



January 4, 2017 **FOR RELEASE UPON RECEIPT**

**LOCAL STUDENT TEAMS SQUARE OFF AT VEX ROBOTICS
COMPETITION AT BCC FALL RIVER CAMPUS ON JANUARY 7**

Middle and high school students from Southeastern Massachusetts will gather at Bristol Community College's Fall River Campus, 777 Elsbree St., on Saturday, January 7, 2017, for The Southeastern Massachusetts VEX Robotics Competition. The Qualifying Rounds / Skills Challenges will take place from 9 a.m. – noon, followed by the Alliance Rounds / Finals from 1-4 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

Over 24 teams will come together for a non-stop, action-packed day of competition where they will battle against each other with robots created from VEX Educational Robotics (EDR).

Participants will square off in the *VEX Robotics Competition Starstruck* game, which is played by scoring stars and cubes in scoring zones and by hanging robots in a designated hanging bar. VEX Robotics Competition Starstruck was developed by VEX Robotics, Inc. and the Robotics Education & Competition (REC) Foundation, leaders in educational and competitive robotics.

Local schools competing at the January 7 event include Coelho Middle School – Attleboro, MA; Carver Middle School – Carver, MA; Carver High School – Carver, MA; Durfee High School – Fall River, MA; Fairhaven High School – Fairhaven, MA; Global Middle & High School – New Bedford, MA; Mashpee Middle & High School – Mashpee, MA; Old Colony Regional Vocation High School – Rochester, MA; Saint Philomena School - Portsmouth, RI; Sandwich STEM Academy, Southeastern Regional Vocational High School – South Easton, MA; Wareham Middle School – Wareham, MA.

The Southeastern MA VEX Robotics Competition is one in a series of tournaments supported by the REC Foundation and various national, regional, and local sponsors. The competition season culminates each spring, with the top performing teams from local and state VEX Robotics Competitions competing against each other at the VEX Robotics World Championship. At the VEX Robotics World Championship, these exemplary teams will have the opportunity to challenge their top-ranked peers from over 30

countries around the world, including Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, India, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Puerto Rico, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Spain, United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

For more information, please contact Meghan Abella-Bowen at 508.678.2811, ext. 2576, or email Meghan.abella-bowen@bristolcc.edu. ###

***About Bristol Community College** Bristol Community College is a leading resource for education and workforce development in Southeastern Massachusetts. BCC has locations in Fall River, Attleboro, New Bedford, and Taunton, along with flexible online offerings that lead to an associate degree, a career-ready certificate, or the ability to seamlessly transfer to baccalaureate colleges throughout the state and country. The College's Center for Workforce and Community Education provides customized training for businesses and the community including healthcare, workforce and sustainable initiatives, corporate services, and Kids College. The BCC Foundation, a non-profit organization utilizing community donations and partnerships, supports the College's mission to meet the lifelong educational needs of the community. For more information, visit <http://www.bristolcc.edu/aboutbcc/>*