

MN FIRST LEGO League 2007/8 State Award Winners

We at INSciTE strongly believe in creating an environment to give people of all ages the tools they need to become leaders. Mahatma Gandhi once said "You must be the change you want to see in the world". We want to honor people who have taken that advice to heart and ARE making a change in this world. To that end, INScite has created a Leadership Hall of Fame for MN FLL.

INSciTE Special Volunteer Award

Special Local Leadership and Development Volunteer Award	
Comments	This couple has been involved with INSciTE since the FLL pilot in May of 1999. They started a robotics club at Eagan Eastview high school and every year bring 4 or 5 teams to the INSciTE High School Robotics competition. They accept all kids and the kids earn a letter for the club. They are a true example of making the change they want to see in the world.
Award Winner	Nels and Linda Offerdahl

Leadership in Coaching Award

This award is given to someone who has shown extraordinary leader in the coaching ranks. Someone who has had great influence on their team members, on other coaches, and on their community.

Leadership in Coaching Award	
Comments	From his nomination by a team member: This winner is now into his 8th year coaching, coaching as many as 3 teams at once, and has educated parents and teachers helping them become independent coaches. The teams he has mentored have a greater understanding in science and have been able to get a glimpse at the big picture: It's not about the awards you win, but the experience of working together, having fun and learning.
Award Winner	Steve Gorseth, Monticello

Local Leadership Award

Across MN there are some communities that embrace FLL with a fervor. Usually there is a local leader making this community come alive.

Local Leadership Award	
Comments	This couple has been involved with FLL for many years, working to develop the program at Ordean school in Duluth. From their nomination: They listen to others; especially 12 and 13 year old boys; they have empathy when projects don't turn out as planned.; they persevere and do their very best. They do not give up. They are people that mentor and support, encourage and challenge, push and let go, but above all CARE!!!
Award Winner	Phil and Kay Norris of Duluth

Leadership in Officiating Award

This award is given to someone who has shown significant and long term leadership in officiating MN FLL events.

Leadership in Officiating Award	
Comments	These two long time judges personify what makes a great judge: Someone who is conscientious about the subject, studies it beforehand, works to improve their judging and the judging of those around them, and most importantly, works hard with each and every team in a friendly but inquisitive and questioning manner.
Award Winner	Todd Carpenter and Phillip Hogland

Competition Leadership Award

This award is given to a person who has shown long term commitment to organizing and running FLL tournaments.

Leadership in Competition Award	
Comments	These two winners have long time association with FLL as coaches but in their “spare” time also contribute significantly to tournaments. One is every tournament director’s best friend as he seems to be at literally every tournament the night before, setting up tables and then taking them down the next day. The other is a friendly, super organized tournament and assistant tournament director who helps in many different ways.
Award Winner	Matt Moldestad and Vicki Coaty

INSciTE Leadership Award

INSciTE only works because of the huge amount of work put in by key volunteers. This award is given to someone who has been a vital part of overall INSciTE operations.

INSciTE Leadership Award	
Comments	This winner has been a tireless advocate for INSciTE and science and technology education, going well beyond his role as a technology teacher. He organizes FLL tournaments, teaches many kinds of workshops, organizes a number of other technology competitions, makes presentations, is a nationally-sought after expert in technology application in the classroom, and a two time MN Tekne finalist.
Award Winner	Paul Keeney

Team Scholarship:

The Team Scholarship is a new award for INSciTE. The judges are looking for a team in whom FLL has ignited a spark of interest in science and technology and whose team would be greatly impacted by a science camp or workshop. The winning team will get a 12 hour Lego Robotics workshop from the wizard teachers at Leonardo's Basement.

<ask finalists to stand as you announce them>

Team Scholarship Award – Division I	
Finalists	1452 – “ <i>Piecemakers</i> ” – Heritage Christian Academy 5029 – “ <i>Lego Force</i> ” – Good Shepard Catholic School 5890 – “ <i>Green Machine</i> ” – Afton Lakeland Elementary 6677 – “ <i>Energizer Bunnies</i> ” – Mounds Park Academy 7283 – “ <i>Robo Girls</i> ” – Atheneum Magnet
Winner	7283 – “ <i>Robo Girls</i> ” – Atheneum Magnet

Team Scholarship Award – Division II	
Finalists	6818 – “ <i>CARES</i> ” – St. Paul Open 3225 – “ <i>GEMS De Novos</i> ” – Field Community School 7057 – “ <i>Bug O Nay Ge Shig</i> ” 3195 – “ <i>GEMS Team Go</i> ” – Field Community School
Winner	6818 – “ <i>CARES</i> ” – St. Paul Open

Young Mentor Award:

The Young Mentor award is presented to the outstanding young mentor of a Lego League team. The award is open to students 18 and under. Judges are looking for evidence of an effective mentoring "style", skills in transmitting and fostering cognitive social and social skills, and emotional growth and support. The winner also receives a \$250 college scholarship from INSciTE.

<ask finalists to stand as you announce them>

Young Mentor	
Finalists	Ryan Idrogo-Lam Stephen Jacobs Shaelynn Walker Travis Evans Jimmy Froehling Martha Streng
Winner	Martha Streng
Quote about winner	<p>We had an incredibly strong list of candidates for this award, making the selection extremely difficult. Among the finalists were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A talented mentor who is able to easily connect with kids across all ages and ability levels.A dedicated individual who was committed to making First Lego League a positive experienceA graduating senior who has consistently applied the lessons learned from First Lego League to mentoring othersA new mentor who exhibited great maturity while ensuring a lot of fun for the teamA talented GEMS mentor who taught the joy of programming to young LEGO enthusiastsA enthusiastic volunteer who was adept at aligning the kids with work that brought them energy. <p>In the end, we had to pick one.</p> <p>The winner of this year's Young Mentor Award is an individual who has clearly shown several young people the joys and rewards of engineering, math and science. Please join me in congratulating Martha Streng on this year's award. Come on up, Martha.</p>

Research Awards

In addition to building robots, teams are also given a research assignment to help them to understand how science and technology is applied in the real world. This year’s challenge was called Power Puzzle. The research challenge summary is as follows: “This year’s Power Puzzle challenge is about understanding all the elements of energy use in a world that uses more and more of it everyday. Specifically the team must select a building in your community and evaluate the energy use; Talk to experts and propose solutions to reduce consumption or move toward alternative energy use; and finally, share the changes for your building with the community”

Research Quality Award

The Research Quality Award is presented to the team that best develops an in-depth and thorough understanding of the Research Challenge. They have the best explanation of the teams' point of view and solution to the Research Challenge.

Division 1		Division 2	
Finalists	1452 – <i>“Piecemakers”</i> – Heritage Christian Academy 2683 – <i>“Alient Tree Huggers”</i> – Centerpoint Elementary 3517 – <i>“Microscopic Power Jedi Pickle Penguins”</i> – Leonardo’s Basement 5568 – <i>“Solar Sisters”</i> – Island Lake Elementary	Finalists	862 – <i>“Shebots”</i> – Chippewa Middle School 2560 – <i>“Pixelation”</i> – Chisago Homeschool 2752 – <i>“Brick Squad”</i> – Theobald/Holte Homeschool
Winner	1452 – <i>“Piecemakers”</i> – Heritage Christian Academy	Winner	862 – <i>“Shebots”</i> – Chippewa Middle School

Research Awards (cont.)

Innovative Solution Award

The Innovative Solution Award is presented to the team that has the most thought provoking and innovative resolution to the research challenge assignment. The judges are not only looking for creative ideas, but an examination of all the issues required to implement the solution.

Division 1		Division 2	
Finalists	324 – “Dragon Bombs” – The Newbies 2682 – “Robo Rebels” – White Bear Lake Area 1576 – “Mega International Lego Engineers” – Robinsdale 6 th Graders 5383 – “Boys 2 Energy Boys” – Seward Montessori Middle	Finalists	2752 – “Brick Squad” – Theobald/Holte Homeschool 3516 – “The WinterBines” – Leonardo’s Basement 4861 – “Ah Ha!” – Holy Name School and Alumni
Winner	324 – “Dragon Bombs” – The Newbies	Winner	4861 – “Ah Ha!” – Holy Name School and Alumni

Research Awards (cont.)

Creative Presentation Award

The Creative Presentation Award is presented to the team with the most imaginative and creative presentation demonstrating the teams' research and solution to the Research Challenge Assignment.

Division 1		Division 2	
Finalists	1576 – <i>“Mega International Lego Engineers”</i> – Robbinsdale 6 th Graders 3935 – <i>“Solar Cells”</i> – Solar Cell Neighborhood 5350 – <i>“Lego Patrol”</i> – Robbinsdale Spanish Immersion 4694 – <i>“Solar Controllers”</i> – Tesserac School	Finalists	30 – <i>“Je Ne Sais Pas”</i> – Robbinsdale Area Schools 862 – <i>“Shebots”</i> – Chippewa Middle School 581 – <i>“Some Assembly Required”</i> – Monticello
Winner	1576 – <i>“Mega International Lego Engineers”</i> – Robbinsdale 6 th Graders	Winner	30 – <i>“Je Ne Sais Pas”</i> – Robbinsdale Area Schools

Team Work Award

The teamwork award is presented to the team that best exemplifies the meaning of teamwork. Teamwork is the key to a successful team but very hard to do. It's important to recognize teams that do it well. Teamwork is judged by judges in the presentation area and by judges that observe the team in action in other areas.

Division 1		Division 2	
Finalists	2682 – “Robo Rebels” – White Bear Lake Area 4706 – “Flash Fighting Yodas” – Math and Science Academy 5890 – “Green Machine” – Afton Lakeland Elementary 1452 – “Piecemakers” – Heritage Christian Academy	Finalists	862 – “Shebots” – Chippewa Middle School 1622 – “Techno Travelers” – St. Peter Recreation 2560 – “Pixelation” – Chisago Homeschool
Winner	2682 – “Robo Rebels” – White Bear Lake Area	Winner	2560 – “Pixelation” – Chisago Homeschool

Robot Performance Award

The Robot performance awards are presented to the top 3 teams in the head to head rounds. These teams survived the tough competition in these afternoon matches and came out on top.

Division 1		Division 2	
3rd Place	6162 – “ <i>Hydrogen Peroxide</i> ” – Island Lake Elementary	3rd Place	30 – “ <i>Je Ne Sais Pas</i> ” – Robbinsdale Area Schools
2nd Place	4315 – “ <i>The Blockbusters</i> ” – Chisago Area Builders	2nd Place	581 – “ <i>Some Assembly Required</i> ” – Monticello
1st Place	592 – “ <i>Generators</i> ” – Glen Lake Elementary	1st Place	2560 – “ <i>Pixelation</i> ” – Chisago Homeschool

Team Spirit Award

The Team Spirit award is presented to the team best demonstrating extraordinary enthusiasm and spirit both within their own team and in their support and encouragement of fellow teams. The Team Spirit award is selected by the referees who observe the spirit shown by all teams in the performance arena, cheering on their teams and robots.

Division 1		Division 2	
Winner	3935 – <i>“Solar Cells”</i> – Solar Cell Neighborhood	Winner	3195 – <i>“Team Go”</i> – Field Middle School

Sportsmanship Award

The Sportsmanship Award is presented the teams best showing good sportsmanship. Good sportsmanship occurs when teammates, opponents, coaches, and officials treat each other with respect. This may be for a specific incident or an overall attitude of great sportsmanship.

Div 1		Div 2	
Winner	324 – <i>“Dragon Bombs”</i> – The Newbies	Winner	581 – <i>“Some Assembly Required”</i> – Monticello
Reason	Gave another team a rotation sensor to allow them to compete.	Reason	Acknowledge that a close call by the referee was correct which cost them a perfect score.

Technical Awards

The technical awards, for design and programming, are judged in the Technical Judging area.

Design Award

The Design Award is presented to the team whose understanding and application of sound mechanical principles produces the most solid, predictable, and dependable design.

Division 1		Division 2	
Finalists	533 – “DITSci Chx” – Deerfield Institute of Technology and Science 2682 – “Robo Rebels” – White Bear Lake Area 3564 – “Down Right Dangerous” – Monticello 6162 – “Hydrogen Peroxide” – Island Lake Elementary	Finalists	181 – “Fish in the Boat” – Oak Hills Neighborhood 581 – “Some Assembly Required” – Monticello 1106 – “BLACKOUT!” – Informal Group of Friends 2560 – “Pixelation” – Chisago Homeschool
Winner	533 – “DITSci Chx” – Deerfield Institute of Technology and Science	Winner	581 – “Some Assembly Required” – Monticello

Technical Awards (cont.)

Innovative Design Award

The Innovative Design Award is presented the team that best demonstrates its ability to use a creative design, component or unique strategy of play when solving the Challenge missions.

Division 1		Division 2	
Finalists	533 – <i>“DITSci Chx”</i> – Deerfield Institute of Technology and Science 2682 – <i>“Robo Rebels”</i> – White Bear Lake Area 3564 – <i>“Down Right Dangerous”</i> – Monticello 3517 – <i>“Microscopic Power Jedi Pickle Penguins”</i> – Leonardo’s Basement	Finalists	1106 – <i>“BLACKOUT!”</i> – Informal Group of Friends 2386 – <i>“Power Pointless”</i> – Ordean Middle School 3516 – <i>“The WinterBines”</i> – Leonardo’s Basement
Winner	3564 – <i>“Down Right Dangerous”</i> – Monticello	Winner	2386 – <i>“Power Pointless”</i> – Ordean Middle School

Technical Awards (cont.)

Programming Award

The Programming Award is presented to the team best demonstrating an in-depth understanding of sound programming principles. The programs written by the teams will enable the robot to consistently complete complex tasks. Programming robots is a notoriously difficult problem and this award recognizes teams that excelled at this task.

Division 1		Division 2	
Finalists	533 – <i>“DITSci Chx”</i> – Deerfield Institute of Technology and Science 2682 – <i>“Robo Rebels”</i> – White Bear Lake Area 3564 – <i>“Down Right Dangerous”</i> – Monticello 6162 – <i>“Hydrogen Peroxide”</i> – Island Lake Elementary	Finalists	30 – <i>“Je Ne Sais Pas”</i> – Robbinsdale Area Schools 862 – <i>“Shebots”</i> – Chippewa Middle School 3516 – <i>“The WinterBines”</i> – Leonardo’s Basement
Winner	3564 – <i>“Down Right Dangerous”</i> – Monticello	Winner	3516 – <i>“The WinterBines”</i> – Leonardo’s Basement

Judges' Award

The Judges award is a free-form award selected by the judges to recognize significant team accomplishments that may not fit other categories. Four judges awards are given.

Winners		Reason	
Winner	1106 – <i>“BLACKOUT!”</i> – Informal Group of Friends	Reason	Excellence in team building activities.
Winner	1622 – <i>“Techno Travelers”</i> – St. Peter Recreation	Reason	This team was an exchange team, with part of the team in Florida. They did an unbelievable job of collaboration, including remote hookups for the tournament today.
Winner	2752 – <i>“Brick Squad”</i> – Theobald/Holte Homeschool	Reason	They were skeptical of energy calculations given them by commercial contractors and went out and performed their own realistic energy calculations.
Winner	4706 – <i>“Flash Fighting Yodas”</i> – Math and Science Academy	Reason	Extensive outreach for a new team. They produced an FLL video that was shared with many schools including to schools in India.

Pre-Champion's Award Announcements

Before we announce the Champion's award winners, I have a couple of brief statements.

Coaches don't forget your packets.

A Few Words about Next year's challenge

The "winds of change are blowing" and with them comes FIRST LEGO League's 2008 Climate Connections Challenge! Join us as we explore why many experts believe the earth's climate is changing and how these changes impact you and our planet. The causes, contributions, and consequences are all interconnected and the experts are telling us to "think globally - act locally." People, resources, and local actions need to be united to establish a global game plan. Do FIRST LEGO League teams have what it takes to make these global Climate Connections?

Next Year's Challenge is called: **Climate Connections; Building A Global Game Plan**

Natalie Tiedemann Scholarship

The Natalie Tiedemann scholarship is presented annually to the MN FLL Division 2 Champion's Award winning team. Natalie passed away June 3, 2005 at the age of eight and a scholarship fund was created to allow other kids to pursue their dreams in her memory.

Natalie's scholarship will go towards the Director's award winning team's participation in the FLL World Festival. This annual scholarship will be in the amount of \$500 per team member, up to a maximum of \$3000 per team. The World Festival is held annually in conjunction with the FIRST High School Robotics competition in April, and about 70 FLL teams from around the world participate. It is an unforgettable event for the participants.

Thanks to everyone who has generously donated to this scholarship fund. INSciTE will keep the Natalie Tiedemann Scholarship fund permanently active and will continue to accept donations so we can ensure the longevity of this fund and of Natalie's memory.

The Champion's Award

The Champions Award is the Grand Championship; presented to the team that best combines performance in the competitive aspects of FLL, and representation of the true meaning of FLL in its enthusiasm and inspiration to others. The Division 2 Winner will represent MN at the FLL World Festival in Atlanta in April. The Division 1 Winner will represent MN at the High Tech Kids FLL International Open at the University of MN in May.

Division 1		Division 2	
Finalists	2682 – <i>“Robo Rebels”</i> – White Bear Lake Area 6162 – <i>“Hydrogen Peroxide”</i> – Island Lake Elementary 4706 – <i>“Flash Fighting Yodas”</i> – Math and Science Academy 4170 – <i>“The Things”</i> – Journey Homeschool	Finalists	2560 – <i>“Pixelation”</i> – Chisago Homeschool 862 – <i>“Shebots”</i> – Chippewa Middle School 1622 – <i>“Techno Travelers”</i> – St. Peter Recreation
Winner	2682 – <i>“Robo Rebels”</i> – White Bear Lake Area	Winner	2560 – <i>“Pixelation”</i> – Chisago Homeschool