

Georgia Educational Technology Fair 2017

Dear Regional Fair Winner,

Congratulations on winning first place in your regional competition. Now you're on your way to the state competition. The Georgia Educational Technology Fair will be held at the Macon Campus of Middle Georgia State University in Macon, GA on March 11, 2017. Log onto the website, www.gatechfair.org, for up to date information about the state fair, including directions to the college and hotel information.



Registration information for each student will be posted on the website two weeks after the regional event. IT IS IMPORTANT that you check the Tech Fair website at www.gatechfair.org two weeks after your regional fair and immediately report any problems with the information. NO CHANGES will be made after the information has been posted. Look for things like misspelled names, incorrect grades, incorrect partners, and incorrect category information.

Specific information for the 2017 fair will be posted on the website beginning in mid-February. Below is a checklist of things **YOU MUST** do to participate in the Tech Fair. Failure to complete this checklist will result in **disqualification**.

- Go to <http://gatechfair.org/images/pdf/form.pdf> and print out the consent form, fill it out, and bring it to the Tech Fair. If you do not have the form filled out on the day of the Fair, you will NOT be judged.
- Written permissions for all non-student created content
- Go to www.gatechfair.org, click on the **FAQ'S** button and read all rules and expectations of participants.
- Bring your own computer and power strip if you need more than one outlet.
- Bring your project.
- Bring a backup of your project.

The only Internet access that will be available will be through your own wireless card and there is NO guarantee that it will be accessible the day of the Fair. All Internet projects should be backed up to the computer's hard drive or a USB drive or similar storage device in case the wireless does not work or other access to the Internet is not available due to room location, etc. This will allow projects to be run from the student's computer without access to the Internet. Judges will not penalize a student for inactive external links, but do expect for the student's base site to be fully functional. In case of lack of Internet access and no backup, judges will not be able to judge a Web 2.0 project. In such cases, the Georgia Educational Technology Fair bears no responsibility for the lack of access.

After the State receives the registration information from the regional director, **NO CHANGES** can be made in a category for any reason. Students compete in the same category as the one they competed in at the regional fair. You **MAY NOT** change your project's category from that in which it won in regional.

ALL categories will be judged on March 11 EXCEPT for the Technology Literacy Challenge which will be administered by the regional directors prior to March 11.

There will be no early setup on Friday. The doors will open at 7:30 a.m on Saturday. Competition times will be posted on the website no later than March 3. Check the website often for updates and possible early posting of times. Look at www.gatechfair.org to see the time you will be judged.

You will need to be in place and ready to go thirty minutes prior to your judging time, so you should plan to be at the Tech Fair site no later than one hour prior to your assigned judging time. Before you can be judged, you must check in at the Registration table.

Parents and coaches will not be permitted on the judging floor or in the judging areas during the competition. Information on area sights and attractions will be available in the program guide.

Concessions will be available for purchase and provided throughout the day. More information will be posted on the website **UPDATES** page before the Fair. University snack and lunch facilities will be open at Tech Fair. All participating students receive a t shirt, but this year, T shirts will also be available for purchase at the registration/cafeteria area

Please note that all ending times are approximate. Judging will be completed for some categories by 11:00 am and the awards ceremony for these projects will begin around 12:00. Judging for all other categories will be completed around 4:00 and awards for these will begin around that time. You will be responsible for security for your own equipment. Participants are not allowed to touch other contestants' computers or projects. Please respect the work of others. Any contestant identified as interfering with another participant's project will be disqualified.

Awards will be presented at three separate awards ceremonies. One ceremony will be held around 12:00, one will be held around 2:00, and one around 4:00 pm. When the schedule is published on March 3, the relevant ceremony will be listed for each participant. Please be present for the awards or have someone present to get your award should you receive one. For those wanting to stay overnight on Friday, we will have motel information on the website in mid-February. You might want to visit some Macon area sites while you are in the area.

Submit the completed photo release document at the state fair registration desk as all students **MUST** have a form turned in. You **WILL NOT** receive your credentials without turning in this form signed by student and parent. Extra forms will be available at registration if you forget yours.

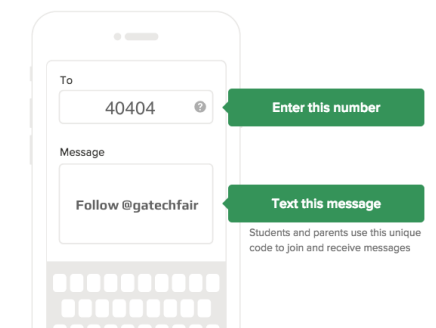
Please read all of the information found on www.gatechfair.org and pay particular attention to the copyright statement and all emails from the Tech Fair registrar. Regardless of the rules of your Regional Fair, the Georgia Educational Technology Fair operates under the rules and guidelines of the GaETF. All projects will be judged according to the GaETF rules as posted on the Fair website. Be sure to go through the Fair website and familiarize yourself with them.

Participants must furnish:

- Student Consent Form (print out from website and bring to registration)
- Written permissions for **all non-student created** content
- Your own equipment
- Project backed up in case of equipment failure (CD, USB drive, etc.)

If you find that you will NOT attend the State Tech Fair, please email the registrar at richard.free@heard.k12.ga.us and let us know to help with our planning.

Check for updates from your device here:



We are looking forward to seeing some fantastic projects this year.

Best Wishes,

Tom Lamb, Director
Anthony Shields, Co-director