



CNY Drones

Since 2016, Central New York's volunteer-run community organization sparking interest in the drone education & employment pipeline!

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The Challenge Continues!

The CNY Drones Planning Committee unanimously agreed to relaunch the 2020 FARM-i-GEDDON Challenge season this September with a competition in early April 2021. All 17 of the 2020 registered teams are invited to participate with no additional fee. Some improvements will be made to the 50+ page manual as we have had time to revisit & refine field elements. Mission options for

teams will remain the same with over a dozen element areas available for scoring. For Competition Day, we will do whatever is needed to provide a safe event. We've discussed supplying more space for team pits, requiring masks, eliminating spectators, and reducing volunteers. We are confident that we can abide by safety

requirements needed to hold an event as schools reopen. Should we need to change to a more distanced event, we are discussing how we can work with teams competing from their school locations using versions of key elements. Our plan is to introduce the METRO MELTDOWN season in Fall 2021 for April 2022 competitions.

Our strategy for the next five years remains moving to a multi-competition Challenge with planning a year to two years in advance. All additions would support our current event plan for the first week of April at SUNY Polytechnic Institute in Utica. Offers to host events have been discussed, although we understand the need to postpone further event decisions until safety strategies meet anticipated health standards. Our partnership plan is still evolving. We're open to new ideas as we map out our future! Contact us!



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CNY Drones @RoboSpartans Robotics operates as a STEM group, graciously hosted under the 501(c)3 of the Griffiss Institute in cooperation with great community resources. We gladly accept monetary & non-monetary donations as well as new volunteers.



Paused Demos, Presentations & Hands-On Workshops

Plans on-hold until social distancing rules are relaxed

Will we be at the usual events this summer? At this point, no.

The majority of events that we agreed to participate in are on hold and/or considering cancellation through the end of the summer

and into early fall. We are working on some new ideas for online mini-workshops, but our plans for interactive demos & workshops will have to wait until we can safely return to our hands-on, multi-mentor format. Once we have the go ahead, we'll be back on the road!



Professional Learning Community Update

Using Google Classroom to assist teachers with drone questions

Our PLC was working well between our Planning Committee Members and the teacher/coaches who jumped on board just prior to the pandemic closed schools. We realized teachers had their hands full once schools were closed, so we took a break from the PLC conversations with team coaches. Once we learn how schools will reconvene in the fall, we'll re-introduce 2020 registered teacher/coaches to the FARM-i-GEDDON Classroom and open up our other classrooms on building, repair and flying to others who have attended our build workshops.

AMA Individual & Drone Club Memberships

Still free for students age 12-18!

It's a great time to consider joining AMA - or dig out your membership card to see when you need to renew! Visit: www.modelaircraft.org or check out their growing YouTube Channel. Questions? Contact us for information on the AMA & on how forming a **Model Aviation Student Club** can help your tech classroom or club! Club formation is FREE, valuable site insurance is provided, & club advisor gets FREE AMA membership. We're happy to assist you so your club, classroom or school can begin to benefit from AMA affiliation! Check out our "Start a MASC" page on our website or let us know the best time to contact you with our suggestions for getting started.



Promote Your Company's Support of STEM!

Your donation to annually planned outreach is tax deductible – contact us for details!

STEM-focused sponsors of our Team Drone Challenge help our volunteers maintain & upgrade equipment, grow new ancillary programs, & increase student outreach! Our dedicated mentors appreciate having great companies behind them as we increase our promotion of STEM in the community. Help us maintain our commitment to linking students to the drone technology education & employment pipeline! We're happy to share our student and teacher success stories! Contact us at: CNYDrones@gmail.com or leave a message at 315-732-1001 for donation information packet.

STEM CHAMPIONS NEEDED! HELPING US HELPS OUR FUTURE WORKFORCE!

Monetary & equipment donations, sponsor & grant leads, planning assistance & event volunteers are always welcomed! We are run by the community, for the community. We invite your ideas! CNYDrones@gmail.com