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Central New York's Drone Community Info Hub Promoting STEM Education & Safety Awareness

We're providing a local drone enthusiast information hub, along with STEM-based interactive demonstrations, clinics, workshops, races and a team drone competition, created out of concern for our community and backed by local organizations. Grow with us!

Join Us at Wonderworks for Science Week!

Looking for something to do during Winter Break? On Tuesday, February 20th, CNY Drones will host Drone Day at Wonderworks Destiny USA with 2 interactive presentations, 11am and 1pm. The presentation is part of Science Week. Registration is required. Details can be obtained by contacting our friends at: www.Wonderworksonline.com.

New Location + New Info Sessions = Rig Rescue For All!

Rescue's 1st Competition will now take place in on April 15th in the SUNY Polytechnic Institute Campus Center Gym! Thanks to our friends at the SUNY Polytechnic Institute **AMA University Model Aviation Student Club**, the competition has moved to a larger facility where college students will be on hand to cheer on teams, volunteer and participate! The development of this low-cost STEM competition was influenced heavily by robotics programs that require a more substantial investment in equipment, travel and time commitment. Participation is open to ages 11+, with teams ranging from 2 to 5 flight crew team members. Families, friends, community groups, school teams – we're open to everyone – even those who would like to unofficially participate and give the course a try! The competition allows for use of a wide spectrum of drones - with as little limitations as possible to allow for maximum team creativity. **Our program's simplicity reflects the need to provide a low-cost STEM-based competition that attracts underserved student populations.** SUNY Polytechnic students and CNY Drones mentors are available to work with teams upon request. A complete Challenge Manual is available for FREE. Registered teams receive a field element building instruction manual. Informational Meetings & Practice Sessions are scheduled for **February 16 and March 16** at the Utica Jewish Community Center, 7pm.

Rig Rescue's Challenge includes FREE Safety Video PSA Competition for teams of 2 or more who wish to get involved with a creative project without entering the main flying competition. Although our competition does not require it, we hope to encourage participants to consider exploring drone video competitions and the great programs surrounding them! Speaking of video competitions - we're pleased to have made connections with the [NYS Fair Drone Film Festival & Competition](#) and encourage those with a flair for video and photography to look-into entry options.



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CNY Drones @RoboSpartans Robotics operates as a STEM group, graciously hosted under the 501(c)3 of the Griffiss Institute in cooperation with great community resources. We gladly accept monetary & non-monetary donations as well as new volunteers.



Recent Successes!

NYS Master Teachers Fly Around Albany U Ballroom 1/28/18



The Capital District NYS Master Teachers Program hosted CNY Drones at the University of Albany last Sunday for a day of drone building, programming and flying. Teachers from 8 regional school districts participated using specially sourced kits that provide everything they need to get started with small indoor drones using First Person View Goggles and racer-grade radio controllers. Six mentors hit the road early Sunday to share their experiences with the group and help promote the safe use of drones in the classroom. Upon completion, participants were given access to CNY Drones resources that include a network of mentors for future questions. We welcome other regions to contact us to arrange similar training days. [Facebook Photo Album](#)



Experience FPV

An investment in beginner drone kits allows us to provide low-cost introductory drone programs for those interested in learning flying basics without investing in equipment. We've been testing the waters with Friday evening events at Utica Jewish Community Center. Experience FPV is \$45 for 2 hours of introductory flying in pairs with a mentor. The program started in late December and alternated with Friday Night Flights, our indoor flying & MultiGP race events. Our next event indoor flying event combines both programs on **March 2nd**. Experience FPV will run from 7 to 9:00pm followed by Friday Night Flights at 9 to 11:00pm. [Facebook Photo Album](#) [Facebook Photo Album](#)



In the Works!

SUNY Polytechnic Institute's NEW AMA-UMASC Race (Academy of Model Aeronautics University Model Student Club) is getting right into the thick of things by hosting both our **Rig Rescue Challenge on April 15th** and our MultiGP Chapter's **first outdoor race of the season on April 21st**. Race day details to be posted shortly through the AMA UMASC, CNY Drones and MultiGP. Join all of us for an evening of fast-paced drone racing and under the lights at the Field House along with our usual STEM demos! Our enthusiastic friends are anxious to plan even more events! We encourage local engineers and technology educators – especially SUNY alumni - to get involved with this great student group as well as the rest of our planned STEM events!

CNY Drones @RoboSpartans Robotics operates as a STEM group, graciously hosted under the 501(c)3 of the Griffiss Institute, in cooperation with great community resources. If you wish to add a name, update your information or be removed from any of our mailing lists, contact us: CNYDrones@gmail.com



Outdoor Summer MultiGP Races

Monthly Sunday afternoon outdoor races are planned for every 3rd Sunday, May to September, at various sites from Utica to Gateway Park in Bridgeport. Each event will include STEM-based spectator activities – something unique to our Chapter. Interested? Get involved in the planning of an event near you! We welcome new venue ideas!

Chapter information on our site:

<https://www.cnydrones.org/community/multigp-chapter/>

MultiGP Racing site: <https://www.multigp.com/>

Women & Drones – Needs A Champion!

We're grateful to have received partial funding (1/3rd) approval for a Women's Drone Ambassador Program through the Women's Fund of Herkimer and Oneida Counties! **We're seeking a partner** to assist with remainder of funding to help us train an initial group women from business and industry. **Our goal is to have a group of STEM ambassadors with hands-on drone experience who can encourage younger counterparts to get interested in the drone education and employment opportunities in our area.** Ideas, connections, or looking for something new to sponsor? We need your support to get this program flying! [Contact Us!](#)

2018 Sponsors, Donations and Volunteers Wanted



Know an organization or individual looking to make an impact with a donation to something different? Look no further. We document STEM impact and our regular contact with students and adults. We've reached out to thousands over the last 2 years through demonstrations, building and flying events. Funding continues to help cover venue, equipment costs. Administration of programs, promotion, newsletter, social media and our information hub website is run by volunteers. Help us maintain our vital community ties and our important mission of connecting to the drone technology education and employment pipeline! Contact us today!

[Sponsor Info](#)