



National Robotics Week, which occurs annually on the second full week of April, recognizes the transformative role of robotics technology, the ability of robotics to inspire and educate, and the need to underscore technology education at all levels.

In 2010 we will celebrate National Robotics Week April 10-18.

## **Mission**

The purpose of National Robotics Week is to:

- Celebrate the US as a leader in robotics technology.
- Educate the public about the ongoing social and cultural impact of robotics technology.
- Advocate for increased funding for robotics technology research and development.
- Inspire students of all ages to pursue careers in robotics and other science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) related fields.

## **The National Robotics Week Website** [www.nationalroboticsweek.org](http://www.nationalroboticsweek.org)

- Acts as the central hub for National Robotics Week information and resources.
- Lists National Robotics Week events around the country.
- Allows organizations to submit their own events for listing.
- Provides robotics-related activities and resources for educators, parents and other participants.

## **Why Robotics?**

- Robotics has matured into an all-encompassing and enabling technology.
- Robotics is a transformative technology. It has the potential to change our society and become as ubiquitous over the next several decades as computing technology is today.
- Robotics provides an exciting, hands-on way for students to learn science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) concepts and inspires students to choose STEM-related careers.

## **Key Facts**

- The United States has the largest number of academic and research organizations with dedicated programs focused on the advancement of robotics technology in the world.
- The emerging market for service robotics in various sectors, including healthcare, national defense, homeland security, energy, manufacturing, logistics, transportation, agriculture, education, consumer goods and others, is expected to grow at a compound annual growth rate of nearly 20% over the next few years to become a worldwide \$27 billion industry. This worldwide growth will create a new job market and an emerging need for scientists, engineers, technicians, designers and other skilled workers.
- Despite this projected growth, the US faces a critical shortage of engineers and technical workers: Of the approximately 2.5 million students who graduate from high school each year, only 3.5% enter college and declare a science, technology, engineering or math (STEM) major.

## How Can We Support National Robotics Week?

### For Policy Makers:

- Adopt initiatives to promote the use of robotics in K-12 classrooms and after-school programs.
- Share jobs data with your communities that demonstrate the employment opportunities in robotics technology.

### For Parents and Students:

- Attend a Robot Block Party, Open House or other NRW event!
- Read a [book about robots](#).
- Build a robot from a [kit](#) or use your imagination to draw or [color your own robot](#).
- Visit [spark.irobot.com](http://spark.irobot.com) for more educational robotics links, stories, and things to do.

### For Teachers:

- Introduce your students to robotics through a [WebQuest](#).
- Visit a local science center and explore the world of robotics and engineering.
- Go on a robot [scavenger hunt!](#)
- Visit [www.nationalroboticsweek.org](http://www.nationalroboticsweek.org) for more resources.

### For Robotics Clubs and Teams:

- Attend a Robot Block Party or other NRW event!
- Host an Open House during National Robotics Week to show off your robotic creations.

### For Robotics Technology Companies, Institutions of Higher Learning, and Research Organizations:

- Bring your robot to a Robot Block Party.
  - No Robot Block Party in your city? Consider organizing your own!
- Host an Open House during National Robotics Week to give the public the opportunity to come and see your technology.

### Sponsors and Partners

An outgrowth of the effort that resulted in the National Road-Map for Robotics Technology, National Robotics Week is organized by an Advisory Council, founded by iRobot Corp. and The Technology Collaborative, and including Adept Technology; the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI); AUVSI Foundation; Botball (KISS Institute for Practical Robotics); Carnegie Mellon University; Carnegie Science Center of Pittsburgh; FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology); Georgia Institute of Technology; Infamous Robotics; Innovation First International; Johns Hopkins University; MIT; Massachusetts Technology Leadership Council; Museum of Science, Boston; Robotic Industries Association (RIA); The Tech Museum in Silicon Valley; Stanford University; University of Massachusetts Lowell; University of Pennsylvania; University of Southern California; and other leading companies, universities, museums and organizations across the U.S.