

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Student Rocketeers, Including USVI Competitors, Vie For National Title In World's Largest Rocket Contest

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The top 101 student rocketry teams from across 28 states and the U.S. Virgin Islands will take part in the Team America Rocketry Challenge's National Finals for a share of \$100,000 in scholarships and a chance to represent the U.S. at the International Rocketry Challenge in Paris.

The rocketeers of Elena L. Christian Jr. High School will be making a return trip to the finals where they have seen some success in the past.

On May 12, students will showcase their rockets on Capitol Hill during 'Rockets on the Hill,' TARC's fifth annual pre-event reception that brings teams together with STEM

advocates and their elected representatives in Congress.

On May 13, students gather at Great Meadow in The Plains, Va. for a captivating all-day event with competitive rocket launching, an outdoor expo featuring more than 20 industry sponsors and an awards ceremony honoring the TARC team that will beat out hundreds of other teams to grasp the national title.

WHAT: The 2017 Team America Rocketry Challenge National Finals

WHEN & WHERE: Friday, May 12 | 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. (Rockets on the Hill) Russell Senate Office Building Room 325, Delaware Ave. and C St. NE entrance

WHO: The Aerospace Industries Association, the National Association of Rocketry and hundreds of middle and high school students representing 28 states and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

TARC 2017 challenges each team to design and build a rocket that can travel to exactly 775 feet and back within 41-43 seconds. Each rocket must carry one raw egg and return it undamaged with parachute assistance. Scores are determined by how close a rocket comes to the required height and time specifications.

The team with the lowest score from the sum of two flights wins a trip to compete against students from the United Kingdom, France, and Japan at the International Fly-off in the Paris Air Show courtesy of the Raytheon Company.