



Thank you for your interest in supporting SWARM Team 957 Robotics. We are a STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) program for youth ages 13 -18 in the Greater Albany Public Schools 8J District. In the interest of equity, and to ensure that every eligible student can participate in SWARM without financial barriers, we must raise funds each year in order to run our program.

Each year we participate in the FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) - a highly competitive international robotics competition, of which there are over 3,500 teams worldwide. To prepare for this, we spend the off-season (May - Dec) training the team members in technical and manual skills that they will need to build a competitive robot.

The FRC competition challenges our students over an intensive eight-week (Jan-Feb) build season with hands-on STEM learning. The objective is to create, completely from scratch, a functional robot capable of executing the objectives of the competition. Competition season is Mar. - April. We generally compete in 2 local district competitions: this past season we competed in Wilsonville and at the Oregon State Fairgrounds. Each district event is 2 days of competition, where we compete in an average of 15-20 matches. This year we qualified for and attended the PNW District Championship competition in Spokane, WA. The World Championship currently takes place in Houston, Texas.

Building a robot from scratch challenges students to work together using STEM skills as well as interpersonal skills, and it is expected that students learn to work together for the common good of the team. Our team members gain valuable hands-on experience in things like electrical wiring and soldering, pneumatics, proper tool use and safety, parts fabrication, Computer Assisted Drafting & Design, 3D Printing, the use of machines like water jet cutters, CNC machines, and drill presses, coding and software, business and marketing, web design and graphic design, public speaking, leadership and more.

In addition to working on the design, construction, and programming of our robot for the competition, our team is also tasked with fundraising for each season and attending community outreach events. The budget for the team runs close to \$16,000 each year. If we qualify for the World Championship in Texas, we will need an additional \$30,000 in order to attend.

Without the generous support of sponsors like you, our team would not be able to accomplish our goals. The opportunity that your donation gives our team is priceless, and in turn, we are preparing youth for a variety of STEM careers that benefit us all. Your generous donation helps us pay for things like FIRST Robot Competition Entry Fees (\$7500), Supplies: parts, tools, laptops, etc (\$6000), other miscellaneous expenses like travel, meals and snacks during build season and competition, etc. (\$2500).

Please support SWARM Robotics. Support for our team is often financial, but it can also be in-kind goods, services, mentor time, expertise, or meal contributions. If you have any questions, please contact our fundraising team at: [fundraising@team957.com](mailto:fundraising@team957.com).

Please see the reverse side of this letter for our donation form. Thank you so much!

Find us online here: [team957.com](http://team957.com) <https://www.thebluealliance.com/team/957>

Socials: IG @swarm\_957\_first\_robotics FB: frcteam957 TT: SWARM\_957\_Robotics YT: FRCTeam957



Thank you for supporting our team. We are the next generation of Oregon's STEM workforce, and beyond. Please complete the Donor Contribution Form below and mail to the address below with your donation. Alternatively, see instructions below for how to donate digitally.

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**Please make checks payable to: WAHS SWARM Robotics**

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SWARM Robotics

% West Albany High School

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Your donation is tax deductible. Please contact us for a copy of our tax ID if needed.

Please make a copy of this form for your records.

If you would like to be included on our website Sponsors page and social media accounts, please email a high resolution, digital copy of your business logo to [fundraising@team957.com](mailto:fundraising@team957.com) or let us know the name(s) you would like listed.

Digital contributions can be made here: <https://or-albany-lite.intouchrecepting.com/>

Scroll to the bottom, select **West Albany High School** Item: **Robotics** Memo: **Donation** and enter amount.

Thank you so much for your kind and generous support!