

FIRST® Long Island Announces Award Winners from the 2025 FIRST Robotics Competition Long Island Regional



Team #564 “Longwood RoboLions” from Longwood High School in Middle Island was the recipient of the *FIRST*® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Impact Award at the *FIRST* Robotics Competition Long Island Regional, which took place at Hofstra University’s David S. Mack Sports and Exhibition Complex in Hempstead on March 21-22.

FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Long Island presented its 2025 Long Island Regional on March 21-22 at Hofstra University’s David S. Mack Sports and Exhibition Complex in Hempstead. Forty-nine teams from Long Island, New York City, and India took part in the two-day *FIRST*® Robotics Competition. This event culminated with awards and honors for areas such as design excellence, competitive play, sportsmanship and high-impact partnerships among schools, businesses and communities.

The winner of the 2025 Long Island Regional was the three-team alliance made up of “Kingsmen Robotics” (Team #3736) from Kings Park High School, “POBots” (Team #353) from Plainview-Old Bethpage/JFK High School and “Longwood RoboLions” (Team #564) from Longwood High School. “Longwood RoboLions” (Team #564) from Longwood High School in Middle Island took home the coveted *FIRST* Impact Award, which is the event’s most prestigious award. It recognizes the team that best embodies the goals and purpose of *FIRST* and that best represents a model for other teams to emulate. “Mineola Wild Reds” (Team #6806) from Mineola High School won the Regional Engineering Inspiration Award. These teams are now eligible to compete at the 2025 *FIRST* Championship presented by BAE Systems at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, Texas, from April 16-19.

Ashwin Shah, Team Mentor, Team #9692 “Sigma Powered By Adipro” from Mumbai, India, was named a Finalist for the Woodie Flowers Award. Winners of the Dean’s List Finalist Award were Matthew L of Team #810 “The Mechanical Bulls” from Smithtown High School and Igor D of Team #6806 “Mineola Wild Reds” from Mineola High School.

“This was one of the best Long Island Regionals we’ve experienced,” said Bertram Dittmar, the executive director of *FIRST* Long Island. “All participating teams demonstrated tremendous teamwork, gracious professionalism® and critical thinking. The fun and excitement of the competition was evident as many students and mentors got caught up in the spirit of the event. Participants, volunteers, and sponsors had the opportunity to experience the beauty of engineering and technology combined with the excitement of a competitive event.”

As a *FIRST* Robotics Competition, the Long Island Regional featured teams of high school-aged students from across Long Island, the New York metropolitan area and even around the world competing in a cooperative tournament-style robotics competition. Guided by their mentors, students rely on their skills in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) to compete for honors and recognition that reward design excellence, competitive play and sportsmanship. This high-energy event further emphasizes the importance of high-impact partnerships between students, universities, businesses, and communities.

This year’s competition was dubbed REEFSCAPESM presented by Haas, in which two competing alliances are invited to score coral, harvest algae, and attach to the barge before time runs out. Alliances earn additional rewards for meeting specific scoring thresholds and for cooperating with their opponents. Human players provide the game pieces to the robots from the substations. In the last moments of each match, alliance robots race to dock or engage with their charge station.

[See Full List of Winners on Page 2](#)

FIRST® Long Island Announces Award Winners from the 2025 FIRST Robotics Competition Long Island Regional

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The Full List of Winners of the 2025 FIRST Long Island Regional Awards Include:

Award	Team #	Team Name	School/Town	Award	Team #	Team Name	School/Town
Imagery Award in honor of Jack Kamen	6024	R Factor	Neighborhood Group/Mumbai, India	Judges' Award	9016	Syosset SuperSonics	Syosset High School/Syosset
Innovation in Control Award sponsored by nVent	2872	CyberCats	Wheatley School/Old Westbury	Regional Finalist #1	870	TEAM R.I.C.E.	Southold Jr. Sr. High School/Southold
Creativity Award sponsored by Rockwell Automation	8267	Riptide Robotics	Long Beach High School/Long Beach	Regional Finalist #2	1468	Hicksville J-Birds	Hicksville High School/Hicksville
Excellence in Engineering Award	9692	Sigma Powered By Adipro	Family/Community/Mumbai, India	Regional Finalist #3	263	Aftershock	Sachem High Schools North & East/Ronkonkoma
Autonomous Award	5736	Kingsmen Robotics	Kings Park High School/Kings Park	Regional Winner #1**	5736	Kingsmen Robotics	Kings Park High School/Kings Park
Quality Award	287	Floyd Robotics	William Floyd High School/Mastic Beach	Regional Winner #2**	353	POBots	Plainview-Old Bethpage & JFK High School/Plainview
Gracious Professionalism Award	2869	Regal Eagles	Bethpage High School/Bethpage	Regional Winner #3**	564	Longwood RoboLions	Longwood High School/Middle Island
Team Spirit Award	3624	Soaring Colts	Half Hollow Hills High School East & West/Huntington Station	Regional Engineering Inspiration Award**	6806	Mineola Wild Reds	Mineola High School/Mineola
Team Sustainability Award sponsored by Dow	353	POBots	Plainview-Old Bethpage & JFK High School/Plainview	Regional FIRST Impact Award* **	564	Longwood RoboLions	Longwood High School/Middle Island
Rising All-Star Award	28	Pierson Whalers	Pierson Middle High School/Sag Harbor	* The FIRST Impact Award is the most prestigious award of the event and recognizes the team that embodies the goals and purpose of FIRST and best represents a model for other teams to emulate.			
Rookie All Star Award ***	10621	Crusaders	Long Island Lutheran Middle & High School/Glen Head	** These teams were eligible to participate in the 2025 FIRST® Championship presented by BAE Systems at either the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, Texas on April 16-19.			
Industrial Design Award sponsored by General Motors	870	TEAM R.I.C.E.	Southold Jr. Sr. High School Southold	*** Denotes a rookie team.			

FIRST® LEGO League Explore Teams Found Themselves SUBMERGED

Teams from FIRST® LEGO League Explore took part in the championship round, which took place on March 9 at Hicksville High School. The theme of this year's challenge was SUBMERGEDSM, which was part of the 2024-2025 FIRST® DIVESM season, presented by Qualcomm Incorporated.

In SUBMERGED, teams discovered what lies beneath the surface of our planet's most complex ecosystem and explore the role each inhabitant plays in building a thriving environment. Through critical thinking and design skills, students created new ways to build a better world with healthy oceans.



Team #28146 "Woodland Wildcats" in Hicksville work on their project during the FIRST® LEGO League Explore championship on March 9.

AWARDS: FIRST® LEGO® LEAGUE EXPLORE TEAMS LONG ISLAND TOURNAMENT

Date	Award	Team #	Team Name	School/Town
3/1/2025 AM	Challenge Solution Award	2619	Ocean Tiers	Jackson Avenue Elementary School, Mineola
3/1/2025 AM	Challenge Solution Award	6176	Cajun Crawfish	Jackson Avenue Elementary School, Mineola
3/1/2025 AM	Challenge Solution Award	2730	The Kraken	Jackson Avenue Elementary School, Mineola
3/1/2025 AM	Coding Award	26450	Central Boulevard Bots	Central Boulevard Elementary School, Bethpage
3/1/2025 AM	Coding Award	27533	New Energy Education	Family/Community, Syosset
3/1/2025 AM	Core Values Award	6183	Aqua Bricks	Jackson Avenue Elementary School, Mineola
3/1/2025 AM	Core Values Award	28138	Rebel Owls	Family/Community, Lynbrook
3/1/2025 AM	Core Values Award	2728	The Sea Dragons	Jackson Avenue Elementary School, Mineola
3/1/2025 AM	Good Vibes Award	16482	Alden Mini-Bots	Alden Terrace Elementary School, Valley Stream
3/1/2025 AM	Team Model Award	6175	The Killer Whales	Jackson Avenue Elementary School, Mineola
3/1/2025 AM	Team Model Award	2726	The Sea Urchins	Jackson Avenue Elementary School, Mineola
3/1/2025 AM	Team Model Award	11164	The Wild Turtles	Bayville Intermediate School, Bayville

Explore Award Winners – Continued on Page 3

AWARDS: FIRST® LEGO® LEAGUE EXPLORE TEAMS LONG ISLAND TOURNAMENT

Date	Award	Team #	Team Name	School/Town
3/1/2025 AM	Team Poster Award	6174	The Sharks	Jackson Avenue Elementary School, Mineola
3/1/2025 PM	Challenge Solution Award	20544	Ultra Divers	Family/Community, Baldwin
3/1/2025 PM	Coding Award	33144	Junior Westbury Warriors	Snapology of Westbury, Westbury
3/1/2025 PM	Coding Award	12829	Lego Masters	Family/Community, Port Jefferson Station
3/1/2025 PM	Core Values Award	32942	Angie's Academy	Family/Community, Flushing, Queens
3/1/2025 PM	Core Values Award	30459	Bergen Bees	Bergen Arts & Science Charter School, Garfield, NJ
3/1/2025 PM	Cute Beginnings Award	33581	Silly Sharks	Family/Community, New Hyde Park
3/1/2025 PM	Team Model Award	103	Golden Bricks	Locust Valley Intermediate School, Locust Valley
3/1/2025 PM	Team Poster Award	104	The Convertibles	Locust Valley Intermediate School, Locust Valley
3/1/2025 PM	Team Poster Award	3697	The Submersibles	Bayville Intermediate School, Bayville
3/9/2025 AM	Challenge Solution Award	26452	Charles Campagne Golden Eaglets	Charles Campagne Elementary School, Bethpage
3/9/2025 AM	Challenge Solution Award	27532	Kung Fu Team	East Street School, Hicksville

Date	Award	Team #	Team Name	School/Town
3/9/2025 AM	Challenge Solution Award	28138	OCR Tigers	Old Country Road School, Hicksville
3/9/2025 AM	Coding Award	26454	Kramer Lane Bots Blue	Kramer Lane Elementary School, Bethpage
3/9/2025 AM	Coding Award	31534	Penguin Divers	Lee Avenue Elementary School, Hicksville
3/9/2025 AM	Coding Award	28146	Woodland Wildcats	Woodland Elementary School, Hicksville
3/9/2025 AM	Core Values Award	28139	The Falcons	Fork Lane Elementary School, Hicksville
3/9/2025 AM	Core Values Award	29656	Wave Riders	Family/Community, Woodbury
3/9/2025 AM	Team Model Award	28137	Dutch Lane Dragons	Dutch Lane Elementary School, Hicksville
3/9/2025 AM	Team Model Award	28141	Leo's Pride	Lee Avenue Elementary School, Hicksville
3/9/2025 AM	Team Poster Award	30658	4 Legostinos	Family/Community, Manhasset Hills
3/9/2025 AM	Team Poster Award	28148	Burns Avenue Lions	Burns Avenue School, Hicksville
3/9/2025 AM	Team Poster Award	28140	East Street Eagles	East Street School, Hicksville
3/9/2025 AM	Team Poster Award	30208	Overpowered Spicy Robot Jr.	Lee Avenue Elementary School, Hicksville

Over 100 Long Island FIRST LEGO League Challenge Teams Took Part in SUBMERGED

Hicksville High School once again hosted the FIRST® LEGO League Long Island Championship on March 9. This year's challenge, SUBMERGEDSM, invited elementary and middle school students to explore ocean layers and create solutions for a healthier future.

After months of preparation, 110 teams competed in five Qualifiers, with 30 advancing to the Championship. Using LEGO® SPIKE™ Prime, students built and programmed robots to complete themed missions.



Team 51732 - Dragon Racers from Huntington display their team flag and trophy after being named 1st Finalist for the Champion's Award at the Long Island FIRST LEGO League Challenge Championship.

Team 55925 - LEGO Girls from East Islip pose with their trophy after winning the Champion's Award at the Long Island FIRST LEGO League Challenge Championship.



2025 FIRST® LEGO® LEAGUE CHALLENGE AWARD WINNERS

Award	Team #	Team Name	School/Town
Rising All-Star Award	36659	Thunder Bots	Family/Community, East Hampton
Engineering Excellence Award	49977*	The Stewart Stallions	Stewart Manor, Garden City
Robot Performance Award - 2nd Place	50946	Overpowered Spicy Robot	New Energy Education, Syosset
Robot Performance Award - Winner	54838***	Overpowered COKE	New Energy Education, Syosset
Robot Design Award - 1st Finalist	23758	Meteorites Squared	Hicksville Middle School, Hicksville
Robot Design Award - Winner	60603	Robo Pandas	Great Neck Pioneer School, Great Neck
Innovation Project Award - 1st Finalist	92	5 GEARS INC.	Plaza Elementary School, Baldwin
Innovation Project Award - Winner	9556***	RoboPhantoms	James Wilson Young Middle School, Bayport
Core Values Award - 1st Finalist	62544	Mini POBots	Plainview-Old Bethpage Middle School
Core Values Award - Winner	1087****	BRAINSTORMERS	James Wilson Young Middle School, Bayport
Champion's Award - 1st Finalist	51732**	Dragon Racers	Huntington High School, Huntington
Champion's Award - Winner	55925*	LEGO Girls	John F. Kennedy Elementary School, East Islip

*Denotes team advancing to the American Robotics Invitational at Liberty Science Center in New Jersey from May 16-18, 2025.

**Denotes team advancing to the Western Edge Open at the Long Beach Convention Center in California from May 30- June 1, 2025.

***Denotes team advancing to the WPI Annual FLL Event at WPI in Massachusetts from June 13-15, 2025.

****Denotes team advancing to the Florida Sunshine Invitational at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in Florida from June 24-28, 2025.

Local Robotics Team Pick up Their Kits of Parts to Build Their Robots in Time to Compete in This Year's Challenge, "REEFSCAPESM presented by Haas"

On January 4, *FIRST*[®] Long Island kicked off the 2025 robotics season with its annual Kit of Parts distribution at Schenck USA Corporation in Deer Park—a longtime sponsor of the Long Island Regional. Local high school teams gathered to receive essential components and learn about this year's game, REEFSCAPESM presented by Haas.

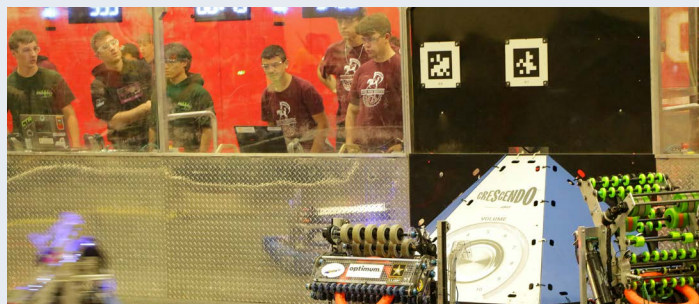
The kits, donated by industry partners, formed the foundation of each team's robot. Students will now spend weeks designing, building, and testing ahead of the Long Island Regional, scheduled for March 19–22 at Hofstra University.

"This season celebrates creativity, problem solving, and teamwork," said Larry Toonkel. "*FIRST* isn't just about robots—it's about preparing students for college and careers. Since the program began, Long Island students have received over \$8 million in scholarships."



Larry Toonkel, FIRST Robotics Competition Regional Director (right), and Key Volunteer Jessica Tripi (left), join a mentor from Hauppauge High School's Team #358 "Robotic Eagles".

Twenty Teams Take Part in the 12th Annual Half Hollow Hills Invitational



Robots from "Rebel Robotics" from Great Neck South High School (Team #2638), and "Kingsmen" from Kings Park High School (Team #5736) attempt to shoot rings into the slot above during the final round of the Half Hollow Hills Invitational on October 27.



The alliance of the "Rebel Robotics" from Great Neck South High School (Team #2638), "Kingsmen" from Kings Park High School (Team #5736) and "The PSIceotice" from Lindenhurst Senior High School (Team #533) celebrate after winning the Half Hollow Hills Invitational.

The 12th Annual Half Hollow Hills Invitational was held on October 27, 2024, at Half Hollow Hills High School West in Dix Hills. Presented by the Half Hollow Hills School District and *FIRST*[®] Long Island, the event featured 20 teams competing in the CRESCENDOSM challenge, the same game used in the 2024 *FIRST* Long Island Regional.

In CRESCENDO, alliances scored points by placing rings into goals, targeting specific scoring zones, and climbing onto chains during the final seconds of each match.

The winning alliance included:

- "Rebel Robotics" – Great Neck South HS (Team #2638)
- "Kingsmen" – Kings Park HS (Team #5736)
- "The PSIceotice" – Lindenhurst Senior HS (Team #533)

The finalist alliance featured:

- "Mohawks" – Patchogue-Medford HS (Team #329)
- "Team Aftershock" – Sachem High Schools (Team #263)
- "HHH Robotics" – Half Hollow Hills Schools (Team #3624)

The invitational was a celebration of teamwork, creativity, and engineering, as students showcased their robots from the past season and strengthened their problem-solving and collaboration skills.

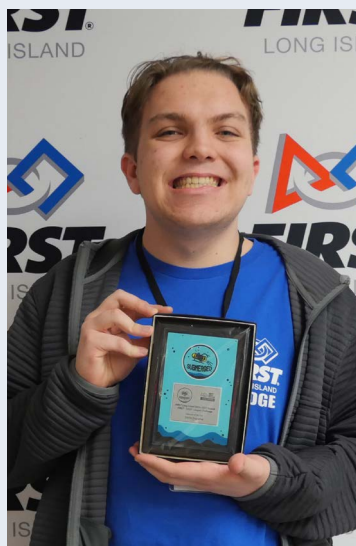
"We were thrilled to witness the incredible talent and passion displayed by the students," said Bertram Dittmar, Executive Director of *FIRST* Long Island. "Their achievements prove the value of youth STEM education."

FIRST Long Island Challenge Volunteers of the Year Named

Constantine Zografos is a senior in high school who has already dedicated many years of service to *FIRST* Long Island. This season alone, he volunteered at almost every event, as well as serving on our Student Event Team. He does this all while simultaneously participating in his school's *FIRST* Tech Challenge team and mentoring one of their *FIRST* LEGO League Challenge teams. With this much already accomplished, we look forward to seeing what he brings to the world as a *FIRST* Alumni when he graduates this year and beyond!

Matthew Quigley has been a *FIRST* volunteer for eleven years, supporting students on Long Island. First as a referee for FLL Challenge, he moved on to become a Tournament Head Referee, and then became our Regional Head Referee for the program starting in the 2022-2023 season.

As our Regional Head Referee for *FIRST* LEGO League Challenge, he has served as a leader in the *FIRST* Long Island community, training countless volunteers in each new game mechanic and overseeing the referee team each season. We owe not only the strength of our referee team but also the longevity of many of those volunteers' service to Matthew's dedication and support, and we hope to count him among our team for many years to come!



Constantine Zografos



Matthew Quigley

FIRST Long Island Challenge Coach/Mentor Award Winners

We thank all of our coaches and mentors for their hard work, time, and dedication in helping inspire and supporting their teams throughout the season. Coaches and mentors inspire their teams to do their best, both as individuals and together, and without them, there would be no *FIRST* LEGO League. This season, we had 6 Coach/Mentor Award winners (1 per event). This award goes to the coach or mentor whose leadership and guidance is clearly evident and best exemplifies the *FIRST* Core Values.



Pictured from left to right:

Qualifier #1:
Khan DeRenzo,
Team 7854
(Coral Otterbots)

Qualifier #2:
Brian Sheridan,
Team 41208
(Quakebotz)

Qualifier #3:
Peter Xanthus,
Team 69913
(X-RobotX
Robo-Lions)

Qualifier #4:
Ms. Martino,
Team 31703 (Jack
Abrams STEM-5)

Qualifier #5:
Alisa Plastrik,
Team 39661
(Mor Dynamics)

Championship:
Sachin K.,
Team 55925
(LEGO Girls)

Brian Cholerton Named FRC's Volunteer of the Year

Brian Cholerton was named Volunteer of the Year at the *FIRST*® Robotics Competition on March 21. A dedicated volunteer for over 26 years, he began as a parent with FRC Team #311 and quickly became a mentor and key supporter of regional events. After retiring from a 40-year career at Northrop Grumman and National Grid, Brian focused his efforts on *FIRST*, helping start and mentor teams in East Islip, Hicksville, Sayville, and Central Islip. He's best known as the voice of the Long Island FRC Regionals, announcing every match with enthusiasm. Brian also mentors students and alumni interested in game announcing, guiding them with patience and encouragement. His unwavering commitment and generosity have made a lasting impact on the *FIRST* Long Island community.



Brian Cholerton

FIRST Long Island In Memoriam

Holly Engel



Holly Engel

We are deeply saddened to share the passing of Holly Engel, a cherished member of the *FIRST*® Long Island community. An alum of FRC Team 514, Holly dedicated years volunteering across FRC, FTC, and FLL, becoming a beloved presence at our events and beyond. Her impact on the *FIRST* community is immeasurable, and she will be deeply missed.

Ken Vessey



Ken Vessey

Ken Vessey volunteered as UL Safety Advisor with *FIRST* Robotics, and was a mentor of a highly successful Robotics Team. His passion for teaching and guiding students into the field of STEM, combined with his knowledge in all safety related fields will be greatly missed. Ken passed away in 2024 at the age of 58.

John Loonam



John Loonam

Sadly, John Loonam passed away last August at 82. A dedicated volunteer since 2005, he was named Regional Volunteer of the Year in 2016. He served on the FRC Development Council, the *FIRST* Long Island Executive Management Team, and as Co-President during a challenging transition. He also played a key role in creating the student ambassador program.

UPCOMING EVENTS

As we wrap up the 2024–2025 *FIRST*® DIVE™ presented by Qualcomm season, we look ahead to our next adventure—archaeology!

Every artifact tells a story. Through STEM and teamwork, students will uncover connections to the past and make new discoveries.

Welcome to *FIRST*® AGE™ presented by Qualcomm, the 2025–2026 robotics season inspired by archaeology. What will you uncover?

Learn more at info.firstinspires.org/first-age.



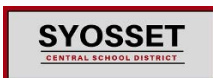
Our Sincere Gratitude to all FIRST Long Island Sponsors

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VOLUNTEER WITH US!

Every year, we have hundreds of volunteers help support our mission to inspire the next generation and prepare them for the future! The best part is, you don't have to know anything about robotics in order to be a part of the fun! There are numerous technical and non-technical positions that are required for every event to support FIRST® programs on Long Island. We provide all the training you need—and you're guaranteed to have a great time along the way! Help us inspire the next generation of STEM leaders on Long Island! Learn more at www.firstinspires.org/volunteer.



MEET OUR PROGRAM DELIVERY PARTNERS



Rick Ramhap

Rick Ramhap became involved in FIRST Long Island eighteen years ago, when he formed a FIRST LEGO League Jr. (now known as FIRST LEGO League Explore) program within the organization and started a team for his two children. In 2021, he was named one of FIRST LEGO® League Explore's Volunteer of the Year by FIRST. He was one of four Volunteers of the Year honorees worldwide to receive this honor.

Email: rick.ramhap@firstlongisland.org



J.J. Gembinski

J.J. Gembinski brought his first team to FLL in 2016. Along with his co-coach, J.J. worked with that team from FLL Explore (formerly FLL Jr.) through an additional four seasons of Challenge. After his team aged out, he volunteered to join FIRST Long Island leadership and participate in FLL from a different perspective. J.J. looks forward to working with coaches, school districts, and his colleagues to bring Explore to future generations of teams.

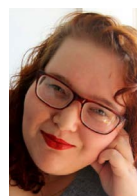
Email: jj.gembinski@firstlongisland.org



Troy Douglas

Troy Douglas is a project engineer designing industrial automation systems for the past eleven years while working for Festo. He is a FIRST Robotics Competition Alumnus from Team 270, the "Falcons" from Deer Park High School. He has been involved with helping to plan and execute FIRST LEGO League, FIRST Tech Challenge, and FIRST Robotics Competition as a volunteer and development council member dating back to 2007 and was a mentor for FIRST LEGO League from 2003 to 2007. His previous role for FIRST LEGO League was regional head referee. For the FIRST Robotics Competition, he is a head referee and has volunteered out of state, internationally and at the FIRST Championship for a number of years.

Email: troy.douglas@firstlongisland.org



Annabelle May

Annabelle is a former teacher and current International Student Services Manager with over eleven years in education. She has also worked as a freelance editor for more than 16 years. A FIRST Long Island volunteer since 2010, she began as a Project Judge for FIRST LEGO League, later adding FIRST Tech Challenge judging in 2019 and becoming a Judge Advisor in 2020. Annabelle is also a proud FIRST Long Island alumna, having competed as an original member of one of Long Island's early FLL teams, Team #7 Congobots. Outside of robotics, she's a keen reader, knitter, and fan of trivia-based shows.

Email: annabelle.may@firstlongisland.org



Marin Kobin

Marin Kobin is a systems engineer who has been working with the Navy and Marine Corps for the past sixteen years. She recently graduated from a selective leadership program through work and added to her technical work by also becoming a supervisor. She is a FIRST Robotics Competition alumna from Team #1468, the "J-Birds" from Hicksville High School. After high school, she went on to coach and volunteer across the FIRST progression of programs in the Finger Lakes, Chesapeake and Long Island regions during and after college.

Email: marin.kobin@firstlongisland.org



Caryn Meirs

Caryn Meirs is a high school special education science teacher and recently earned her doctorate in education. Caryn moved with her FLL team to the fledgling NYC-Long Island FTC season and helped the team grow into a successful multi-team FTC club. She is awestruck at the opportunity to be volunteering for FIRST Long Island again — especially with the FTC program. At home, she lives with her two dogs and competes in agility and obedience on weekends without robotics.

Email: caryn.meirs@firstlongisland.org



Larry Toonkel

Upon his retirement in 2015, Larry Toonkel joined the FIRST Long Island (formerly School-Business Partnerships of Long Island, Inc.) development council and served as a judge at the Long Island Regional FIRST Robotics Competitions. He was named co-director of the development council in 2017. In 2022, he became the council's sole Regional Director following the retirement of David Johnson.

Larry always had a love of science and technology and his career shows it. He worked for the Atomic Energy

Commission, the U.S. Department of Energy and a small technology company involved in cell phones. In addition, he spent over 30 years at Northrop Grumman, where he held various managerial and supervisory positions related to project management, software engineering and process engineering. It was during his time at Northrop Grumman when he became interested in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) initiatives and decided to volunteer for FIRST Long Island. His time since 2017 serving as Regional Director has been especially rewarding as he led the development council to present successful regionals each year. His interaction with the Long Island teams and event participants has also been extremely satisfying.

Email: lawrence.toonkel@firstlongisland.org



190 Motor Parkway
Hauppauge, NY 11788

Inspiring Students to Pursue Careers in Science, Technology, Engineering & Math

ABOUT *FIRST*® LONG ISLAND

FIRST® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Long Island is a fully volunteer-run 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with the goal to enable students to find their passion, while preparing them for the challenges facing the 21st-century workforce.

FIRST Long Island evolved from School-Business Partnerships of Long Island (SBPLI). In 1984, Frederick Breithut had the vision and foresight to recognize the need to develop partnerships between local high schools and businesses. His goal was to provide students with practical experience and curriculum development, while helping the business community develop its future workforce, which resulted in the formation of over 100 partnerships. To further this mission, in 1999, SBPLI partnered with *FIRST* to administer and bring *FIRST* Robotics Competition (FRC) to Long Island. The Long Island robotics program featured just eight FRC high school teams culminating in the inaugural FRC Regional event. Since then, the FRC Long Island Regional has grown to two events with over 80 teams consisting of over 2,000 students competing each year. *FIRST* Long Island also hosts the *FIRST* LEGO League programs, in which over 2,000 elementary and middle school students from Nassau and Suffolk Counties take part each year. In 2016, the *FIRST*® Tech Challenge was added to its roster of programs, roughly impacting another 500 students on Long Island.

Now doing business as *FIRST* Long Island, the organization seeks to expand its impact by strengthening relationships with students, volunteers, and sponsors while helping to connect students and alumni to internship and job opportunities. *FIRST* Long Island continues to use robots as the vehicle to “build students” and prepare them for the future.

For more information about the programs, find out about volunteering, or to learn how to become a sponsor, visit www.firstlongisland.org



FIRST Long Island • 190 Motor Parkway, Hauppauge, NY 11788
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