



Students watch a live video message from US FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Founder Dean Kamen, that was transmitted from FIRST headquarters in New Hampshire to learn about the new game “ULTIMATE ASCENT” during the FIRST Robotics kickoff at Stony Brook University’s Javits Center on January 5.

## “ULTIMATE ASCENT” REVEALED AT

### SBPLI’S L.I. REGIONAL 2013 FIRST® ROBOTICS COMPETITION KICKOFF

More than 800 students from Long Island schools converged at the Javits Center at Stony Brook University on January 5 for a local kickoff of the FIRST® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition (FRC®), where they learned details of this year’s robotics game called “ULTIMATE ASCENT.” The kickoff was sponsored by School-Business Partnerships of Long Island, Inc. (SBPLI), which has also sponsored the Long Island Regional FRC for the past thirteen years, and Stony Brook University.

“FIRST isn’t about competing, it’s about cooperating and recognizing that, if you have the right tools, you’ll be able to make this world a better place for yourself and for the country,” said FIRST Founder Dean Kamen. “There is no stimulus package that will have as much return as stimulating a bunch of kids to become the workforce of the future, the problem solvers, the creators of the future.”

Working with adult mentors, FRC teams must determine their strategy and have only six weeks to design, build, program, and test their robots

to meet the season’s engineering challenge. In the game “ULTIMATE ASCENT,” two alliances of three teams compete on a 27-by-54-foot playing field as they try to shoot as many flying discs into their goals as possible during the two-minute, 15-second match. Discs shot into higher goals score Alliances more points. Matches end with robots attempting to climb up pyramids located near the middle of the field.

In addition, SBPLI held a special session for the students’ parents in which they learned about the organization, its mission and the importance of the robotics programs. SBPLI representatives, team mentors and current and former Long Island Regional FRC participants explained to parents how robotics has made a positive impact on their lives both academically and professionally. The interactive session allowed parents the opportunity to voice their opinions and contribute ideas on how to enhance and better promote SBPLI and its FIRST robotics programs.

SBPLI also encouraged parents to participate in a multi-pronged effort

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## “ULTIMATE ASCENT” REVEALED AT SBPLI’S L.I. REGIONAL 2013 FIRST® ROBOTICS COMPETITION KICKOFF (Continued)

to raise much-needed funds in order to sustain the robotics programs each year. “It takes close to \$200,000 to host and manage these robotics competitions,” said SBPLI Executive Director Joani Madarash. “If we cannot receive increased funding this year, then we could be at risk of not being able to run the Long Island FRC in 2014.”

At the kickoff, teams were shown the game field and received a kit of parts made up of motors, batteries, a control system, and a mix of automation components — but no instructions. Once these young inventors create a robot, their teams participate in competitions that measure the effectiveness of each robot, the power of collaboration, and the determination of students.

“This proves to be an exciting time for the students and the mentors when they learn the name and the rules of the game for this year’s FIRST Robotics Competition,” said Ginny Greco, the FRC Director for SBPLI. “We are very proud to present the FRC kickoff, as we prepare for the upcoming Long Island Regional FRC in April.”

During the 2013 season, a total of 50 teams consisting of 44 teams from Long Island, five from the metropolitan New York area and one from Brazil will convene at Hofstra University for the Long Island Regional FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) on April 4-6, culminating in the 2013 FIRST Championship on April 25-27 at the Edward Jones Dome in St. Louis, Missouri.

“The Long Island Regional FIRST Robotics Competition showcases the talents of these students who learn not only the basic technological aspects of building their robots, but also about other concepts such as teamwork, problem solving and gracious professionalism,” says Ms. Greco.



*Janet Anderson of School-Business Partnerships of Long Island, Inc. addresses parents at a special session at the FIRST Robotics season kickoff where they learned more about the organization, its mission and its positive impact that robotics has on the students and everyone else involved.*

## BARNES & NOBLE BOOK FAIR FUNDRAISERS BENEFIT SBPLI

Barnes & Noble will host a series of fundraising events in 2013 to benefit School-Business Partnerships of Long Island, Inc. (SBPLI) and the organization’s robotics programs at its stores nationwide. For in-store purchases made on June 8-9 and December 7-8 and online purchases made on June 8-14 and December 7-13, a portion of the sales will go to SBPLI.

Long Island FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) LEGO League (FLL) and FRC high school robotics teams will be invited to demonstrate their robots that they created at two of Barnes & Noble’s stores in Lake Grove and Manhasset.

Each year, it costs SBPLI approximately \$200,000 to host and manage the Junior FIRST LEGO League, FIRST LEGO League, and Long Island Regional FIRST robotics competitions. These programs allow students to express themselves fully while engaging in innovative projects that stimulate the mind. The skills acquired at FIRST will help students with their future endeavors.

The first fundraiser was held December 8-9, 2012, raising more than \$2,000 for the organization. To learn more, visit [www.sbpli.org](http://www.sbpli.org).



*Members of FLL (FIRST LEGO League) Team #3578, “Awesome AHAPers” of Dix Hills demonstrate their robot at the School-Business Partnerships of Long Island’s fundraiser at Barnes & Noble in Lake Grove on December 8, 2012.*

## SBPLI, FARMINGDALE STATE COLLEGE HOST FRED BREITHUT SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER BREAKFAST

On February 1, School-Business Partnerships of Long Island, Inc. (SBPLI) held its fourth annual fundraising breakfast at Farmingdale State College’s Knapp Hall to benefit the Fred Breithut Scholarship. The theme of this year’s breakfast was “Super Bowl of Smarts.”

The scholarship, named after the late founder of SBPLI, is made possible for up to four years, with an amount of \$1,000 per semester. Among the requirements for students to become eligible are enrollment in SBPLI’s FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Long Island robotics program while in high school for at least two years; a combined SAT score of 1100 or better; and enrollment in Farmingdale State College’s four-year programs in mathematics, engineering technology, computer systems or related fields of study.

The winning recipient will be named at the 14th annual Long Island FIRST Robotics Competition, which takes place on April 4-6 at Hofstra University.



*Pictured (left to right): Hans Zobel, Ginny Greco, Joani Madarash and New York State Senator Phil Boyle.*

# WINNERS ANNOUNCED AT HALF HOLLOW HILLS INVITATIONAL POSTSEASON ROBOTICS EVENT

## Competition Showcases Benefits of Robotics Programs on Students, Community

Twenty-two high school robotics teams met at Half Hollow Hills High School West on November 17, 2012 for a postseason robotics competition, sponsored by School-Business Partnerships of Long Island, Inc.

The competition was designed to showcase the benefits of robotics programs on students, schools and their communities. Residents, teachers and administrators from the Half Hollow Hills School District and other Long Island school districts showed support for SBPLI and the robotics competition by attending the event.

The teams that competed included Bay Shore, Brentwood, Central Islip, Center Moriches, Cold Spring Harbor, Comsewogue, Great Neck South, Hauppauge, Half Hollow Hills, Island Trees, Lindenhurst, Malverne, Miller Place, North Shore, Patchogue-Medford, Plainview-Old Bethpage, Port Washington, Sachem North, Seaford and Smithtown, with Center Moriches and Seaford participating as pre-rookie teams.

The winners were Team #514, Miller Place Robotics from Miller Place, Team #263, Aftershock from Sachem and Team #358, Robotic Eagles from Hauppauge. The finalists of the competition were Team #3460, Brentwood Robotics from Brentwood, Team #2875, Cyberhawks from Cold Spring Harbor and Team #329, Raiders from Patchogue-Medford.

Participating teams used the robots they built for the 2012 Long

Island Regional FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) competition, which was held at Hofstra University in March 2012. During the competition, students had their robots, some weighing as much as 120 pounds, compete on a 27-by-54-foot playing field with bridges, attempting to earn points by shooting as many basketballs into the hoops as possible.



Members of the Malverne High School robotics team #884 work on their robot between matches at the Half Hollow Hills Invitational.

## SBPLI HONORS NYS SENATOR OWEN JOHNSON AT 3RD ANNUAL FRED BREITHUT MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING

School-Business Partnerships of Long Island, Inc. (SBPLI) held its 3rd Annual Fred Breithut Memorial Golf Outing on September 20, 2012 at the Wind Watch Golf & Country Club in Hauppauge. The golf outing is named in honor of Fred Breithut, founder and chairman of SBPLI, who passed away on April 26, 2010.

The tournament's honoree was New York State Senator Owen Johnson, who is also an honorary board member of SBPLI, and a strong supporter of the organization and its robotics programs. Local elected officials were on hand to thank Senator Johnson for his service and support of the organization.

Senator Johnson was first elected to the Senate in 1972. He chaired several committees, including Transportation, Environmental Conservation, Social Services, and Civil Service and Pensions. From 2003 to 2008, he chaired the Finance Committee, where he had a lead role in reviewing the governor's proposed budget and developing the Senate Majority Conference's priorities for the state budget.

In 2011, Senator Johnson was appointed Senior Assistant Majority Leader. He was also Vice Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and served on the Board of Directors of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), the nation's largest individual membership organization of state legislators. In 1995, he was the first recipient of

ALEC's "Lifetime Leadership Award," which was created to recognize those members who helped shape the organization. In July 2012, Senator Johnson announced he was retiring after 40 years of service.

Golfers enjoyed a round of golf, brunch, dinner, live music, raffles and a silent auction. All proceeds went to help defray the costs associated with the Long Island FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition.



Pictured (left to right): Hans Zobel, New York State Assemblyman Joe Saladino (Assembly District 12), New York State Senator Owen Johnson and Joani Madarash.



## ROBOTICS CAMP SET TO RETURN IN THE SUMMER

Following up on the success of its inaugural robotics camp last summer, School-Business Partnerships of Long Island, Inc. has announced that it will again present its weeklong summer robotics camp at two locations on Long Island. More details are to follow and will soon be available on the website at [www.sbpli.org](http://www.sbpli.org).

Representatives from SBPLI and Dowling College are joined by the campers at last year's robotics camp. Pictured are: Pat Hughes (back row, left), Dr. Elana Zolfo (back row, second from left), Dr. Jeremy D. Brown (back row, third from left), Ralph Cerullo (back row, seventh from right), Frank Saladino (back row, fourth from right), Joani Madarash (back row, third from right), and Ronnie McDonald (back row, second from right).

# WINNERS ANNOUNCED

## AT FIRST LEGO LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP & JUNIOR FLL EXPO

Following eight weeks of research and design and two days of participation in the Qualifying Tournaments, 40 teams from elementary and middle schools across Long Island demonstrated their problem-solving skills, creative thinking, teamwork, competitive play and sportsmanship at the 9th Annual Long Island FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) LEGO League Tournament, "SENIOR SOLUTIONS Challenge," that took place on March 3 at Longwood High School in Middle Island. Concurrently, 18 Long Island teams participated in the 5th Annual Jr. FLL Expo for children ages 6-9. The events were sponsored by School-Business Partnerships of Long Island, Inc. (SBPLI) and the Longwood Central School District.

In the Senior Solutions Challenge, teams of students ages nine to 14 partnered with senior citizens, held conversations with them about their struggles, and created solutions as to how these setbacks can be improved. Upon completion, teams shared their solutions to their senior teammates' problems.

Jr. FLL students ages six to nine took part in the SUPER SENIORS Challenge, in which they learned about the challenges some senior citizens may have getting around, keeping in touch with friends and family or staying active and fit, and the changes they have experienced in their lifetime. They researched one change the senior experienced and found out what experts are doing to make life better or easier for seniors, and learned about simple machines as they built a model made of LEGO elements with a moving part and created a team Show-Me Poster to represent their findings.

Additional sponsors included Central Islip Public Schools; Brookhaven National Laboratory; FIRST; Sideboard Computers; Farmingdale State College; The Law Office of Jeffrey Stern; Lisa Cohen; Andrew Margolin; the Plainview-Old Bethpage School District; Sir Speedy of Plainview; and Robert Woods of LEGO Education.

### FIRST LEGO LEAGUE AWARD WINNERS



*Members of Team #3821, "Robot Cookie Monsters" of the Girl Scouts of Nassau County in Merrick excitedly react to their robot's performance during the FIRST LEGO League Championship Tournament at Longwood High School.*

Awards	Team #	Location	Team Name
Champion's 1st Place*	10147	Rocky Point	Rocky Point Radical Robotix
Champion's 2nd Place*	3643	Bayport	Lion Bots
Mechanical Design	5188	Floral Park	Floral Park Brick Heads
Programming	3681	Smithtown	The Robotic Avengers
Research	8493	Floral Park	TIGER BOTS
Innovative Solution	9528	Garden City	Girl Scouts of Nassau County Smart Cookies
Presentation	8133	Center Moriches	Center Moriches Red Devils
Robot Performance 1st Place	7894	Commack	Girl Scouts of Suffolk County Juliet Lowbots
Robot Performance 2nd Place	3681	Smithtown	The Robotic Avengers
Teamwork	3578	Dix Hills	Awesome AHAPers
Gracious Professionalism	11994	Levittown	Salk Robohawks
Strategy & Innovation	3815	Merrick	GSNC Merrick Masters :)
Inspiration	15891	Westhampton Beach	Junior Canes
Judge's Award	641	Locust Valley	Robotic Falcons
Judge's Award	12493	Stewart Manor	GCRL Robotic Rebels
Alliance Award	7894	Commack	GSSC Juliet Lowbots
Alliance Award	5003	Plainview	Atomic Askadarians

\*The Champion's Award recognizes a team that embodies the FLL experience by fully embracing the core values of FIRST, while achieving excellence and innovation in both the robot game and the project. Both award winners will be invited to participate in a higher level of competition — one will be invited to the World Festival on April 24-27 at the Edward Jones Dome in St. Louis, Missouri and the other will be asked to participate in the FLL US Open on May 17-19 in LEGOLAND in Carlsbad, California. (Both are invitation-only.)

### JUNIOR FLL AWARD WINNERS

Please note that some of the categories had multiple winners, but there was no definitive order.

Awards	Team #	Location	Team Name
Against All Odds	345	Central Islip	Girl Scouts of Suffolk County Z-Bots
Against All Odds	1065	Seaford	LEGO Lords & Lady
Against All Odds	2425	Commack	The Creators
Teamwork	143	Garden City	Crazy Creators
Teamwork	897	Floral Park	Floral Park LEGO Army
Teamwork	1312	East Northport	Evergreens
Show Me Poster	344	Nesconset	GSSC Super Scoopers
Show Me Poster	1358	Melville	Magic Movie Builders
Show Me Poster	2171	Floral Park	Floral Park Dragons
Team Spirit	503	Garden City	GC Team Fun
Team Spirit	2172	Elmont	Zion Jr. Innovators
Reviewers' Award	365	Seaford	Seaford Harbor LEGOnauts
Reviewers' Award	861	Blue Point	LEGOnators
Reviewers' Award	2779	Long Beach	LEGO Girls
Model Design Award	57	Huntington Station	LEGO Maniacs
Model Design Award	86	Hicksville	Green Otter Builders
Model Design Award	1002	Centerport	Mighty Mini Builders
Gracious Professionalism	216	Oyster Bay	Music Men



*Members of Team #1065, "LEGO Lords and Lady" of Seaford, present their robot and Show-Me Poster, which won the Against All Odds Award, at the Junior FIRST LEGO League Expo at Longwood High School on March 3.*

# John W Engeman Theater at Northport

## SUPPORTS SCHOOL-BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS OF LONG ISLAND, INC.

As part of the "Community Give Back" Program, the John W. Engeman Theater is proud to offer members and supporters of School-Business Partnerships of Long Island, Inc. **\$5.00** off the regular ticket price.

In order to receive the discount, contact the box office directly at (631) 261-2900 and mention the code **SBPLI**. **When the code is used, the John W. Engeman Theater will donate \$10.00 to SBPLI for each ticket purchased.**

To order tickets online, visit [www.engemantheater.com](http://www.engemantheater.com) and input **SBPLI** in the promo box. **(This offer is not available for Friday and Saturday night performances.)**

**John W. Engeman Theater is located at 250 Main Street in Northport.**

**For more information, call the theater at (631) 261-2900 or visit [www.engemantheater.com](http://www.engemantheater.com).**

### SAVE \$5 OFF REGULAR TICKET PRICE

The following plays will run during the season:

**"Boeing Boeing"**

(March 21-May 5)

**"South Pacific"\***

(May 23-July 14)

*\*Plans for an SBPLI "Night at the Theater" event are in the works. Please check the SBPLI website for more details. Dates to be announced shortly.*

## HIGH SCHOOL ROBOTICS TEAMS VISIT GERSHOW RECYCLING

To support local high school robotics teams participating in School-Business Partnerships of Long Island, Inc.'s (SBPLI) upcoming Long Island FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition, Gershow Recycling invited teams to its Medford facility to receive free aluminum scrap.

Twelve Long Island high school robotics teams took advantage of the program and visited Gershow on January 19. Those teams included Hauppauge, Port Washington, Half Hollow Hills, North Shore, Great Neck South, Seaford, Plainview-Old Bethpage, Smithtown, Patchogue-Medford, Miller Place, Westhampton Beach, and Longwood. The teams thanked Gershow for their generous donation.



Julian Aptowitz, Jonathan Abrams and Christian Mirchel



Jonathan Abrams, Ashley Petersen, Erik Petersen and Tony Kryl



Matt Corrigan and Jonathan Abrams



Jonathan Abrams and Dan Rieckhoff

## SMITHTOWN HIGH SCHOOL ROBOTICS TEAM WINS MUSICAL THEME CONTEST

Will Recce, a principal with School Construction Consultants, Inc. and a board member of School-Business Partnerships of Long Island, Inc. (SBPLI), announced that the Smithtown High School Robotics Team #810 was the winner of this year's musical theme contest. The theme, which was composed by team members Daniel Pesce and Isaiah Rodriguez, will be used at SBPLI's 2013 Long Island Regional FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition in Science and Technology) Robotics Competition (FRC), which will take place April 4-6 at Hofstra University. The presentation was held at the FRC kickoff event at Stony Brook University's Javits Center on January 5.

There were 24 entries from 16 different schools for this contest. Other teams included Walt Whitman, Oceanside, Island Trees, Plainedge, Patchogue-Medford, West Islip, Great Neck South, Sachem, Bay Shore, Longwood, Half Hollow Hills West, Copiague, Pierson, Longwood, and The Wheatley School. Some teams had multiple entries.

The winning entry was chosen by the members of SBPLI's FRC Development Council. Students worked with their mentors on the robotics team, and even with staff members of the high school's music department. The Smithtown High School robotics team will be presented with a \$1,000 check at this year's Long Island Regional FRC.



Shannon Cassidy, Isaiah Rodriguez and Will Recce

*This award is made possible through the generosity of Center for Essential Management Services.*



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## ABOUT SBPLI

School-Business Partnerships of Long Island, Inc. (SBPLI) was founded in 1984 by Fred Breithut with the goal of developing partnerships between local high schools and businesses that would provide students with practical experience and curriculum development, while helping the business community develop its future workforce. Over 100 partnerships have been formed. In 1999, SBPLI brought the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition to Long Island, in which eight high school teams participated. Since then, the Long Island Regional FIRST Robotics Competition has grown to 50 teams competing each year. SBPLI also hosts Long Island's annual FIRST LEGO League Qualifying and Championship Tournaments and the Junior FIRST LEGO League Expo, in which approximately 1,000 elementary and middle school students from Nassau and Suffolk Counties take part each year. For more information, visit [www.sbpli.org](http://www.sbpli.org).



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**FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [WWW.SBPLI.ORG](http://WWW.SBPLI.ORG)**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**14th Annual Long Island  
FIRST Robotics Competition  
April 5-6**

Hofstra University

**Barnes & Noble Book Fair**

**June 8-9**

Barnes & Noble

Manhasset & Lake Grove and Online

**FLL Information Night**

**June 2013**

**Date and Location to be Determined**

**“Robots & Roses” Reception**

**June 2013**

**Date to be determined**

Farmingdale State College

**SBPLI “Night at the Theater”**

**Date to be determined**

John W. Engeman Theater

**Robotics Summer Camp**

**Dates and Locations to be Determined**

**Fred Breithut Memorial Golf Outing**

**Fall 2013**

**Date and Location to be Determined**

**Barnes & Noble Book Fair**

**December 7-8**

Barnes & Noble

Manhasset & Lake Grove and Online