



Webinar Link

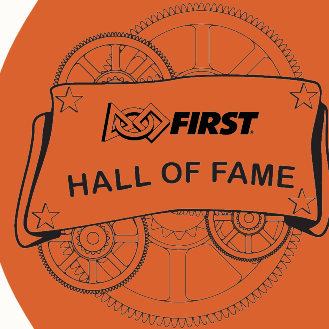
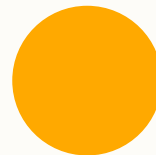


The *FIRST* Impact Award

Presented by Hall of Fame Teams



321 The RoboLancers (2023) + 2486 The CocoNuts (2024)





Introductions!



Please introduce your team in the chat with your

Team number and name, your hometown

AND

Events you're playing!





321 The RoboLancers, *Philadelphia, PA*



Rookie Season: 1999

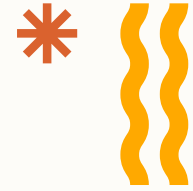
Students: 105

Team Format: two-team
after school program

Organization: Central High
School

Home: Huge city with over
1.5 million people, students
come from all around the
city, crazy sports fans





2486 The CocoNuts, *Flagstaff, AZ*



Rookie Season: 2008


Students: 24

Team Format: After school program

Organization: Coconino High School (public HS) + homeschool students

Home: 7000' elevation
Small, university town
adjacent to Navajo Nation
2.5 hrs from Phoenix
Near the Grand Canyon
No really, *IT SNOWS* in
Arizona!!!





**Are any teams applying
for Impact for the first
time this season?**





**Who here is an
Impact presenter?**

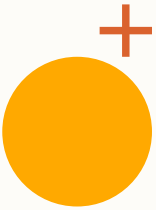


**Who competes in
a district system?**



**Who competes in
regionals?**

Agenda





01



The Beginning



Setting Goals



- SMART goals = effective goals
- Set goals with your team to get a feel of everyone's priorities
- Remember to set individual goals as well!
- Center meetings around your goals to get them done on time



REMEMBER THAT ALL WRITTEN
SUBMISSION ELEMENTS ARE DUE
FEBRUARY 13TH @ 3 PM EST

Video link needs to be submitted
with essay!



Examples

Team

- Create 3 outreach events each semester
- Get every member of your team involved in outreach
- Set a team mission - your outreach should center on this mission

Personal

- Attend 75% of build season meeting
- Take ownership of at least one team project





Meeting Scheduling

- Work with your teammates to find the best meeting times for everyone!
- It is important to have consistent meeting times to stay on top of work
- Make sure your meetings are centered around your goals so you actually get them done
- Go to as many meetings as possible (as our coach says, "the more you put in the more you'll get out") but also its okay to take breaks!
- If you can't make it in person for any reason but still want to help out, consider zooming in or just asking what you can work on from home



Noggin Health



The Season™ is stressful. There no way around it: it's gonna be rough. We have some things that work for us:

- Have healthy snacks
- Drink lots of water
- Communicate with the coaches
- Take breaks
 - Go on a walk
 - DANCE PARTY
 - Stretch
 - Karaoke





02



The Submission



Eligibility



■ First Year Teams

Because the FIRST Impact Award recognizes sustained excellence and impact, not just a 1 year team effort, it is not possible for any first-year team (including rookie teams and new teams that have been assigned a veteran number) to receive the FIRST Impact Award. First year teams will NOT be considered for the award and will not be interviewed.





Content and Emphasis

- Even though the Impact Award is about “more than robots,” the robots are a useful tool that can be used to impact communities. Teams applying for the award are expected to have a robot that can somewhat fulfill the requirements for the game.
- The criteria for the FIRST Impact Award has special emphasis on recent accomplishments within the last 3 years. The judges focus on teams’ activities over a sustained period, as distinguished from just the robot design and build period.
- Always tell the truth, you don’t want to win an award because you lied. But remember that you want to present everything you’ve done in the best light possible



Essay



- The Essay is limited to 10,000 characters, including spaces and punctuation.
- The essay portion of the FIRST Impact Award submission provides teams an opportunity to describe their activities and achievements in narrative form.
- While Judges encourage creativity of expression, the essay must clearly deliver information and facts describing what the team is about.
- Teams are encouraged to use some of this space to explain how their team is structured and the number of mentors and students on the team.
- The essay should avoid duplicating information provided in the executive summary questions. However, it is appropriate for the essay to further expand on those responses and provide more in-depth discussion of notable team achievements.
- The most effective essays are characterized by an overview of team activities during the last 3 years, followed by in-depth discussion of notable activities during the most recent 12-18 months. Judges use the essay to get a big picture view of the team and to learn about achievements that may be unique and noteworthy.



We are 2486 The CocoNuts from Flagstaff, AZ. Our mission has always been to make STEM programs accessible to all. Innumerable barriers make fulfilling this mission...HARD. But with resiliency, reliability, dedication, passion, and enthusiasm, the Nuts have found that we CAN do hard things.



Our small town is nestled in mountains at 7000' on sacred ancestral indigenous lands, and is 2.5 hrs from the closest metropolitan area. FUSD students are over 70% minority and 7 of our 11 elementary schools are Title 1. Flagstaff is described as "poverty with a view," but by contrast it's also called "America's 1st STEM City."

Flagstaff prides itself on STEM programs, but we've personally seen that not everyone has the same access; the majority of Nuts come from Title 1 schools, and have experienced barriers due to ethnicity, gender, or income. We created the "También Lo Puedo Hacer (I Can Do It Too)" STEM fair at Killip, our low-income high-minority neighborhood elementary school, to demonstrate to young people that STEM is for everyone. "Tambien" has now been operating for 3 yrs; 31 diverse organizations, such as the Native American Ed Support Program and the Navajo Dept of Energy have participated. 400 students have had the chance to explore new potential. Killip Principal Gutierrez said, "On behalf of our students and families, THANK YOU! This event is complementary to our vision and goals. The community support is so greatly appreciated. You are AWESOME!" We are changing the narrative from "I can't" to "I CAN."

Many schools struggle to create STEM programs, so we created FLL in a Nutshell, which teaches new coaches strategies for running successful teams. Our partnership with NAU allows us to offer Professional Development hours for any teacher participating in Nutshell or workshops at FTC Kickoff. FUSD pays stipends to participating teachers. These teams have won the Lunar Legacy Invitational and 3rd place Champion's at the AZFLL Championship!





Executive Summaries

- Each executive summary is limited to 500 characters, including spaces and punctuation (with an exception of the last question).
- There are 14 questions and 4 categories each question fits into:
 - Impact on students
 - Impact on community
 - Partnerships
 - Outreach
- To give as much information as possible, you shouldn't repeat any content within the summaries, so you can assign each question a topic



Describe the impact of the *FIRST* program on team participants within the last 3 years. This can include but is not limited to percentages of those graduating high school, attending college, in STEM careers, and in *FIRST* programs as mentors/sponsors.

Being a CocoNut changes lives! FIRST led Nuts to internships at JPL, TGen, NAU labs, and SASA. In the last 3 years, AlumNuts have been offered \$3+ million in scholarships to NAU, UA, ASU, Columbia, EmbryRiddle, UCSD and UNM. Our graduation/college acceptance rate is 100% compared to grad rates of 83% (CHS), 75% (AZ) and 60% (the Rez). 1/3 of AlumNuts are 1st generation college students. 95% of Nuts are in STEM fields. We have 14 Dean's List Finalists. 1/3 of AlumNuts stay in FIRST as volunteers.

Describe your community along with how your team addresses its unique opportunities and circumstances.

Flagstaff is a STEM City and a small university town but by contrast, only 53% of the population has a four-year degree. There is a plethora of STEM programs available, but not everyone has equal access. In schools on the adjacent Navajo Nation, there is little STEM encouragement, programs or teachers with expertise. We go the distance to develop new STEM programs in areas of high need across AZ, with emphasis on our forgotten indigenous communities. This is our home, our Family.

Describe the team's methods, with emphasis on the past 3 years, for spreading the FIRST message in ways that are effective, scalable, sustainable, and creative. How does your team measure results?

We've been in the media 30+ times in 3 yrs. Our Junkyard Robots Challenge develops critical thinking and perseverance. We created 2 STEM fairs that cater to the special challenges of underprivileged groups. We've done 100+ outreach events, workshops and presentations in 3 yrs reaching over 47,000 in person. To sustain our efforts, we've created written instructions on STEM activities, how to recruit and retain partner organizations, and mentored apprentice Nuts to take the lead in future years.





Presentation

- FIRST Impact Award interviews are limited to 12 minutes total; up to 7 minutes for a presentation by the team (which includes set-up) and the remaining time (5 minutes) is for question and answers led by the judges.
- If teams use less time than 7 minutes for their presentation, judges may use the remaining minutes (out of 12) for Q and A. To ensure consistency, it is very important that all interviews are no longer than 12 minutes.
- No more than 3 student (pre-college) team members are allowed to present information or answer questions from the Judges.
- One adult Team Mentor may attend the interview as a silent observer and later provide feedback to the team, but the mentor is not allowed to provide any assistance during the interview.





Video

Content Guidelines:

- Show them what you are doing to earn the FIRST Impact Award
- Do not identify minors by full name, use only first names.

The Video format is as follows:

- A 16:9 ("widescreen aspect ratio")
- Not more than 3 minutes long, no shorter than 1 minute long.
- Include a clean audio track
- Free of copyright restrictions, including music.
- The video must be hosted on one of these three (3) file sharing sites (Dropbox, Box, and Google Drive) and be made public to allow video downloads.

Video



- Video footage
- Voice over/music over still photographs
- Animated presentation
- PowerPoint converted to VIDEO format

Sound:

- Should be clear of pops and hisses

Copyright:

- If using copyrighted music must have written permission
- If using Creative Commons Music (CCM) online, the music must be used in accordance with the appropriate license and properly attributed.
- Music may not contain offensive or suggestive language

+ Documentation

Documenting and preserving your team's FIRST experience becomes an important component of the overall FIRST experience.

Integrity is a core FIRST value, don't make up anything.

Don't make anything up!

Team Name: _____
Team Number: _____



FIRST Impact Award Documentation Form

How to use this form

- In the chart, list all teams/events/items that you have documentation for. Please refer to the [Official FIRST Impact Award Definitions](#) for more information on the required/recommended documentation types.
- Label each piece of documentation with a "documentation ID". Attach the pieces of documentation to this form, in order of Documentation ID, and be sure to label each with its document id.
- **Please only turn in documentation for activities within the past 3-5 years.**

Team Number or Type of Activity & Location (i.e. FIRST Lego League Team 9999 or 2019 District Event - Salem, MA)	Date of Activity (i.e. Fall 2022)	Choose one of the Official FIRST Impact Award Definitions :	Type of Documentation (letter, screenshot, photo, thank you card, etc)	Documentation ID (use numerical numbers i.e. ID-001)

* Teams can use as many sheets as they need but all should have team name & number.





04.

Competition





The Impact Interview

This can be the most nerve-wracking part so we have some advice:

- Cheer on the presentation team before and after the interview
- Bring a mentor into the room with you to silently observe and take notes
- If you blank, don't worry! It's okay to let your teammates help you or to just transition to the info you know. (You can always throw in more information during the Q&A)
- A good way to know you're ready is if you're reciting the presentation in your sleep 😊
- Remember that it's okay if you mess up, the judges know that you're human





A Tale of Two Hall of Fame Teams

Team 2486 - The CocoNuts



Team 321 - The RoboLancers



Spot the Differences!





Mission Statements

CocoNuts

To expand STEM opportunities to the rural, underrepresented areas of Northern Arizona and beyond through *FIRST*.

RoboLancers

To inspire and prepare the next generation of STEM leaders in Philadelphia



* 2 VERY Different Communities

Northern Arizona
Area, 3 counties:
27,500 sq.mi (~WV)
Population:
Coconino County:
144,000
Navajo Nation is in
AZ, UT, NM



Unique Challenges:

- Navajo Nation "The Rez" and Education
- #48 for Education Funding
- VAST Distances: Some Rez teams are ~3 hrs from Home Depot!

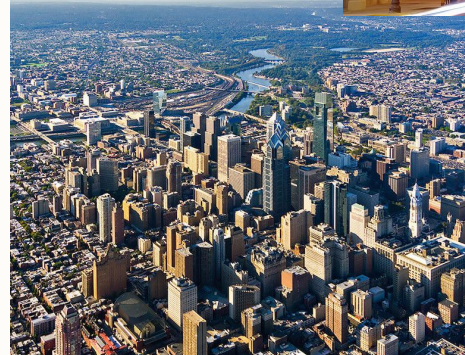
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Area: 142.71 sq. mi

Population:
over 1.5 million



Unique Challenges:

- Densely populated area
- Poorest big city in the country
- Giant school district with money problems



Initiatives to Address Community Needs



CocoNuts

- RezBotics
- Program Delivery Organization for AZFTC
- Arizona Advocacy Conference
- FLL In a Nutshell
- Dine' People are the Future STEAM Fair
- Lunar Legacy

RoboLancers

- Start and support 130+ FIRST teams
- Contracts with school district to pay teachers to coach
- Coach trainings
- Run 14 annual events in city, provide transportation to events outside city



**THERE IS NO MAGIC
FORMULA!**

***Be you...be unique...go
make a positive Impact!***





The End!





Questions?