




FOR INSPIRATION & RECOGNITION OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

2015 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT



“When I gave this thing the name FIRST®, I said ‘It’s all about inspiration. If we don’t change what they’re inspired by, the world will.’ When I thought about that, it never occurred to me that one of the people who would end up being inspired is me. By all of you ... And I hope that you all inspire each other.”

FIRST Founder, Dean Kamen

We’ve always been
MORE THAN ROBOTSSM

Our founder, inventor Dean Kamen, has been saying it for over 25 years –

*“Our mission is about more than building robots;
we are working to inspire and change a culture.”*

FIRST® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) — a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit public charity whose mission is to help develop our students into tomorrow’s science and technology leaders and innovators — uses young people’s interest in, and fascination with, robots as the “honey” to draw them into a progression of fun, engaging robotics and research programs. In the process, they learn the importance of team building and mutual respect, gain self-confidence, and develop crucial leadership and life skills, as well as master much-in-demand STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) knowledge. They are transforming into tomorrow’s leaders.

Kids building robots is a clever disguise for a rapidly expanding community devoted to altering our culture into one where scientists and engineers are celebrated and revered on the same level as athletes and celebrities. Our unified goal is to open doors for all kids so that they may discover new interests and pathways, leading them to careers in science and engineering that they might never have considered.

We are extremely proud of the impact **FIRST** is making on this cultural change. Leaders in government, media, education, and even the entertainment world, are recognizing **FIRST** as a genuine game-changer in the lives of hundreds of thousands of students. They are eagerly embracing our programs because they have witnessed for themselves that the essence of **FIRST** is *More Than RobotsSM*.

Will you join us in making a difference?

Learn the full **FIRST** story — our vision, reach, programs, and events — at www.firstinspires.org





A decade of verifiable data shows that exposing kids to fun, exciting FIRST programs builds 21st century work skills and greatly increases their motivation to seek education and careers in STEM fields.

STEM EXPOSURE

**Unless noted, the data represented is the lowest value from the formal evaluations of the programs.*

- 84%** work on the robot
- 90%** work on team strategy
- 88%** in FIRST® LEGO® League work on programming (63% in FIRST® Tech Challenge; 37% in FIRST® Robotics Competition)
- 84%** learn about STEM jobs
- 66%** make presentations to Judges
- 97%** have FUN!

STEM INTEREST & SKILLS

- 88%** more interested in learning about science or technology
- 88%** better understand how STEM is used to solve real-world problems
- 98%** increase teamwork skills
- 93%** increase problem-solving skills

EDUCATION, STEM CAREERS

- 86%** more interested in doing well in school
- 84%** motivated to take challenging math or science classes (FIRST Robotics Competition, FIRST Tech Challenge)
- 94%** embrace the importance of Coopertition®, Gracious Professionalism®
- 80%** more interested in jobs that use STEM

LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

FIRST Alumni are:

College Majors:

3x as likely to major in engineering and
4x as likely for women in FIRST to major in engineering*

Career Expectations:

Nearly **4x** as likely to pursue a career in engineering*

Opportunities:

10x as likely to have an apprenticeship, internship, or co-op job in their freshman year of college*

**Than a matched comparison group*

ULTIMATE IMPACT

▶ **75%+**

of FIRST Alumni are in a STEM field (student or professional)

Inspired to learn more?
www.firstinspires.org/about/impact

Sources: Brandeis University: Cross-Program Evaluation of FIRST Tech Challenge and FIRST Robotics Competition (2011); Evaluation of the 2012-13 FIRST LEGO League Program (2013); and More than Robots: Evaluation of FIRST Robotics Competition Participant and Institutional Impacts (2005); FIRST, 2015 Survey of FIRST Robotics Competition and FIRST Tech Challenge Alumni

Founder's & Co-Chairs' Letter



Dean Kamen, *Founder*

Sheri McCoy, *Co-Chair, Board of Directors*

Bob Tuttle, *Co-Chair, Board of Directors*

To the uninitiated, *FIRST* may seem like kids just having fun with robots. To those of us devoting more than 25 years to this work, and to our millions of past and present participants, reality is quite the opposite. *FIRST* is so much *More Than Robots*SM.

Through the generosity of hundreds of thousands of Volunteers, Mentors, and Sponsors, *FIRST* offers young people the world over the opportunity to explore, learn, work as a cohesive team, take on and solve incredible challenges, and develop personal and professional skills that put them on paths to a successful adult life. Robots and research involving science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) are what they do. Tomorrow's leaders are what they become.

Moving into our second quarter-century, we can proudly look back to see how far we have come since our humble, 28-team beginning in 1989. In 2015, we served more than 39,000 teams composed of approximately 360,000 kids, ages 6 through 18, in over 80 countries. Along their journey, incredible adults gave more than 13 million hours, last year alone, of their precious time to guide and support them, filling over 190,000 Volunteer roles. These astounding numbers continue to grow, in part because we can cite the concrete impact our Programs have on our students: more than 75 percent of *FIRST* Alumni are studying for or working in STEM careers, and female *FIRST* participants are four times more likely to study STEM subjects.* We invite you to be inspired at www.firstinspires.org/about/impact.

If we are to continue our growth trajectory, reaching out to ever more students in need of inspiration, 21st-century work skills, and life-changing discovery — including those in underrepresented and underserved populations — we need your help. What can you do? Commit your organization's resources and people. Sponsor one or more teams. On a personal level, become a Mentor, raise funds, or volunteer in your community. Every contribution counts and every volunteer hour is cherished.

We cannot adequately thank our Strategic Partners, Founding Sponsors, Sponsors, Mentors, Volunteers, participating School and Program Administrators, Parents, and Teachers. These inspirational people and organizations selflessly offer their experience, knowledge, time, and resources in the most creative ways. We salute you!

Kids who dream big, who like to tinker, who need a boost in self-confidence, who yearn for an inclusive, non-judgmental environment to discover their own talents, who want a chance to make something of themselves, need all of us working together. We believe the opportunities offered by *FIRST* should be accessible to every student and belong in every school. Will you join with us to make that dream come true?

*Sources: *FIRST*, 2011, Survey of *FIRST* Alumni; Brandeis University, *More than Robots: Evaluation of FIRST Robotics Competition Participant and Institutional Impacts* (2005)



Donald E. Bossi, President

President’s Letter

When I hear the phrase “*More Than Robots*,” I start thinking about all the ways that *FIRST* is “more.”

More accessibility Regardless of social or economic circumstances, we offer learning and discovery opportunities to youth everywhere, with a special emphasis to include girls and youth from diverse backgrounds.

More connections *FIRST* participants, young and old alike, build friendships, as well as social and professional networks, that enhance their lives now and provide life-changing influences and direction into the future.

More growth Despite our significant reach, our quest is to provide even more opportunities to become involved in *FIRST* as a student, Mentor, Sponsor, or Volunteer. Expanding access to our programs in every way possible is our top priority.

More preparedness Today’s students need sophisticated education that includes more than just codified knowledge. They need 21st century workforce skills. We’re proud to be a leader in developing collaborative creative competence in our young people, giving them a better chance for a productive and successful future.

FIRST touches more people in more ways than any other program I know — kids, who find a safe, fun place where they can develop and belong; students, whose lives are changed because they discovered new opportunities; Mentors, whose lives are enriched by working with engaged youth; grateful parents, whose children earn college scholarship support.

In 2015, we had many more milestones to celebrate, among them the formation of new Strategic Alliances with the American Society for Engineering Education, The Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, and the National Center for Women & Information Technology. Our *FIRST* Scholarships program grew to over \$22 million in awards made available by nearly 200 Scholarship Providers in the U.S., Australia, Canada, and Mexico. We’ve launched an initiative that will further embed inclusion within the *FIRST* organization and community and improve the diversity of program participants.

In addition, we continue to learn more about the impact of our programs on participants. Findings from the second year of a longitudinal study conducted by Brandeis University* show that *FIRST* has positive impacts on team members’ interest, knowledge, and identity in STEM, as well as their interest in STEM careers. While both boys and girls benefit from participation in *FIRST*, the positive impact on STEM outcomes is even greater for girls. These results support our belief that *FIRST* is playing a critical role in inspiring the next generation of scientists and engineers.

I gratefully thank everyone who has given their time, talent, resources, and support to help us reach even more deserving kids than we ever thought possible. I challenge us all to recommit our efforts to reach out to the millions more who have yet to experience the *FIRST* opportunity.

* Full report: www.firstinspires.org/about/impact



A “first” for *FIRST*: *FIRST* Tech Challenge introduced a new, game-changing, **mobile technology platform** for their robot control.

FIRST is honored to welcome three long-time supporters as new **Strategic Partners**: Bechtel Corporation, The Dow Chemical Company, and Qualcomm Incorporated. Thank you!



Outstanding *FIRST* students were recognized at the **White House Science Fair**: *FIRST* Robotics Competition Team 842 “Falcon Robotics” and Team 5594 “Team Crew”; Girl Scout troop *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. Team “Supergirls.”



The annual **FIRST LEGO League Global Innovation Award** presented by XPRIZE® celebrated its fifth anniversary; semi-finalists presented at the *FIRST* Championship.



2015 *FIRST* Championship, presented by Qualcomm, expanded to multiple St. Louis venues, drew 41,000+ attendees (over 900 teams), and hosted the inaugural **FIRST Innovation Faire**, featuring tech demos, hands-on activities, giveaways, and fun for all ages.



SlingShot, a Paul Lazarus documentary, profiles Dean Kamen’s quest to bring clean water to the planet, and his devotion to introducing students to the life-altering career possibilities of science and technology through *FIRST*.

Spare Parts, a movie starring Jamie Lee Curtis, George Lopez, Carlos PenaVega, and Marisa Tomei, chronicles *FIRST* students’ famous underdog robotic victory against college teams and features robots built by real *FIRST* teams.



PROGRESSION OF PROGRAMS

A progression of four programs for ages 6 to 18; gets young people involved early, developing skills and building confidence, keeping them engaged through high school.

FIRST ROBOTICS COMPETITION

Ages 14-18 (Grades 9-12)

Mentored by professional engineers, teams compete with 120-pound robots of their own design in this varsity *Sport for the Mind*™, combining the excitement of sport with the rigors of science and technology.

Robotics

Learn from the pros

Game Play

Scholarships

FIRST TECH CHALLENGE

Ages 12-18 (Grades 7-12)

Students learn to think like engineers and develop an engineering notebook to document their progress. Teams develop strategies, build robots from a reusable kit of parts, and compete head to head.

Robotics

Engineering Notebook

Game Play

Scholarships

FIRST LEGO LEAGUE

Ages 9-16* (Grades 4-8)
*Ages vary by country

Guided by the program’s Core Values, teams build LEGO®-based autonomous robots and develop research projects based on a real-world Challenge that changes annually.

Robotics

LEGO®

Game Play

Research

FIRST LEGO LEAGUE JR.

Ages 6-9 (Grades K-3)

Teams explore today’s scientific challenges, then present their research using a LEGO® model with motorized parts and a *Show Me* poster.

LEGO®

Simple Machines

Research

Presentations

Yohance Salimu

At the 2015 Showcase Presentation during the *FIRST* Championship in St. Louis, Mentor Tim Wright introduced a young man from an impoverished Los Angeles neighborhood, who rose to overcome great odds as “a born leader.” *FIRST* Alum Yohance Salimu is so much more than a leader. He is an inspiration to all.

Currently a Cadet 1st Class at the U.S. Air Force Academy, Yohance had it tougher than so many other kids in South LA’s Crenshaw High School. “My father had a lots and lots of kids, and he had health issues and my mother had mental health issues, so my brother and I became homeless.”

That’s when Tim and teacher, Urban Reyes, invited Yohance to join their *FIRST* Robotics Competition team. “Tim even offered me a place to stay at night and food when I was hungry.”

Yohance excelled on the team, becoming Captain. Tim offered him an internship at Aerospace Corporation where he worked. Yohance embraced the opportunity, using his earnings to pull his family out of a homeless shelter and onto their feet.



“*FIRST* helped develop my leadership skills, and the experience helped me gain admission to the Air Force Academy. I am the man I am today thanks to Tim Wright, Urban Reyes, and *FIRST*. I one day hope to mentor kids from my community.”

Yohance Salimu

FANTASTIC FACTS

1989

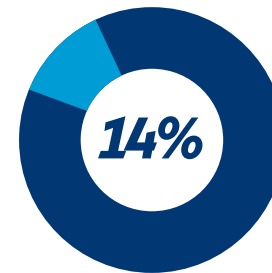
Year *FIRST* is founded to excite young people about science and technology

28

Number of teams competing in the inaugural 1992 *FIRST* season

Sport for the Mind™

The answer to “What’s *FIRST*?”



Growth in number of *FIRST* teams over 2014



50 U.S. States / 80+ Countries

A growing global phenomenon

Coopertition®

“Competing teams help and cooperate with each other” (a *FIRST* core value)

\$22 million+

Scholarship funds available

Gracious Professionalism®

“Respect for others, being a good sport, sharing what you’ve learned” (another *FIRST* core value)



Opportunities for a meaningful experience

33,000+

Robots built in 2015 alone

39,000+

Number of teams competing in 2015 *FIRST* season

190,000+

Mentor/Coach/Volunteer roles filled

359,000+

Worldwide youth participants (ages 6 to 18)

13,000,000+

Annual Volunteer hours (and counting)



The Challenge

Students turned into detectives and researchers to gather information about how and where learning happens, then built LEGO® models and created *Show Me* posters depicting their journey of discovery

“To see these young kids so interested in helping at this level was amazing.”

JULIE WEISS, Coach
“Determined Dolphins”

Team Growth

5,653



Accomplishments

Approximately 34,000 6-9 year-olds participated on 5,653 teams in 23 countries, celebrating curiosity, imagination, discovery, and teamwork

Competitions

Nearly 250 regional Expos; Junior *FIRST* LEGO League World Festival Expo in St. Louis

Noteworthy

The Junior *FIRST* LEGO League World Festival Expo was extended to three days, and grew significantly to include 60 teams from five countries



More Than Learning:

FIRST LEGO League Jr. Team 2814

“Determined Dolphins”

Castle Pines, Colorado

Researched

the plight of dolphins caught and often injured in fishing nets, including Winter, a dolphin with a prosthetic tail, featured in the movie *Dolphin Tale*

Developed

ideas for prostheses to help dolphins and other injured animals

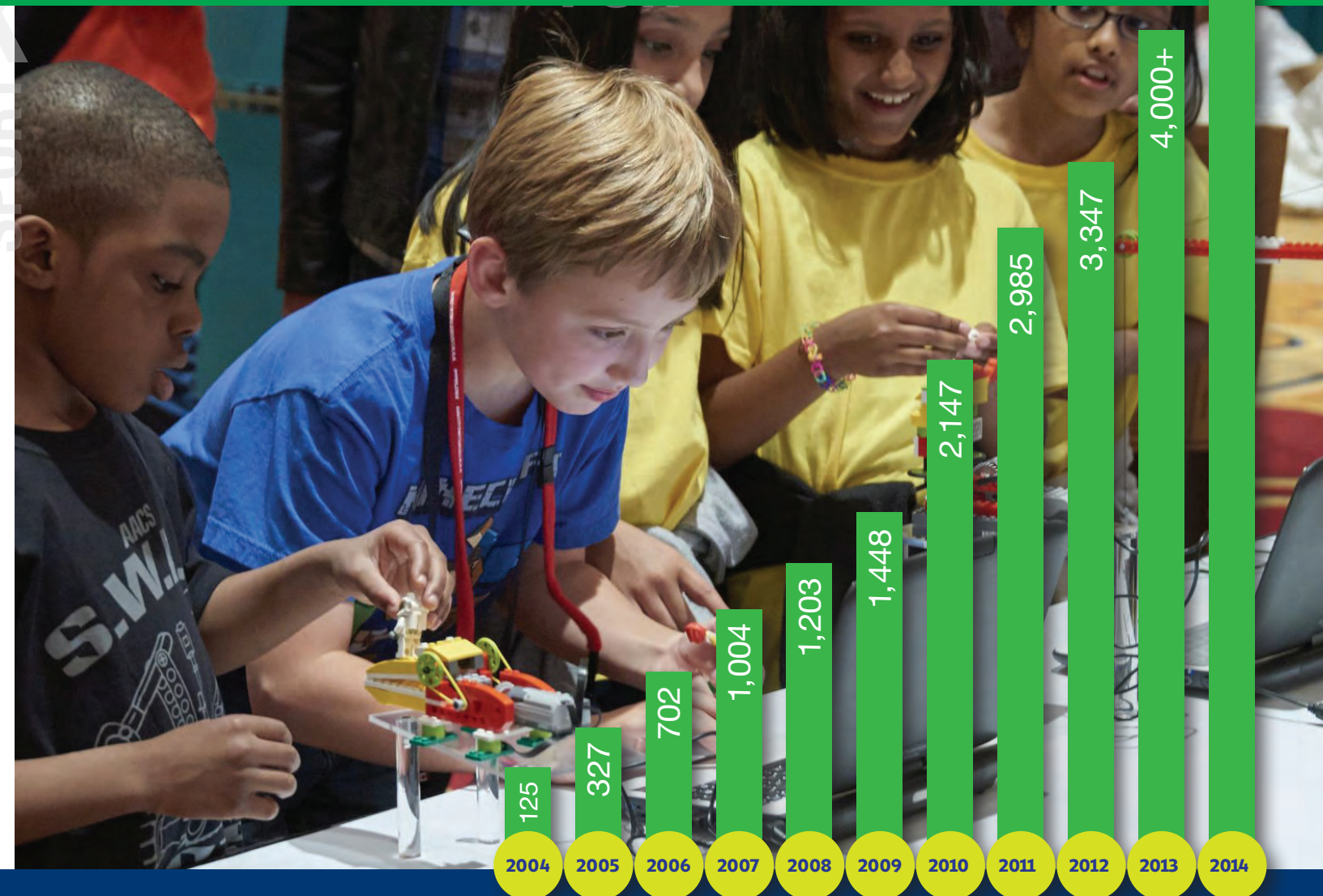
Contributed

their own money to help fund a year’s worth a special care for Winter at the Clearwater Marine Aquarium (FL)



Read the Determined Dolphins’ full profile at

www.firstinspires.org/determined-dolphins



*The Junior *FIRST* LEGO League (Jr.FLL) program was renamed *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. in November, 2015.



Grades 4-8 (ages 9 to 16)

The Challenge

Teams researched and shared their innovative solutions to improve the learning experience, and used a team-designed autonomous robot, programmed with LEGO® MINDSTORMS®, to complete “missions” representing how we gather knowledge and skills

“It’s truly rewarding when you finally see your team embrace everything you’ve taught them, then turn around and teach it to other students.”

CHRISTINE TORRE, Coach

“The Braille Boys & Annie”

Team Growth



Accomplishments

Approximately 210,000 9-16 year-olds* on 26,044 teams from over 80 countries participated in this season’s Challenge

*Ages vary by country

Competitions

1,124 Qualifying Tournaments,
145 Championship Tournaments,
4 Open Championships;
FIRST LEGO League World Festival in St. Louis

Noteworthy

The 2014-2015 FLL WORLD CLASSSM season marked the fifth anniversary of the *FIRST LEGO League Global Innovation Award*, presented by XPRIZE®, and introduced live judging for 20 semi-finalist teams at the *FIRST Championship*



More Than Determined:

FIRST LEGO League Team 4678
“The Braille Boys & Annie”

Cumming, Georgia



Read The Braille Boys & Annie’s full profile at

www.firstinspires.org/braille-boys-and-annie



Researched

the effectiveness of Braille tools through the National Federation of the Blind; discovered that 90 percent of blind children never learn Braille

Invented

Insta-Braille®, a system that automatically “speaks” a letter, number, or word when a Braille symbol is touched, allowing a visually impaired person to learn Braille without the help of a sighted person

Honored

as one of two runners-up in the *FIRST LEGO League Global Innovation Award* presented by XPRIZE®; used prize money to start a *FIRST LEGO League* team with visually impaired students



Grades 7-12 (ages 12 to 18)

The Challenge

Teams designed, programmed, and operated robots to release a cascade of rolling, bouncing balls, score points dropping the balls into rolling tubes, and transport the tubes up a ramp to a scoring platform — all while racing against the clock!

“When these FIRST kids from around the world work together to solve a problem, they are unstoppable.”

SHARON JOHNSON, Coach

“Schrödinger’s Hat”

Team Growth



Accomplishments

Approximately 45,000 participants (ages 12-18, grades 7-12) on 4,445 teams from 16 countries; eligible for over \$16 million in college scholarships

Competitions

388 Meets, League Championships, and Qualifying Tournaments; 63 Championship Tournaments; 4 Super-Regional Championship Tournaments; FIRST Tech Challenge World Championship in St. Louis

Noteworthy

FIRST Tech Challenge announced the new Android robotics platform to be used in the 2015-2016 season. Now teams will have the power of Qualcomm® Snapdragon™ technology and add “App Developer” to their skill sets



More Than Local:

FIRST Tech Challenge Team 3595
“Schrödinger’s Hat”
Fairbanks, Alaska



Read Schrödinger’s Hat’s
full profile at

www.firstinspires.org/schrodingers-hat

Achieved top honors at recent FIRST Championships, including Inspire Award (2015), Rockwell Collins Innovate Award and Promote Award (2014)

Selected by FIRST to help compile an in-depth wiring guide to assist other teams with the technical aspects of outfitting a robot, following an impressive conference presentation

Earned widespread recognition as FIRST ambassadors in Alaska and beyond; mentored elementary students; sponsored FIRST LEGO League events; fostered connections with many diverse teams at the Asia Pacific Invitational in Sydney, Australia; enthusiastically embraced the FIRST “culture of opportunity”



FIRST ROBOTICS COMPETITION

Grades 9-12 (ages 14 to 18)

The Challenge

Competing Alliances guided team-designed robots to stack Totes on Scoring Platforms, cap those stacks with Recycling Containers, and properly dispose of Litter (pool noodles). All game pieces were reusable or recyclable at the end of the season.

"We call it SHAREing, which means Showing How Awesome a Robotics Education can be."

DARRYL NEWHOUSE, Mentor
"The Wolverines"

**Team
Growth**



Accomplishments

Approximately 72,500 high-school students on 2,900 teams from 19 countries; eligible for over \$22 million in college scholarships

Competitions

48 District Events; 5 State/ District Championships, 56 Regional Events; *FIRST* Robotics Competition Championship in St. Louis

Noteworthy

Inaugural *FIRST* Robotics Competition Australia Regional Event held in Sydney; *FIRST* Robotics Competition Championship expanded from 400 to 600 teams, and from 4 to 8 sub-divisions

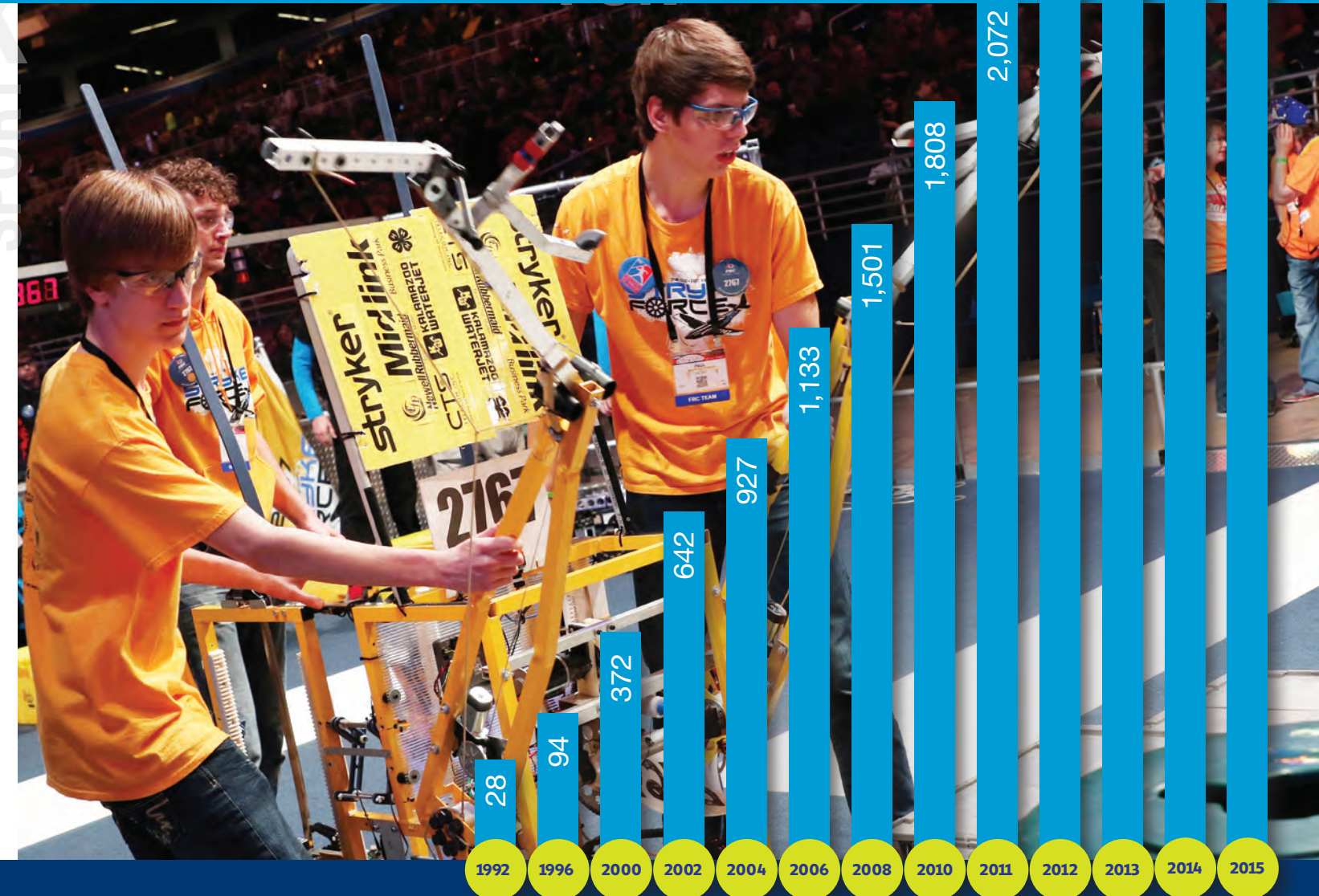


More Than Self:

FIRST Robotics Competition Team 597
"The Wolverines"
South Los Angeles, California



Read the Wolverine's
full profile at
www.firstinspires.org/wolverines



Contributed over 6,000 hours of community service (tutoring, volunteering, etc.) annually to help make a difference in their underserved community of South Los Angeles

Established a partnership with School in a Bottle to help advance technology and construct environmentally-friendly schools for children in Guatemala

Awarded the prestigious Chairman's Award at the 2015 *FIRST* Championship for being leaders in transforming their community and spreading their passion for science and technology



■ **Member of the *FIRST* Board of Directors**
▲ **Member of the *FIRST* Executive Advisory Board**
● ***FIRST* Honorary Director**
※ ***FIRST* Senior Advisor**
♦ **Matching Gift**

2014-2015 *FIRST* Contributors
Corporations and Corporate Foundations

\$1,000,000+

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
Qualcomm Incorporated
United Technologies Corporation (UTC)

\$250,000 - \$999,999

3M Company
Abbott Fund
BAE Systems
Baxter International, Inc.
Bechtel Group Foundation
Bloomberg L.P.
The Boeing Company
Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc.
BOSCH Community Foundation
Boston Scientific Corporation
Caterpillar Foundation
Caterpillar, Inc.
Center for Energy Workforce Development (CEWD)
The Coca-Cola Company
Comcast NBCUniversal
Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc.
Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)
The Dow Chemical Company
Energizer Holdings, Inc.
FedEx Corporation
Ford Motor Company
General Electric Company (GE)
General Motors Company
Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.
Google.org
The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust
John Deere
Johnson & Johnson
LEGO A/S
Leidos, Inc.
The Medtronic Foundation
Monsanto Company
Motorola Solutions Foundation
National Defense Education Program (NDEP)
NI
Novelis
NRG Energy, Inc.
Pentair Foundation
Pershing Square Foundation
PTC, Inc.

Rackspace Hosting
Rockwell Automation, Inc.
Rockwell Collins, Inc.
TE Connectivity
Two Sigma Investments, LLC
United Therapeutics Corporation
U.S. Air Force

Up to \$249,999

100 Black Men of Atlanta Inc.
1E Inc.
3Dconnexion
AAlderink Electric
AAON, Inc.
AB♦
Abacus Business Solutions
ABB Inc.
Abbott Laboratories
Accenture
Advanced Technology Services, Inc.
AdvanceTEC, LLC
a.i. Solutions
AKIMEKA
Alabama 4-H Club Foundation
Albany Tech Foundation, Inc.
Albany Technical College
Alcoa, Inc.
Alexander & Associates
Alliant Techsystems Inc. Employee Citizenship Fund♦
Allied Automation
AmazonSmile Foundation
American Acrylic
American Energy Partners
American Red Cross
American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)
Amgen Foundation, Inc.
Amgen, Inc.
Amoskeag Terrace in memory of Claire C. Toohey
Analog Devices, Inc. (ADI)
Anonymous
Applied Materials, Inc.
Archer Racing Accessories
Ariel Investment Company
Arizona Bank & Trust
Arkansas Space Grant Consortium
Arkansas State Fairgrounds
Arrowhead Concrete Works, Inc.
ASCE Southern Colorado Branch
Association for Advancing Automation
AT&T, Inc.
AT&T United Way Employee Giving Campaign
ATI Specialty Alloys and Components
Atmos Energy
Automatic Data Processing, Inc.♦
Avnet

Baltimore Public Schools
Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Inc.♦
Barnet Associates LLC
Barr Engineering
Bausch & Lomb Incorporated
BCHC Child Care
Beckman Coulter Foundation
Belden Inc.
BELIMO Air Controls
Best Buy Children's Foundation
Best Buy Co., Inc.
BEST Robotics
BFK Foundation, Inc.
Bilim Kahramanlari
Bloomin' Brands, Inc.
Blue Medora LLC
Bob Crout Painting
Boca Bearing Company
The Boeing Company♦
BOOC
Boone County Education Foundation
Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc.♦
BOSCH
Boston Consulting Group in honor of Jim Heppelmann▲
Bottle Rocket LLC
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Sacramento
Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay
BP Corporation North America, Inc.
Bradley University
Bridge Northeast FL
Bright Funds Foundation
Brighthouse Networks
Butler Tool & Die, Inc.
Bylites
CACI, Inc.
California Community Foundation/Disney Ears to You Grant per Concetta Maratta
California Community Foundation/Disney Ears to You Grant per Brendan Radabaugh
California Community Foundation/Disney Ears to You Grant per Daniel Richardson
California Community Foundation/Disney Ears to You Grant per Micheal Sigmund
California Community Foundation/Disney Ears to You Grant per Brian Walters
California State University Dominguez Hills Foundation
California University of Pennsylvania
Canal Park Business Association (CPBA)
Candor PR
Cannon Air Force Base
Capitol Technology University
Carla Vista Sober Living LLC
Carnegie Mellon University
Caterpillar Global Mining, LLC
Caterpillar, Inc. - Pittsburgh
CenterPoint Energy

Central New York Community Foundations, Inc.
CETYS Universidad Baja California
C.H. Robinson Worldwide
Cherokee Nation
Chesapeake Energy Corporation
Chesapeake Technology International
The Chickasaw Nation
CIGNA Foundation♦
Circuit Assembly & Design
Cirrus Aircraft
Cisco Foundation♦
Cisco Foundation in honor of Mark Clifton & Christopher M. Myers
Cisco Systems, Inc.
Citizens Equity First Credit Union (CEFCU)
Cleveland County 4-H Foundations, Inc.
Cleveland Indians
Cochise Robotics Association
Colegato Foundation
Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region
Community Foundation of Greater Chattanooga, Inc.
Community Foundation of Southwest Washington
Community Foundation of West Chester/ Liberty
Community Health Charities of North Carolina
Community Management Assistance Corporation
Community Robotics Learning Foundation
Community Service Council of Greater Tulsa
Computer System Designers
ConocoPhillips Company
Cooper Memorial Library Association Inc.
Corning Incorporated
County of Monroe Industrial Development Agency
Cox Communications
CPS Energy
Credit Suisse (USA), Inc.
CSC Charitable Foundation
cse software, inc.
CUNY Hunter College
CUSD (Chandler Unified School District)
Custom Courier Solutions
Custom House ULC Forex
D&J Tech Service LLC
Dana Holding Corporation
DataNet Systems
DC Public Schools
Decatur Education Foundation
Deep Space Systems Inc.
Deer Creek Schools Foundation
DEKA Foundation
Dell Giving♦
Dell, Inc.
Delphi Automotive PLC
Delphi Foundation



In 2015, as part of the *FIRST* Scholarship Program, nearly 200 Scholarship Providers made available over \$22 million in scholarship opportunities to *FIRST* Robotics Competition team members. *FIRST* Tech Challenge participants were eligible for \$16 million of these funds.

The majority of *FIRST* scholarships are made available by colleges or universities for enrollment at their campuses; the remainder is made available by corporations, associations, or foundations for use at a selection of schools. The 2015 *FIRST* Scholarships are listed on pages 33-34.

To learn more about the *FIRST* Scholarship Program, or to make *FIRST* Scholarships available from your institution, please visit:

www.firstinspires.org/scholarships

Demand Electric, Inc.
Denso Manufacturing Tennessee, Inc.
Deuce Development Corporation
Devon Energy Corporation
Digi-Key Corporation
Discovery Health Sciences Foundation
Disney Worldwide Services, Inc.
Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc.
DonorsChoose.org
Dot Foods, Inc.
Dr. James A. Forrest Career & Technology Center
DT-New Orleans Airport
Duke Energy
Duluth Entertainment and Conference Center
Dunlap Coddling P.C.
Dura Automotive Systems
E.J. Harrison & Sons
East Windsor Dental Arts
Eastman Chemical Company
Eaton Computer Services
Eaton Corporation
Eco Team Inc.
Ecolab Foundation
Edgewater Resort & Waterpark
Edward Jones Foundation
EFC Systems
Electronic Arts, Inc.
Elemental Technologies
Embedded Planet
Emerson Charitable Trust
Employees Charity Organization (ECHO) of Northrop Grumman - Rodney Qualls
Energenecs, Inc.
enktesis, LLC
Environmental Tectonics Corporation
Envision Excellence in STEM Education Inc.
EOT 4-H Federation
ESL
Essentia Health
Delphi Automotive PLC
Delphi Foundation

ev3 Inc.
Eversource Energy Foundation
Everyone Givvs, Inc.
Excel Fund
Exelon Dollars for Doers♦
Express Employment Professionals
ExxonMobil Corporation
ExxonMobil Foundation♦
FEI Company
Felta Multi-Media Inc.
Fidelity Investments
FIRST Robotics Competition Team 5269
"Sonic Sci-borgs"
First Solar Company
First Tech Credit Union
Florida High Tech Corridor - UCF
Florida High Tech Corridor - USF
Florida Power & Light Company
Florida Robotics Education, Inc.
Fort Wayne Metals
Foster, Murphy, Altman & Nickel in memory of Claire C. Toohey
Foundation for East Baton Rouge School System
Franklin County 4-H Foundation
Freestyle
FTI Consulting, Inc.
Fulcrum IT Services LLC
Fusion Jeunesse/Youth Fusion
Future Seekers Inc.
General Dynamics
General Dynamics Advanced Information Systems
General Electric Company (GE)
General Electric Energy (Atlanta)
General Electric Healthcare
General Electric Oil & Gas
General Electric Power & Water
General Electric Power Systems
General Electric Transportation
General Mills Foundation

Genesis Attachments
Genesis Automation
Georg Fischer Central Plastics, LLC
George Mason University
Georgia Power Co. (A Southern Co.)
Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri
Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta
GitHub
The Gleason Works
Global Educational Excellence
Global Foundries
Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.♦
Golub Foundation (Pricechopper)
Google.org Matching Gifts Program♦
GPA International Travel Services Inc.
The GRACO Foundation
Grand Canyon University
Grandma's Adventure Zone
Granite Bench Charitable Foundation
Grant County 4-H Adult Leader's Association
Grant Thornton LLP
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***FIRST Vice Chair John E. Abele Receives the
FIRST Founder's Award***



Technological visionary and philanthropist, John E. Abele, is the recipient of the 2015 Founder's Award for exceptional service in advancing the ideals and mission of *FIRST*.

A member of the *FIRST* Board of Directors since 1997 and current Vice Chair, Abele provides a fresh perspective and insightful counsel to help *FIRST* grow and become a recognizable cultural fixture. His contributions, both personally and through his enterprises — the Argosy Foundation, *FIRST* Founding Sponsor Boston Scientific Corporation, and the Kingbridge Centre — tie in with his dedication to science literacy for children, education, and the process by which new technology is invented, developed, and introduced to society.

Abele believes that participation in *FIRST* is an opportunity, a privilege, and a responsibility. The team grants and Fundraising Kit he has enabled help level the playing field so teams can participate that might not have been able to otherwise, while helping teams foster independence and self-sufficiency. His support spans the *FIRST* Progression of Programs, and beyond, with the funding of scholarships.

Abele relentlessly focuses on preserving *FIRST* values and promoting the concept that *FIRST* is about much *More Than Robots*SM. “It’s not just STEM. It’s not just *Gracious Professionalism*[®]. It’s the integration of all of that,” says Abele.

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2015 Woodie Flowers Award Winner Puts Students FIRST

FIRST Robotics Competition Mentor, Mark Lawrence, is the recipient of the 2015 Woodie Flowers Award, founded by Dr. William P. Murphy Jr. to recognize an outstanding engineer or teacher who best demonstrates excellence in teaching science, math, and creative design.

Lawrence joined FIRST in 2005 as a founding Mentor of Team 1816 “The Green Machine” of Edina, Minnesota, and is known for always putting students first. He tirelessly devotes his time to mentoring students, reads their emails before those of adult Mentors or Volunteers, and has helped countless young people — not only on Team 1816 — pursue their passions and plan their career paths.



Not content until all students across Minnesota have access to FIRST, Lawrence founded the Minnesota Regional Planning Committee, fueling exponential growth and ensuring over 56 percent of Minnesota high-school students now have the opportunity to participate in the FIRST Robotics Competition. He led the charge to make the program a state-sanctioned varsity sport, with the same recognition as football and hockey, and works with other states to follow suit.

Lawrence pushes students and Mentors to achieve excellence and raises his expectations once they are met. The students call Lawrence “our most fervent and enthusiastic cheerleader. We can’t wait to see where he takes us in the future.”

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The FIRST LEGO League Global Innovation Award presented by XPRIZE® Celebrated 5 Years

This award is designed to encourage and assist *FIRST* LEGO League teams to further develop their innovative solutions to real-world problems. For the first time this year, 20 Semi-Finalist teams presented their solutions to judges in person during the *FIRST* Championship in St. Louis. All teams were then inducted as Global Innovation Ambassadors, promising to continue their journey of innovation, share with their communities, and keep their spark of innovation lit.



The winner and two runners up were honored at a ceremony at the United States Patent and Trademark office in June, 2015.

First Place winners for the FIRST LEGO League WORLD CLASS™ season
“Team Storm” of Terre Haute, Indiana

Invention:

The ROY G. BIV Math System is an app designed to improve the way children challenged with dyslexia learn new math concepts. This system keeps digits in place when math is performed, allowing students to easily spot flipped digits out of a rainbow color order.

The FIRST Future Innovator Award sponsored by the Abbott Fund

The *FIRST* Future Innovator Award launched this year with a new timeframe, allowing participation by more *FIRST* Tech Challenge and *FIRST* Robotics Competition teams in their off seasons. Through the invention of a unique solution, this award honors creativity and problem-solving. New this year is

having teams apply their inventing skills to one of three chosen National Academy of Engineering’s Grand Challenges — access to clean water, advancing health informatics, or engineering the tools of scientific discovery.



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Oklahoma
JJ Francais
Craig Shreve
Oklahoma Science and Engineering
Foundation (OKSEF)

Oregon
Cathy Swider
Bruce Schafer
Oregon Robotics Tournament and Outreach
Program

Pennsylvania – Southeast
Peter Randall
Dan Ueda
University of Pennsylvania

Rhode Island
Rebekah Gendron
Rhode Island School of the Future

South Carolina
Mary Graves
SC FIRST LEGO League and Robotics
Education, Inc.

Texas – Alamo
Melody Crabb
Northwest Vista College

Texas – Central
Noah Bickford
Bethany Paul
Skillpoint Alliance

Texas – North
Joe Cestari
DFW Technology and Education Council

Texas – South
Karen Cohen
The University of Houston – CORE

Texas – Southwest
Gabby Gandara
Virgilio Gonzalez
University of Texas at El Paso

Utah
Carolyn Parker
Nate Friedman
Youth Education
University of Utah

Virginia/District of Columbia
Nick Swayne
Dustin Skelton
James Madison University

Washington
Lindy Baker
Susan Martucci
Washington *FIRST* Robotics

West Virginia
Todd Ensign
NASA IV & V Educator Resource Center

Wisconsin
Lisa Bartig
BadgerBOTS

Wyoming
Cathy Bisiar
Natrona County School District

**2014-2015
FIRST LEGO LEAGUE
Global Partners**

The following key organizations and Volunteers in the field organize the FIRST LEGO League Program in their respective regions.

Argentina

Martin Bergada
Educación Tecnológica S.A.

Australia

Luan Heimlich
Macquarie University

Austria

Stefanie Hauffe
Franzi Ronneburger
HANDS on TECHNOLOGY e.V.

Belgium

Tamara Derksen
Mark Franken
Stichting Techniekpromotie

Brazil

Cristina Elsner de Faria
Barbara Cambraia Trajano
SESI – Brazilian Social Services of Industry – National Department

Bulgaria

Kostas Vasileiou
EduACT

Canada

Alberta
Walter Kowalchyk
FIRST LEGO League Alberta Youth Robotics Society

Newfoundland/Labrador
Clarence Button
Mount Pearl

Nova Scotia
Gary Walsh
Acadia University

Ontario
David Ellis
FIRST LEGO League Ontario

Quebec
Rachid Abiza
Brault & Bouthillier

Chile

Kirstin Engemann
Fundación SparkTalents

China

Eugene Zhang
Semia Limited

Colombia

Mónica Maria Sánchez Colorado
Fundación Global Arte Cienca y Tecnología

Cyprus

Kostas Vasileiou
EduACT

Czech Republic

Stefanie Hauffe
Franzi Ronneburger
HANDS on TECHNOLOGY e.V.

Denmark

Per-Arild Konradsen
Nina Sivertsen
FIRST Scandinavia

Dominican Republic

Abraham Dauhajre
Fundación para el Desarrollo de las Ciencias y Tecnología

Egypt

Ayman El Kabbany
Robotics, Technology and Human Resources Development Association

Estonia

Heilo Altin
MTÜ Robotika

Faroe Islands

Per-Arild Konradsen
Nina Sivertsen
FIRST Scandinavia

France

Bernard Thiery
Erwan Gallee
Association MEDIO Sciences Environnement

Germany

Stefanie Hauffe
Franzi Ronneburger
HANDS on TECHNOLOGY e.V.

Greece

Kostas Vasileiou
EduACT

Haiti

Odule Augustin
FEDUDEVH

Hong Kong

Eugene Zhang
Semia Limited
The Hong Kong Youth Federation

Hungary

Stefanie Hauffe
Franzi Ronneburger
HANDS on TECHNOLOGY e.V.

Iceland

Birgir Urbancic Ásgeirsson
Gudrun Bachmann
FIRST LEGO League á Íslandi

India

Sudhanshu Sharma
India STEM Foundation

Indonesia

Bambang Rusli
Mikrobot

Ireland

Gareth James
Richard Pering
The Institution of Engineering and Technology

Israel

Alisha MacIntyre
Yaarit Levy
FIRST Israel

Italy

Franco Finotti
Fondazione Museo Civico di Rovereto

Japan

Hideki Kamoshida
FIRST Japan

Jordan

Ismail Yasein Hasan
King Hussein Foundation

Republic of Korea

Professor Kyoung-Mihn Do
Eric Yongwoo Lee
FEST (Feeling and Enjoying Science & Technology Organization)

Kuwait

Ismail Yasein Hasan
King Hussein Foundation

Latvia

Heilo Altin
MTÜ Robotika

Lebanon

Ghazi Mtaweh
Cedars Cultural School-Education and Technology Center

Lithuania

Arturas Gaulia
Ieva Jonatyte
Robotikos Akademija

Malaysia

KingHui Law
Sasbadi Sdn Bhd

Mexico

Bárbara Gómez de Navarro
Explora, Descubre Y Crea, AC

Moldova

Heilo Altin
MTÜ Robotika

Montenegro

Prof. Srdjan Kadic
Young Inventors of Montenegro

The Netherlands

Tamara Derksen
Mark Franken
Stichting Techniekpromotie

New Zealand

Jason Kyle
Kiwi *FIRST*

Nigeria

Olajide Ademola Ajayi
CODERINA

Norway

Per-Arild Konradsen
Nina Sivertsen
FIRST Scandinavia

Pakistan

Rehan Ahmad
Qamar Iqbal
STARfALL (Science and Technology Awareness and Recognition for All)

Palestine

Ismail Yasein Hasan
King Hussein Foundation

Peru

Luis Linares
Wernher Von Braun IEP SA

Philippines

Mylene Abiva
FELTA Multi-Media, Inc.

Poland

Stefanie Hauffe
Franzi Ronneburger
HANDS on TECHNOLOGY e.V.

Portugal

Noah Revoy
Evoluir21

Qatar

Ismail Yasein Hasan
King Hussein Foundation

Russia

Aleksei Kornilov
Maxim Petrov
Volnoe Delo Foundation

Serbia

Andrej Bergant
Natalija Premuzić
Zavod Super Glavce

Singapore

Hozefa Aziz Singapore Wala
Duck Learning

Slovakia

Stefanie Hauffe
Franzi Ronneburger
HANDS on TECHNOLOGY e.V.

Slovenia

Andrej Bergant
Natalija Premuzic
Zavod Super Glavce

South Africa

Johannes de Vries
Tshwane University of Technology

Spain

Ricard Huguet
Fundación Scientia

Sweden

Per-Arild Konradsen
Nina Sivertsen
FIRST Scandinavia

Switzerland

Stefanie Hauffe
Franzi Ronneburger
HANDS on TECHNOLOGY e.V.

Taiwan

Johnson Jan
K Kingdom Inc.

Thailand

Torsak Chantaravisoot
Gammaco (Thailand) Co. Ltd.

Turkey

Fatma Habip
Davut Habip
Bilim Kahramanlari Dernegi

Ukraine

Oksana Stoyetskaya
Prolego Ltd.

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Gareth James
Richard Pering
The Institution of Engineering and Technology

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Adventist Robotics League
Mel Wade

Alabama
Dana Hobbs
Alabama *FIRST* LEGO League

Alaska
Rebecca Parks
Juneau Economic Development Council

Arizona
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Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering
Arizona State University

Arkansas
Amber Williamson
Science and Technology Group, Inc.

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Clovis Unified School District

California – Los Angeles
Tony Ayad
Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles

California – Northern
Mark Edelman
Jill Wilker
Playing @ Learning

California – Southern
Lynn Crockett
LEGOLAND®

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Ross Parrent
Colorado Robotics, Excelling at Science and Technology Inc.

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Central Connecticut State University

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Eric Cheek
Delaware State University

Florida
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Storm Robinson
Julie Sonnenberg-Klein
Georgia Institute of Technology

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Blaine Kashiwaeda
Hawaii *FIRST*® LEGO® League

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William Boyd
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Diane Michalczuk
INSciTE Illinois

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Technology and Computer Science
Indiana University –
Purdue University, Fort Wayne

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College of Engineering, Iowa State University

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Mid America Air Museum

Kansas City Region
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Curators, University of Missouri

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Lisa Blair
Greenbush, Southeast Kansas Education Service Center

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Northern Kentucky University

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Scot Marshall
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(Building Louisiana Science and Technology)

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Maine Robotics

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& Information Technology
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Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Michigan
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FIRST in Michigan

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Cheryl Moeller
High Tech Kids

Mississippi
Eddie Melton
Robotics Alliance of Mississippi

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Kathie Reuter
LeAnn Ore Heumphreus
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Florissant Valley

Montana
Allison Banfield
Montana State University – Bozeman

The National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE)
Katrina Hill

Nebraska
Kate Pittack
University of Nebraska –
Lincoln 4-H Youth Development

Nevada – Las Vegas
Jean Hoppert
FIRST Nevada

Nevada – Reno
Dee Frewert
FIRST Nevada

New Hampshire
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BAE Systems

New Jersey
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Mount Olive Robotics Education Association

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Sandy Trissell
Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails

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Elayne Stewart
Damian Garcia
Costas Solomou
University of Rochester

New York – Long Island
Janet Anderson
SBPLI, Inc.

New York – Mid-Hudson Valley
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Leah Akins
John Houston
Hudson Valley *FIRST* LEGO League

New York – New York City
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Peter Xanthus
NYC *FIRST*

New York – Potsdam
Amanda Hitterman
Jessica McPherson
James Carroll
Clarkson University

New York – Utica
Elizabeth Rossi
SUNY Institute of Technology

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Dr. Kory Bennett
North Carolina A&T State University

North Dakota
Ashley Miller
Christina Loh
Glen Klawon
University of North Dakota,
School of Engineering & Mines

Ohio
Brenda Ronnebaum
Katie Jewel
The Ohio Educational Outreach Foundation

Oklahoma
Craig Shreve
Oklahoma Science and Engineering Foundation (OKSEF)

Oregon
Bruce Schafer
Loridee Wetzel
Oregon Robotics Tournament and Outreach Program

Pennsylvania – Northwest
Melanie Ford
Edward Smith
Penn State Erie, The Behrend College

Pennsylvania – Southeast
Nate Knauss
Dan Ueda
University of Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania – Southwest - Central
Allison Felix
Saint Francis University

Pennsylvania – Southwest - Pittsburgh
Gordon Walton
BrainSTEM Learning, Inc.

Puerto Rico
Miray Ramy
Eureka Enrichment and Learning Center, Inc.

Rhode Island
Rebekah Gendron
Rhode Island School of the Future

South Carolina
Louis Rubbo
Mary Graves
SC *FIRST* LEGO League and Robotics Education, Inc.

South Dakota
Amy Engebretson
Kristie Maher
EmBe

Tennessee – East
Paula Suchomski
Kris Craven
Bradley Weil
Tennessee Technological University

Tennessee - West
Tom Banning
Daniel Kohn
Frank Niedzwiedz
University of Memphis

Texas – Alamo
Andrew Schuetze
Alamo College – Northwest Vista College

Texas – Central
Noah Bickford
Bethany Paul
Skillpoint Alliance

Texas – North
Kristi Cantu
Teresa Lenling
Perot Museum of Nature and Science

Texas – South
Karen Cohen
The University of Houston – CORE

Texas – Southwest
Gabby Gandara
Virgilio Gonzalez
University of Texas at El Paso

Utah
Kathy Hajeb
Anne Bastien
Technology Venture Development
University of Utah

Virginia/District of Columbia
Nick Swayne
Dustin Skelton
James Madison University

Washington
Erin McCallum
Lindy Baker
Susan Martucci
Washington *FIRST* Robotics

West Virginia
Todd Ensign
NASA IV & V Educator Resource Center

Wisconsin
Lisa Bartig
Ben Senson
BadgerBOTS

Wyoming
Shannon Fischer
Natrona County School District

Yemen
Ismail Yasein Hasan
King Hussein Foundation

**2014-2015
FIRST TECH CHALLENGE**
The following key organizations and Volunteers in the field organize the FIRST Tech Challenge Program in their respective regions.

Affiliate Partners

Australia
Luan Heimlich
Michael Heimlich
Macquarie University

Canada
Alberta
Philippe Manseau

China
Eugene Zhang
Semia Limited

Czech Republic
Perry Barlien
International School of Prague

France
Alice Caplier
Grenoble INP

India
Sudhanshu Sharma
Techtronics Education

Republic of Korea
Professor Kyoung-Mihn Do
FEST Creative Engineering Education Association (Feeling and Enjoying Science & Technology Organization)

Mexico
Bárbara Gómez de Navarro
Explora, Descubre Y Crea, AC

The Netherlands
Lennart de Graaf
Fontys Hogeschool ICT

New Zealand
Jason Kyle
Kiwi *FIRST*

Russia
Maxim Petrov
Volnoe Delo Foundation

Saudi Arabia
Husam Al Madani
National Talent Training Center

South Africa
Johannes de Vries
FSATIE

Taiwan
Johnson Jan
ESUN Robot Association

United States
Alaska
Brian Holst
Juneau Economic Development Council

Arizona
Christine Sapio
Coconino High School

David Thompson
Northern Arizona University

Arkansas
Jacquelyn Meissner
Mountain Home High School – Career Academies

California – Los Angeles
Liberty Naud
SMaRT Education

California – Northern California
Jill Wilker
Mark Edelman
Playing @ Learning

California – San Diego
John and Marion Brooks

Colorado
Matthew Collier
Kathy Collier
LAUNCH

Connecticut
Evan Barnett

Delaware
Eric Cheek
Delaware State University

Florida
Hans Wolf
Tampa Bay Robotics Foundation, Inc.

Georgia
Connie Haynes
Georgia *FIRST*

Hawai’i
Aaron Dengler
Punahou School

Idaho
Tim Ewers
University of Idaho Extension 4-H

Illinois
Michael Seedman

Indiana
Darrin Wilcoxson
Crawfordsville High School

Iowa
Rebecca Whitaker
University of Iowa

Kentucky
Shawn Payne
Jessica Cecil
Owensboro Community and Technical College

Maryland
Bill Duncan
STEMaction, Inc.

Massachusetts
Loretta Bessette
MIT Lincoln Laboratory

Michigan High School
Betsy Lamb
Cranbrook Schools

Michigan Middle School
Francois Castaing
Gail Alpert
FIRST in Michigan

Minnesota
Cheryl Moeller
High Tech Kids

Mississippi
John O’Haver
University of Mississippi

Missouri
Dr. Marcia Pfeiffer
Ashok Agrawal
St. Louis Community College

Montana
Ed Huth
Oracle

Nebraska
Brad Barker
Nebraska 4-H Youth Development

Nevada – Las Vegas
David Philippi
Northwest Career and Technical Academy

Jean Hoppert
FIRST Nevada

New Jersey
Joel Bloom
New Jersey Institute of Technology

New York City
Pat Daly
NYC *FIRST*

New York – Hudson Valley
New York – Empire
Richard Kline
Pace University

New York – Potsdam
James Carroll
Clarkson University

North Carolina
Dr. Kory Bennett
North Carolina A&T State University

North Dakota
Paul Keidel
Bismarck Career Academy

Ohio
Linda Neenan
iSPACE, Inc.

Oklahoma
Brad Fitzgerald
Southwest Oklahoma State University

Oregon
Bruce Schafer
Cathy Swider
ORTOP

Pennsylvania
Thomas Zawislak
Pennsylvania *FIRST* Robotics

Rhode Island
Erin Flynn
New England Institute of Technology

South Carolina
William Pedersen
John Fogarty
South Carolina Robotics Education Foundation

Texas – Dallas/Fort Worth
Dr. Carter Tiernan
College of Engineering
University of Texas at Arlington

Texas – Lubbock
Richard Gale
Texas Tech University

Texas – Pasadena/Houston
Sharon Sledge
San Jacinto College

Texas – San Antonio
Andrew Schuetze

Utah
David Ferro
Weber State University

Vermont
Douglas Dickey
Kristin Winer
University of Vermont

Virginia
Scott McKay
Virginia*FIRST*

Washington
Eric Stokely
Washington *FIRST* Robotics

West Virginia
Peggy Vance
Logan County Schools

Wisconsin
Michael Krauski
University of Wisconsin Milwaukee

Wyoming
Shannon Fischer
Natrona County School District

Program Managers

China
Andrew Bannish
Kevin Li
Flora Li
Xiangpeng Zhang
Semia Limited

Czech Republic
Joe Monks

India
Rajan Malhotra

Republic of Korea
Eric Lee
FEST Creative Engineering Education Association

Saudi Arabia
Mohammed Alsenwar
National Talent Training Center

Taiwan
Rene Cheng
ESUN Robot Association

United States
Alaska
Rebecca Soza
David Patterson

California – Los Angeles
Gigi Johnson
Brian Bugert Sr.
Theresa Klemme
Maggie Scholtz

Georgia
Robert May

Hawai’i
Blake Uramoto
Jenny Uramoto

Idaho
Will Boyd

Illinois
Dan Green
Sue Kunzeman
Jonathan Weiland

Indiana
Lori Hall

Michigan Middle School
Tammy Damrath
Ken Platteschorre

Minnesota
Vicki Coaty

Mississippi
Mannie Lowe

Missouri
Susie Mathieu
Tom McGovern
Diana Howard

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Allison Banfield
Montana State University

New Jersey
Vince Frascella
Patricia Frascella

New York City
Norm Sutaria

New York – Hudson Valley
New York – Empire
Bernice Houle
Pace University

Pennsylvania
Dave Hackett

Texas – Dallas/Fort Worth
Chris Carter
Dave Davis
College of Engineering
University of Texas at Arlington

Texas – Lubbock
Alan Barhorst
Dina Barhorst
Texas Tech University

Texas – Pasadena/Houston
Nelson Carter
San Jacinto College

Utah
Dana Dellinger

Vermont
Jeff Frolik
University of Vermont

Virginia
Carol Edelman

Washington
Kevin Ross
Adrienne Rime

Wisconsin
Julianne Pickering
University of Wisconsin Milwaukee

**2015
FIRST ROBOTICS
COMPETITION**
The following organizations partner with FIRST to implement the FIRST Robotics Competition Program in a specified region.

Australia
Macquarie University

Canada
FIRST Robotics Canada

Israel
FIRST Israel

Mexico
Fundación Azteca

United States
Arizona
AZFirst

Arkansas
Arkansas *FIRST*

Colorado
Colorado*FIRST*

Florida
Florida *FIRST* Robotics Education Foundation, Inc. (FFREF)

Georgia
Georgia*FIRST* Robotics Inc.

Hawai’i
Friends of Hawaii Robotics

Illinois
FIRST Illinois Robotics

Indiana
Indiana*FIRST*

Louisiana
BLaST, Inc.
(Building Louisiana Science and Technology)

Michigan
FIRST in Michigan (FiM)

Mid-Atlantic Region
Mid-Atlantic Robotics,
a NJ Non-Profit Corp. (MAR)

Missouri – Kansas City
University of Missouri – Kansas City (UMKC)

Missouri – St. Louis
Saint Louis Science Center

Nevada
FIRST Nevada

New England
ingenuityNE Inc.

New York City
NYC *FIRST*

New York – Long Island
School-Business Partnerships of Long Island, Inc. (SBPLI)

North Carolina
NC *FIRST* Robotics

Ohio
Ohio Aerospace Institute

South Carolina
Palmetto Partners for Science and Technology

Tennessee
TN*FIRST*, LLC

Texas
FIRST in Texas

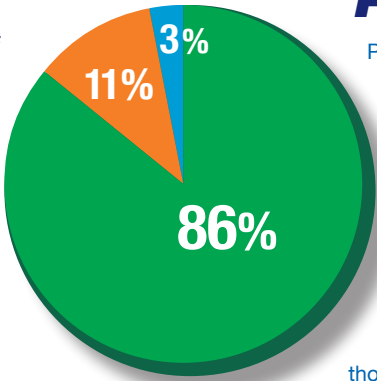
Virginia
Virginia*FIRST*

Washington
Washington *FIRST* Robotics

Team services & growth of programs

G&A expenses

Fundraising costs



FINANCIALS

Program expansion and mission successes continued in fiscal year 2014-2015 with balanced growth in revenues and expenses, including additional investments in our Youth Protection Program, Information Technology, Program Evaluation, and new investment in our Diversity & Inclusion Program. Contributions remained strong, as many individuals, small businesses, corporations – including over 200 of the *Fortune* 500 companies – and foundations maintained or increased their support, while new Sponsors joined *FIRST*. This support provided meaningful experiences to more than 359,000 youth engaged in the *FIRST* Progression of Programs.

As noted in the graph, and in keeping with long-time practices, *FIRST* continues to apply the maximum percentage of funds possible to directly benefit *FIRST* participants. Included within the modest G&A expenses are significant investments in infrastructure enhancements, including those noted above.

FIRST achieved its tenth consecutive four-star rating from Charity Navigator, certifying our continued commitment to accountability, transparency, and sound fiscal management. This consecutive rating places *FIRST* in the top 1% of the U.S. charities evaluated by Charity Navigator.

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

Revenues and other support:

	JUNE 30, 2015	JUNE 30, 2014
Program registration fees	\$ 22,718,237	\$ 20,474,334
Contributions and grants	18,214,680	19,111,341
Other income, net of expenses of \$98,099 in 2015 and \$93,186 in 2014	1,045,962	983,529
Special project (loss) income, net of expenses of \$1,196,117 in 2015 and \$725,116 in 2014	(136,485)	126,385
Net assets released from restrictions	17,449,790	14,739,677

Total revenues (losses) and other support

59,291,914 55,435,266

Expenses

<i>FIRST</i> Robotics Competition	39,493,796	36,203,436
<i>FIRST</i> LEGO League and <i>FIRST</i> LEGO League Jr.	6,024,042	6,400,585
<i>FIRST</i> Tech Challenge	3,832,813	3,050,151
<i>FIRST</i> Place	14,881	12,562
Net cost of building space occupied by unrelated not-for-profit organizations	256,625	244,774
General, administrative and supporting services, and fundraising	7,688,961	7,262,637
Operation of <i>FIRST</i> facilities	437,912	418,621
Depreciation	532,434	529,923

Total expenses

58,281,464 54,122,689

Operating surplus

1,010,450 1,312,577

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Assets:

Cash and cash equivalents*	15,485,707	18,225,785
Short-term investments*	8,250,000	8,500,000
Pledges, receivables, program supply inventory, and other assets	10,804,438	8,102,948
Net property, plant, and equipment	4,524,283	3,961,488

Total assets, end of year

39,064,428 38,790,221

Liabilities and net assets:

Total liabilities, end of year	2,376,582	2,276,854
--------------------------------	-----------	-----------

Net assets:		
Unrestricted	22,777,156	21,766,706
Temporarily restricted	13,910,690	14,746,661

Total net assets, end of year

36,687,846 36,513,367

Total liabilities and net assets, end of year

\$ 39,064,428 \$ 38,790,221

For each of the two fiscal years summarized above, *FIRST* received unmodified (unqualified) opinions from its independent auditors, BerryDunn.

***Note:** The cash and short-term investments are comprised of both unrestricted funds and donor temporarily restricted funds. The total liquid assets balance available to *FIRST*, for operating purposes, at June 30, 2015, is equivalent to approximately four months of *FIRST* operating expenses.

The financial information presented here is condensed and does not include the value of all donated services and materials. Audited Financial Statements (AFS) are readily available on the website at www.firstinspires.org under "About/Annual Report." For details, please refer to the accompanying notes, which are an integral part of the AFS, at the above web address.

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North Carolina A&T State University

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Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers

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Motorola, Inc.

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Corporate Mergers & Acquisitions Officer, Retired
Johnson & Johnson

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President
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

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LEGO Foundation & KIRKBI A/S

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Cordis Corporation

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Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator
New Hampshire

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Pappalardo Professor Emeritus of Mechanical Engineering
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Vincent Wilczynski, Ph.D. - Co-Chair
Deputy Dean, School of Engineering & Applied Science
Yale University

Ray Almgren
Chairman
FIRST in Texas

Gail Alpert
President
FIRST in Michigan

Tom Arseneault
Chief Operating Officer
BAE Systems, Inc.

Sujeet Chand
Chief Technology Officer & Senior Vice President
Rockwell Automation, Inc.

Cosema (Connie) Crawford, P.E.
Senior Vice President
The Louis Berger Group, Inc.

Michael Dubno
Head of Global Markets & Research Technology, Retired
Bank of America Merrill Lynch

Greg Hale
Vice President & Chief Safety Officer
Walt Disney Parks & Resorts

Erik Halleus
President & Chief Executive Officer
EuroScandia Enterprises

James E. Heppelmann
President & Chief Executive Officer
PTC

Marc Hodosh
Co-Creator
TEDMED

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Public Policy Scholar
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