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From: Sandy C Gholston
Sent: Friday, March 07, 2014 3:58 PM
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Subject: PRESS RELEASE: Ferris to Host 15th Annual Spaghetti Bridge Competition Begins March 22

Included below is a press release highlighting the 15th annual Spaghetti Bridge Competition that will take place at Ferris State University, in Big Rapids, on the weekend of March 22-23. Any media requests regarding this release can be directed to Sandy Gholston, News Services and Social Media Manager.

To read the online version of this story, visit:

<http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/news/archive/2014/march/spaghetti.htm>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 7, 2014

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Ferris to Host 15th Annual Spaghetti Bridge Competition Begins March 22

BIG RAPIDS – Ferris State University will host its 15th annual Spaghetti Bridge Competition on Saturday, March 22 from 12:30 to 5 p.m. and Sunday, March 23 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Granger Center for Construction and HVACR Atrium. High school students from all over Michigan are eligible to compete in the multi-faceted competition that asks four-member teams to base their architectural design on an existing or previously-built bridge.

Using only 2 pounds of spaghetti and three lasagna noodles, each team is asked to create an accurate, scaled reproduction of the bridge to be judged in the authentic bridge evaluation. Teams will also bring a written report on the history behind their bridges, including dimensions, the year or years of construction, cost, and the sociological and environmental aspects to the bridge.

Competing teams will then present an oral presentation about their bridge to a panel of judges and the audience. Team members take turns role-playing, representing both the governmental agencies that wish to build the bridge and the construction company hired to complete the bridge. Bridge design, acquisition of property, traffic patterns and environmental issues will all be addressed.

Finally, teams will end the competition by constructing an on-site replica of their bridge for the load-bearing portion of the competition. The weight held by these bridges can reach more than 100 pounds.

Awards for individual portions of the competition range from first to fifth places with cash awards ranging from \$50 to \$300. Awards of four \$2,000 scholarships to Ferris for first place, four \$1,000 scholarships to Ferris for second place and four \$500 scholarships to Ferris for third place are presented to the overall winners.

For more information, contact Beth Reynolds at (231) 591-3077 or beth_reynolds@ferris.edu.

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