



Dear Parent/Guardian,

*Thank you* for supporting your student to attend the Nebraska Robotics Expo this year! The expo will be on **Saturday, February 22<sup>th</sup>** 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, March 1<sup>st</sup>. There are several details for the museum outlined for you below:

**1- Paperwork (Before the Event):**

**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 Nebraska Robotics Expo website. **We encourage you to fill this form out for your student and return it to school before the event.** 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 at registration.

**2- Arrival: (Welcome to the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Nebraska Robotics Expo!)**

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 may have photos taken with their team or school 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.

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

Senior \$11 (65+)

Act/Retired Military \$11

Children \$6 (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.

### **3- 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.

### **4- Food:**

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

Lunch – Lunch options are being provided this year by SASM for the event, with a pre-order option and a number of lunch options available on site from the museum's restaurant Plane Food. Mahoney Grille will have a meal in the \$6 range and will be set up in the Restoration Hangar of the museum. The meal will include sandwich and chips and will be available for pre-order. Plane Food will serve lunch from their restaurant location in the museum along with two satellite locations in the museum. Visa/MC, check and cash will be accepted by Plane Food. The satellite locations will serve hot dogs, bbq sandwiches, chicken salad sandwiches, chips, cookies and bottled drinks a la carte.

Your student may also bring his/her own lunch, and may eat anywhere tables are set up with the exception of the Plane Food restaurant seating area. There will be tables and additional seating available in the Team areas and in the atrium area.

**Please Note: No fast food deliveries** (pizza, sandwiches, etc.) may be made to the museum. This causes a great deal of confusion at the front entrance and the museum asks that no delivery orders be placed. We also ask everyone to please dispose of all trash in your area before leaving the museum.

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.

### **5- Schedule:**

The opening ceremony begins at 8:30AM, with remarks given by invited dignitaries from UNO, UNL and from the community. For the CEENBoT Showcase, there is a program insert detailing times of events by team for your reference. Please arrive at event locations a few minutes early.

"Things to See and Do" at NRE 2013:

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

- 1- CEENBoT Robotics Games Booths in Hangar A this year features hands on robotics games 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 Hangar 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 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Event - features over 100 robotic-inspired works of art created by local students and art teachers! This year it is on display in the Traveling Exhibit located in the corridor outside of Hangar B, on the first level. The coordinator for this event, Tom Orange, will also be hosting free robotics drawing lessons in Hangar A! Look for a sign-up for this free offering.

#### **6- Awards Ceremony:**

The awards ceremony is scheduled to begin at 4pm, **or** following the last competition event. Please note this year, we are accommodating over 100 teams, so we ask for your consideration and patience if the last teams finish after 4pm. We will recognize the top scoring teams for each event within each division. Closing ceremonies will wrap up promptly by 5pm. All students who participate in the Showcase will also have the option to take home a participation ribbon at the end of the ceremony.

#### **7- T-Shirts:**

Event T-shirts are available for \$10 and should be **ordered on or before February 7<sup>th</sup>** and may be picked up the week before or the day of the Showcase. The t-shirt order form can be printed out from our website and emailed or mailed in. We encourage teams to order shirts ahead of time. Only a limited quantity of t-shirts will be available for sale the day of event. Pre-ordered, pre-paid t-shirts may be picked up at the Expo at the designated table near the registration desk. ***Please bring a printout of your receipt for order verification.***

#### **8- 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 2014 Expo!

Sincerely,

Alisa Gilmore, NRE/CEENBoT™ Showcase Coordinator and the NU SPIRIT Team

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