

Oscar Peterson robots tops in region

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It's a three-peat for the Oscar Peterson Public School's robotics team.

Cyber Jazz won the York Region FIRST Lego League regional qualifying tournament this past weekend.

More than 200 students in grades 2 to 9 from 20 York Region schools participated in the event, which was held in Markham.

The win earned the seven-person team a trip to the provincial championships in January at Oshawa's University of Ontario Institute of Technology. Four other teams

also earned a berths.

This year's theme was Nature's Fury. Lego-built robots had to complete a number of tasks on a large table recreating worldwide disasters, including tsunamis and hurricanes.

TO PROVINCIALS

The teams also had to research the impact of natural disasters in order to create an innovative solution that addressed an issue caused by the disaster, according to Jason Wilson, the Cyber Jazz coach and grades 7 and 8 teacher at Oscar Peterson.

His students designed, built and programmed a device called the Family Tracker, which is a small GPS tracking device and radio transmitter that can be matched with other devices to allow separated family members locate each other, according to Mr. Wilson.

The device requires no external power supply and utilizes the GPS satellite system, so it will work during extended blackouts when cell phone towers no longer transmit signals, he explained.

with files from Jeremy Grimaldi

for photos and more, visit yorkregion.com

High school art show opens tonight

Paintings, sculptures, pencil drawings, video and mixed media are a part of the eclectic show FLUX.

Stouffville District Secondary School's Grade 12 students' annual show runs from today through Jan. 4. at Latcham Gallery.

The students were guided by art teacher Onalee Creasor.

"Mrs. Creasor has created a working environment for art students that allows for freedom of expression and a respite from the pressures and stresses that the school environment can sometimes generate in a student's life," according to the media release.

The exhibition's opening reception is tonight from 7 to 9 p.m. at the gallery, 6240 Main St. The artists will be present.

For more information, go to latchamgallery.ca



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