

# National Engineers Week Future City Competition

September 15, 2009

Dear North Carolina Middle School Teacher:

We would like to invite you and your school to participate in the Seventh Annual North Carolina Regional Future City Competition.

Future City is an engineering competition that challenges middle school students to consider how to create ideal cities of the future. This event is part of the National Engineers Week Future City Competition™, held in 38 regions across the country with over 30,000 students and 1,100 schools participating.

For over 18 years, the Future City Competition has promoted an interest in technology and engineering in middle school students. **This program fosters an interest in math, science, and engineering** through hands-on, real world applications. The competition is open to seventh and eighth grade students in public, private, and parochial schools within the North Carolina region.

The Seventh Annual North Carolina Regional Future City Competition had 14 teams participating from across North Carolina and Virginia. **Over \$5,000.00 in cash prizes were awarded to the winning students and teachers.** Davidson IB Middle School of Charlotte represented our region at the national finals in Washington, DC.

We hope to significantly increase the number of participating schools in the upcoming 2009-2010 FC Regional Competition. **To encourage your participation, we will waive the \$25 registration.** *In addition, we will be issuing a \$100 stipend to teams who make it past the first two stages of the competition (computer model and essay/abstract) to help defray the cost of building the model and other competition expenses.*

## How It Works

Middle School students work in teams with a teacher and volunteer engineer mentor to concept and develop a “city of the future”. The teams complete four tasks over the span of several months as part of the competition:

- Computer design and management of a city using *SimCity 4 Deluxe* software (provided free with registration);
- Development of an essay and abstract;
- The building of an ideal city model using recycled materials; and finally,
- Performance of an oral presentation at the Regional Finals

The winning team represents the NC Region at the National Engineers Week Future City Competition in Washington, DC.

## Why Your School Should Participate

The Future City Competition provides students with a **dynamic, hand-on learning experience while developing their planning, writing and speaking skills**

*Students gain a better understanding of the practical applications of **math, science, social studies and computers***

*They learn from a role model while working with an engineer mentor*

*Students enjoy learning while working with **SimCity 4 Deluxe software** (provided free to registered schools)*

*Students learn about **teamwork, roles and responsibility***

*As you can see, **the benefit you and your team will receive from participating far outweighs the minimal cost.***

## How To Register

Attached to this email is a registration form for your convenience. You may register online via our website, [www.futurecitync.org](http://www.futurecitync.org) or you can email, fax or mail your completed registration form.

With your registration you will receive:

- A copy of *SimCity 4 Deluxe* software
- Teacher/ Volunteer Handbook

- An engineer mentor assigned to your team (if you do not have one)

Please consider forwarding this invitation on to other teachers that you know that would enjoy participating in this competition. **We hope you consider sharing this gift of learning with your students.**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact David Simpson, North Carolina Future City Regional Co-Coordinator, at (919) 852-0468/ [dsimpson@simpsonengr.com](mailto:dsimpson@simpsonengr.com) or Chris Kreider, North Carolina Future City Regional Co-Coordinator, at (919) 604-1469/ [ckreider@nc.rr.com](mailto:ckreider@nc.rr.com).

Sincerely,

The North Carolina Regional Future City Steering Committee