



UPCOMING EVENTS

Las Vegas Regional
April 5-8
Houston Championship
April 19-22

SPONSORSHIPS

Jupiter
UCDavis*
DJUSD
NVIDIA
FMC Schilling Robotics

Neptune
DHS PTA

Venus
Far Western Anthropological
Research Group
Hill Engineering
DMG Mori
Northbay Healthcare
Kibblewhite Precision
Machining
First St. Realty - Claire
Black-Slotten

Mercury
American Council of
Engineering Companies
M. Cubed
David's Engineering
Da Vinci Boosters
Carr Electric

In-kind
Innovation First International
Fastenal
Martin's Metal
Github
Nugget
Solidworks
Vivid Hosting
Instabug

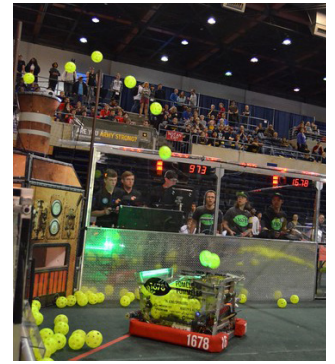
*UCDavis includes the following departments, who each made separate donations; UCD College of Agriculture & Environmental Science, UCD College of Biological Sciences, UCD School of Education, UCD School of Medicine (Human Health Sciences), UCD School of Veterinary Medicine, UCD College of Engineering, UCD Global Affairs, UCD Division of Social Sciences, College of Letters and Sciences, UCD Division of Mathematical & Physical Sciences, College of Letters and Science, UCD Extension

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LOCAL WIN AT SACRAMENTO REGIONAL

Last weekend, we competed in the annual Sacramento Regional, hosted by UC Davis. 56 teams from not only California, but Nevada and Hawaii as well, played against one another for the title of Regional Champion. After 15 hard-fought qualification and elimination matches, we are excited to say that we have retained our four-year Sacramento Regional winning streak. Along with the Greybots from Atascadero and the Titanbots from Chula Vista, we won our second regional of the 2017 season!



Additionally, we are extremely proud of our robot programming sub-team, who received Innovation in Control Award, sponsored by Rockwell Automations. This award celebrates an originally designed control system or application of such. Also, Maya Brandy, a very influential member of our team as well as our current pilot, became a FIRST Dean's List Finalist. This qualifies her to enlist for the Dean's List Award, given at World Championships to the member who best demonstrates passion for and effectiveness at attaining FIRST ideals.

INTRODUCING: THE POMELO PUMMELER!

Our 2017 robot, Pomelo Pummeler, is off to a fruitful beginning! We've already taken home blue banners at our first two competitions, qualifying us for World Championships in Houston. The Pomelo Pummeler uses a two ground intakes; one for gears and a ground fuel intake mechanism to collect fuel from the ground and store it in the magazine. The shooter, situated in the robot, can shoot fuel into the high boiler goal during autonomous and teleop periods, and use its climber mechanism to reach the top of the rope in the last 30 seconds of a game.

ALUMNI GIVING BACK

Jake McCann has mentored Team 846 The Funky Monkeys from San Jose, Team 5458 Digital Minds from Woodland, and our very own team, Team 1678 Citrus Circuits. Currently, he is mentoring Team 3501 The Firebots in Sunnyvale. Jake is a Mechanical Design mentor who works on manufacturing and scouting. He enjoys working with people and having new problems to solve. One of his mentoring challenges is trying to design and work around limited resources and fabricating capabilities. Jake added, "Everything I've learned about robotics, I learned from mentoring with 1678. All of the subteams I work with, I use information and experience I got from 1678". His goal is for his team to go to the World Championship and own a larger workspace with full sized mechanical equipment, along with a system where more experienced students teach new students to pass on knowledge, so the team can continue to develop and expand.

Jake Young went to San Jose State University for a major in Aerospace Engineering in 2015 after being on the team for 3 years. He worked with Team 846 The Funky Monkeys from San Jose as a mechanical fabrication mentor and has collaborated with Robots in the Outback to help Australian rookie teams. Jake is thrilled to support the Australian rookie teams and to be a part of the spread of FIRST robotics by helping to construct their kitbot and getting them used to working in FRC. The rookie teams are Team 6522 COAST from Salamander Bay, Team 6476 Supernova Star Squad from Coonabarabran, Team 6447 Bad 2 The Bone from Bingara, and Team 6508 Loco from Port Macquarie. He is currently not working with a team, but hopes to jump back into mentoring as soon as he can. While working with teams, a challenge Jake encounters is getting all students to participate in the action. He always tries to apply the system of demonstration for students by having them participate, helping them, and eventually letting them work without mentor assistance. Jake prefers when students teach other students, and feels peer education is an important way to influence team growth and individual learning, saying, "Honestly, I love the feeling when something really clicks with a student and they just take off. There is no better feeling than teaching a student to the point where they can teach their peers the same".

NVIDIA VISIT TO OUR WORKSHOP

On February 18, NVIDIA visited our facilities to film the team for a sponsorship video, which you can click here to see. Videographer David Weissman and his wife came from San Jose to film the team at work and interview students about their participation on the team and how NVIDIA products are incorporated onto our robot. NVIDIA is a major sponsor of our team, and we currently the Jetson TX1 as part of the vision system for our shooting alignment.

INTERVIEW WITH DEAN'S LIST FINALIST:

Maya Brandy is a sophomore on Mechanical Design. Regardless of 2017 being her second year on the team, she takes on an immense amount of responsibility as the leader of Chairman's and coordinator of our outreach programs, such as the Women in STEM (WiSTEM) seminars. Maya is also our pilot for this year's competition. Recently she received the Dean's List Finalist Award at the Sacramento Regional, a prestigious award that celebrates FRC students that have become leaders and influential role models on their team and in the FIRST community.



- Q: What's your role on the team?
A: I am the Chairman's Lead, Outreach Lead, and a student on the Mechanical Design team.
- Q: What made you want to join the team?
A: I first wanted to join to improve my writing skills on the Business and Media team, but Mechanical design quickly caught my interest.
- Q: How has the team impacted you since then?
A: I feel that the team has helped me grow emotionally and as a person in terms of being exposed to industrial engineering.
- Q: In what way do you feel that you've affected WiSTEM?
A: This year alone, almost every freshman girl on the team was involved in WiSTEM. We are involving and getting these young boys and girls to start this dialogue and showing them anyone can and will do it.
- Q: How does it feel to receive the Dean's List Finalist award?
A: I feel a tremendous amount of pride by earning it. It feels great to be recognized by my team members and the people I look up to. It's just a brief moment of recognition for the potential our students have on this team.
- Q: What do you plan to do in the future?
A: I plan to continue on this path and it encourages me to continue to engage younger students and learn as much as I can and communicate what I learned to others.

SPONSOR OPEN HOUSE

Our annual Sponsor Open House, held on February 25, was a success! This is our second year hosting this exciting event, and we hope to make this open house an annual occasion. During the Sponsor Open House we invited all of our local sponsors to come take a look at the work that we do. Along with breakfast, the sponsors were given a tour around the shop by students, and then were presented with a robot demo of the Pomelo Pummeler. Students provided explanations of our subteams, and the opportunities that students receive. Representatives came from UC Davis, Davis Joint Unified School District, Hill Engineering, and other sponsors.