



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Thank you for supporting your students to attend the 2020 Nebraska Robotics Expo! The expo will be held on **Saturday, February 22nd** at the Strategic Air Command and Aerospace museum in Ashland, NE. Several day of event details are outlined below for your convenience.

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 11th 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.

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.

SACAM Museum Admission (Free with Membership) + 5.5% tax

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 doors of the museum are closed for guest entry.

3- Parking:

Car-pooling is strongly recommended! Spots are first come, first serve. Plan to arrive early. The back lot is reserved for volunteers and sponsors. Your options are the front lot and possible side parking (depending on snow levels and ground being frozen) along the road, and then Mahoney parking for overflow.

We will have additional parking set up at an external location(s) which may include Mahoney State Park and/or the Wildlife Safari Park, with a free shuttle provided to/from the museum. Shuttle times will be posted on the day of event at the museum. The cost per car to park at Mahoney is \$5.00. (If you have a current park pass you may park at Mahoney for free.) It is free to park at the Safari park.

4- Food:

Breakfast – Limited breakfast items will be available through the museum's *SAC Lunch* restaurant. In addition, the IEEE Student group will be serving coffee, drinks and snacks throughout the day at the entrance to Hangar A. Cash is recommended.

Lunch – There will be two options for purchasing lunch at the Expo:

- *SAC Lunch* (the museum restaurant) will offer several combo meals and ala cart items. *SAC Lunch* will accept cash or credit cards in the main restaurant.
- A catered pizza lunch station in the Restoration Hangar will offer a pizza slice, bag of chips and bottled water for \$6.50 per meal. Cash only.

You may also bring your own lunch, and you may eat anywhere tables are set up including the *SAC Lunch* 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:

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 all new hands on robotics games that anyone can play to win buttons for participation. Participants and guests alike are encouraged to join in!
- 2- Expo Sponsor booths, STEM and Robotics Exhibitors set up along the Mezzanine of Hangar A and in the Atrium provide both information 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 many opportunities in STEM available in Nebraska.

- 3- Creative and Visual Art Expo - features robotic-inspired works of art created by local students and art teachers! This collection of STEM-inspired art will be displayed in the area behind the front desk. The coordinator for this event, Tom Orange, will also be hosting free robotics drawing lessons in the atrium. Look for a sign-up for this free offering.
- 4- Museum Attractions – The museum will have activities open including the interactive exhibit *Quest: Navigating the World* along with the *Children's Learning Center*. 2-D simulator rides will be available for \$8 (discounted price) on the *Flight Simulators* (cash or charge) located in Hangar A. Space-themed movies and interviews will be played throughout the day in the Theatre, which is a good place to take a relaxing break.
- 5- T-shirt Sales – Fine Designs will be selling event T-shirts, custom-designed while you wait in the atrium. T-shirts start in the \$15-\$20 range and go up depending on selected options. There will be many styles and colors of shirts and sweatshirts from which to choose.

As you enjoy the festivities, we encourage you to take photos and tag them on social media platforms (Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook) with the hashtags: #NERoboticsExpo and #RockinTheBots.

6- Awards Ceremony:

The awards ceremony is scheduled to begin at **4pm, or following the last competition event**. This year, we are excited to welcome over 500 students, and close to 150 teams, our largest number ever. We ask that your teams and families have patience if the last teams finish after 4pm. Closing ceremonies will wrap up **promptly by 5pm**. We will recognize the top scoring teams for each event within each division. 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 Command and Aerospace 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 2020 Expo!
Sincerely,

Alisa Gilmore, NRE Coordinator, and the NU SPIRIT Team

CEENBoT™ Showcase website

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