



Dear Parent/Guardian,

*Thank you* for supporting your student to attend the Nebraska Robotics Expo this year! The expo will be held on **Saturday, February 21<sup>st</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 February 28<sup>th</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 6<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 with an Event Pass, will need stop and pay admission to the museum. Siblings and family members of participants will also need to pay museum admission.

**SASM Museum Admission (Free with Membership)**

Adult \$12

Senior \$11 (65+)

Act/Retired Military \$11

Children \$6 (ages 4 – 12)

**Memberships:**

Single Membership \$40

Military Family Membership \$50

Family Membership 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 \$5.00. If you have a state park pass you may park for no charge.

### **4- Food:**

Breakfast – Limited breakfast items may be available through the SASM Plane Food restaurant. In addition, the IEEE Student group will be serving coffee, drinks and snacks throughout the day at the entrance to Hangar A.

Lunch – Please bring cash to purchase food at the museum. There will be two options for purchasing lunch at the Expo:

- *Plane Foods* will operate two satellite stations by Hangar A and Hangar B. Plane foods will accept credit cards, one station will be cash only, and another station might potentially have a credit card machine.
- *We'll Smoke You BBQ* will operate a station out of the Restoration Hangar and will sell sandwiches (pork or brisket), bag of chips, and bottle water for \$6 a meal. Cash only.

You may also bring your own lunch, and you 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. Cash is recommended.

### **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 2015:

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 features hands on robotics games that anyone can play to win buttons for participation. Participants and guests alike are encouraged to join in!
- 2- Tech City Exhibit - Calling all Aspiring Engineers! Tech City, a hands-on exploration of all things engineering! Tech City features 12 interactive stations ideally suited to kids in grades 3-8 that challenge them to solve real-world problems that engineers face every day. Students will learn to design, create, and build!
- 3- STEM and Robotics Exhibitors set up along the Mezzanine of Hangar A provide both informational booths and hands-on exploration of robotics and STEM applications from medical robots to mechatronics presented by professional STEM societies, non-profit, and educational organizations showcasing the many opportunities in STEM.
- 4- Creative and Visual Art Expo – 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Event - features 100 robotic-inspired works of art created by local students and art teachers! This year it is on display in the area just behind the front entrance desk. 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 85 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- 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 2015 Expo!

Sincerely,

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

<http://ceenbot.unl.edu/Showcase/>