

PRESS RELEASE

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ROBOTICS DAY CAMPS FOR YOUTH 7-12

The M-TEC at Bay College, in partnership with Michigan Works! & Michigan Regional Skills Alliances is offering Robotics Day Camps in Delta, Dickinson, Alger, and Schoolcraft Counties for area.

At Robotics Camp, your child will learn how to design, construct, and program working robots using the LEGO Mindstorms NXT robotics kit with renewable energy add-on kits for solar and wind power (Beginner-Intermediate Level) or the VEX IQ Robotics Kits (Advanced Level). Because camp activities are hands-on and engaging, children as young as 7 and as old as 12 will learn valuable problem solving methods, engineering concepts, and computer skills.

The LEGO Robotics system was designed to be simple and easy for children to use. Structural pieces snap together and come apart without tools, allowing for quick build times and easy modifications. A variety of gears, wheels and other accessories allows for complete customization of robots. The “Robot Brain” takes

powerful technology and simplifies it for educational use. It is programmed via a computer and compatible software program.

The newly acquired VEX IQ kits will be introduced to the advanced class this summer. The advanced class is suitable for older students or students who have participated in previous LEGO Robotics Day Camps. In addition to using pre-programmed instructions, VEX IQ robots utilize a controller managed by youth. VEX IQ kits have additional sensors including a color sensor, gyroscope, and distance sensor allowing for advanced robots and teaching opportunities.

This year's camps in Delta, Schoolcraft and Alger County, will be led by Michigan Works! JAG Specialist, Eric Cooley and his team of instructors. Randy Vandenneuvel will be the lead for the Dickinson County camps.

Cost of the camp is \$53 per child and includes snacks. Pre-registration is required, and can be found online at <http://www.baycollege.edu/robotics> and the deadline to register is June 20, 2014. For more information contact the M-TEC at 906.217-4106.

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