

## **Parul Vasani / Kanaiya Vasani and Alice Lancaster - Outstanding Coach Award -**

The Outstanding Coach Award honors the coach of an FLL team who has facilitated his/her team as they worked to create innovative solutions to problems while exemplifying gracious professionalism.

We have Coaches from two teams winning the award this year. Parul and Kanaiya Vasani from Brickmasters and Alice Lancaster from TimeLords II

### **Parul Vasani / Kanaiya Vasani**

Parul and Kanaiya have been great in taking the kids who are new to Lego FLL and giving them an understanding of the basics of engineering, programming and robotics. They have set up meetings with the city in support of their project and have taught the kids what it takes to bring change to our community in preparing for natural disasters. Despite the challenges of working with a young team, they always had smiling faces.

### **Alice Lancaster**

We also want to acknowledge Alice Lancaster as a coach who has shown perseverance, organization and enthusiasm during times of chaos, high-jinx, dog play and large doses of middle school behavior.

## **Tommy Yang and Spencer Witte – Youth Volunteer Award**

The Youth Volunteer Awards honors Jr. High and High School students who have contributed in important ways to this current year.

This year's awards goes to Tommy Yang and Spencer Witte

### **Tommy Yang.**

Earlier this season, Tommy demoed his FLL team's award-winning project from last year and shared student perspectives at the Parent Welcome Meetings this fall. He also mentored a rookie team of three Loyola students, the Rug Rats, in the fun and the challenges of FLL robotics and with their project. Tommy did this in a way that spurred the team's excitement and teamwork, helping each team member to contribute in a meaningful way. Finally, at the scrimmage in October he served as a referee at the and also demoed Botball during the break.

### **Spencer Witte**

This season, Spencer found time in his busy schedule as a high school junior to mentor the Lightning Cubed FIRST Tech Challenge team. He shared his engineering notes from his FTC

team from last season and patiently walked the rookie team through the FTC season process. He engaged in brainstorming sessions with the team to analyze play scenarios and helped the team to develop a scoring strategy. In addition, he taught the team on how to use the SolidWorks CAD system to design their first FTC robot.

### **Biswa Ghosh – Outstanding Volunteer Award**

The Outstanding Volunteer Award honors those who have contributed significantly to this current year.

This year's award goes to Biswa Ghosh

When Biswa joined the Los Altos Robotics Board he took on responsibility for our web site that was difficult to work with and largely out of date. He put a huge amount of work into modernizing the site and updating its content. Despite all of this he has always kept a good attitude about taking care of it. He also brought his FLL field set to the Parent welcome meetings this fall. Finally, he volunteered his team, the Mat Scientists to build the four field sets we have used today in the competition but forgot that much of the team would be on a field trip last week with the result that Biswa and his younger son did most of the assembly.

### **Linda Ren – Schuh Family Award**

The Schuh Family Award honors those who have contributed consistently, generously, and outstandingly over the course of several years to the Los Altos FLL events.

This year's award goes to Linda Ren

As many of you have experienced first-hand, Linda has done an amazing job over the last two years of setting up a system for recruiting volunteers, assigning them to jobs, tracking their availability and reminding them of when and where they need to report. She was also tracked down the tables we use at the tournament. She did all of this for both the scrimmage and today's tournament. She has been working on this almost every day for the last several months. The fact that we have been able to put on this large tournament and an even larger scrimmage is largely due to Linda's organizational skills and efforts.

Schuh Family Award for Distinguished Service of an extended period of time:

- 2012 Betsy Adler
- 2011: Steve Putz
- 2010: Derek Witte

- 2009: Finbarr Crispie
- 2008: Eitan Fenson
- 2007: Tom Sartor, Mike Murray, Edmond Macaluso