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## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Nineteen Hawaii VEX IQ robotics teams qualify for 2019 World Championships

**HONOLULU, March 7, 2019** – Eight middle school and 11 elementary school robotics teams qualified for the 2019 VEX World Championships during Hawaiian Electric Companies' Hawaii State VEX IQ Championships. The VEX Worlds will be held April 24 – May 1, 2019 at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville, Kentucky, featuring top-ranked robotics teams from 45 countries.

In a field of 40 teams per championship, the 19 Hawaii middle and elementary school robotics teams qualified for the VEX Worlds through winning the following awards:

### **Middle School VEX IQ at St. Louis School, Feb. 23**

Excellence Award – Waialua Intermediate (Hawaiian Kids Team 359A)

Teamwork Champions – Cornerstone Engineering Robotics (Mililani Masters Team 11173B)  
Lokelani Middle School (Kolohe Kids Team 5777K)

Teamwork Champions 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – St. Louis School (The Crusaders Team 4270A) and Hawaii Technology Academy (Triton Team 1234B) of Waipahu

Robot Skills Champion – Mendija Robotics Academy (Mendija Robotics Team 81218A) from Molokai

Design Award – Island Pacific Academy (Navigator Robotics Team 4442A)

St. Louis School also earned the STEM Research Project Award, qualifying twice for the world championship. Due to the overlap, a second team from Waialua Intermediate was able to qualify for the VEX Worlds through its skills ranking. For a full list of award recipients, please visit <https://www.robotevents.com/robot-competitions/vex-iq-challenge/RE-VIQC-18-6611.html>.

### **Elementary School VEX IQ at Sacred Hearts Academy, March 2**

Excellence Award – Manoa Elementary (Green Tigers Team 10142Y)

Teamwork Champions – BSA Aloha Council Troop 32 (Son of Daimos Team 3200S) of Waipahu, and Manoa Elementary (Green Tigers Team 10142X)

Teamwork Champions 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Haleiwa Elementary (Cane Fire Team 96712B) and Kualapu'u School (Kualapu'u Comets Team 1037C) of Moloka'i

Teamwork Champions 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Manoa Elementary (Green Tigers Team 10142A) and Sacred Hearts Academy (Lancer Robotics Team 2436C)

Robot Skills Champion – Sacred Hearts Academy (Lancer Robotics Team 2436A)

Design Award – Sacred Hearts Academy (Lancer Robotics Team 2436B)

Amaze Award – Kaunakakai School (Molokai Masters Team 11516D)

STEM Research Project Award – Mililani Mauka Elementary (Eagle Teks Team 241E)

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For a full list of Elementary School VEX IQ award recipients, please visit:

<https://www.robotevents.com/robot-competitions/vex-iq-challenge/RE-VIQC-18-6412.html>.

The 19 teams will join 5 middle and high school VEX VRC teams that won World Championship qualifying slots during the Hawaiian Electric Companies' Hawaii State VEX VRC Championship in January.

Since 2013, the Hawaiian Electric Companies have sponsored the VEX State Championships. Today, there are 270 IQ teams and 92 VEX teams across the state, with about 1500 students participating in more than 70 robotics events throughout the year. Globally, there are 24,000 teams in 57 countries participating in student robotics.

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