Nebraska Robotics Expo

Creative Visual Arts Expo
Introducing the 2016 Nebraska Robotics Expo
Creative Visual Arts Expo

The Nebraska Robotics Expo – Creative Visual Arts Expo is currently seeking teams of art teachers and students who are interested in competing in a visual arts competition on the theme of robots. The 4th Annual Creative Visual Arts Expo is joining the successful annual Nebraska Robotics Expo in its 7th year that involves K-12 children in a day of fun competing in hands-on robotics challenges and exploring robotics in the context of math, science, technology and engineering. The 2016 event will be held on Saturday, February 20 at the Strategic Air and Space Museum. For more information and to register, go to:

http://NERoboticsExpo.unl.edu/Arts/

The Goals of The Nebraska Robotics Expo - Creative Visual Arts Expo are for students to:

1. understand and apply basic elements and principles of design
2. understand the relationships between art, science, and technology
3. understand the nature of technological design
4. understand the nature and operation of robotic systems
5. consider a career in art, design, animation, etc.
6. create project-based curriculum that will emphasize approaches to problem identification and problem solving
7. introduce students to the pleasures of creative design and hands-on development of tangible solutions
8. provide training so that art students are not only skilled "users and consumers" of media and technology but are also "creators" of media and technology
9. understand that technology proficiency supports youth in their current academic pursuits and it opens up opportunities for higher education and higher paying jobs
10. appreciate the work of professional concept robotic designers
Coordinator’s Background

Thomas Orange, along with his three brothers, grew up in Wyoming, a suburb of Grand Rapids, Michigan. He attended Lee High School where he first realized he wanted to pursue a career in education. Art education was his real passion. He started out as an elementary teacher until the opportunity opened up for him to teach art on a part-time basis.

His educational career spans 37 years, teaching in Kansas and Nebraska. Tom’s professional training includes B.A. and B.S. degrees in education from Calvin College and Cornerstone University in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He has a Masters in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Kansas and an Educational Specialist degree in Educational Administration and Supervision from the University of Nebraska, Omaha.

Previously, he taught in the College for Kids Program at Metro Community College. Thomas worked for one year as the Director of Education at the Creative Center College of Art and Design in Omaha. He has taught many professional teacher and administrative workshops throughout the country.

Thomas has had art related articles and several bulletin board books published. He also received the honor of being “Art Teacher of the Year” as part of the 2011 Omaha Summer Arts Festival Youth Art Exhibition.

Currently, he teaches K-8 art at Lifegate Christian School. He co-sponsors Student Council, is the editor of the yearbook, creates and paints the set designs and scenery for the school’s annual plays, co-sponsors the LCS Robotics Club and directs and teaches in the LCS Summer Enrichment Program.

Thomas is an adjunct professor in the education and humanities departments at Grace University. He also enjoys teaching educational classes and a drawing program called “Animal Masterpiece”, at Henry Doorly Zoo.
Nebraska Robotics Expo
Creative Visual Arts Supplies Needs

500 clear push pins
25 pkgs. of Blue Sticky Tac
12 rolls of masking tape
1\(^{st}\), 2\(^{nd}\), 3\(^{rd}\) place ribbons (400 of each)
Blue and red rosettes - Best of Show (50 of each)
Small and medium bulldog clips (250 of each)
30 mat boards
3 reams of 11 x 17 drawing paper (could be copy paper)
Assorted 12 x 18 colored construction paper
24 - 4 oz. Elmer’s glue bottles
8 dozen black fine-point Sharpie markers
8 dozen #2 pencils
4 dozen pink erasers
60 Crayola markers (assortment)
60 Colored pencils (assortment)
48 - 16 x 20 drawing boards (Masonite boards)
12 packages of clear Scotch tape
6 rolls of clear box tape
2 print cartridges for printing curriculum, materials, etc.
  HP LaserJet 12A – Q2612A
1 drawing board easel for drawing demonstrations during Expo
24 Drawing template shapes (assorted shapes)
2 – 32 GB flash drives