Since 2010, organizations across Nebraska have partnered to host a unique educational robotics event: The Nebraska Robotics Expo. More than 6,000 people have visited the Strategic Air and Space Museum since 2010 to cheer on teams from Nebraska’s K-12 schools, including over 2,000 at the 2012 event.

The CEENBoT™ Robotics Showcase is a main component of this exciting event, featuring the CEENBoT™ robot platform, the result of educational research and development by the Silicon Prairie Initiative for Robotics in Information Technology (SPIRIT) collaboration between the UNL Department of Computer & Electronics Engineering and the UNO College of Education.

The CEENBoT™ Showcase recruits teacher-led K-12 teams, providing friendly, competitive robotics STEM challenges where students apply science, math, engineering and technology skills. The event also features a free community component, where non-competitors can engage in robot games and educational activities.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2012 EXPO:

- A total of 60 teams from 30 Nebraska elementary, middle and high schools participated in the 2012 CEENBoT™ Showcase Events, involving more than 350 Nebraska students and teachers.
- The showcase consisted of four robot strategy events, STEM educational presentations, and over 20 informational and activity booths set up by sponsors and non-profit STEM organizations to showcase and encourage participation in STEM careers. Also, the CEENBoT™ Games area was open to the general public to play robot games and win prizes for their participation.
- New in 2012, the Creative Visual Arts Expo featured 130 robotic-inspired works of art created by local K-12 students from 10 area schools, showcasing students’ creativity and their understanding of robotics at the intersection of art and science.
- Governor Dave Heineman headlined the Open Ceremonies and posed for photos with each team/school, while Omaha Mayor Jim Suttle provided closing remarks at the Awards Ceremonies.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND FUNDING

The Nebraska Robotics Expo depends on community sponsors to make this event a success.

We are proud of the support provided by the state’s industries and organizations as we work to encourage the unlimited potential, daring innovation, and life-changing education of Nebraska’s youth.

To provide this opportunity to the students of Nebraska, we need your financial support. Funding levels range from $500 to $10,000. A sponsorship of any amount is greatly appreciated. For your sponsorship, you will receive significant recognition at the event, as outlined on the Sponsor Levels information (on the back panel).

CONTACTS

For questions or to sign-up for a sponsorship or other support, contact the CEENBoT™ Robotics Showcase event coordinator:

Alisa Gilmore, M.S.E.C.E., P.E., Senior Lecturer
Department of Computer & Electronics Engineering
UNL College of Engineering
(402) 554-2456 / agilmore2@unl.edu

For questions about the SPIRIT year-long teacher enrichment program, sponsorship or other support, contact the program directors:

Dr. Bing Chen, P.E., Chair
Department of Computer and Electronics Engineering
UNL College of Engineering
(402) 554-2769 / bchen1@unl.edu

Dr. Neal Grandgenett, Professor
Dr. George and Sally Haddix Community Chair of STEM Education
UNO College of Education
(402) 554-2690 / ngrandgenett@unomaha.edu
Sponsors may choose to support the overall event, the CEENBoT™ Robotics Showcase, FIRST LEGO League, or the Creative and Visual Arts Expo. All sponsor contributions will be recognized under the umbrella of the Nebraska Robotics Expo. In addition to the items below, sponsors may receive additional recognition at the sponsored location of each event. Sponsors may also choose to directly support teams or schools.

**Cash and In-Kind Sponsors**

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<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Sponsorship Level</th>
<th>Inclusions</th>
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<td>$10,000+ – Diamond</td>
<td>Logo in event program (1st Tier listing)</td>
<td>Logo on event sign (1st Tier listing)</td>
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<td>Sponsor booth at event (first choice location)</td>
<td>Lunch for five guests at event</td>
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<td>$5,000+ – Platinum</td>
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<td>$500+ – Bronze</td>
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**Participant Comments**

"Wonderful event once again!!! Thanks to everyone’s vision and hard work to accomplish this showcase—it has a real impact on our students’ interest in STEM!"

As a 4th grade teacher I could see how excited and pleased the students and their parents were during the entire day. We .... had a wonderful time at the games/activities and the competitive events."

"Thanks again for a great showcase. Students, parents, grandparents gave nothing but praises for the wonderful job by all of you and what a great opportunity for the students."

"We LOVED LOVED LOVED the CEENBoT™ games open to the public. What a great way to keep kids involved! The kids had a blast!"

"This was a wonderful event overall! The kids had a great time and can’t wait to see the website after the photos are posted! The staff we met at the Saturday meetings were seen everywhere during the event and their coordination and efforts were greatly appreciated!! Thank you to all of them!"