



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Thank you for supporting your student to attend the Nebraska Robotics Expo this year! The expo will be on Saturday, February 18th at the Strategic Air and Space Museum in Ashland, NE. In case of a weather cancellation the expo will be re-booked for the following Saturday, February 25th. There are several details for the museum outlined for you below:

1- Arrival:

You may enter the museum at 7:30 with your child for registration. You will have an hour to get things set up, with opening ceremonies starting at 8:30AM. The CEENBoT Showcase teams will have photos with the Governor from 9:00 – 9:30AM, after opening ceremonies. Your child's teacher will have teams lined up when they first arrive to ensure your child is able to get their photo taken. We will take as many photos as possible in this time slot, respecting the Governor's time.

When you enter the museum, the space to your immediate right is a holding area for teams to gather. Registration will occur behind the main desk and to the right for CEENBoT Showcase.

All team participants are allowed free admission. Anyone who is not a participant, team leader, or volunteer will need stop and pay admission to the museum. Siblings and family members of participants will need to pay museum admission.

SASM Museum Admission

Adult \$12 + tax

Senior \$11 + tax (65+)

Act/Retired Military \$11 + tax

Children \$6 + tax (ages 4 – 12)

Single membership \$40

Military family membership \$50

Family Package \$75

Arrival/Departure Note: **All traffic in and out of the museum must go through the front entrance.** The back door of Hangar A's alarm will be activated, so you cannot go out this door.

2- Parking:

Car-pooling is strongly recommended!

Parking spots are on a first come, first serve basis. Plan to arrive early to get a spot. The back lot reserved for volunteers and sponsors. Your options are the front lot and possible side parking (depending on snow levels and frozen ground) along the road, and overflow parking at Mahoney.

We will have additional parking set up at Mahoney with a shuttle from the museum, and cost per car to park at Mahoney is \$4.00. If you have a state park pass you may park for no charge.

3- Food:

Breakfast – Limited breakfast items will be available through the SASM Plane Food restaurant.

Lunch – The pre-order lunch option will be a lasagna meal as a fundraiser for the UNL Food Science Club, available for \$6.50 + tax. Lunch tickets should be pre-ordered and purchased online by your child's teacher, or you may order a lunch for yourself by February 6th at: <http://marketplace.unl.edu/ne4h/geartech21/lunch-at-ne-roboexpo.html>.

If you do not pre-order a lunch, there will be sandwiches available for purchase at two locations in the museum as well as the regular food at the Plane Food Restaurant. **Note:** *Cash or check only*. The sandwich options include either a hot dog or a BBQ beef or pork sandwich, chips and drink for \$5.25 or \$5.50, respectively.

For those who purchased a **pre-ordered lunch**, you may eat anytime between 11:30AM and 1:30PM in the Restoration Hangar. You will need to go to the Restoration Hangar to pick up lunch, and are free to eat it at the tables there, or take it back to Hangar A. You and your child may also bring your own lunch, but not eat it directly in the Plane Food Restaurant areas. There will be tables and additional seating available in the Team areas and at the entrance to Hanger A.

Snacks - Snacks and drinks will be sold throughout the day at the entrance to Hangar A as a fundraiser by the UNL Student IEEE group.

4- Schedule:

The opening ceremony begins at 8:30AM, with a keynote by the Governor. CEENBoT Showcase events start at 9:30AM. The awards ceremony starts at 4:00PM. For the CEENBoT Showcase, there is a program insert detailing times of events by child's team for your reference.

"Things to See and Do" at NRE 2012:

When your child has a break in their scheduled events, you are encouraged to explore all the features we have in place for additional STEM exploration:

- 1- CEENBoT Robotics Games Booths in Hangar A this year features all new games and familiar games from last year that anyone can play to win buttons for participation. Participants and guests alike are encouraged to join in!
- 2- Educational Presentations in the main Theatre features a schedule of inspiring presentations from our corporate sponsors and exhibitors on real world applications and careers in STEM. Please feel free to attend the presentations that fit into your schedule and to encourage your students and family to attend the presentations as well.
- 3- Exhibitors set up along the Mezzanine of Hanger A provide both informational booths and hands-on exploration of robotics and STEM applications from medicine to mechatronics presented by professional

STEM societies, non-profit, and educational organizations showcasing the many opportunities in STEM.

- 4- Creative and Visual Art Expo - new at the 2012 Expo - features over 100 robotic-inspired works of art created by local students! On display in Hanger A behind the Ball Course, the coordinator for this new event will also be hosting robot drawing lessons during the day! Look for a sign-up for this free event.
- 5- New Special Exhibits – Look for other new special exhibits displayed throughout Hanger A, including a collection of real military robots used by the US Navy for applications such as bomb disposal and a display of local Omahans' creative tinkering work as part of the Omaha Maker's Group to show what can be created from spare parts!
- 6- Great Balls of Fire –This Traveling Exhibit on display at SASM from the Space Science Institute requires no additional fee. It allows you to explore comets, asteroids, meteors and attempt to save the Earth from an asteroid! It is on display through April 2012.

5- Paperwork:

Assessment Consent Form -

You will need to sign a consent form for your student to complete the assessment that is being given as part of the Expo this year. We will have rewards for the students who complete the pre and post assessments, and the pre-assessments need to be completed prior to the event and turned in at registration. If you have not signed your student's consent form yet, please sign it for them to complete the assessment and be eligible for the prize. Students not completing both parts of the assessment are not eligible for the prize.

Image Release Form –

Your student will bring you a signed consent form stating that it is all right for the University of Nebraska to post any photos that may be taken of them during the expo on the UNL CEEN website. If the form is not completed and returned by your student, you will need to sign and complete the form the morning of the event.

6- Museum Rules:

Please be advised to warn your student(s) about running in the museum, being extra careful around the low-hanging sharp objects with the planes, and no balls, balloons, silly string, nail polish, or other things that could either get caught in a plane or damage the museum floors.

Some of the sharp objects will be properly taped or covered, but it is impossible to cover all of them, and the Strategic Air and Space Museum is not responsible for any injury that may occur to attendees or participants in the expo. THANK YOU for your help with the forms, and for being a part of the 2012 Expo!

Sincerely,

Alisa Gilmore, CEENBoT Showcase and NRE Coordinator

CEENBoT Showcase website

<http://www.ceen.unl.edu/CEENBoT/Showcase/>