



STEM Tech News

STEM Mentor of the Year!!!



Photo credit: Kerline Prosper, ESFC

AstroBONauts FLL Team in Regionals

TAI VICTOR

Our very own FIRST LEGO League Team advances to the Regionals! The FIRST Regionals will be at Polk County State College in Winter Haven, Florida.

This was this team's first competition and it took place at Melbourne High School on January 12, 2019. They won the Judge's Award which is a special award in which the judging panel decides that a team's unique efforts, performance, or dynamics merit recognition.

Their strengths were the project and their core values. Their project was called Food Extrude a 3D food printing idea to sustain astronauts with nutrients that they need while in space. The FIRST core values include discovery, innovation, impact, inclusion, teamwork and fun.

This eight-member team includes: Julyus, Jayden, Nia, Edwin, Lyana, Serenity, Joshua and Simberly and two amazing coaches Mike and Darrell.



Photo credit: Keith Heinley, United Way

Darrell Thomas wins STEM Mentor of the year award

On January 26, 2018 at the Marriott Courtyard in Cocoa Beach, Mr. Darrell Thomas was recognized as STEM Mentor of the Year by the Space Coast Women in Defense during their annual Anniversary Celebration.

The Space Coast Women in Defense is a non-profit professional networking and development organization for women and men across Florida's Space Coast who contributes to national defense and security.

This event recognizes individuals and organizations for their dedication and tireless support promoting STEM education in our community.

Darrel Thomas has been mentoring low-income underrepresented youth in hands-on technology over 30 years and long before the emergence of STEM as a popular term. He is an electrical engineer currently working for NASA at Kennedy Space Center.

Mr. Thomas is currently coaching our AstroBONauts FIRST LEGO League Team with Mr. Mike Morrison.

We are honored to have such a dedicated mentor at STEM Tech Neighborhood Academy and hope that you will take the time to personally congratulate him.

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BIG THANK YOU

FIRST Impressions

Looking sharp

This year, the FIRST organization decided to honor the 50th Anniversary of NASA's and humanity's first steps on the moon by giving all the teams space themed challenges. The FIRST LEGO League challenge this year is themed INTO ORBIT. Where they "prepare to blast off, break out of (our) earthly constraints and go INTO ORBIT."

Our AstroBOnauts FLL Team has a very distinctive advantage on the court. They are sporting astronaut jumpsuits!

These jumpsuits need special care. They need a professional dry cleaner with attention to detail and a heart of gold. We are so very grateful to be highlighting Mrs. Sonia Crawford, owner of Leave It 2 Me Cleaning Services. She has graciously agreed to dry clean the jumpsuits after each competition to keep our team looking their very best.

For this rookie team, looking like an astronaut is only the beginning. We hope this opportunity will open their minds to the many possibilities that exist for them in the future.



Sonia Crawford, proud mom of Dr. Nickola Elliott's, seen here doing a fantastic job cleaning our FIRST Competition Jumpsuits.



Dr. Nickola Elliott, a Life Coach and Youth Mentor, who is assisting STEM Tech Neighborhood Academy with recruiting new members and volunteers

NEW

3D printing class

Melanie Anderson, a Melbourne High student, has volunteered to design a 3D printing class for the Summer. We anticipate very high interest from among our students for this forward leaning class.

3D printing or additive manufacturing is a process of making three dimensional solid objects from a digital file. It enables you to produce complex (functional) shapes using less material than traditional manufacturing methods.

FORWARD LOOKING

Blender Class

Brianna Owens, Visuals, is our volunteer webmaster which you can visit at (<https://www.stemtechacademy.org/>).

Brianna has volunteered to teach a summer graphics design class focused on a Blender. Blender is a free and open source 3D creation suite software. Another amazing opportunity for our youth.

Forward Looking

Solar Family Fun Day



The Florida Solar Energy Center at University of Central Florida (UCF) and Eastern Florida State College (EFSC) along with the Housing Authority of Brevard County are partnering with STEM Tech Neighborhood Academy for a Solar Family Fun Day on **May 18, from 10 a.m-4 p.m.**

This year it will be highlighting the use of solar energy as a means of cooking. Please join us at the Turnquest Community Resource Center for your sun cooked lunch.

We are looking forward to sharing with our parents and the community a demonstration of our Solar Sprint Cars, the Electrathon car and music. All of these activities will be assisted by solar power.

Join us for a day powered by the Sun!

STEM Tech Neighborhood Academy



Empowerment through Education.

