

WE ARE



**2026 NE *FIRST* DISTRICT EVENT
WOODIE FLOWERS FINALIST AWARD
NOMINEES**

2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE



SEAN MANNING

FRC58 – THE RIOT CREW

SOUTH PORTLAND, ME

Mentor Since: 2007

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE... For years Sean has been a cornerstone part of our team and the Maine FRC community. He has initiated communication with many mentors and students to help them and encourage them throughout each competition and build season. Our team came together to recognize a mentor who gives his all and expects nothing in return. Sean is a true show of Woodies spirit and his communication between the communities he is apart of.

2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE



MIKE NORTON

FRC61 – BVT ROBOTICS

UPTON, MA

Mentor Since: 1995

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE... of the incredible impact he has made over 32 years of dedication to Team 61, our school, and the FIRST community. He has been more than a mentor—he has been a role model and leader, always putting students first and teaching us not just how to build robots, but how to become better people. His influence extends beyond our team, supporting and inspiring others while embodying gracious professionalism. As this is his final year, he leaves knowing Team 61 is prepared for the future, with the support needed to thrive for another 32 years. His legacy is not measured in trophies, but in the lives he’s changed.



AUSTIN ESTRELLA

FRC78 – AIR STRIKE

NEWPORT, RI

Mentor Since: 2020

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

Austin is a valued mentor that never hesitates to help students. He remains humble and passionate inspiring countless others. Team 78 appreciates him more than he knows!



2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE



NICK AVTGES

FRC88 – TJ²

BRIDGEWATER-RAYNHAM, MA

Mentor Since: 2014

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

“Mr. Nick” Avtges has been guiding programming students since 2014 by turning coding challenges into learning opportunities. Nick has helped students develop world class autonomous and controls packages that showcase TJ2’s abilities to their fullest. He also creates many of our cheers!



KYLE REEVE

FRC125 - NUTRONS

REVERE, MA

Mentor Since: 2011

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

Kyle has dedicated over 15 years to mentoring 125. He's been a leading factor in creating a welcoming environment, not hesitating to bring in newer students to help with all aspects of the season. He's dedicated to helping students with no programming experience level up to learn fundamentals that will help them in the rest of their lives.



DAVID HILTON

FRC126 – GAEL FORCE

CLINTON, MA

Mentor Since: 2019

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

Mr. Hilton truly understands the importance and true meaning of mentorship. He is always around and more than happy to help when any of his students or fellow mentors need it, and loves both teaching and learning from other people. There is no member of our team he hasn't cheered up with a smile and a (sometimes) funny joke. He has successfully connected our team with our entire community, and has truly stepped up as our new, co-lead mentor. We know we would not be where we are today without him.



NATE EARLY

FRC131 - CHAOS

MANCHESTER, NH

Mentor Since: 2021

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE he fosters our quest for knowledge, commits a significant amount of his time to ensure the students feel welcomed and supported in CHAOS.

2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE

ALYSSA DELEHANTY

FRC151 - TOUGH TECHS

NASHUA, NH

Mentor Since: 2022

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE ... she fosters a collaborative and inclusive environment, while ensuring that every student feels valued, supported, and empowered to contribute their ideas. Beyond her technical experience, she is an amazing friend to all!



2026



**WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD
NOMINEE**



VINCENT COLLUCCI

FRC155 -TECHNONUTS

BERLIN, CT

Mentor Since: 2019

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE... he is a clearly passionate member of our team, contributing to each and every student's positive experience. We see a greatness in him that our team is lucky to have.

2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE



HEATHER MARTEL

FRC157 – AZTECHS

MARLBOROUGH, MA

Mentor Since: 2017

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE... Heather fosters a culture of unity in both our team and the wider STEM community. She is always empowering new students to get involved and enjoy their FIRST experience through her welcoming presence, clear and supportive communications, and spirit-lifting talks. Heather truly changes the lives of every student she interacts with, helping them grow both professionally and personally.



FAITH STREETER

FRC166 – CHOP SHOP

MERRIMACK, NH

Mentor Since: 2024

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

She goes out of her way to empower every one of us to achieve our goals. She acts as a role model for girls on our team and other women in FIRST!



2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE

JUSTIN ROUSSEY

FRC173 - RAGE ROBOTICS

TOLLAND, CT

Mentor Since: 2022



WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...To him, RAGE is more than robotics—it is family. He leads by example, always present, always supportive, and always putting the team first. He creates an environment where students feel valued and motivated, showing that true leadership is about lifting others up, not just achieving results. Mr. Roussey goes above and beyond in ways both big and small, proving that leadership is built through actions. He teaches resilience, teamwork, and growth, guiding students through challenges and reminding them that success comes from working together. Through his leadership, he leaves a lasting impact on every student, shaping not only better teammates, but more confident individuals.

2026



**WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD
NOMINEE**



CHRIS RAMSDELL

FRC175 –BUZZ ROBOTICS

ENFIELD, CT

Mentor Since: 2023

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE... Chris emphasizes teaching and building relationships with the students. He understands that a core value of FRC is to inspire the next generation of engineers. He sets an example by admitting his mistakes and shows the students that you can be wrong while still providing valuable input.

2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE



NICK TSEKA

FRC176 – ACES HIGH

WINDSOR LOCKS, CT

Mentor Since: 2018

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE of his willingness to guide students through challenge no matter the difficulty. He is never afraid to be in the center of conflict, ensuring students are prepared for any obstacle that may come their way. Along with this, his communication with students shows his commitment to teaching. He always makes sure to listen to and integrate anyone and everyone's advice, helping create an atmosphere where everyone is willing to participate. This atmosphere of participation leads to Nick taking part in conversation of strategy or design with students, synthesizing their ideas and giving his professional insight. Nick's constant dedication to the overall success and learning of the team proves him to be a key factor in ensuring our students will always have a reliable source of knowledge, insight, and support.





MIKE LILLIS

FRC177 – BOBCAT ROBOTICS

SOUTH WINDSOR, CT

Mentor Since: 2019

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

He develops confident leaders by fostering a valued team culture. His calm leadership and commitment enhance team performance. Beyond competitions, he expands STEM access and mentors every student.

2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE



CHARLES FORSTBAUER

FRC 178 – 2ND LAW ENFORCERS

FARMINGTON, CT

Mentor Since: 2009

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE... he guided the team through inspirational leadership & motivation that pushed the team to success while encouraging problem solving with HOW to think, not WHAT to think.

With many years of experience and hard dedication, he built an environment where everybody had a chance to learn from each other and grow. Everyday, he promotes communication, responsibility, collaboration, and teamwork. As a joke, Mr.F once said "I invented gravity", but it might as well be true with how he brings the team together!

2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE

DAVID DRECHSLER

FRC195 - CYBERKNIGHTS

SOUTHINGTON, CT

Mentor Since: 2016



WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE... he has shown relentless dedication and passion to FIRST and its programs. From mentoring our Strategy subteam to both of our FTC teams, David spends countless hours in our shop. He makes sure every student is included and even acts as a guide to our parents.

2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE



STEVEN SPOLDI

FRC230 – GAELHAWKS

SHELTON, CT

Mentor Since: 2008

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

For 18 years, Mr Spoldi has inspired students by sharing his deep passion for STEM. He has guided countless young people in mastering programming and complex mathematics, helping them turn challenging concepts into real-world skills. Beyond technical knowledge, he emphasizes the value of “coopertition,” teaching students how to collaborate and support one another even in the spirit of competition.

TYNAN PURDY

FRC246 – LOBSTAH BOTS

BOSTON, MA

Mentor Since: 2023

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE... Tynan is relentless with his enthusiasm and support, showing up for us in concrete ways. Tynan brings such an amazing energy to our team, so thank you Tynan, for being an amazing mentor!!!



2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE

JONATHAN MOORE



FRC467 – CENTER OF MASS

SHREWSBURY, MA

Mentor Since: 2024

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

Jon has been a valuable part of our team working as an electrical mentor. He naturally includes everyone, always taking the time to teach the people around him. This genuine care for the team is shown through his support and technical skills. We are so grateful to have him as our mentor and we couldn't think of someone more deserving.

2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE



STACEY EDGAR

FRC501 - POWERKNIGHTS

MANCHESTER/GOFFSTOWN, NH

Mentor Since: 2017

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

Stacey transforms the way we communicate, lead, and support one another. She builds confidence in every student, helping us find our voice and believe in ourselves. As our "team mom," she creates a culture of care and belonging that inspires us to grow as people and leaders. We love you Stacey!

2026



**WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD
NOMINEE**



TOM INDELICATO

FRC811 - THE WILD CARDS

NASHUA, NH

Mentor Since: 2001

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

Of his 25 years of dedication to FIRST. His commitment to the team, his enthusiasm, his energy, and his hard work. Along with all of the skills we have learned from him.

2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE

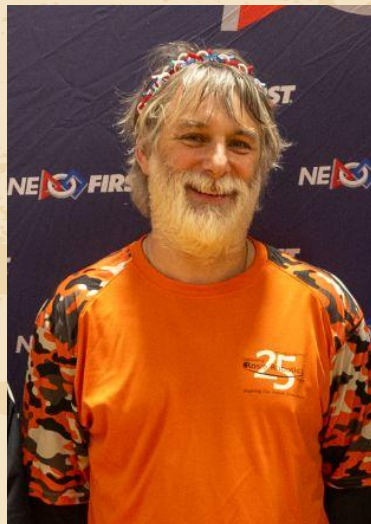
JONATHAN ELWELL

**FRC839 – ROSIE ROBOTICS
AGAWAM, MA**

Mentor Since: 2022

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

Mr. Elwell is always striving to make both himself and the team better. He is always learning FOR the team and FROM the team. Elwell strives to connect our team and the school, forming those strong bonds. As a father of 6 he really kicks the dad jokes into high “gear” and keeps us laughing all the time! (but dont tell him we said that)



2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE



KURT ANDERS

FRC999 – MECHARAMS

CHESHIRE, CT

Mentor Since: 2018

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

We nominated Kurt because he motivates us to think critically, face challenges, and be leaders in the process. Everyone is made to feel important and appreciated regardless of how much knowledge one has. With Kurt's mentorship and practical viewpoint, he transforms us into competent individuals.

2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE

BRENDAN MCLEOD

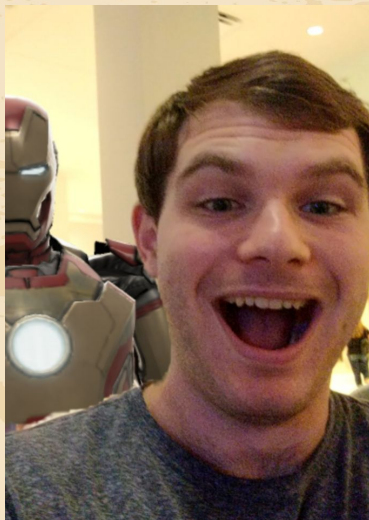
FRC1058 – PVC PIRATES

LONDONDERRY, NH

Mentor Since: 2012

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

He leads all efforts of our team, both on and off the field, while maintaining a student-first culture





KYLE HERREN

FRC1071 – TEAM MAX

WOLCOTT, CT

Mentor Since:

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

He encapsulates the essence of Woodie Flowers through encouraging all students to learn engineering and interpersonal skills. His fun personality and positive demeanor makes the team a welcoming place that students enjoy being a part of!

2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE

TAYLOR GOYETTE



FRC1073 – THE FORCE TEAM

HOLLIS, NH

Mentor Since: 2018

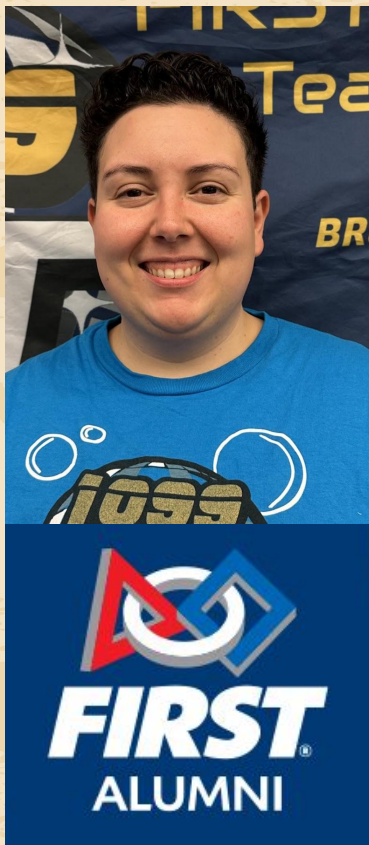
WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

Taylor makes sure to foster learning, and his profound level of compassion for the students' future and their success that builds a stronger community on our team. Our students see Taylor's passion and apply it to their own work, inspired by the depth of knowledge he gained during his time in the program.



2026  **FIRST**

**WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD
NOMINEE**



THERESA DEFREITAS

FRC1099 – DISCOTECHS

BROOKFIELD, CT

Mentor Since: 2021

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

Coach T's complete dedication to our team has served as an inspiration for all of our members, who look up to her as a mentor and an incredible human being. She is the epitome of FIRST.

2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE



MARK HECKER

FRC1100 - INVERSE POLARITY

NORTHBOROUGH/SOUTHBOROUGH, MA

Mentor Since: 2009

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

Mark is always there for us. He's always willing to lend a helping hand regardless of the task. He's dedicated to helping our students and he's always puts a smile on our face.

2026



**WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD
NOMINEE**



LITZRUDY JUSTINVIL

FRC1512 – THE BIG RED

CONCORD, NH

Mentor Since: 2019

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE: DR J. sustains our team, ensuring logistics, fostering belonging, and empowering student ownership. Through calm leadership, trust, and connection, he builds resilience, confidence, and a culture where every member thrives.

2026



**WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD
NOMINEE**



JARED ANDREWS

FRC1735 – GREEN REAPERS

WORCESTER, MA

Mentor Since: 2019

**WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...
he is the steady, supportive presence that
keeps our team motivated, growing, and his
encouragement makes him invaluable to our
team.**

2026



**WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD
NOMINEE**



MARC SCHINDEWOLF

FRC 1922 – OZ-RAM

CONTOOCOOK, NH

Mentor Since: 2015

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE:

Mr. Schindewolf always supports positive communication within our team by encouraging students to express their ideas. He also tirelessly dedicates countless hours working to push the team forward– having a strong impact on the team’s work ethic.



EILEEN KEAN

FRC1991 - DRAGONS

HARTFORD, CT

Mentor Since: 2019

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

She has always shown unwavering dedication, no matter the circumstances, and she's the reason our team feels like a family rather than just a group of students with a shared hobby. She's more than a mentor who watches; she's a mentor who teaches us the purpose behind what we're learning, not just the tasks we're told to complete.

2026



**WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD
NOMINEE**



STEPHEN DUNBAR

FRC2079 – ALARM ROBOTICS

FRANKLIN, MA

Mentor Since: 2017

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE... is the person who keeps our team running every single day. From finding us a home to handling all the behind-the-scenes work, he makes everything possible. He pushes us to plan better, think smarter, and learn from our mistakes. No matter what, he shows up for us—and that kind of constant support means everything to our team.



ALEX HERREN

FRC2170 – GALVANIZED GUARDIANS

GLASTONBURY, CT

Mentor Since: 2022

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE Alex has always been committed to pushing our team to grow and learn. Whether it's someone who is completely new or highly experienced, he's always been there to guide us from the background and support us.



DUANE LAFLOTTE

FRC2342 - TEAM PHOENIX

NASHUA, NH

Mentor Since: 2006

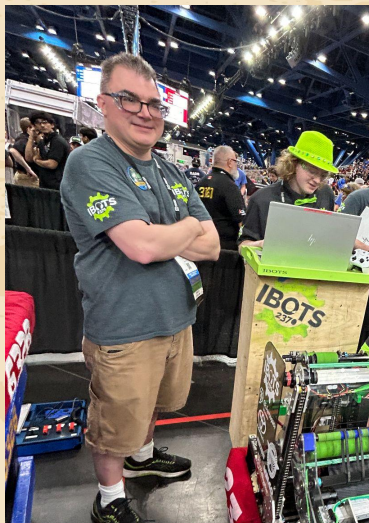
We nominated our mentor because Mr. Laflotte doesn't just teach us technical skills, he helps us believe in ourselves and find our place on the team. He creates a supportive environment where everyone feels heard and encouraged to grow.



2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE



DAN ROSWELL

FRC2370 – IBOTS

RUTLAND, VT

Mentor Since: 2009

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

He doesn't just keep our robot running. He keeps our team, community, and *FIRST* itself moving forward. What makes Dan remarkable isn't just his technical expertise or dedication, it's his relentless belief in his students and *FIRST*. He creates an environment where learning is exciting and failure is just another step in the process. Beyond IBOTS, Dan is a major force driving the growth of *FIRST* in Vermont: helping found *FIRST*inVT, mentoring & assisting nearly every rookie FRC team in VT, supporting FLL teams & competitions, and providing 1000's of hours of outreach and FRC community support.



TY TREMBLAY

FRC2713 – RED HAWK ROBOTICS

MELROSE, MA

Mentor Since: 2008

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

Ty is the anchor of the team, often immersing himself in all aspects of our robot: mechanical, software and design. He passes down his own engineering skills to our students, furthering their STEM education and ensuring they are ready for the real world. He is crucial to fostering the student body and shaping students to be the best versions of themselves. Whether we win or lose, he always supports us unconditionally.

2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE



CHRIS FANN

FRC2877 – LIGERBOTS

NEWTON, MA

Mentor Since: 2018

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

Chris puts learning and growth above everything else, even in the heat of competition. He transformed how we brainstorm designs and develop strategy, making sure every student has a voice and the confidence to communicate and lead. In just three years on our team he has shaped us into better engineers, thinkers, and leaders both on and off the field.





SAM LOUNSBURY

FRC3182 – ATHENA’S WARRIORS

HARTFORD, CT

Mentor Since: 2017

**WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...
he balances professional manufacturing
expertise with a deep commitment to student
leadership. As a FTA, his impact extends to the
entire community through tireless volunteer
work and a willingness to help any team in need.**



2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE



DAN BECKWITH

FRC3654 - TECH TIGERS

MIDDLETOWN, CT

Mentor Since: 2022

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE... His array of abilities ranges from creating a warm, supportive environment with empathy and calmness to teaching and guiding team members in an accessible way for all students. His affectionate, animated personality creates seemingly insignificant moments that become memories we all fondly look back upon. Because of Dan, more commonly known as "Squee", his dedication to the TechTigers has helped us usher in a new era and achieve success by winning our first technical awards in team history!

2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE

DOUGLAS WESTMAN

FRC4564 - ORANGE CHAOS

BREWER, ME

Mentor Since: 2018



WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE... for 8 whole years he has put in more than just the time needed to run an FRC team and he deserves to be recognized. His ability to teach and guide through many students different learning styles sets him apart from any other mentor we have ever met. Even when his own kid has graduated he continues to grow the program and support it because teaching others the joy of STEM is a genuine interest of his. He creates a welcoming environment where everyone is prompted to input their own ideas. For these main reasons, we nominated Douglas Westman because he goes above and beyond what is expected when you hear the word mentor.

2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE



DR. BRIAN O'CONNELL

FRC4761 – ROBOCKETS

READING, MA

Mentor Since: 2017

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

Dr. O'Connell has been a cornerstone, blending industry experience, academic excellence through quiet leadership, technical expertise, an unwavering commitment to student growth, respect for student-led design, truly embodying the mentorship, leadership, and inspiration celebrated by the Woodie Flowers Award and FIRST values.

2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE

PAMELA CLEMENCE



FRC4905 - ANDROMEDA ONE

AYER & SHIRLEY, MA

Mentor Since: 2016

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

Through her mentorship, empathy, and belief in her students, Pamela Clemence has made a lasting impact on Andromeda One. She leads by example, lifts others up, and truly embodies the values of the Woodie Flowers Award.

MICHELLE LEACH

FRC5112 – THE GONGOLIERS

FOSTER–GLOCESTER, RI

Mentor Since: 2015

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE... she strives to push us forward. Her inspiration truly helps us grow as individuals and as team.





CHRIS LASALLE

FRC5142 – ROBODOMINATORS

NEW HAVEN, CT

Mentor Since: 2014

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...he truly embodies the spirit of FIRST. Chris understands that this is more than robots and works tirelessly to help students build skills that will last well beyond their time with the team. As one of our students put it: “He has taught me to celebrate the small victories, to set high goals and work toward them”. He is also a champion for the growth of FIRST, inviting teams in need to practice on our field, offering to help other teams out by using the machines in our shop or lending a helping hand at comps. It’s undeniable that as 5142 continues to grow in numbers, support, and resources, Chris’ supportive spirit will continue to spread.



2026



**WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD
NOMINEE**



DARREN MILLER

FRC5422 - STORMGEARS

WESTFORD, MA

Mentor Since: 2017

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

Mr. Miller is more than just a mentor. He doesn't just have the technical skills to teach us about software, electrical, and mechanical. He doesn't just stay late every day when we need him. He cares about each student's growth, makes them feel valued, and pushes us beyond what we thought we could do.



ADRIANA MASSIE

FRC6201 – THE HIGHLANDERS

SOMERVILLE, MA

Mentor Since: 2018

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

Adriana's unwavering commitment empowers us to solve problems and work as a team.

Adriana's mentorship extends far past STEM; inspiring curiosity, confidence, and a sense of belonging that defines FIRST's culture.

2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE



CAM HARDIE

FRC6324 – THE BLUE DEVILS

SALEM, NH

Mentor Since: 2023

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

They're knowledgeable, and encourage students to think and discover solutions themselves instead of just giving the answers. They go above and beyond to make sure everyone feels included and accepted. They care about us, and are there for us if we need them, even beyond robotics related struggles.

JULIANNA ZIEGLER

FRC 6328 – MECHANICAL ADVANTAGE

LITTLETON, MA

Mentor Since: 2024

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

she has made a HUGE impact on our team in only three years. The culture of our entire team has shifted for the better because of her. She always makes our whole team smile and she does it every day.



2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE



JOHN BOYNTON

FRC 6329 – THE BUCKS’ WRATH

BUCKSPORT, ME

Mentor Since: 2017

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

Boynton forms close bonds with students, ensuring that everyone feels welcome and creating a friendly atmosphere. While teaching students valuable skills, he gives them a place to belong. We want him to feel our gratitude for all he does for us because every student deserves a mentor like Boynton.

2026



**WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD
NOMINEE**



IVAN RUDNICKI

FRC6367 - THE ELECTROLIGHTS

DORCESTER CENTER, MA

2026 **NE FIRST**

**WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD
NOMINEE**



JOE DERRICK

FRC8046 - LAKERBOTS

MEREDITH, NH

SPENCER BEAHM

FRC8410 – OYSTER RIVER OVERDRIVE

Durham, NH

Mentor Since: 2023

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

He fosters a culture of resilience and clear communication that builds student confidence across all skill levels. Spencer is instrumental through his deep technical expertise and industry connections. He embodies FIRST, volunteering at nearly every competition in the district our team doesn't attend.



2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE

ERIC BREGMAN

FRC8544 - REINFORCEMENT

SUTTON, MA

Mentor Since: 2022



WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

Eric's impact on Team 8544 extends beyond any season or event. He radiates positivity with his devoted kindness, patience, and trust. Eric has spent the past 5 years building these strong connections with students that have been here from the start and students that joined last week. Eric is the foundation of creating an environment where learning is exciting rather than intimidating and where mistakes are seen as opportunities to grow.

2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE

SYLVAIN DUMET



FRC8626 –CYBER SAILORS

SCITUATE, MA

Mentor Since: 2021

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

Beyond representing the values of *FIRST*, he pushes us every day to challenge our limits, realize our potential, and empower each other to be the best versions of ourselves. His dedication to our constantly growing family is truly unparalleled.

2026



**WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD
NOMINEE**



DAMIAN BRENNAN

FRC8708 -Ov3R1y K0Mp13X

DUNBARTON, NH

2026 **NE**  **FIRST**

**WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD
NOMINEE**



MATT JONES

FRC9443 – ALUMINUM PANTHERS

WEST NEWBURY, MA

Mentor Since: 2024

2026

NEIA FIRST

**WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD
NOMINEE**



REGGIE RAYE

FRC9644 - NEIA ROBOTICS

MARLBOROUGH, MA

2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE

LAUREN JEFFERSON

FRC9710 – DISCOVERY POLYBOTZ

SPRINGFIELD, MA

Mentor Since: 2025

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...Jefferson exemplified both leadership and dedication as she helped 9710 grow both technically and as a community. In just one year, she helped strengthen our ties to the FIRST Robotics community, assisted us in finding outreach, guided through developments with our robot, and overall prospered the Polybotz capabilities into something we can all be proud of.



2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE

NICHOLAS KEARNEY

FRC10063 – S.C.R.A.P.

WEYMOUTH, MA

Mentor Since: 2023

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE... Nick is the type that leads others through direct action and holds unwavering belief within his students. From rebuilding SCRAP into an award-winning team while supporting other low-resource teams across the program to teaching himself new skills to ensure students could follow, Nick continues to uplifts others to learn more and become more.



2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE



BILL MENDOZA

FRC10133 - MANHATTEN MONSTERS

WATERBURY, CT

Mentor Since: 2011

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

Bill is more than a mentor, he turns uncertainty into confidence and brings our team together. With patience, humor, and a deep passion for STEM, he pushes us beyond our comfort zones and helps us grow as leaders and teammates. Bill's impact extends beyond our team; if you can't find him in our pit, it's likely because he's helping another team in theirs.

2026



WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD NOMINEE

SARAH SAROUFIM



FRC10973 – SEA RAIDERS

WESTWOOD, MA

Mentor Since: 2025

WE NOMINATED OUR MENTOR BECAUSE...

Her passion for robotics and positive attitude has played a major role in our team's success this year. Through her kindness and compassion for every team member, she has exemplified what it means to be a part of FIRST.