

Contact: Theresa Willingham  
Email: [Terri@WillinghamLLC.com](mailto:Terri@WillinghamLLC.com)  
Phone: 813-728-2822  
Website: [Roboticon.net](http://Roboticon.net)



## ROBOTICON Tampa Bay 2017 Set for October 7 & 8 at the University of South Florida Sun Dome Arena



*Tampa* - At ROBOTICON Tampa Bay 2017, nearly 1500 students from around Tampa Bay and Florida will descend on the University of South Florida Sun Dome Arena October 7 & 8 to learn while they play, and show guests the power of hands on, mentor driven STEAM education. ROBOTICON Tampa Bay is free to the public and events take place from 10am to 5 pm Saturday and Sunday. Individuals and organizations interested in being part of the event as sponsors, donors, or exhibitors, or wanting to secure free event tickets, are invited to visit [ROBOTICON.net](http://ROBOTICON.net) to learn more.

With support from University of South Florida, Hillsborough County, Lockheed Martin, the Doolittle Institute, USF Connect and the Florida High Tech Corridor, JPMorgan Chase, Solid Professor and other fine community organizations, ROBOTICON Tampa Bay provides students and guests an opportunity to enjoy a full scale steampunk themed *FIRST* Robotics Competition event featuring high school student built robot that weigh up to 120 lbs., *FIRST* Tech Challenge (7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade teams) and hydrology themed *FIRST* LEGO League (4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade teams) scrimmages and practice games, and a *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. Expo for our youngest roboticists, ages 6 to 9. There will also be an Innovation Fair showcasing commercial and industrial robotics and education exhibits. Guests will be able to tour Team Pits to see team members working on their robots, and have a chance to talk to students, visit the Innovation Fair to enjoy STEAM demos, vendors and organizations, learn about the Tampa Bay Advanced Manufacturing & Robotics Center (AMRoC) under development, as well as about technical, industrial, and science career and college opportunities

The mission of ROBOTICON is to increase public awareness of and engagement in the power of hands on, mentor driven youth engineering and robotics programs like *FIRST*, and to provide participating youth with a low stress, high-quality competitive event with opportunities for skill building, networking, and college and career readiness experiences.

### **About Eureka Factory**

The Eureka! Factory is a collaborative of creative individuals and business partners who believe in the power of community driven innovation to help people move from passive consumption to empowered and active creation of their future and ours. Eureka! Factory designs public creative spaces in collaboration with community agencies and partners, along with powerful hands on, minds on fire events like ROBOTICON and Gulf Coast Maker & ComicCon. If your company is interested in being part of ROBOTICON Tampa Bay and helping inspire, teach and support our next generation of science and technology leaders, please contact [Terri@Willinghamllc.com](mailto:Terri@Willinghamllc.com) or visit [ROBOTICON.net](http://ROBOTICON.net) for more information to see what's NEXT!

### **About The Foundation for Community Driven Innovation**

The Foundation for Community Driven Innovation (FCDI) is a 501c3 not for profit organization dedicated to supporting academic achievement, economic development and the spirit of innovation through inspiring programs, active learning and exciting, innovative projects. We do this by facilitating fiscal sponsorship for youth robotics teams, and by supporting exciting hands on learning and living events like Gulf Coast Maker & ComicCon, Tampa Bay's annual maker festival, and ROBOTICON Tampa Bay, an annual youth robotics showcase event. FCDI is also leading development of Tampa Bay's first Advanced Manufacturing and Robotics Center (AMRoC). Visit [FFCDI.org](http://FFCDI.org) for more information.