening Ceremonies
- **Dr. Patrick Nelson**, Dean of College of Arts and Sciences: Budget Support for FT position Hosted World Championship Welcome Meeting
- **Dr. Eric Martinson**, Chair of the Department of Math and Computer Science: Executive Council Member and Jr Exhibition World Championship Chief Judge
- **Lisa Kujawa**, Vice President of Enrollment Management: Closing Remarks (video recording) at the Robofest World Championship Closing Ceremony
- **Dr. Vijay John**, Associate Professor: Executive Council Member, Vcc Technical Committee Co-Chair and Vcc Judge
- **Devson Butani**, CS Robotics Research Lab Manager: Vcc Technical Committee Co-Chair, Vcc Judge, and UMC Judge
- **Dr. Yawen Li**, Associate Professor and Chair of the Biomedical Engineering Department: RoboMed Technical Committee Co-Chair and RoboMed Judge
- **Dr. Choongbae Park**, Assistant Professor; Mechanical, Robotics, and Industrial Engineering: RoboMed Technical Committee
- **Dr. Hao Jiang**, Associate Professor of Biomedical Engineering: RoboMed Technical Committee and RoboMed Judge
- **Dr. George Pappas**, Associate Professor and Director of the Master in Artificial Intelligence program in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, MSAI graduate program: Exhibition Judge
- **Heidi Morano**, Director of the Entrepreneurial Engineering Design Curriculum: RoboArts Judge
- **Peter Guenther**, Adjunct Professor; Design, Math & Computer Science: BottleSumo Technical Committee, Jr BottleSumo Judge and RoboParade Judge
- **Dr. Paula Lauren**, Associate Professor of Math and Computer Science: RoboParade Judge
- **Marilyn Wiseman**, MCS Department Administrative Assistant: purchasing & reimbursement requests, employment related paperwork, Volunteer meals at World Championship events, People's Choice Award Judge Coordinator, and much more
- **Luba Kagan**, Business Services: Budget Reporting and Credit Card Services
- **Cheri Frost**, CoAS Dean's Office Administrative Assistant: College of Arts & Sciences budget account for Robofest
- **Laura Marks**, Natural Sciences Department Administrative Assistant: World Championship Administrative Support
- **Cherie Shaik**, Humanities Social Sciences and Communication Department Administrative Assistant: World Championship Administrative Support

- **Matt Roush**, Former Director of Media Relations for Lawrence Technological University and Yellow Flag Productions: Master of Ceremonies at World Championship Main Event, press releases
- **Matthieu Maracle**, Assistant Director Campus Facilities: World Championship setup, cleanup and coordination of venues
- **Derek Thornton**, Event Manager Campus Facilities: All campus event setup, cleanup and coordination of venues
- **Jannelle Lavaud**, Admissions: Remarks at Welcome Meeting and hosted Information Table at Field House for World Championship
- **Thomas “Sam” Vukonich**, Assistant Director of Media Services: audio/video support
- **Norman Plant**, Manager, Media Support: video and media production
- **Christian Arnold, Anthony Persinger, Alexis Swint, Sejlia Corbo, Jonathan Esho, Jacob Hallet, Maddie Packard, and Dan Miller, Joann Fitzgerald**, Helpdesk Services Technicians: laptop services
- **Lorne Plant**, Vice President of Operations, Yellow Flag Productions: Marketing Support
- **Marc Crumm**, Creative Director, Yellow Flag Productions: Poster design

Other individuals we would like to thank for their support:

- **Dr. Gordon Stein**, PhD Post Doctoral at Vanderbilt University: Maintenance of Tomcat & Joomla web server systems
- **Katherine Bis**, Cranbrook Education Community, Former Robofest Coordinator: RoboParade Assistant Chair and Technical Committee and Judge, World Championship Event Coordination and moral support
- **Chris Parker**, Owner of TechRoots, Former Robofest Coordinator: BottleSumo Technical Committee, Jr BottleSumo Chairperson, Jr RoboArts Judge, RoboParade Float Handler, Award Ceremony Coordination and moral support
- **David Carbery**, retired from Fanuc, Former Robofest Workshop Instructor: Exhibition and BottleSumo Technical Committees, Sr BottleSumo Chairperson, Jr BottleSumo Judge, Sr UMC Judge and RoboArts Judge
- **John Arnold**, IBM: Assistant Game Chairperson, Game Technical Committee
- **Daniel Oliver**, ZF, Former Robofest Lab Assistant: UMC and Exhibition Technical Committees, Sr UMC Judge and RoboArts Judge
- **Curtis Sharif**, Nissan: UMC Technical Committee
- **Scott Eisele**: UMC Assistant Chair, UMC Technical Committee and UMC Judge
- **Ben Gonzalez**: Exhibition Technical Committee
- **Karthik Devaraj**, Forvia: BottleSumo Technical Committee and BottleSumo Scorekeeper
- **Kathy Juchartz**: People's Choice Award Judge Coordinator
- **Cara Wegrzyn**, Gallimore Elementary Robotics: World Championship Chief Game Proctor
- **David Reeves**: developed the online match timer used for all events
<https://robofest-timer.daveeddigs.repl.co/>

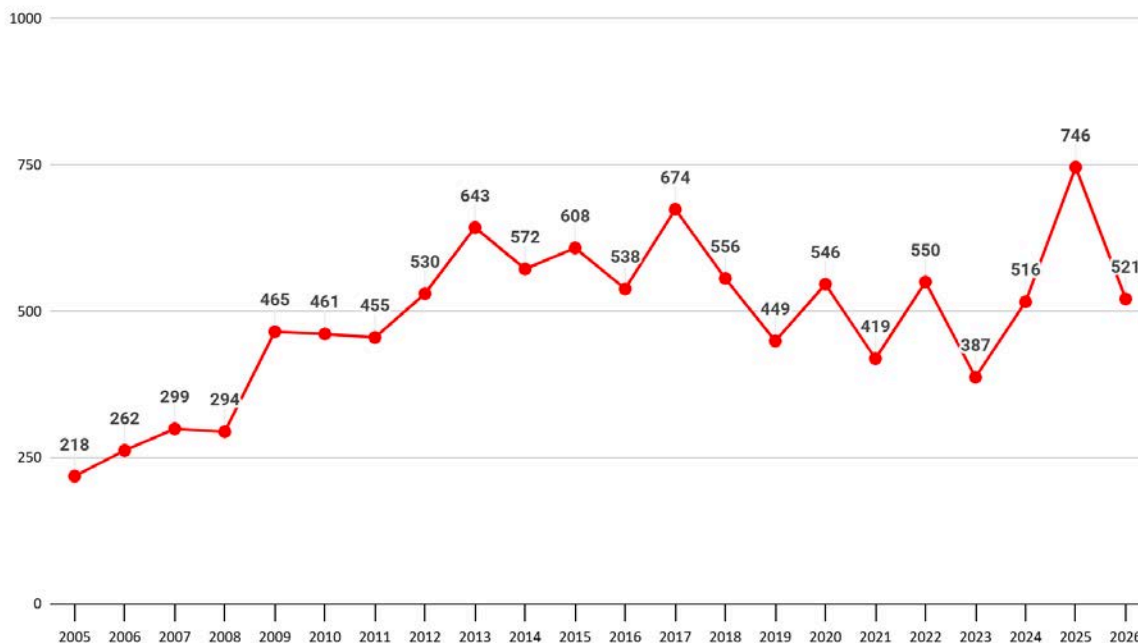
Game	UMC	Exhibition	RoboArts
Elmer Santos (*)	Elmer Santos (*)	Elmer Santos (*)	Pam Sparks (*)
John Arnold	Scott Eisele	Ben Gonzalez	Lalita Mishra
Dr. Chris Cartwright	Daniel Oliver	David Carbery	Heidi Quick
Peter Guenther	Curtis Sharif	Daniel Oliver	Elmer Santos
Steven Kryskalla			

BottleSumo	Vcc	RoboMed	RoboParade
Elmer Santos (*)	Dr. Vijay John (*)	Dr. Yawen Li (*)	Pam Sparks (*)
Priya Boopalan	Devson Butani (*)	Dr. CJ Chung (*)	Katie Bis
David Carbery	Dr. CJ Chung	Dr. Hao Jiang	Stephanie Broddie
Karthik Devaraj	Dr. Mohammad Hassanzadeh	Dr. Choongbae Park	Lori Root
Peter Guenther	Dr. Tao Liu		Anne Ruch
Chris Parker			

(*) Chairperson

(Table 11) Robofest 2025 -2026 Technical Committee Members

There were 521 site & location volunteers registered this year and we deeply thank all of them. See Figure 16 for the number of registered site volunteers since 2005. Short bios of Exhibition Style World Championship Judges can be accessed in the Table 8 “Judge Bios” column.



(Figure 16) Number of yearly registered Robofest site volunteers since 2005

In summary, we believe 2025-2026 Robofest has achieved its primary missions: inspiring and supporting students into STEM fields. We are proud that Robofest has been accessible and affordable since its inception in 1999-2000, while providing proven quality STEM education environments for students. Once again, we deeply thank everyone who has hosted, sponsored, supported, volunteered, worked, participated and learned in the 27th Robofest for the 2025-2026 year. If you find any errors or have comments on this report, please let me know (ccartwig@ltu.edu). We are looking forward to seeing you during the 28th annual Robofest season in 2027.

Respectfully,



Dr. Christopher Cartwright
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