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Universal Orlando Resort™ Team Member Newsletter

August 22 - September 4, 2016

In the Spotlight

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UO Sponsored FIRST Robotics Team Makes World Championships

Recently, the Universal Orlando-sponsored 4-H Robotics Team, "Exploding Bacon," qualified for the World Championships of FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology). The team qualified for the second year in a row at the event in St. Louis. Exploding Bacon is a group of local high school students, mentored by UO Team Members from six different divisions across the resort. "Seeing the passion that all the kids have for technology has increased my own excitement for tech," says Andrew McGee, Service Desk Supervisor and FIRST Mentor. "I'm honored and humbled to have worked with such a great group of students."

Exploding Bacon took home the coveted "Chairman's Award" in a regional competition, which sent them straight to the 2016 FIRST Robotics World Championships, where teams from 39 countries competed with their robots. Exploding Bacon was tasked with developing a robot that could travel through a medieval-inspired course, completing tasks, and working to capture opposing castles. "It's really great seeing the kids advance to such a high level of competition, especially two years in a row," says Matthew Miller, Manager, Strategic Innovation & Emerging Technologies and FIRST Mentor. "I'm really proud that our mentors can help the students achieve their competition goals."

Exploding Bacon excels in more than just robotics - the team welcomes students with a variety of interests and skill sets. Members can contribute with video production and animation, web and social media, writing, marketing, and community outreach. "It's a great opportunity to reinforce and build excitement for technical skills ranging from mechanical engineering to software development to kids at such an early age," says Adam Green, Technical Specialist, Programmer Analyst and FIRST Mentor. "Add in the marketing and life skills and you have a great program to build up a whole new generation."

Interested in becoming a mentor?

Mentors are a key ingredient to the success of a FIRST Robotics team, and provide technical and non-technical expertise, encouragement, inspiration, and guidance to students. Visit ExplodingBacon.com for more information on the team, and contact Matthew Miller of Parks Technology at Matthew.Miller@universalorlando.com for mentorship opportunities.

REMEMBER: Sign Language Services Are Available for Guests Who Are Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing

Universal Orlando Resort is committed to providing a safe and enjoyable experience for all our guests. We offer a variety of services to accommodate guests with disabilities, including sign language services. These services are available for guests who are deaf or hard-of-hearing. Our sign language interpreters are trained and certified to provide accurate and clear communication for all guests. We have interpreters available for all of our shows, tours, and events. If you need a sign language interpreter, please contact our Guest Services team at least 48 hours in advance of your visit. We will do our best to accommodate your needs. For more information, please visit universalorlando.com.



How to Request a Sign Language Interpreter:
 1. Contact our Guest Services team at least 48 hours in advance of your visit.
 2. Provide your name, the date and time of your visit, and the location of the service you need.
 3. We will confirm the availability of an interpreter and provide you with the details of the service.
 4. On the day of your visit, please arrive at the location at least 15 minutes before the start of the service. An interpreter will meet you at the location and provide the service for the duration of the event.

UPDATES

Thank You for Making the 2016 Fall Service
 We are grateful for the support and feedback from our team members and guests during the 2016 Fall Service. Your input helps us improve our services and create a better experience for everyone. We will continue to work hard to meet your needs and exceed your expectations.



Thank You for Participating in the Universal Orlando Summer Shutdown
 We hope you had a great time participating in the Universal Orlando Summer Shutdown. We will be back in full swing soon, and we are excited to see you again. Stay tuned for more updates on our return.



THE WAY
 We are committed to providing the best possible experience for all our guests. We will continue to work hard to meet your needs and exceed your expectations. Thank you for choosing Universal Orlando Resort.



Get a "Close Up" look at what's happening throughout the resort with Universal Orlando's official blog at blog.universalorlando.com/