



KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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STUDENTS TO COMPETE IN TECHNOLOGY STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

(FRANKFORT, Ky.) – More than 9,000 students, educators and parents will converge on Lexington for the 10th annual Student Technology Leadership Program (STLP) State Championship on Wednesday, April 12. Students from 502 schools and 129 districts will show what they know and can do with technology in arts, STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) fields and demonstrate many career-ready skills during the event at Rupp Arena and the Lexington Convention Center.

STLP students create projects, products or services as part of the program and demonstrate their learning by competing in one of more than 50 event categories, including instructional, technical or community development projects; digital content creation such as digital art, photography, design, programming, app development and robotics; and technical services, such as the student help desk, network engineering and wireless applications. Students with the best projects, products and services have been invited to compete at the STLP State Championship.

More than 550 projects will be on display in Heritage Hall where each team will be striving to be selected as a Best in State winner. Elsewhere, nearly 300 Digital Product finalists will be scored to find the top winners in 17 different STEAM-related categories. There also are 26 different on-site Live Performance categories that challenge students to demonstrate specific technology skills such as coding, game design, robot programming, engineering, podcasting and media arts production on demand.

The event is open to the public between 10:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. ET. Winners in each grade division (K-5, 6-8, and 9-12) in each competition category will be recognized during the STLP Award Ceremony at 5 p.m. on the floor of Rupp Arena. The top three Best in State STLP Projects winners will travel to San Antonio, Texas in June to represent Kentucky at the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) Conference/Expo. Best in State STLP Technical Projects and winners in all Live Performance and Digital Product categories will also be named. The STLP Award Ceremony will be broadcast live via the KDE Media Portal at <http://mediaportal.education.ky.gov/watch-live/>.

The State Championship is almost entirely run by volunteers from across the state; including the dozens of students that comprise the STLP Student Service Corps. These student leaders work along side of volunteer

(more)

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professionals to provide media coverage via STLP media outlets, produce a documentary of the day's events, manage production and live video broadcasts, while also providing all technical support.

STLP is open to all P-12 students. It uses project-based learning to empower student learning and achievement through the student creation of technology-based solutions to meet school and community needs. KDE's Office of Education Technology (OET) sponsors STLP events to highlight the creative, logical and entrepreneurial talents of students across the Commonwealth. For more information go to <http://stlp.education.ky.gov>.

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