



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Virginia Western Community College to host FIRST® LEGO® League teams from across the Southwest Virginia Saturday**

*Roanoke, Virginia, November 3, 2014:* On Saturday, Nov. 8, Virginia Western Community College will host the regional tournament for FIRST® LEGO® League, an international, K-12 not-for-profit organization founded to inspire young people's interest and participation in science and technology.

Beginning at 9 a.m., 13 teams of children ages 9 to 14 will gather in the Fralin Center for Science and Health Professions as part of a new challenge called FLL WORLD CLASS<sup>SM</sup>.

Teams have been building, testing and programming autonomous robots using LEGO® MINDSTORMS® technology to solve a series of wisdom-gathering missions, including: pushing a lever to open a door to learning, moving an idea outside of the box, loading a model with knowledge, skill loops and more.

During this tournament, teamwork challenges and research presentations will be performed before judges and high-scoring teams could advance to the Virginia-DC Championship, which will be held in Harrisonburg during December.

Everyone is invited to attend this free event sponsored by the Roanoke-Blacksburg Technology Council, Virginia Western Community College and the Tuxedo Pandas.

Can't make it Saturday, but still want to experience FLL? View the tournament's live webstream at <http://new.livestream.com/vwcc/fll>.

**ABOUT THE FIRST® LEGO® LEAGUE (FLL)**



The FLL Core Values emphasize contributions of others, friendly competition, learning and community involvement. The FIRST® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) organization offers a progression of STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) programs for students in grades K through 12. For more information, visit [www.rbfl.org](http://www.rbfl.org).

**ABOUT THE ROANOKE - BLACKSBURG TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL (RBTC)**

The Roanoke - Blacksburg Technology Council is a non-profit member-driven association of businesses and organizations in the greater Roanoke - Blacksburg region, working together to promote the growth and success of the region's technology sector. Its membership includes more than 230 organizations. The RBTC is the leading resource for the region's growth and success. It exists to connect and unite the region's technology community, develop and educate thought-leaders, mentors and the technology workforce, and improve access to talent. To learn more, please visit <http://www.thetechnologycouncil.com>.

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