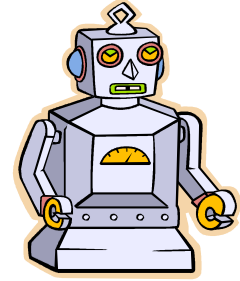




**The Franklin Institute
Science Museum**

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**PACTS STUDENTS HOST ROBOTICS TECH FAIR
MAY 19TH AT FRANKLIN INSTITUTE**
Delaware Valley Clubs Display Latest Creations

Philadelphia, Pa – May 10, 2007 – If you think robots are only the stuff of science fiction films, think again. Right now all over the world, robots are on the move, doing many of the jobs that humans don't want to, or can't do. Today's robots are working on factory assembly lines, driving trains, painting cars and defusing bombs. Much in the same way that owners take on the characteristics of their dogs, roboteers usually design a robot that reflects his or her personality.

On **Saturday, May 19th from 10AM-3PM**, over ten area 'robotics' clubs will display their latest incarnations of robots in **Franklin Hall** at The Franklin Institute. Competitive club members from throughout the Delaware Valley will showcase a variety of different robot types and their inner workings:

- The Episcopal Academy will bring Lenny, who, at 120 pounds robot, loves to engage and can sometimes be a threat to the other robots.
- Northeast Robotics will feature "fighting" robots facing off against each other to get ready for TFI's upcoming Robot Challenge Event in October, 2007.
- Lansdale Catholic Cyber Crusaders will be offering a demonstration of how robots are programmed, their sensors and motors and display a dashboard that allows visitors to actually see inside these programs.
- Kids will be able to interact with one of Team Hammertime's 30 pound robots, and see a video of some of the team's previous competitions.
- Wissahickon/North Montco TCC Robotics Team will demonstrate their 360 degree turret
- Other groups scheduled to participate, including Mastery Charter School H.S., and Westtown School Robotics Team.

The PACTS robotic tech fair is produced by the students of PACTS, a program under the umbrella of The Franklin Institute's Center for Innovation, which stands for Partnerships for Achieving Careers in Technology and Science. In existence since 1993, PACTS incorporates science enrichment, career development, cross-age mentoring, and leadership opportunities for diverse middle school and high school students within the Philadelphia Region. For more information visit www.fi.edu/pacts or 215-448-1333.