



Future Leaders Pavilion Showcases Student Talent

Visitors to I/ITSEC 2018 will gain an impressive insight into the talent which America's high school students will be able to bring to tomorrow's modeling and simulation community at the Future Leaders Pavilion (Booth 2681) in the STEM Pavilion.

The students will present their projects at 1600-1730 today in Room S320D during a session entitled 'The Future is Now!'. Awards will be presented during a ceremony tomorrow at 1415 in Booth 2288.

This is the 16th year that the NTSA has hosted the Future Leaders Pavilion and Paper Session. It spotlights the work of students from across the USA who are committed to excellence. Most are enrolled in engineering, computer science, mathematics, or modeling and simulation tracks. Since 2002, more than 175 secondary school students from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, New York State, Texas, and Virginia, as well as students from India, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom have participated.

It is vital to America's national security and economic prosperity that more students are encouraged to pursue studies and careers in the STEM field as 40% of US companies report difficulty in filling positions because of a lack of STEM skills. The US would gain an extra \$2.5 trillion in GDP between now and 2050 if its students scored at the international average on math and science tests. The 2018 National Defense Strategy states that the Department of Defense "will emphasize new skills and complement our current workforce with information experts, data scientists, computer programmers, and basic science researchers and engineers—to use information, not simply manage it."

The partnership of NTSA, the Florida High Tech Corridor Council and other 'STEM-U-Lators' makes it possible to bring I/ITSEC to the classroom through the STEMConnect program. Tomorrow, I/ITSEC will welcome more than 700 high school students, accompanied by about 200 school chaperones and volunteer I/ITSEC member escorts, who will experience simulation, training and education solutions first hand that will help bridge the gap between classroom theory and the applied use of STEM subjects.

I/ITSEC offers two graduate-level scholarships, named the RADM Fred Lewis Postgraduate Scholarships, or Lewis Scholarships, to stimulate student interest and university participation in preparing individuals for leadership in the simulation, training and education communities. One is at the Masters level for \$5,000 and the other is at the Doctoral level for \$10,000. Over \$400,000 in scholarship awards have been distributed to date.

The Students and High Schools Represented in the FLP

Benjamin Franklin High School, New Orleans, LA

Joaquin Gomez and Paul Oramous presenting 'Implementation of Basic Machine Learning into a Self-Training PID System'

Bishop Moore Catholic High School, Orlando, FL

Kristofer Bruno and Kathy Kong presenting 'Stayin Alive'

LaSalle College High School, Philadelphia, PA

James Flanagan and Ian Self presenting 'Improvement of Standard Safety Equipment with Advanced Materials'

Orlando Science School, Orlando, FL

Micah Borrero and Joshua Irrazabal presenting 'Cybersecurity Threats of the Modern Day and Defense Against Them'

Rosati-Kain Catholic High School, St. Louis, MO

Carolyn Aughey and Francine Haefner presenting 'Improved Infrared Physical Performance through Low-cost Motion Analysis'

Sachse High School, Garland, TX

Anais Anderson and Camille Uy presenting 'Sachse Emergency Response Simulation'

Shaker High School, Latham, NY

Karan Yadav and Noah Page presenting 'Auditory and Visual Alert System for Traffic Light Detection'

The Governor's School, Hampton, VA

Gavin McGabe, Jacob Rice and Kai Vyest presenting 'Robustness of Domestic Flight Schedules'

Congratulations to them all!