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Media Contact: Beth Chee
(760) 918-5379/Beth.Chee@LEGOLAND.com

WISCONSIN TEAM WINS FIRST-EVER NORTH AMERICAN FIRST® LEGO LEAGUE OPEN AT LEGOLAND® CALIFORNIA

Teams from Alabama, California, Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Minnesota, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Texas, Washington, West Virginia and Puerto Rico Also Honored



CARLSBAD, Calif. (May 22, 2011) – Team Fourth Motor, an all-girl team from East Troy, Wisconsin took home the Champion's Award in the first-ever North American FIRST® LEGO League (FLL) Open held at LEGOLAND® California this weekend. Seventy-six teams from 33 U.S. States plus Canada, Mexico and Puerto Rico competed in this high-energy robotics competition that shows science can be just as fun as any sporting event. Teams from Alabama, California, Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Minnesota, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Texas, Washington, West Virginia and Puerto Rico also took home awards.

The teams were champions, runners-up and recommended teams who were true stand-outs in the 2011 FLL Body Forward™ Challenge. The Body Forward Challenge is a three-part robotics challenge based on real-world scientific issues. In the project phase, teams research a body part, function, or system and create an innovative solution to protect, repair, heal, or improve it. In the robot phase, teams design and build small robots using LEGO MINDSTORMS® technologies and program them to carry out tasks and complete missions related to some of today's hottest medical issues, using robotics, sensor technology and ingenuity to solve them.

The competition was judged on project presentation, robot performance, technical design and programming of the robot; as well as professionalism and teamwork. Team Fourth Motor was given the highest honor as the team that was most well-rounded in these areas and best exemplifies the spirit and values FIRST LEGO League. Winning teams in each category were awarded LEGO trophies created by Master Model Builders at LEGOLAND California.

Award-winning teams include the Vulcans from **Wilton, OH** (1st place, Project Research); the Bear Bots from **Escondido, CA** (1st Place project award, Innovative Solutions); Saber Robotics from **Austin, TX** (1st place, Project Presentation); the Future Imagineers from **Brush Prairie, WA** (1st Place, Mechanical Design); the Magellan Mariners from **Raleigh, NC** (1st place, Robot Programming); Team X from **Austin, TX** (1st place for Robot Strategy and Innovation); Claws from **Saratoga, CA** (1st place, Robot Performance); Kick 'N' Bots from **Hiawassee, GA** (1st place, Inspiration); the I-Bots from **Honolulu, HI** (1st place, Teamwork); and the Broken Bones from **Windsor, Colorado** (1st place, Gracious Professionalism). [See below for a complete list of winners]

FIRST LEGO League (FLL) is an international program for 9 to 16 year-old children (9 to 14 in the U.S. and Canada) created in a partnership between FIRST and The LEGO Group in 1998 to get children excited about science and technology – and teach them valuable employment and life skills. Children work alongside adult mentors to design, build, and program autonomous robots and create an innovative solution to a problem as part of their research project. To learn more about FIRST and the Body Forward Challenge, go to www.FIRSTLEGOLeague.org.

Team Name	Home Town	Organization	Award
Fourth Motor	East Troy, WI	Community Team	Champions Award
Vulcans	Wilton, NH	Community Team	1 st Place - Project Research
Incredibots	Ghanna, OH	The Neighborhood Group	2 nd Place - Project Research
Bear Bots	Escondido, CA	Bear Valley Middle School	1 st Place – Innovative Solutions
Just Duck-e	Eleva, WA	Community Team	2 nd Place – Innovative Solutions
Saber Robotics	Austin, TX	St. Gabriel's Catholic School	1 st Place – Project Presentation
The Things	Anoka, MN	Sherman County 4-H	2 nd Place – Project Presentation
Future Imagineers	Brush Prairie, WA	Community Team	1 st Place – Mechanical Design
Untitled Geniuses	Portland, OR	Community Team	2 nd Place – Mechanical Design
Magellan Mariners	Raleigh, NC	Magellan Charter School	1 st Place – Mechanical Design/ Programming
The Nerds	Boise, ID	Idaho Org	2 nd Place – Mechanical Design/ Programming
Team X	Austin, TX	Hill Country Middle School	1 st Place – Robot Strategy and Innovation
Bone-Jankiteers	Champaign, IL	Community Team	2 nd Place – Robot Strategy and Innovation
Claws	Saratoga, CA	Community Team	1 st Place – Robot Performance
Incredibots	Ghanna, OH	The Neighborhood Group	2 nd Place – Robot Performance
Kick 'N' Bots	Hiawasee, GA	Towns Country Middle School	1st Place – Inspiration
Robot Rangers	Edison, NJ	Say What Robotics	2 nd Place – Inspiration
I-Bots	Honolulu, HI	Iolani School	1 st Place – Teamwork
The Actobots	Macon, GA	Community Group	2 nd Place – Teamwork
Broken Bones	Windsor, CO	Severance Middle School	1 st Place – Gracious Professionalism
Monkey Madness	Hampton Cove, AL	Hampton Cove Middle School	2 nd Place – Gracious Professionalism
Power Stackers	Englewood, OH	Boonshort Museum	Judges Award – “Rube Goldberg” Award
Smartical Robo Builders	Morgantown, WV	Mountrees Middle School	Judges Award – Against All Odds
TAEsianos	Caguas, Puerto Rico	Thomas Alva Edison School	Judges Award – Against All Odds
Bionic Bulldogs	Texarkana, TX	North Texas FLL	Judges Award – Powerful Problem Solving

LEGOLAND[®] California is a 128-acre interactive theme park dedicated to families with children between the ages of 2 and 12. With more than 60 rides, shows and attractions, LEGOLAND is geared towards family fun! There are three other LEGOLAND Parks in the world – LEGOLAND Billund in Denmark, LEGOLAND Deutschland near Günzburg, Germany and LEGOLAND Windsor outside of London. The LEGOLAND theme parks are a part of Merlin Entertainments Group, the second largest attractions operator in the world. Merlin Entertainments is the leading name in location based, branded, family entertainment and currently owns more than 74 attractions worldwide serving more than 43 million visitors worldwide. For the most current information, log on to www.LEGOLAND.com or call (760) 918-LEGO.

