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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**THE ROBOLANCERS WIN THE NASA ROBOTICS ALLIANCE PROJECT
FIRST ROBOTICS COMPETITION PARTICIPATION GRANT
FOR THE 2013 COMPETITION SEASON**

Philadelphia, PA –RoboLancers Team 321 was named by NASA as a \$5,000.00 Sustaining Grant recipient. The grant award will be applied to the entrance fee at the Springside-Chestnut Hill FIRST Robotics District Competition, which will be held on March 15-16, 2013.

As one of fifty-seven veteran robotics teams receiving the sustaining grant, with only two from Pennsylvania, the RoboLancers was selected based on answers to a rigorous series of questions posed in the grant application.

Head Coach Daniel Ueda said, “We are enormously grateful for this grant. Because of budget cuts and a tough economic climate, it would be impossible to raise the thousands of dollars required for the FRC entrance fee, a sad statement for a veteran FRC team but certainly a sign of the times, particularly for urban public schools. This grant will help us pay the entrance fee for FRC so we can continue to inspire generations of students through the creation of our team's FRC robot.”

The RoboLancers is a student-operated, adult-mentored robotics program based out of Central High School in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The program was founded in 1999 as FIRST Robotics Team 321 and included five students from the school. Since then, the program has evolved into a multi-faceted organization of more than 125 students and ten adult mentors that - with a \$20,000 per year budget - competes in two to three competitions, hosts various STEM-training and outreach programs around the City of Philadelphia, and has become a shining example of what students in a struggling urban setting can do if given the opportunity. Additional information about the RoboLancers can be found at <https://www.robolancers.com>.

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