



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Richard McCann  
530.574.1004  
rjmccann58@gmail.com

## **NORTHERN CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS COMPETE TO QUALIFY FOR *FIRST*<sup>®</sup> INTERNATIONAL ROBOTICS CHAMPIONSHIP**

*Students Learn Problem-Solving and Teamwork in Addition to Designing and Building Robots by Working with Professional Mentors to participate at [Regional Event Name], [Date]*

**Sacramento, California, March 20, 2023**— High-school students from California and China will have the opportunity to showcase their hard work after an intense six weeks of designing and building an original robot in the *FIRST*<sup>®</sup> Robotics Competition ([www.firstinspires.org](http://www.firstinspires.org)). This week, at the University of California, Davis Pavilion at the ARC, 45 teams of students and engineering and technical mentors will demonstrate their skill for science, mathematics, and technology. They will compete for honors and recognition that reward design excellence, competitive play, sportsmanship, and high-impact partnerships between schools, businesses, and communities.

Founded by inventor Dean Kamen, *FIRST* (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) is a robotics community preparing young people for the future. More than 1,500 students will compete at the Sacramento Regional on Saturday, March 25 and Sunday, March 26 to earn a spot at the international *FIRST*<sup>®</sup> Championship to be held April 19-22 at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, Texas.

CHARGED UP<sup>SM</sup> presented by Haas is part of the 2023 *FIRST*<sup>®</sup> ENERGIZE<sup>SM</sup> presented by Qualcomm season. In CHARGED UP, teams are inspired to see the potential of energy storage in a new light as they compete to charge up their communities. Using renewable energy can transform our communities, but only if it is effectively stored and delivered to those who need it. The power of engineering can help make a meaningful difference. This year's challenge addresses global challenges related to United Nations Sustainable Development Goal #7 -- focused on ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all.

“Our events are the culmination of countless hours of preparation by our teams of students, coaches, and mentors,” said Collin Fultz, Senior Program Director of *FIRST* Robotics Competition, adding, “The event is part competition and part celebration of what our teams have achieved this year. While only a few teams at the event will be crowned champions, all of our participants will leave the season as better problem-solvers, more gracious professionals, and more prepared to tackle the challenges of the future.”

With a limited timeframe, students work with professional engineering mentors to design a robot that solves a problem following a standard set of rules released January 8 using a either a Kit of Parts or components they fabricate themselves. Once these young inventors create

the robot, their teams participate in over 160 regional competitions around the world that measure the effectiveness of each robot, the power of collaboration, and the determination of students.

*FIRST* Robotics Competition Sacramento Regional sponsors and volunteers come from some of the most highly regarded organizations in the area, including UC Davis. Sponsors provide resources including time and talent from professional Mentors, services, equipment, financial contributions, and volunteers.

For more information about *FIRST* Northern California, please contact Janet McKinley at [jmckinley@firstinspires.org](mailto:jmckinley@firstinspires.org) or visit at <https://cafirst.org/frc/>

**When: March 24-26, 2022**

**Time: 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.**

**The Pavilion at the ARC, University of California, Davis  
La Rue Road at Orchard Road, Davis, California**

***Press Notes:***

*Each day begins with Opening Ceremonies at 9:00 AM, and matches beginning at 9:20 AM. Playoffs commence on Saturday at 1 PM.*

*Local teams attending, listed by high school, include:*

**Sacramento:** 3598 School of Engineering and Sciences, 5274 Rosemont; **Yolo County:** 1678 Davis, 5458 Woodland; **Solano County:** 701 Vanden, 2288 Vallejo; **Placer County:** 3257 Placer 4H; **El Dorado County:** 3189 El Dorado; **Butte County:** 4643 Oroville; **San Joaquin County:** 1662 Jim Elliot Christian, 3669 Ripon

*Traveling from China: 6941 IronPulse Robotics from Shanghai Pinghe Bilingual School in Shanghai. The team previously was on the winning alliance at the 2018 Shanghai Regional.*

*Teams already qualified for the *FIRST*® Championship in Houston, Texas:  
254 Cheesy Poofs, 1678 Citrus Circuits, and 2637 Phantom Catz*

*Previous *FIRST*® World Championship winners competing here include:  
254 Cheesy Poofs (five including 2022) and 1678 Citrus Circuits (one)*

**About *FIRST*®**

[\*FIRST\*®](#) is a robotics community that prepares young people for the future through a suite of inclusive, team-based robotics programs for ages 4-18 (PreK-12) that can be facilitated in school or in structured afterschool programs. Boosted by a global support system of volunteers, educators, and sponsors that include over 200 of the Fortune 500 companies, teams operate under a signature set of [FIRST Core Values](#) to conduct research, fundraise, design, build, and showcase their achievements during annual challenges. An international not-for-profit organization founded by accomplished inventor Dean Kamen in 1989, *FIRST* has

a [proven impact](#) on STEM learning, interest, and skill-building well beyond high school. [Alumni](#) of *FIRST* programs gain access to exclusive scholarships, internships, and other opportunities that create connections and open pathways to a wide variety of careers. Learn more at [firstinspires.org](http://firstinspires.org).

###