

MN FIRST LEGO League 2009/2010 State Award Ceremony

High Tech Kids' Special Volunteer Award

Comments	<p>Mark Russo has been involved as an emcee from Crosswinds Arts and Science school in Woodbury. He knows how to whip the crowd into a truly celebratory frenzy and is one of the best emcees we have the honor to work with. Mark is finalizing his masters thesis , “ Higher Order Thinking Skills in Inquiry Based Science Classrooms.” From a true science fan, he wanted to convey his thanks and congratulate all of you on being here today.</p> <p>Mike Klemm has been judging since at least 2001 and in the early days of emails he maintained our email lists of volunteers for many years. He coordinated judges training and comment/scoring materials. Without his support we would have had no way of bothering, I mean communicating, with our volunteers. As with all good volunteers, they are always doing something. Mike judged here this morning and now is in the heat of a Pinewood Derby with his son. He also conveys his appreciation for this award.</p>
Award Winner	Mark Russo and Mike Klemm

Coaches Award

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

Comments	<p>The coaches' award this year goes to two coaches from Leonardo's Basement. Each year the tirelessly coach and mentor multiple teams. They encourage the kids to do the work themselves and enthusiastically support the risk kids take with creative solutions to the problems.</p> <p>Their creativity and focus on child-centered teamwork makes me very happy to give this year's award to two well-deserved coaches...</p>
Award Winner	Sue Evans, Kathy Bishop from Leonardo's Basement

Community Volunteer Award

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

Comments:	Toni began a robotics program in northern Minnesota 4 years ago. She was adamant to start their own regional tournament in 2006 and has grown this to a 16 team tournament. She hosts coaches trainings, has spoken on “How to Start a Lego Team in the Middle of Nowhere” at a national conference, and continues to support many kids and coaches, that we can’t reach. From summer camps, to local grants that buy robots, and so much more. Toni has developed a great model we know will help other communities develop FLL.
Award Winner	Toni Wilcox

Officials’ Award

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

Comments	<p>These two long time officials personify what makes a great official: 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.</p> <p>In 2000, I was the tournament director for the first regional tournament in Minnesota. Last week I looked on my volunteer list and these 2 officials were both there, at Central High School in St. Paul.</p>
Award Winner	Andy Beger and Don Krantz

Tournament Director Award

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

Comments	These two winners are St. Paul teachers at Mays Magnet and have a long time association with FLL as coaches. In their “spare” time they also contribute significantly as regional tournament directors. And if that isn’t enough, their school and classrooms are host to multiple training events each season to help coaches, judges, and referees learn what FLL is all about. We thank them for their dedication and their vital role in the St. Paul community.
Award Winner	Vergene Downs and Colleen Fridlund

Leadership Award

High Tech Kids 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 High Tech Kids’ operations.

Comments	This recipient “schedules” our 300+ teams into 11 tournaments every year, creates the spreadsheets we all need glasses to read, and does it with a smile. He coordinates the computer volunteers and gets things planned for each weekend of tournaments, even if it means chipping ice away from a storage unit, 3 times, on 3 occasions, before getting inside. We could not do this without him.
Award Winner	Jon Schewe

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, who reach out to the community and help other teams. Judges are looking for evidence of an effective mentoring "style", skills in transmitting and fostering cognitive and social skills, emotional growth and support. The winner also receives a \$250 college scholarship from High Tech Kids.

<ask finalists to stand as you announce them>

Young Mentor	
Finalists	Geoffrey Bissen Brandan Boyle Riley Mangan Kevin Riehm Michael Schuh
Winner	Riley Mangan
Quote about winner	<p>The judges had an incredibly strong list of candidates for this award, making the selection extremely difficult.</p> <p>Among our candidates were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a mentor who provided another level of leadership between the team members and the coaches • A mentor who didn't let distance get in the way • A mentor who helped managed team resources and guided the team in their problem solving by asking questions • A mentor who worked with two teams and helped them with guidance in building, programming and research • A mentor who's lucky had turn on not only the teams robot, but the team members minds <p>In the end, we could only pick one...</p> <p>The winner of this year's Young Mentor award is an individual who, without request, came forward to "give back."</p> <p>Please join me in congratulating Riley Mangan on this year's award. Reily is being recognized for her ability to know where help is needed. She allowed the teams to embrace their successes as well ad their failures. She's a gifted leader who communicates will with both the team and adults.</p>

Research Awards

Research Quality Award

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

Division 1	
Finalists	7036 - INFERNO LEGOS 8967 - Terrific Turbo Turtles 4960 - Flying Banana Splits 7533 - Wolves on Wheels
Winner	4960 - Flying Banana Splits
Division 2	
Finalists	46 - Robo Rebels 5433 - DUCK with the HUD 1132 - Flying Pigs
Winner	5433 - DUCK with the HUD

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	
Finalists	3991 - Lego Lights 7036 - INFERNO LEGOS 8894 - Twiz Bots 7907 - Big Bad Super Bot Crushers
Winner	7036 - INFERNO LEGOS
Division 2	
Finalists	5433 - DUCK with the HUD 306 - Hydrogen Peroxide 46 - Robo Rebels
Winner	46 - Robo Rebels

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	
Finalists	9206 - Rouge Robots 3815 - The Atomic Penguins 957 - Brick Masters 3078 - Steel Claws
Winner	3078 - Steel Claws
Division 2	
Finalists	327 - The Things 2496 - Techno Travelers 4503 - Fish in the Boat
Winner	2496 - Techno Travelers

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 roving judges that observe the team in action throughout the day.

Division 1	
Finalists	9719 - Rocket-Powered Ripstiks 7533 - Wolves on Wheels 7036 - INFERNO LEGOS 8967 - Terrific Turbo Turtles
Winner	8967 - Terrific Turbo Turtles
Division 2	
Finalists	2496 - Techno Travelers 327 - The Things 8209 - Half Sane
Winner	327 - The Things

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	
3rd Place	3078 - Steel Claws
2nd Place	4960 - Flying Banana Splits
1st Place	9206 - Rouge Robots
Division 2	
3rd Place	327 - The Things
2nd Place	3629 - Cavemen 2.0
1st Place	306 - Hydrogen Peroxide

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	
Winner	8646 - Purple Peace Peeps
Division 2	
Winner	4739 - Dangerous Duct tape Doodles

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	
Reason	Professionalism and respect in the performance area towards other teams.
Winner	1242 - Bot Bashers
Div 2	
Reason	Got numerous mentions from other teams that they helped, mentored, assisted, pushed, ...
Winner	4877 - DITSci Chx

Technical Awards

Quality Design Award

The Quality 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	
Finalists	7991 - Robot Squad 2805 - C4 7212 - Lego Patrol 4464 - The NXT Generation
Winner	4464 - The NXT Generation
Division 2	
Finalists	2496 - Techno Travelers 4739 - Dangerous Duct tape Doodles 306 - Hydrogen Peroxide
Winner	306 - Hydrogen Peroxide

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	
Finalists	8894 - Twiz Bots 7907 - Big Bad Super Bot Crushers 7991 - Robot Squad 7036 - INFERNO LEGOS
Winner	8894 - Twiz Bots
Division 2	
Finalists	4503 - Fish in the Boat 2496 - Techno Travelers 5874 – Stormbots
Winner	4503 - Fish in the Boat

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	
Finalists	7533 - Wolves on Wheels 7212 - Lego Patrol 9719 - Rocket-Powered Ripstiks 9229 - Robo Transit
Winner	9229 - Robo Transit
Division 2	
Finalists	5433 - DUCK with the HUD 8209 - Half Sane 4877 - DITSci Chx
Winner	4877 - DITSci Chx

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.

Reason		Winner	
Reason	7533 - Wolves on Wheels	Winner	Consistently rated highly by judges in all categories and finalists in 5 categories.
Reason	9719 - Rocket-Powered Ripstiks	Winner	Coming third overall and receiving several finalist callbacks.
Reason	8209 - Half Sane	Winner	Scored well above average in all categories and the subjective judges considered them one of our top teams.
Reason	3629 - Cavemen 2.0	Winner	High scoring team that continues to perform well in many categories. Moreover, their chosen robot platform is still RCX based...

The Champion's Award

The Champion's Award is the Grand Champion; this is presented to the team that best combines performance in the competitive aspects of FLL, and represents the true meaning of FLL in its enthusiasm and inspiration to others.

The Division 2 Winner will be offered an invitation to represent MN at the FLL European Open in Istanbul, Turkey in April.

Here are the Champion Award Finalists and winners.

Division 1	
Finalists	7212 - Lego Patrol 4960 - Flying Banana Splits 7533 - Wolves on Wheels 9719 - Rocket-Powered Ripstiks 2805 - C4
Winner	7212 - Lego Patrol
Division 2	
Finalists	327 - The Things 5433 - DUCK with the HUD 2496 - Techno Travelers 4503 - Fish in the Boat
Winner	327 - The Things