



March 2017 | Vol. XXVIII, No. 29

Lancer Robotics picks up steam in San Francisco

Advisor Peter Park and nine members of the **Lancer Robotics** team gained valuable experience at the **FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) San Francisco Regional** from March 16 to 19 at Saint Ignatius College Preparatory School.

The Lancers and their robot, a 97-pound behemoth, tested their skills against 40 other teams during this year's challenge, **"Steamworks."**

Following the basic principles for generating steam power, each robot "airship" collected "fuel" which was stored in its "boiler." Then, "gears" were delivered to a student stationed in an actual tower, the "propeller" was started and the airship "took off," using a rope to scale the tower.

In addition to their competition performance, the teams are judged on a number of other areas, including safety, community service and robot-build skills, with **Katherine Christian, Christina Dang** and **Jalen Tam** each being nominated as "Safety Star of the Day."

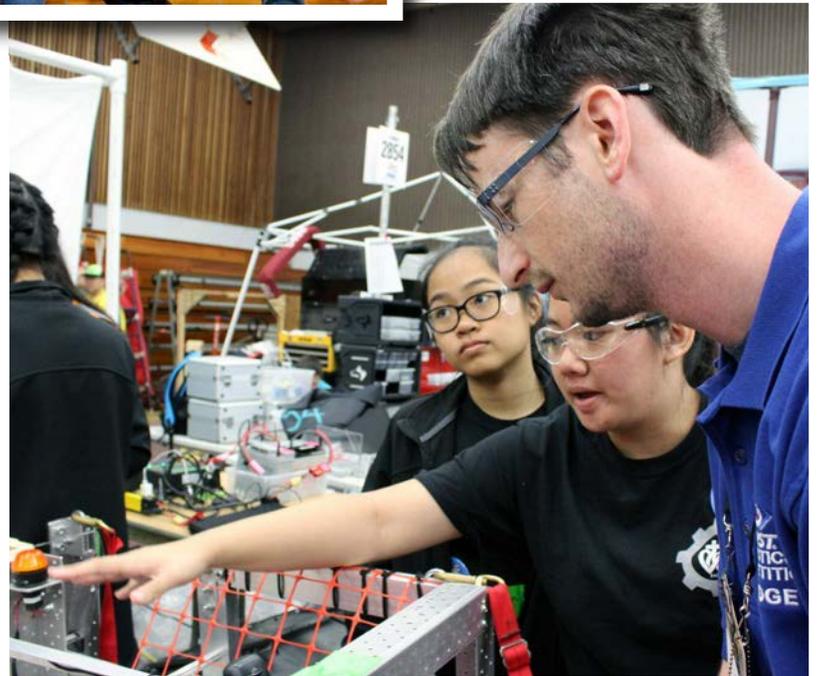
Other team members on this trip included **Katelyn Amorosa, Aiyana Arnobit, Kiara Flores, Ji-Won Ha, Ashley Lardizabal** and **Lesna O'Donnell**.

According to Park, this trip allowed the students to "de-bug" and make improvements to their robot on-the-spot – thus allowing them to enter the **Hawai'i Regional** at the University of Hawai'i Stan Sheriff Arena from March 29 to April 1 better prepared!



LEFT: Peter Park and members of the Lancer Robotics team;

BELOW: Katelyn Amoroso and Aiyana Arnobit explain some of elements incorporated into "Zippy," the Lancer robot, whose name is derived from the large number of zip ties in its design, to one of the judges.



From the Head of School

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE



Spring break was busy here on campus – lots of cleaning, resurfacing the front parking lot and handling roof repairs to the Administration Building.

This week, we welcomed home – in high spirits – the Robotics team that traveled to San Francisco and the Band that enjoyed their time in Japan.

The school is in the final stages of the Admissions season with Director Karen Muramoto leading the charge. Thank you to current parents who have made her task lighter by re-registering all returning students.

The counselors have completed registration for the 2017 to 2018 school year and are now focusing, along with Lower School's Reme Tam, on handling the final steps for Summer School, beginning on June 5.

Many events in education are gratifying, but few more so than visiting with adults who were once one's students. A few weeks ago, I had the opportunity to visit with members of the Class of 1977 whom I taught soon after starting at Sacred Hearts. It was, in all candor, an emotional experience. They inspired me as young students heading off to college, and they inspired me even when we re-connected in early March.

Enjoy the weekend with your daughters.

Betty White

Highlights abound from isle trip

The Academy's 45 fourth graders traveled to **Hawai'i Island** from March 1 to 3 to augment what they learned in class about the geography, history and culture of the Islands.

The students, along with 17 parents and four Academy staff members, enjoyed these exciting, new activities added to this year's trip itinerary:

- > Learning about the traditions of Hawai'i's ranching industry and its cowboys at the *Paniolo Preservation Society*;
- > Exploring the ancient fishponds, wetlands, heiau and settlements at *Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park*;
- > Examining the history of farms and development of coffee crops at the *Kona Coffee Historical Society*;
- > Touring the ahupua'a, or land division, and learning about life in ancient Hawai'i at *Kahalu'u Manowai*.

And, one of the ultimate highlights was visiting *Volcano National Park* and viewing the bright, bubbling lava at night at *Halemaumau Crater*!

In addition to the hands-on learning, the students also developed an awareness of the need to preserve the 'āina and grew more independent, since this was the first time away for many without their parents!



The fourth graders enjoy exploring Thurston Lava Tube, even with the light rain!

Students cultivate inspiration to make Hawai'i better

Seventeen Academy students "dreamed big," developed innovative ideas to make the Islands a better place and won top awards in this year's **"Inspired in Hawai'i" Contest**.

Conducted annually by **The Clarence T.C. Ching Foundation**, this contest encourages students in grades kindergarten to 12 to focus on a local problem area they are passionate about and present a thoughtful solution in either an essay, poster or video.

The student winners and their instructors were honored at an awards ceremony earlier this year.



2017 INSPIRED IN HAWAI'I WINNERS

ESSAY DIVISION

Camille Arnaiz
Megan Backus
Lucy Gentry
Tya Hunter
Megan Mattison
Kaily Sakai
Jade Spallina

POSTER DIVISION

Juliette Cramer
Ayuna Daibo
Chrissy Hori
Bailey Leong
Lola Poerzgen
Danelle Vicencio

DIGITAL POSTER DIVISION

Katelyn Amine
Maya Moya

TEACHERS

Kaycie Baltunado
Spencer Freitas
Alyssa Myers
Margy O'Kelly
Laurel Oshiro
Shelly Spence
Jill Sprott

Students join together for "Let's Sing"

Members of the Academy's **After School Choir**, under the direction of **Deborah Okada**, delivered an outstanding rendition of "Give Me America" by Ruth Elain Schram at the **"E Mele Kakou-Let's Sing" concert** on March 4 at Kawaihao Church.

Sponsored by the **Hawai'i Youth Opera Chorus** and the **Hawaiian Music Foundation**, E Mele Kakou is an annual program which uses Hawaiian literature to help fourth and fifth grade singers master choral and performance basics.



Nene time celebrated during State competitions

It is that time of year again when students throughout the Islands in grade four to six are engaged in activities to create interest and excitement leading up to the naming of this year's **Nene Award**-winning book.

On February 21, a team from the Academy challenged students from Kahului Elementary School in **Nene Jeopardy**, fashioned after the iconic game show to test knowledge of the 30 books on this year's *Nene Suggested Reading List*.

Their three weeks of preparation leading up to the competition paid off as (right) **Madison Iwashita, Reese Machida, Hyatt Yoshioka, Keira Iwamoto, Koko Tanaka** and **Agebail Aguirre** won 3300 to 1300!

In another Nene Award contest activity, **Chrissy Hori** (below) took the top spot among sixth graders in the **Hand-Drawn Comic Strip Division**, while **Danilla Monk's Digital Comic Strip** earned **Fifth Grade Honorable Mention** honors.

Students had until March 15 to read and vote for their favorite nominated book, and the winner of the 2017 Nene Award will be announced at a ceremony on May 6!



CHRISSY HORI

