

Having been dedicated to our team for the better part of its 17 years, the Heroes of Tomorrow is proud to nominate Lori Gleason for the 2013 Woodie Flowers Award. Ms. Gleason serves as one of our machining mentors as well as the liaison between the team and schools. On top of her job as a physics and chemistry teacher, Ms. Gleason puts in countless hours making our team the best it can be and making sure team members thoroughly learn what it is they intended to learn. During the build season, Ms. Gleason works closely with new team members showing them how to use the mill, lathe and other machines in the shop. She also makes sure that the students develop enough expertise to operate the machines independently, safely and efficiently. Ms. Gleason is consistent in making sure that all team members are aware of what is going on in terms of our meeting schedules and what we can expect at each competition. In fact, before each competition, Ms. Gleason organizes a team meeting for students and parents, making sure that each member and their families know the logistics of that weekend. Ms. Gleason is an inspiration to all who she has touched. As said by senior team member Emma Beattie, "Ms. Gleason's dedication to what she does is very inspiring to me; she is definitely someone I look up to as a role model for my future." Her dedication to our team is unmatched by anyone. On multiple occasions this past build season, she has worked well past 11pm with a few of her students and fellow mentors to make sure the goals for that build session were accomplished. Ms. Gleason works very hard to show students that they can do whatever they set their minds to. The 2013 game proved to be very testing for our team. Even coming up with a conceptual design took significantly longer than expected. During this time, Ms. Gleason was always making sure that we had the bigger picture in mind and that even though it was hard to visualize at the time, our hard work would pay off soon. Ms. Gleason exudes perfection; she pays significant attention to every detail of everything she does which helps her students learn more precisely why what they are building is important as well as how it works. Having won the 2009 Teacher of the Year Award courtesy of a local radio station, it has been a few years since Ms. Gleason's efforts have been recognized by our team. Because of her extreme dedication and hard work, students and mentors alike strongly agree that Ms. Lori Gleason best represents the spirit of the Woodie Flowers Award.