



CITRUS CIRCUITS

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sponsor Open House
February 17-23

LA North Regional
February 27-March 1

St. Louis Regional
March 11-14

SPONSORS

Pomelo
DJUSD
UC Davis

Grapefruit
Lockeed Martin
Hill Engineering

Orange
UC Davis College
of Agricultural and
Environmental Sciences
UC Davis College of
Engineering
Boeing
Walmart
Bayer

Lemon
WestCoast Products
Claire Black Slotton
Intuitive
Comcast
Recology

Lime
American Council of
Engineering Companies
UC Davis College of Letters
and Science
UCD College of Global Affairs
Da Vinci Boosters
Frontier Energy
M Cubed

In-Kind
Aerometals
GitHub
IFI

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2020 CITRUS SERVICE

Citrus Service, composed of eight skilled students, has been assisting other teams at competitions since 2017. Whether it's with programming, robot mechanisms, or competition support, Citrus Service is always willing to help. This year, Citrus Service will be setting up a Service Station at the St. Louis Regional to teach students from other teams how to run the equivalent of Citrus Service at their regionals using the knowledge we have learned over the past few years. Citrus Circuits is partnering with The Compass Alliance, a collection of teams that provide helpful resources to FIRST teams, in making these Service Stations available at future competitions. On their [website](#), TCA hosts resources that can help FRC teams be successful. Many Citrus Circuits students have contributed to available TCA documents, videos, and game rules tests.



PARENT LOGISTICS MEETINGS

Our parent logistics meetings are the place to be! On February 5, Manda Yeung, our Parent Logistics Lead, talked to parents about transportation, food, and hotel plans for our LA North and St. Louis regionals. These meetings are a great place for parents to get involved and learn more about the team. Parents can ask questions and gain a better understanding of what our team members are doing every day. During the meetings, topics such as our competitions, DYR support, and build season meals come up. Meetings are on the first and third Wednesdays of the month and agendas are sent out the Sunday before. Minutes of each meeting and other parent resources are available [here](#) on our website. If you are a parent and interested, our next parent logistics meeting is February 19 from 6:30-7:30 in the DHS Library.

SPONSORS INVITED TO OPEN HOUSE

Our sponsor open house dates have been set! Sponsors are invited to visit us from February 17 - 23 during our team meetings. We are holding an open house week for sponsors who are interested in touring our shop and learning more about our team. An introduction to each subteam will be provided as well as a general overview of Citrus Circuits, build and competition season, and outreach activities. Also, we will demonstrate our new 2020 robot and all of its mechanisms and capabilities. Please RSVP to the email we sent and we hope to see you there, Sponsors!

HOW IS OUR 2020 GRANT PROGRAM GOING?

In the past, we have relied on corporate and business sponsorships and parent contributions to fund the team, but as Citrus Circuits continues to grow, we are applying for more grants for support. Through our Business and Media subteam's diligent work, we have received several grants from the foundations for such companies as Walmart, Intuitive, and Bayer. To fill out a grant, we research what the company values and write about how our interests align with theirs. We describe our team and what we do, our outreach and how it impacts our community, and the types of programs the funding goes towards. Grants help support a wide range of robot, competition, and outreach activities.

INTERVIEW WITH CHAIRMAN'S LEAD, LIVY TAYLOR

We recently interviewed Livy Taylor, our Chairman's lead, about how the Chairman's Award submission is doing this year. The Chairman's award is the most prestigious award at FIRST and Citrus Circuits has been honored with a Regional Chairman's Award in each of the past two years. The award recognizes the team that best represents a model for other teams to emulate and best embodies the purpose and goals of FIRST.



Livy said that "the process of submitting starts in the fall where we brainstorm and start the essay, executive summary, presentation, and video. This year's submission focuses on how the team values education, empowerment, and excellence, and how it makes our team a force for change."

At competition, the judges read every team's essay submission and then invite representatives of the team to give a seven minute presentation, followed by a five minute question and answer period. According to Livy, "I'm really happy with every part of our submission and I'm confident we will do well. Even if we don't, we are all proud of our efforts."