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Homeschool Robotics Team Earns Bid to World Championships

Kāneʻohe, Hawaiʻi — A team of six elementary-age homeschool students from Oahu Longnecks Robotics team has earned an invitation to compete at the FIRST LEGO League World Championship, April 29–May 2 in Houston, Texas.

The “Longnecks Awesomenecks” windward team received the *Future Innovators Award* at the 2026 Hawaiʻi First Robotics Explore Festival. Chosen from 15 teams across the state, the Awesomenecks have become the first Longnecks team ever to represent Hawaiʻi at the FIRST Championship.

This achievement marks a significant milestone for homeschool students in collaborative team activities.

“The Longnecks Awesomenecks believed in themselves, trusted each other, and never gave up. They showed that learning doesn’t just happen in a traditional classroom — their teamwork, perseverance, and courage carried them to the World Championship. I couldn’t be prouder of the heart, grit, and aloha spirit our homeschoolers will bring to the world stage.”

– Joyce Uhlmer, 3rd year Longnecks Parent/Coach

The World Championship draws approximately 50,000 participants from more than 60 countries. For these young students, the opportunity to compete alongside teams from around the globe reflects both their dedication and the expanding impact of homeschool STEM education.

Travel, lodging, and registration expenses are required for the team’s participation. Community sponsors and supporters are invited to help ensure these students can represent Hawaiʻi and the homeschool community well.

Support the team’s journey:

Corporate sponsorships, contact Serena Legg at info@longnecksrobotics.com
Community sponsors visit <https://go.rallyup.com/longnecksworlds>