

FIRST Robotics at St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute

It's January 9, 2016, and the Cullen Lecture Hall at St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute is buzzing with excitement. At 11am the FIRST Robotics game will be unveiled. Students, teachers, parents, and mentors of Team 5590, Alumiboti await the unveiling of a new robotics challenge. What will happen this year? Will the team be rounding up recycling totes like last year? Or will this year bring a capture the flag mission? "What if we're underwater?" someone suggests. The clock ticks on, the music begins, and...

Whatever the challenge, Team Alumiboti is ready to face it during the next six weeks. Or is it?

Alumiboti is a fledging robotics group formed in 2014. Based at St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute on Kenmore Avenue, this group of students and mentors participates in the FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC). Last year's "Recycle Rush" was Team Alumiboti's inaugural game. Based on their play in the 2015 FRC Finger Lakes Regional, Team Alumiboti was ranked 19th out of 45 competitors and received the "Highest Rookie Seed Award."

FIRST Robotics was brought to St. Joe's by Mr. Patrick Wick, who participated in the FIRST program during his high school career. Together with Brother Joe Wilkowski FSC, these St. Joe's physics teachers act as Alumiboti's moderators.

FRC dovetails with St. Joe's goals to give students opportunities to "become the best versions of themselves." St. Joe's President Mr. Robert T. Scott has backed his words with generous support to the program. However, Team Alumiboti's survival depends on our ability to recruit support from the community, particularly those who will benefit from graduates with strong technical and teamwork skills. The FIRST organization is known for encouraging interest in engineering and mathematics. Team competition also provides an arena for business and communication roles.

This year, Team Alumiboti is tackling FRC's medieval-themed game "Stronghold." By contributing to Team Alumiboti, you will be supporting St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute's mission to foster a "community of excellence," as well as creating the leaders of tomorrow. Please consider a monetary donation in any amount. We would also gratefully accept gifts of supplies or other resources. Mentors who can offer technical expertise or their business acumen are always welcome.

Please contact Mr. Patrick Wick at pwick@sjci.com for more information. Donations can be sent to:

Robotics c/o Advancement Office
St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute
845 Kenmore Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14223



Thank you in advance for your support. Patrons will be advertised on Team 5590, Alumiboti T-shirts and acknowledged on our upcoming website.