

SBPLI FIRST LEGO League Championship Award Winners Announced

Longwood High School was once again home to the School-Business Partnerships of Long Island, Inc. (SBPLI) FIRST® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) LEGO League Long Island Championship Tournament, which took place on March 3. The event challenged Long Island middle school students to demonstrate their problem-solving skills, creative thinking, teamwork, competitive play, sportsmanship and sense of community.

FIRST LEGO League Team #92, the "Sea Lions," of Seaford, took home the First Place Champion's Award and will be attending the World Festival in Detroit on April 24-27. FIRST LEGO League Team #33410, the "Taco Brothers," of Garden City, secured the Second Place Champion's Award and will be attending the Razorback Invitational in Fayetteville, AR on May 16-19.

FIRST LEGO League Team #4756, "Diamond Cube," of Jericho, took home the Programming Award and FIRST LEGO League Team #33410, the "Techno Queens," of Jericho, secured the Innovative Solution Award, as well as the Global Innovation Award. Both of these teams will be attending the Mountain State Invitational in West



Members of FIRST LEGO League Team #38503 "Techno Queens" of Jericho and FIRST LEGO League Team #33410 "Taco Brothers" of Garden City pose together on the competition floor with their LEGO robots at the SBPLI FIRST® LEGO® League Championship Tournament, which was held at Longwood High School on March 3.

Virginia on July 12-14.

After eight weeks of research and design, 200 teams competed in six Qualifiers for an opportunity to be one of 39 teams to participate in the Championship Tournament. This season's challenge was INTO ORBITS™, and teams chose and solved a real-world problem faced by humans during long-duration

space exploration within our sun's solar system. They also built, tested and programmed an autonomous robot using LEGO MINDSTORMS technology to solve a set of missions in the Robot Game. Throughout their experience, the teams operated under the FIRST signature set of core values, celebrating discovery, teamwork and gracious professionalism.

The FIRST LEGO League competition is judged in three areas: project presentation; overall robot performance, design and programming; and teamwork, with a consideration of the FIRST LEGO League Core Values. The highest honor went to the team that best succeeds in these areas and exemplifies the spirit and values of the program.