

THE AWARDS

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6 THE AWARDS

6.1 FIRST ROBOTICS COMPETITION AWARDS

This chapter contains descriptions of the *FIRST*® Robotics Competition Awards as well as any required submission criteria. Note an asterisk designates a new or “changed” award. Unless otherwise noted, all awards are given at Regional events, District events and the *FIRST* Championship. *FIRST* will hold an Awards Ceremony to present these awards at each appropriate event.

6.2 COMPLETE AWARDS LIST

Award	Description	Selected By	Regional	District	CMP Division	FIRST CMP
Chairman's Award	The Chairman's Award represents the spirit of <i>FIRST</i> . It honors the team that, in the judges' estimation, best represents a model for other teams to emulate. It embodies the goals and mission of <i>FIRST</i> . It remains our most prestigious award.	Chairman's Judge Panel (application and interview process)	√	√		√
Champion	This award celebrates the alliance that wins the final match of the Championship Playoffs	Robot Performance				√
Championship Finalist	This award celebrates the alliance that makes it to the final match of the Championship Playoffs	Robot Performance				√
*Coopertition™ Award	The Coopertition™ Award celebrates the team that earns the most Coopertition points during the competition.	Performance	√	√	√	√
Creativity Award <i>Sponsored by Xerox</i>	This award celebrates creative design, use of a component, or a creative or unique strategy of play.	Judges	√	√		√
Division Champion	This award celebrates the alliance that wins the final match in their division at the Championship.	Robot Performance			√	
Division Finalist	This award celebrates the alliance that makes it to the final match in its division at the Championship.	Robot Performance			√	
*Engineering Excellence Award <i>Sponsored by Delphi</i>	This award celebrates an elegant and advantageous machine feature that recognizes any aspect of engineering excellence and innovation in the real world. This includes, but is not limited to: design, wiring methods, material selection, programming techniques, and unique machine attributes. The criteria for this award are based on the team's ability to concisely describe verbally, as well as demonstrate, this chosen machine feature.	Judges	√	√		√

Award	Description	Selected By	Regional	District	CMP Division	FIRST CMP
Engineering Inspiration Award	This award celebrates a team's outstanding success in advancing respect and appreciation for engineering and engineers, both within their school as well as their community. Criteria include: the extent and inventiveness of the team's efforts to recruit students to engineering, the extent and effectiveness of the team's community outreach efforts, and the measurable success of those efforts.	Judges	√	√		√
Entrepreneurship Award <i>Sponsored by Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers</i>	This award celebrates the entrepreneurial spirit. This award recognizes a team, which since its inception has developed the framework for a comprehensive business plan in order to scope, manage, and obtain team objectives. This team displays entrepreneurial enthusiasm and the vital business skills for a self-sustaining program. (Please note, a formal business plan must be completed and given to the judges during the Pit interview process. Teams should be prepared to talk about their plan at that time. Look on the <i>FIRST</i> website under FRC Awards for more information.)	Judges	√	√		√
*Excellence in Design Award <i>Sponsored by Autodesk</i>	This award honors clear and compelling evidence of excellence in design development, documentation, communication, and presentation. The intention of the Award is to inspire, recognize and celebrate design as one way in which you can change your world.	Reg: Students CMP: Autodesk	√			√
<i>FIRST</i> Dean's List	This award celebrates outstanding student leaders whose passion for and effectiveness at attaining, <i>FIRST</i> ideals is exemplary. Look on the <i>FIRST</i> website under FRC Awards for more information.	<i>FIRST</i> Dean's List Judges	√			√
Founders Award (not a team award)	Each year <i>FIRST</i> presents this award to honor an organization or individual that has contributed significantly to the growth of <i>FIRST</i> .	<i>FIRST</i>				√
Gracious Professionalism™ Award <i>Sponsored by Johnson & Johnson</i>	This award celebrates outstanding sportsmanship and continuous Gracious Professionalism™ in the heat of competition, both on and off the playing field.	Judges	√	√		√
Highest Rookie Seed Award	This award celebrates the highest-seeded rookie team at the conclusion of the qualifying rounds.	Robot Performance	√	√	√	

Award	Description	Selected By	Regional	District	CMP Division	FIRST CMP
Imagery Award <i>(in honor of Jack Kamen)</i>	This award celebrates attractiveness in engineering and outstanding visual aesthetic integration from the machine to team appearance.	Judges	√	√		√
Industrial Design Award <i>Sponsored by General Motors</i>	This award celebrates form and function in an efficiently designed machine that effectively achieves the game challenge.	Judges	√	√		√
Industrial Safety Award <i>Sponsored by Underwriters Laboratories</i>	This award celebrates the team that progresses beyond safety fundamentals by using innovative ways to eliminate or protect against hazards. The winning team consistently demonstrates excellence in industrial safety performance that shines throughout the competition from uncrating to re-pack.	Safety Advisors	√	√		√
Innovation in Control Award <i>Sponsored by Rockwell Automation</i>	This award celebrates an innovative control system or application of control components to provide unique machine functions.	Judges	√	√		√
Judges Award	During the course of the competition, the judging panel may encounter a team whose unique efforts, performance, or dynamics merit recognition.	Judges	√	√		√
Quality Award <i>Sponsored by Motorola</i>	This award celebrates machine robustness in concept and fabrication.	Judges	√	√		√
Regional/District Finalist	This award celebrates the alliance that makes it to the final match of the competition.	Robot Performance	√	√		
Regional/District Winner	This award celebrates the alliance that wins the final match of the competition.	Robot Performance	√	√		
Rookie All Star	This award celebrates the rookie team exemplifying a young but strong partnership effort, as well as implementing the mission of <i>FIRST</i> to inspire students to learn more about science and technology.	Judges	√	√		√
Rookie Inspiration	This award celebrates a rookie team's outstanding success in advancing respect and appreciation for engineering and engineers both within their school, as well as in their community.	Judges	√	√		√
Team Spirit Award <i>sponsored by Chrysler</i>	This award celebrates extraordinary enthusiasm and spirit through exceptional partnership and teamwork.	Judges	√	√		√
Website	The Website Award recognizes excellence in student-designed, built, and managed <i>FIRST</i> team websites.	Website Evaluators (prior to the event)	√	√		√

Award	Description	Selected By	Regional	District	CMP Division	FIRST CMP
Woodie Flowers	The Woodie Flowers Award celebrates effective communication in the art and science of engineering and design. Dr. William Murphy founded this prestigious award in 1996 to recognize mentors who lead, inspire and empower those around them using excellent communication skills.	Panel of prior WFA Winners	√			√

6.3 NEW AWARDS SUBMISSION PROCESS

The Regional Chairman's Award, the Woodie Flowers Award, and the Website Award must be submitted through the *FIRST* Student Team Members Information System (STIMS) <https://my.usfirst.org/stims/site.lasso>. The Main or Alternate contact for your team must assign up to four (4) student award summitters in FRC TMS. Those students will be notified of their status via email and may then log into the Student Team Member system and be able to view the awards submission section on their main page. The *FIRST* Dean's List Award must be submitted by the team main or alternate contact through TMS, <https://my.usfirst.org/frc/tms/site.lasso>. The Awards Submission section of STIMS and TMS will open for submissions at **noon EST on November 11, 2010** and close for submissions on **Thursday, February 17, 2010 at NOON EST.**

6.4 CHAIRMAN'S AWARD

The *FIRST* Robotics Competition is about much more than the mechanics of building a robot or winning a competitive event. It is about the partnership among people who are part of the *FIRST* community and the impact on those who participate in *FIRST* programs with a united goal of achieving *FIRST*'s mission. *FIRST*'s mission is to change the way young people regard science and technology and to inspiring an appreciation for the real-life rewards and career opportunities in these fields.

The concept of the Chairman's Award includes Regional Chairman's Awards, which enable *FIRST* to recognize more teams for their exemplary efforts in spreading the *FIRST* message, as well as their talents in organizing materials for their presentations.

The winning entries of the Regional Chairman's Awards will travel to the Championship for the continuing process of consideration for the most prestigious 2011 Chairman's Award.

6.4.1 Overview

The Chairman's Award was created to keep the central focus of the *FIRST* Robotics Competition as our ultimate goal for transforming the culture in ways that will inspire greater levels of respect and honor for science and technology, as well as encourage more of today's youth to become scientists, engineers, and technologists

The Chairman's Award represents the spirit of *FIRST*. It honors the team that, in the judges' estimation, best represents a model for other teams to emulate, and which embodies the goals and purpose of *FIRST*. It remains *FIRST*'s most prestigious award.

FIRST will present a Regional Chairman's Award at each Regional and three (3) Regional Chairman's Awards at the Michigan State Championship in 2011. Only the winners of the Regional Chairman's Award will be eligible to compete for the Chairman's Award presented at the *FIRST* Championship.

Hall of Fame members; i.e., teams that have already won the Chairman's Award, are ineligible to compete for the Regional Chairman's Award for five (5) years. Teams that won the Chairman's Award at the Championship prior to 2006 are eligible to participate in 2011. Teams that won in 2006-2010 are ineligible.

6.4.2 First-Year (Rookie) and NASA Grant Teams:

Because the Chairman's Award recognizes sustained excellence and impact, not just a one (1) year team effort, it is not possible for a first year (rookie) team to receive this honor. *FIRST* does, however, invite and encourage rookies to develop a Chairman's Award submission which may be evaluated by the judges determining the winner of the **Rookie All-Star Award**. This submission will document where the team started its *FIRST* journey and will also provide background for documenting the results of the team's efforts – it will be a great way to start the team's efforts to win the Chairman's Award.

Rookie Teams: If you prepare a Regional Chairman's Award submission, print a copy to give the Judges when they visit you at your Pit Station. Judges will not be viewing them online.

Teams receiving **NASA Grants** must provide a copy of this submission as part of the grant.

All teams are encouraged to print a copy of their final submission for their records and to confirm for themselves that the submission was accepted.

6.4.3 Submission Information

The criteria for the 2011 Chairman's Award are essentially identical to those in the past, with special emphasis on recent accomplishments in both the 2010/2011 year and the preceding two (2) years. The judges focus on teams' activities over a sustained period, as distinguished from just the six (6) week design and build time frame.

As in the past, teams may only submit at one (1) Regional competition for judging. Teams submitting for both the Chairman's Award and the Woodie Flowers Award should note that both awards are judged at the same event. Students working on the Woodie Flowers Award submission and those team members working on the Chairman's Award submission should coordinate to select the best event for the team.

More information on this award can be found on the *FIRST* Website under <http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/frc/content.aspx?id=440>

Submission Deadline for Chairman's Awards are no later than **Thursday, February 17, 2011 @ NOON EST.**

6.4.3.1 Video Requirement for 2011 Season

Teams competing for the Regional Chairman's Award must provide a video to the judges at the event. The content of the video should explain what the team has done to be a Regional Chairman's Award winning team. The video may be shown to the judges during the teams 5 minute presentation time at the discretion of the teams; however the team must provide the equipment for viewing (i.e., laptop). Although it is a requirement of submission, it is not a requirement for the judging process for 2011. Specifications for the DVD will be found on the *FIRST* website under <https://my.usfirst.org/stims/site.lasso>. Teams who do not submit a video to the judges will not be considered eligible for the Chairman's Award and will not be interviewed by the judges.

6.4.3.2 The Chairman's Award Championship Award Process

At The Championship, a panel of judges will review the all the winning submissions and will select one ultimate Chairman's Award winner. This winning team has the additional honor of choosing one of its junior or senior student members to be the recipient of the Allaire Medal.

6.4.4 The Allaire Medal - Leadership Exemplified

The Chairman's Award is presented at the Championship to the *FIRST* team judged to have the best partnership effort. The Allaire Medal recognizes leadership exemplified and is awarded to an individual student on the winning Chairman's Award team.

Named in honor of Paul A. Allaire, a long-serving *FIRST* Chairman of the Board, the Allaire Medal is given to the student who has demonstrated outstanding leadership on his/her *FIRST* team, within his/her school and community and whose personal character best embodies the spirit of *FIRST*.

The team receiving The Chairman's Award at the Championship will select the Allaire Medal recipient. The adult and student team members determine the winner. The recipient must be a high school junior or senior who has been accepted into a four (4) year degree program at a college or university. The Allaire Medalist receives the Allaire medallion and up to \$10,000 in total scholarship support for undergraduate tuition, room and board, fees and books at his or her intended university or college.

6.5 EXCELLENCE IN DESIGN AWARD, SPONSORED BY AUTODESK

6.5.1 Purpose of Award

This award honors clear and compelling evidence of excellence in design development, documentation, communication, animation, and presentation. The intention of the Award is to inspire, recognize and celebrate design as one way in which you can change your world.

6.5.2 Award Overview

With a distinctive history of 19+ years of sponsorship of *FIRST*, Autodesk continues to honor the inventors, engineers and design professionals of the future who are at the center of the *FIRST* Robotics Competition. They want to help teams develop an awareness of the power of design; learn the processes and tools for great design; and award achievement in design excellence. Autodesk understands that you want to have a positive impact on the world and now more than ever, design technology is helping to improve the way we live and shape the world in which we live.

6.5.3 Award Specifics

Again this year, Autodesk is proud to sponsor the Award for Excellence in Design – with two separate categories in this single Award. Category One will involve 3D Design; and Category Two will involve Animation.

All competitors for the Award will have the opportunity to choose from, or combine any of 35 Autodesk products to incorporate in their entry in 2011. These products are available for free*, along with *FIRST* relevant learning materials and tech support, when you join our Education Community. Just go to www.autodesk.com/first. If you enter in the 3D Design Category your entry **MUST** include use of at least Autodesk Inventor Professional 2011. If you enter in the Animation Category, your entry **MUST** include use of at least either Autodesk 3ds Max, Maya, or Softimage. Remember, you can use as many Autodesk products as you like...but use of at least the above products is required in the competition category you choose.

Complete information about the Award, including submittal format, deadlines, criteria, and judging process will be posted by January 10, 2011 on the *FIRST* website and on the *FIRST* section of the Autodesk Education Community at: www.autodesk.com/first.

6.5.4 Award Judging

All entries in, 3D Design will be submitted and judged at the Championship level, only. There will be a winner in this Category announced at *FIRST* Championship.

Entries in Animation, will be submitted and peer judged at each Regional event. The winner at the Regional level will be announced and shown at the Regional event awards ceremony. All winners at the Regional level, potentially with others identified by Autodesk experts, will be judged at the *FIRST* Championship level by a panel of professionals. There will be a Championship winner in this Animation announced at the 2011 *FIRST* Championship.

At the 2011 Championship, the winner of the Autodesk Award for Design Excellence (in both of the two Categories) will be announced and shown at the awards ceremony.

FIRST and Autodesk value design and are committed to honoring the teams who compete for this Award by showing the amazing work created by each of them as often as possible.

6.6 *FIRST* DEAN'S LIST

6.6.1 Overview

In an effort to recognize the leadership and dedication of *FIRST*'s most outstanding FRC students, the Kamen family sponsors an award for selected top students, aka *FIRST* superstars, known as the *FIRST* Dean's List.

The students who earn *FIRST* Dean's List Award status will not only be great examples of student leaders who have led their teams and communities to increased awareness for *FIRST* and its mission but they will continue on, post-award, as great leaders of *FIRST*'s ever growing student alumni. This award joins the ranks of prestigious awards like the *FIRST* Founder's Award which honors sponsors or other supporters who help to grow *FIRST*; the Woodie Flowers Award, which honors outstanding mentors at *FIRST*; and the Chairman's Award, which honors the team to have best achieved the mission of *FIRST*. It is the hope that the *FIRST* Dean's List will, in time, garner national recognition, similar to the National Merit Scholarship Program, which could increase the competitiveness of college, scholarship, internship and employment opportunities for the recipients. Prestigious colleges have expressed great interest in meeting ***FIRST* Dean's List's** Award winners!

The award was created during the 2010 FRC season by the Kamen family in recognition of Jack and Evelyn Kamen, parents of *FIRST* founder Dean Kamen. Jack, who passed away in August of 2008 at the age of 88, and his wife Evelyn have been fixtures at many *FIRST* events. Their humor, along with a positive and supportive attitude, truly symbolizes the *FIRST* culture. In fact, Jack is the designer of the playful red, white and blue geometric shapes that create the *FIRST* logo which wonderfully balances the technical and emotional sides of what *FIRST* is all about. Dean's mother, Evelyn, is a tireless caretaker for her family and is an exceptional teacher, principal and tremendous *FIRST* supporter. She lends her experience as a leader of schools to chair the judge panel that selects the ***FIRST* Dean's List** Award winners.

Dean's parents always encouraged his passion for innovation and his gift for motivating leaders throughout the world to support the *FIRST* mission. It is the family's hope that this award will encourage the passion in all *FIRST* students to promote the *FIRST* mission both as a student on an FRC team and for years to come as members of the *FIRST* student alumni.

6.6.2 Submissions

The process for competing for the **FIRST Dean's List** is similar to the process for the Woodie Flowers Award and the Chairman's Award in that applicants must first compete at the Regional level to be considered at the Championship level. Applicants for the **FIRST Dean's List** are nominated by their mentor as **FIRST Dean's List** Nominees. These students will be reviewed at one (1) Regional where their team is competing with two (2) **FIRST Dean's List** Finalists chosen at each Regional.

All Dean's List Finalists will be considered for the final selection of ten (10) **FIRST Dean's List** Award winners at the **FIRST** Championship in St. Louis.

Each FRC mentor is invited to select up to two (2) students (may select only one but not more than two) as **FIRST Dean's List** Nominees. In deciding which students to nominate, mentors should consider the impact the award will have on the nominated student. For example, mentors may choose to nominate a junior whose college acceptance prospects would be enhanced by both the nomination and any subsequent advancement in the competition. Each mentor may only submit their two (2) **FIRST Dean's List** Nominees to compete for the **FIRST Dean's List** Finalist designation at one (1) regional. Students previously selected as Dean's List Semifinalists or Finalists ARE eligible for nomination again this year.

6.6.2.1 Criteria

Criteria for selection of the **FIRST** Dean's List shall include, but not be limited to a student's:

- demonstrated leadership and commitment to the ideals of **FIRST**;
- interest in and passion for a long term commitment to **FIRST** and its ideals;
- overall individual contribution to their team;
- technical expertise and passion;
- entrepreneurship and creativity;
- ability to motivate and lead fellow team members; and
- effectiveness at increasing awareness of **FIRST** in their school and community.

Evaluation of Nominees and Finalists will be based on a one page essay, submitted by the mentor, which best describes each student's fulfillment of the criteria. (As previously noted, Mentors can submit up to two nominations/essays per team). Although a single mentor must submit the nomination, the team as a whole must verify the accuracy of the submission. **FIRST** is relying upon the team for veracity and accuracy of the submission data.

Each entry shall be in the form attached which includes identifying information; i.e., the student's current year GPA and the GPA for each year the student has been a high school student; and an essay of not more than 4,000 characters attesting to why the student has been nominated. Essays must be submitted no later than **11:59AM EST on February 17, 2011** to <https://my.usfirst.org/tims/site.lasso>. A photograph of the Dean's List Nominee is encouraged, but optional, and the essay submission and such photos may be used, in promotion of the recipient and/or the award, at the discretion of **FIRST**. Winners will be required to sign a **FIRST** media release to allow use of their likeness to sponsors contributing to the **FIRST** Dean's List recognition program and will be responsible for any taxes associated with federal/state prize requirements.

If a team is attending more than one regional event, the mentor must select one event at which their nominations are to be considered. Each essay must clearly state the team name, the names and grade levels of the student(s) nominated, an explanation of why the students were nominated as well as the regional event at which the nomination is to be considered.

6.6.3 Judging

At each FRC regional event, judges will select two (2) students from the **FIRST Dean's List** Nominees as **FIRST Dean's List** Finalists. The two (2) Regional **FIRST Dean's List** Finalists will be honored at the award ceremonies at that regional event. Six (6) **FIRST Dean's List** Finalists will be selected at the Michigan State Championship.

All **FIRST Dean's List** Finalists will be considered for the **FIRST Dean's List** at the **FIRST** Championship in St. Louis using the essays provided. Finalist candidates need not be present at the **FIRST** Championship in order to be considered. Ten (10) Students will be selected as the **FIRST Dean's List Award** Winners for the 2011 FRC season.

The ten (10) 2011 **FIRST Dean's List** Award winners will receive the following:

- a written recommendation from **FIRST** leadership to the college(s) or employer(s) of their choice;
- a credit towards the winning student's team 2012 registration fee;
- a commemorative plaque for the student's school Hall of Fame;
- an invitation for them, and a chaperone, to attend an expenses paid **FIRST Dean's List** Award Summit, at **FIRST** Headquarters in Manchester, New Hampshire; and
- the opportunity to work with all members of the **FIRST** Dean's List and **FIRST** leaders to advance the mission of **FIRST**.

6.7 THE FOUNDER'S AWARD (CHAMPIONSHIP ONLY)

Each year **FIRST** presents this award to honor an organization or individual that has contributed significantly to the growth of **FIRST**.

6.8 WEBSITE AWARD

The Website Award recognizes excellence in student designed, built and managed **FIRST** team websites. Two (2) subcategories are awarded:

- "Website Excellence" - Every submission that meets the first website design standards of excellence will receive the website excellence award.
- "Best Website" –One (1) best website award will be given at each regional competition. the championship best website award winner will be chosen from among the regional best website award winners.

6.8.1 Submission and Deadline Information

Teams must enter their website into the **FIRST** awards submission site by **11:59 AM EST on February 17, 2010** to be evaluated. Each team's website is eligible for a website award at every regional event at which the team is competing. The website must be complete and

functional by the date of submission. Any website found to be “down,” and not viewable by the evaluators, will be disqualified.

Additional information can be found on the *FIRST* website under:
<http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/frc/content.aspx?id=440>.

6.9 WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD

The Woodie Flowers Award celebrates effective communication in the art and science of engineering and design. Dr. William Murphy founded this prestigious award in 1996 to recognize mentors who lead, inspire and empower using excellent communication skills.

Each year, students may submit an essay nominating one (1) mentor from their team to be considered for this award. If a team already has a mentor who has won the Regional Woodie Flowers Award in a prior year, then that team may resubmit that mentor in the current year. *FIRST* will recognize one (1) adult mentor at each Regional for receipt of the Regional Woodie Flowers Award. The current year Regional Woodie Flowers Award winners, along with those mentors who won a Regional Woodie Flowers Award in a prior year and have been re-nominated, will be judged to receive the Woodie Flowers Award at the FRC Championship.

6.9.1 Spirit of the Award

High school students on a *FIRST* Robotics team may choose one (1) adult team member as their Woodie Flowers Finalist Award (WFFA) candidate (eligibility information on *FIRST* website under <http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/frc/content.aspx?id=440>). The students will describe how this mentor has given them the best understanding of the challenges, opportunities and satisfaction involved in the discipline of engineering and design. Dr. Flowers will lead the past Championship Woodie Flowers Award (WFA) winners as they judge and select the Finalists and ultimate Championship winner based on student essays.

This award recognizes an individual who has done an outstanding job of motivation through communication while also challenging the students to be clear and succinct in recognizing the value of communication. As such, it is very important that this be a student-led effort and a student decision. Team mentors should direct their students to the online entry site and let the high school student nominators decide whom to nominate. Adults can help edit, but this must be a student-led effort, since any team mentor is eligible. Authors must be **clearly** identified as high school students in the online submission.

6.9.2 Submission Deadline

The Woodie Flowers Award entries are due **Thursday, February 17th NOON EST**. Eligibility and entry requirements, judging criteria and details on the entry process can be found on the *FIRST* website under <https://my.usfirst.org/stims/site.lasso>.

6.9.3 Prior Year Regional WFFA Winner Re-submission

Please refer to the current Championship WFA eligibility requirements on the *FIRST* website. Student nominators must submit a new 600 word (maximum) essay in order to re-nominate their previous year Regional WFFA winner to be eligible for the current Championship WFA. Student nominators will not be able to edit the original submission. Past winners without a new essay will not be eligible for the WFA. While the judges can review past essays, the new essay must be able to stand alone as a complete submission.

Each *FIRST* team can nominate/re-nominate a maximum of one (1) candidate for the Championship WFA.