



2016-2017 FUTURE CITY COMPETITION FACT SHEET

- The annual Future City Competition for sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students is held from September 2016 through February 2017.
- More than 40,000 students from approximately 1,350 middle schools typically participate nationwide in the regional competitions. The winning team from each qualifying US regional competition receives a trip to the Future City Finals at the Capital Hilton in Washington DC, **February 18-22, 2017**.
- Future City is celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2017.
- Future City, a STEM program, is reaching girls and underserved students:
 - 49% of participants are girls.
 - 33% of participating schools have 50% or more of their students enrolled in the reduced or free lunch program.
- Future City students learn the value of Math, Science, and more:
 - 85% of students reported that Future City helped them see that math and science are important to their future.
 - 57% said Future City helped them in other classes at school.
- Future City is a program of DiscoverE, a consortium of professional and technical societies and major U.S. corporations.
- Major funding for the Finals comes from Bechtel Corporation, Bentley Systems, and Shell Oil Company and DiscoverE. Additional funding is provided by Electronic Arts and Project Management Institute Educational Foundation. 25th Anniversary sponsorship provided by 3M, ASCE, Motorola Solutions, NCEES, TE Connectivity, UEF, and UL.
- Student teams, along with an educator and volunteer STEM mentor, research and design a solution to a city-wide challenge that changes each year. This year's challenge—***The Power of Public Space***— encourages teams to design innovative, multiuse public spaces that serves their city's diverse population. Students will think deeply about their city, its population, geographical location, cultural preferences, unique characteristics, and its residents' needs. Specifically, teams will transform two types of locations, a roadway and a brownfield or greyfield, into public space. Some public spaces revitalize a city's economy by introducing new businesses and bringing in new visitors while others help reduce crime, ease traffic congestion, improve pedestrian safety, promote healthy living, improve the environment, and enhance civic engagement.
- Competing teams are judged by panels of volunteers from the engineering community on five program deliverables:
 - Virtual City slideshow: Teams design a city using SimCity software and present their city's progress via a slideshow;
 - City Essay: This 1,500 word essay outlines the team's solution to this year's *Power of Public Space* challenge;
 - City Model: With only a \$100 budget, teams build a model of their city to scale with at least one moving part and using mostly recycled materials;

- City Presentation: Teams have 7 minutes to impress the judges by showcasing what they've learned and what their city is all about; and
 - Project Plan: Students complete a project plan to help them plan and organize their project.
- The top prize at the Finals is \$7,500 for the organization's STEM program plus a trip to U.S. Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama for the official team members, sponsored by Bentley Systems. The first runner-up team earns a \$5,000 prize for the organization's STEM program, sponsored by the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE). The second runner-up wins \$2,000 for the organization's STEM program, provided by IEEE-USA. The 4th and 5th place teams each receive an Honorable Mention and \$750 for their organization's STEM program, provided by Ohio University and NCEES.
 - Thirty-seven regional competitions will be held in January 2017. Participating regions include: Alabama; Arizona; California (Northern); California (Southern); Florida (South); Florida (Tampa Bay); Georgia; Great Plains, Idaho; Illinois (Chicago); Indiana; Iowa; Kentucky; Louisiana; Michigan; Mid-Atlantic; Minnesota; Nebraska; Nevada; New England; New Jersey; New Mexico, New York (Albany); New York (City); New York (Western); North Carolina; Ohio; Oklahoma; Pennsylvania (Central); Pennsylvania (Philadelphia); Pennsylvania (Pittsburgh); South Carolina; Tennessee; Texas (Houston); Texas (North); Washington (Seattle); and Wisconsin. Additional competitions will be held in two sub-regions: Florida (North East) and Washington (Inland Northwest), with those winners going on to compete at the Regional level. Future City's international regions in Canada, China, and the Middle East will also host competitions and send their winners to Washington, DC to compete at Finals.
 - DiscoverE received the 2016 *Henry C. Turner Prize for Innovation in Construction* from the Turner Construction Company and the National Building Museum. Future City was also honored in 2015 as the grand prize winner of the UL (Underwriters Laboratories Inc.) Innovative Education Award (ULIEA).
 - DiscoverE is leading a growing volunteer movement that inspires and informs present and future generations to discover engineering. Our network of volunteers in the US and abroad is drawn from the DiscoverE coalition of more than 100 professional societies, major corporations and government agencies. Together we meet a vital need: introducing students, parents, and educators to engineering, engaging them in hands-on engineering experiences and making science and math relevant
 - For more information, visit www.discovere.org.

Press contact:

Sayles & Winnikoff Communications:

Geena Pandolfi
 212-725-5200 x112
geena@sayleswinnikoff.com

Michael Deleo
 212-725-5200 x115
mike@sayleswinnikoff.com