

**swe** **NEXT**



### In this issue:

- **Get ready for Engineers Week**
- **Profile on a Mechanical Engineer**
- **Learn about SWENext Clubs**
- **Apply for SWENext Awards**
- **SWENext Social Media Challenge**

### Happy Engineers Week!

This month, from February 18 - 24, we celebrate Engineers Week!



Since 1951, Engineers Week has been designated for the week including George Washington's birthday. Not only was he our first president, but many consider him the first engineer in the United States.

The theme for this year's Engineers Week is "Engineers: Inspiring Wonder." It's a call to recognize the women and men who create today's awe-inspiring wonders, like cloud-busting skyscrapers, and tomorrow's wonders, like human travel to Mars. Our lives would be very different without daily marvels like clean drinking water, computers, and cars.

Engineers Week is a time for everyone to celebrate and wonder what the next big innovation will be. [Click here](#) to learn more about Engineers Week.



### Day in the life of a Mechanical Engineer

Meet Shannon Herrity, a Mechanical Engineer who works for Westrock. Find out how she got there, the types of projects she's working on, and how you can #BeThatEngineer on SWE's [All Together](#) Blog.

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### SWENext Club – The Lady Cans

What do girls, robots, and “Duck Tape” have in common? Find out by meeting The Lady Cans (also known as The Duck Tape Girls”), a FIRST robotics team and Girl Scout Troop based in Austin, Texas.



Since their first year competing in 2009, The Lady Cans have won a number of awards at a variety of competitions. In addition to participating in robotics competitions, they provide outreach to their community by performing demonstrations for young girls to build interest in STEM. Many of their members have gone on to study engineering in college.

[Visit here to learn more.](#)



### Thinking about starting a SWENext Club?

SWENext Clubs are a way to connect with SWE members and other SWENexters in your area. Your SWENext Club can be any size with students in K-12 grades. We encourage you to work on projects that use engineering to help people in your community or compete in competitions like Future City or FIRST Robotics. Your club can be all about STEM outreach for younger students. The direction of your club is up to you! [Learn more here.](#)

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### SWENext Global Innovator Award recipient

Congratulations to Maya Rozenshteyn, one of the 2017 recipients of the Global Innovator Award! Maya started her own SWENext Club, has held multiple engineering internships, and has contributed greatly to her community with outreach. She loves

computer science and hopes to be a leader in the STEM field. [Learn more](#) about Maya and what she's done by watching her submission video below.



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### SWENext Award applications are open



#### **2018 SWENext Northrop Grumman High School Community Award – Milwaukee**

[Apply for the SWENext Northrop Grumman Community Award](#) in Milwaukee before **February 24**.

Design a poster to describe a proposed solution to this real-world problem. In 2015, the city of Milwaukee approved a plan for development of Milwaukee's very own public transportation system, called the Milwaukee Streetcar. With construction of the first phase of the project spanning 2017 and 2018, access has been temporarily restricted or completely blocked to many streets along the new Streetcar routes. Drivers and pedestrians trying to access homes, businesses, and other destinations have become extremely frustrated. How would you creatively address the problems caused by the Streetcar construction to provide more efficient and effective access for people in Milwaukee?

#### **SWENext Northrop Grumman High School Community Award – Portland**

[Apply for the SWENext Northrop Grumman Community Award](#) in Portland before **March 17**.



Design a poster to describe a proposed solution to ONE of the two prompts below:

PROMPT 1: Homelessness increased 8% to upwards of 18% as measured in major West Coast cities like Portland, Vancouver, Seattle in 2016 to early 2017. This complicated problem and humanitarian crisis not only affects the people who face homelessness, but also the city and its residents who live side by side with the homeless and unsheltered population. Many residents want to help, but struggle to define innovative and cost-effective solutions. How can cities like Portland and Vancouver use science, technology, engineering, and mathematics to reduce the suffering homelessness brings and/or help to decrease the homeless population?

PROMPT 2: Portland has the distinction of being within the top 15 cities in the US for the worst road congestion. In 2016 there were nearly 7% more cars on the road than the previous year and that number is expected to increase as population growth continues over the next decade. Road and bridge capacity are maxed out and new road and bridge projects are de-prioritized over the need for maintenance of the aging infrastructure. What solutions do you envision using science, technology, engineering, and mathematics to alleviate the road congestion problem now and mitigate the future impact?

[Apply for the SWENext Local Innovator Award >>](#)

### **SWENext Social Media Challenge with a chance to win a t-shirt**

Mechanical engineers deal with the design, construction, and use of machines. A "machine" could be anything from a toaster to a spaceship!

Post a picture of a "machine" that may have been designed by a Mechanical Engineer. The most unusual "machine" will win a free t-shirt!



Share it with us in our SWENext Facebook Group. Submit your #SWENext #Machine by **February 28**. The winning SWENexter will receive a "Watch me change the world" t-shirt!

Example:

Erica loves drinking tea, so she uses an electric tea kettle to quickly boil water and steep a tea bag.

### **Not a Member of our closed SWENext Facebook Group?**

It's easy to sign up, just [visit here](#) and click "join."

This is a closed group, just for SWENexters in high school and collegiate SWE members to discuss college readiness, being a woman in a male dominated field, and the benefits of being part of SWE.

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### Shout Out to last month's SWENext Social Media Challenge winner

The winner for January's Social Media Challenge is Ashley Chu. One of her favorite apps is **Forest** which helps her stay off her phone to work on school assignments. It's helped her immensely and it also helps grow trees in different parts in the world which is an awesome bonus.

Congratulations! Your t-shirt is on the way!



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[www.swe.org](http://www.swe.org) | #BeThatEngineer

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