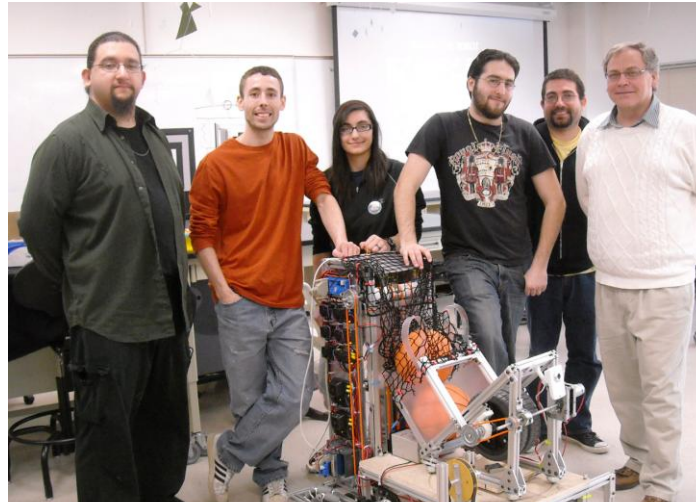


**Passaic County Community College/
John F. Kennedy High School
S.T.E.M. Team Wins Rookie All-Star Award
in FIRST Robotics Competition**

**Team Moves to the Next
Round of Competition
March 30 in Mt. Olive.**

*PCCC Students of Team 4347 and
Professor Brian Holton (far right)
with Dragonballer, the basketball
tossing robot built by the team.*



PCCC/JFK High School's Team 4347 took the Rookie All-Star Award in Round 1 of Rebound Rumble, the 2012 FIRST Robotics Competition held at Rutgers University March 9-11.

“This is the highest honor a rookie team can receive,” said Brian Holton, a physics professor at PCCC and a team advisor. Thrilled, Prof. Holton described the competition as “three days of no sleep, constant robotics modifications and repairs, thrills and chills of competition...and three days of pure fun.”

Team 4347 is composed of college and high school students from the S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) programs at PCCC and JFK High School in Paterson. The team moves on to the next round of competitions scheduled for March 30-April 1 in Mt. Olive, working toward the regional finals in Philadelphia and championship contest in St. Louis, both slated for April.

The PCCC students mentored their high school teammates in creating Dragonballer, a basketball-tossing robot that competed against similar robots in Rebound Rumble. More than 2,300 teams from around the world are expected to compete for this year's championship.

FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) is a 20-year-old organization founded by an MIT professor to provide today's youth with role models in the fields of science, engineering and technology. FIRST events aim to engage students in mentor-based programs that build skills and encourage collaboration and leadership.

[Read more about the PCCC/JFK Team and Rebound Rumble.](#)