**About 800 teams from Kazakhstan, Russia, Kyrgyzstan and Poland will compete at the Roboland-2018 Festival**

In Karaganda on the March 30-31 in the sports complex "Zhastar" will be held the IV International Festival of Robotics, Programming and Innovative Technologies "ROBOLAND 2018".

The largest festival in Kazakhstan for children and teenagers, involved in new technologies, has become traditional, but the program is renewed every year. The forum is a platform for popularization of educational robotics among pupils of schools and colleges, development and association of communities in this field.

Organizers of the festival: Education Department of Karaganda region, Educational and Methodological Center for Education Development of Karaganda region, Regional Scientific and Practical Center "Saryarka Daryny".

At the fourth festival, the number of nominations is increased to 32. Organizers added categories of premium, with higher requirements and tasks. Students will compete in the ability to make models with a 3D printer, and preschoolers - in the assembly of robots. In the nomination "Virtual Reality", participants need to create a robot model with the helmet of virtual reality and control brushes.

For the first time, an electronic system of registration and summing-up was introduced.

The main judge of the competition is Maxim Vasiliev, President of the International Association of Sports and Educational Robotics.

The popularity of the festival is growing. In 2017 392 teams came to ROBOLAND, this year the number has almost doubled. 771 teams were registered, including 754 from Kazakhstan, 13 from Russia, 1 from Kyrgyzstan, and 3 from Poland.

The business program was also updated. A record number of authoritative speakers was invited to Roboland-2018. Guests will come from Russia, Kazakhstan and Greece. Among them: the president of the All-Russian “Association of 3D Education” Roman Bondarenko, the director of the Moscow "Kulibin-center" Svetlana Shipovskaya, the author of books on robotics Viktor Petin, the holder of the nomination "Digital Teacher of the Year in Russia-2017" Nina Danilina, the best STEM - a teacher in 2016 in Europe, Michalis Orfanakis, etc. Foreign specialists will hold seminars and master classes for teachers, schoolchildren and students.

At the festival will be presented a unique educational and methodological manual on the development of near space "Lunar Odyssey." This is a joint educational project of the United Missile-Space Corporation, state corporation Roskosmos and LEGO Education.

On-line broadcasting of the festival will be conducted on the website roboland.kz.

*For information:*

The ROBOLAND Festival has been held in Karaganda since 2015. Since 2016, it has received the status of international.

In the Karaganda region, the project "Educational Robotics" has been implemented since 2014. This year, 5 regional schools purchased Lego Mindstorms equipment kits. Three years later, circles or elective courses on robotics are active in 188 educational organizations. More than 200 teachers of urban and rural schools have been trained in the teaching of robotics. To equip the laboratories purchased robotics of various directions and manufacturers - Lego Education, Tetrix, VEX, Arduino, RoboRobo. Learning Resources. Until the end of 2018, it is planned to open laboratories for robotics in all 467 general schools in the region.