

## The National Engineers Week San Antonio-Austin Future City Competition is in need of Judges and Volunteers!

The area's first Future City competition is almost here and we need your help. We still need Judges and Volunteers to help on the day of the competition. The event is being hosted by the Texas State Department of Engineering at San Marcos on Saturday, January 23. Since the Future City competition is a part of National E-Week, we hope to have as many local area engineers participate as possible. Being a judge does not require any special knowledge or skill and all engineers are welcome. The judging areas where we still need help include:

1. Judging the SimCity Design
2. Judging the Model
3. Judging the Oral Presentation
4. Judging the Future City Narrative
5. Judging the Research Essays

Some of these areas are exclusive of one another and the model and oral presentation judges are the only ones that need to be on site for the competition. So, if someone wants to be a judge, but can't make the 23<sup>rd</sup> in San Marcos, they can still participate. They will have to do their judging on the delivered files by the 23<sup>rd</sup>. On the day of the competition, judging will take place in two phases: one in the morning from 9-11am and one in the afternoon from 12:30-2:30pm. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. While we can definitely use your help for the entire day, any time period that you can commit to will be a big help.

If you are interested, please sign-up today by emailing our Judge Coordinator Dean Schneider at [d-schneider@tamu.edu](mailto:d-schneider@tamu.edu) or going directly to our registration website at <https://www.dfwfuturecity.org/CentralTX/Judging/>.

Please contact Dean or Andrew Hunt ([achunt@lan-inc.com](mailto:achunt@lan-inc.com)) if you have questions or need additional information.

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The mission of the National Engineers Week Future City Competition is to provide a fun and exciting educational engineering program for 7th and 8th grade students that combine a stimulating engineering challenge with a "hands-on" application to present their vision of a City of the Future.

This is accomplished by:

- Fostering engineering skills, such as teamwork, communication and problem solving skills.
- Providing interaction among students, teachers, and engineer mentors.
- Informing the community about the multi-disciplines within the engineering profession.
- Inspiring students to explore futuristic concepts and careers in engineering.

The National Engineers Week Future City Competition requires:

- Problem-solving
- Team work
- Research and presentation skills
- Practical math and science applications
- Computer skills

The competition uses a team-based approach. All members of the team have an important role that is necessary for the completion of the project.

At the local school level, a team of 3 students, a teacher, and an engineer mentor create a SimCity 4 Deluxe computer model and build a large three-dimensional display model of their vision of the city of tomorrow. They then participate in a local competition held on January 23. The winning regional team, with the teacher and students fully sponsored, is sent to Washington D.C. to compete nationally during National Engineers Week.

**Andrew Hunt**, PE

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