

USS Intrepid 2017: Space and Science Festival

“Step aboard the Aircraft Carrier USS Intrepid”



The USS Intrepid Space and Science festival is an annual event held at Pier 98 in New York City that features talks, films, special guests from NASA and cutting-edge displays. Visitors hear from innovators forging new paths on this planet and off it, meet astronauts, and get a look at NASA technology, including a Mars rover concept vehicle. The museum regularly invites both FRC and FTC to demonstrate their competition robots for festival visitors to promote FIRST.

About 18 MORT members volunteered at the 2017 festival, along with about 6 chaperones helping out as well. We brought two competition robots, MORTASAURUS and Bamboozled. We also brought two activities for the kids: a do-it-yourself lava lamp and a STEM bucket challenge. Almost 250+ kids came to the table, and many parents were curious about the program and took flyers to sign their kids up into FLL and FRC programs near them.

Overall, the event was a success. The kids enjoyed the robot demonstrations and particularly interacting with Bamboozled. The event coordinators were very impressed with the program and expressed interest in working with us again. Through this experience, we gained contacts with people from NASA and Google, who offered us tours of their facilities. We hope to continue our relationship with this event and come back next year!