



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Waukee Public Library to Host FIRST<sup>®</sup> STEM Expo**

**Waukee, Iowa** — The Waukee Public Library will host the 2018 FIRST<sup>®</sup> Tech Challenge and FIRST Lego League Demonstration Day on Saturday, Oct. 27 from 1-3 p.m. In the FIRST Tech Challenge portion of the Expo, teams of 10+ in grades 7-12 are challenged to design, build, program and operate robots to compete in a head-to-head challenge in an alliance format. In the FIRST Lego League portion, teams of 10+ in grades 4-8 research a real-world problem such as food safety, recycling, energy, etc., and are challenged to develop a solution. They also must design, build and program a robot using LEGO MINDSTORMS<sup>®</sup>, then compete on a table-top playing field.

"These types of FIRST events happen nationwide, and we are thrilled to host one in our building," said Library Director Kristine Larson. "The Library has many programs and tools which support STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), and this is just one more way for our community to experience STEM in a real-life way."

Spectators are welcome to watch the competitions at the Waukee Public Library, located at 950 Warrior Lane. Information about how to start teams for next year will be available. And, see robot demonstrations from local teams FTC Team Thunder, FLL Team Wolves and Team DSM Pi! Admission is free.

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*The Waukee Public Library operates as part of the City of Waukee. It is governed by a seven-member board of trustees. In 2017 alone, nearly 118,961 visitors walked through the library doors and 183,000 items were checked out. In addition to providing books, digital materials, meeting space and computer access, the Waukee Public Library hosts hundreds of programs and events each year to educate and enlighten Waukee area citizens of all ages. Visit [www.waukeepubliclibrary.org](http://www.waukeepubliclibrary.org) for more.*

*FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) was founded in 1989 to inspire young people's interest and participation in science and technology. Based in Manchester, NH, the 501(c)(3) not-for-profit public charity designs accessible, innovative programs that motivate young people to pursue education and career opportunities in science, technology, engineering and math, while building self-confidence, knowledge and life skills. Visit [www.firstinspires.org](http://www.firstinspires.org) for more.*