

## **FIRST DEAN'S LIST** **HONORING FIRST STUDENT SUPERSTARS**

In an effort to recognize the leadership and dedication of *FIRST's* most outstanding FRC students, the Kamen family sponsors an award for selected top students, aka *FIRST* superstars, known as the ***FIRST* Dean's List**.

The students who earn ***FIRST* Dean's List** Award status will not only be great examples of student leaders who have led their teams and communities to increased awareness for *FIRST* and its mission but they will continue on, post-award, as great leaders of *FIRST's* ever growing student alumni. This award joins the ranks of prestigious awards like the *FIRST* Founder's Award which honors sponsors or other supporters who help to grow *FIRST*; the Woodie Flowers Award, which honors outstanding mentors at *FIRST*; and the Chairman's Award, which honors the team to have best achieved the mission of *FIRST*. It is the hope that the *FIRST* Dean's List will, in time, garner national recognition, similar to the National Merit Scholarship Program, which could increase the competitiveness of college, scholarship, internship and employment opportunities for the recipients. Prestigious colleges have expressed great interest in meeting ***FIRST* Dean's List's** Award winners!

The award was created during the 2010 FRC season by the Kamen family in recognition of Jack and Evelyn Kamen, parents of *FIRST* founder Dean Kamen. Jack, who passed away in August of 2008 at the age of 88, and his wife Evelyn have been fixtures at many *FIRST* events. Their humor, along with a positive and supportive attitude, truly symbolizes the *FIRST* culture. In fact, Jack is the designer of the playful red, white and blue geometric shapes that create the *FIRST* logo which wonderfully balances the technical and emotional sides of what *FIRST* is all about. Dean's mother, Evelyn, is a tireless caretaker for her family and is an exceptional teacher, principal and tremendous *FIRST* supporter. She lends her experience as a leader of schools to chair the judge panel that selects the ***FIRST* Dean's List** Award winners.

Dean's parents always encouraged his passion for innovation and his gift for motivating leaders throughout the world to support the *FIRST* mission. It is the family's hope that this award will encourage the passion in all *FIRST* students to promote the *FIRST* mission both as a student on an FRC team and for years to come as members of the *FIRST* student alumni.

The process for competing for the ***FIRST* Dean's List** is similar to the process for the Woodie Flowers Award and the Chairman's Award in that applicants must first compete at the Regional level to be considered at the Championship level. Applicants for the ***FIRST* Dean's List** are nominated by their mentor as ***FIRST* Dean's List** Nominees. These students will be reviewed at one (1) Regional where their team is competing with two (2) ***FIRST* Dean's List** Finalists chosen at each Regional.

All Dean's List Finalists will be considered for the final selection of ten (10) ***FIRST* Dean's List** Award winners at the *FIRST* Championship in St. Louis.

Each FRC mentor is invited to select up to two (2) students (may select only one but not more than two) as ***FIRST* Dean's List** Nominees. In deciding which students to nominate, mentors should consider the impact the award will have on the nominated student. For example, mentors may choose to nominate a junior whose college acceptance prospects would be enhanced by both the nomination and any subsequent advancement in the competition. Each mentor may only submit their two (2) ***FIRST* Dean's List** Nominees to compete for the ***FIRST* Dean's List**

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Finalist designation at one (1) regional. Students previously selected as Dean's List Semifinalists or Finalists ARE eligible for nomination again this year.

Criteria for selection of the *FIRST* Dean's List shall include, but not be limited to a student's:

- demonstrated leadership and commitment to the ideals of *FIRST*;
- interest in and passion for a long term commitment to *FIRST* and its ideals;
- overall individual contribution to their team;
- technical expertise and passion;
- entrepreneurship and creativity;
- ability to motivate and lead fellow team members; and
- effectiveness at increasing awareness of *FIRST* in their school and community.

Evaluation of Nominees and Finalists will be based on a one page essay, submitted by the mentor, which best describes each student's fulfillment of the criteria. (As previously noted, Mentors can submit up to two nominations/essays per team). Although a single mentor must submit the nomination, the team as a whole must verify the accuracy of the submission. *FIRST* is relying upon the team for veracity and accuracy of the submission data.

Each entry shall be in the form attached which includes identifying information; i.e., the student's cumulative GPA; and an essay of not more than 4,000 characters attesting to why the student has been nominated. Essays must be submitted no later than **NOON AM EST on February 17, 2011** to <https://my.usfirst.org/frc/tims/site.lasso>. A photograph of the Dean's List Nominee is encouraged, but optional, and the essay submission and such photos may be used, in promotion of the recipient and/or the award, at the discretion of *FIRST*. Winners will be required to sign a *FIRST* media release to allow use of their likeness to sponsors contributing to the *FIRST* Dean's List recognition program and will be responsible for any taxes associated with federal/state prize requirements.

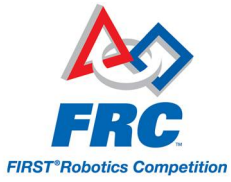
If a team is attending more than one regional event, the mentor must select one event at which their nominations are to be considered. Each essay must clearly state the team name, the names and grade levels of the student(s) nominated, an explanation of why the students were nominated as well as the regional event at which the nomination is to be considered.

At each FRC regional event, judges will select two (2) students from the ***FIRST* Dean's List** Nominees as ***FIRST* Dean's List** Finalists. The two (2) Regional ***FIRST* Dean's List** Finalists will be honored at the award ceremonies at that regional event. Six (6) ***FIRST* Dean's List** Finalists will be selected at the Michigan State Championship.

All ***FIRST* Dean's List** Finalists will be considered for the ***FIRST* Dean's List** at the *FIRST* Championship in St. Louis using the essays provided. Finalist candidates need not be present at the *FIRST* Championship in order to be considered. Ten (10) Students will be selected as the ***FIRST* Dean's List Award** Winners for the 2011 FRC season.

The ten (10) 2011 ***FIRST* Dean's List** Award winners will receive the following:

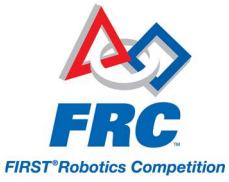
- a written recommendation from *FIRST* leadership to the college(s) or employer(s) of their choice;



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- a credit towards the winning student's team 2012 registration fee;
- a commemorative plaque for the student's school Hall of Fame;
- an invitation for them, and a chaperone, to attend an expenses paid ***FIRST* Dean's List Award Summit**, at *FIRST* Headquarters in Manchester, New Hampshire; and
- the opportunity to work with all members of the *FIRST* Dean's List and *FIRST* leaders to advance the mission of *FIRST*.

Good luck!



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**SAMPLE FORM  
FOR TEAM NOMINATION OF STUDENT TEAM MEMBER  
FOR INCLUSION ON THE FIRST DEAN'S LIST**

**TEAM NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_ **STUDENT NOMINEE NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**GRADE OF STUDENT NOMINEE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **GPA** \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NUMBER OF STUDENTS ON TEAM:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EXPLANATION IN SUPPORT OF NOMINATION (Including reference to the student's:** Leadership and commitment to the ideals of *FIRST*, interest in and passion for a long term commitment to *FIRST* and its ideals, overall individual contribution to their team, technical expertise and passion, entrepreneurship and creativity, ability to motivate and lead fellow team members and effectiveness at increasing awareness of *FIRST* in their school and community.