

Elysabeth Utick
Schiele Museum of Natural History
704.836.0020
elysabethu@cityofgastonia.com

CLASH OF THE 'BOTS RETURNS TO SCHIELE MUSEUM

From drones to robots - there's something for all ages

Gastonia, NC: Clash of the 'Bots brings science to life with a day full of all the ins and outs of robotics. In its eighth year, Clash of the 'Bots returns to the Schiele Museum on Saturday, June 24 from 9 am - 5 pm and offers a variety of experiences for all ages.

Everyone's favorite is the definitely the 'clash' part of this day. Competitors from all over the country, from Oregon to Florida, battle it out in the arena. In year's past, contestants have included creators of Witch Doctor, HyperShock, and Mohawk all from TV's BattleBots fame. You'll have to be there to find out who will battle for supremacy at Clash of the 'Bots. Robot match-ups will occur throughout the day and be decided by double elimination. You could spend all day cheering on your favorite robotics teams, but there is a lot more to see too!

From destruction to creation, you can see the many facets of robotics. Among the fan favorites are seeing the ingenuity of student robotics clubs. Regional teams, Queen City Robotics Alliance and Jesus Geek Robotics, will be there to demonstrate their engineering abilities and share how they develop their creations. The next thing you'll need to do - is try your hand at it.

The electronic dissection zone gives you the chance to take apart a variety of equipment to see how it's wired and how it works. It's one of the coolest ways of letting would-be tinkerers, get into the nuts and bolts of electronics without worrying about your computers at home.

"Technology evolves so quickly that there's always something new each year. We've built upon the favorites of years past and have added new elements that we think our visitors will enjoy," says Christie Rhoney, program specialist and event coordinator.

New to this year's activities are drones! Try your hand at flying a mini-drone and find out for yourself that more skill is involved than you might think. We've expanded the event to move beyond the entertainment factor into real world applications. Vision Groups Holdings will be on site to share how technology makes their work possible and will also be giving away a free LASIK procedure.

Spend the day at The Schiele exploring the world of robotics. Food trucks (Two Chicks & a Truck and Shuggy Roo's) will be on site, so you won't have to miss any of the action. A free, continuous shuttle will run beginning at 10 AM from the parking lots of Parkwood Baptist Church and the Public Library to the Museum.

Event Tickets/Pricing:

Members – only \$3

Non-members - \$3 plus general admission

Saturday, June 24 - 9 am - 5 pm.

The Schiele Museum of Natural History: Inspiring wonder and appreciation of the natural world, The Schiele provides the region with a unique educational resource. Whether through formal instruction or visiting the various exhibits, visitors to The Schiele gain insight into marvels of the world around. The Schiele welcomes more than 100,000 visitors annually to explore the permanent collections, 18th Century Farm, and newly renovated Catawba Indian Village. They can also to travel back in time discover the fascinating creatures in our latest exhibit, *Dino Safari*. To find out more, visit www.schielemuseum.org.

##