



## **Sacramento Valley Manufacturers Alliance Hosts 2nd Annual High School Manufacturing Challenge**

### **Annual Competition Aims to Inspire Future Workforce with Hands-On Manufacturing Skills in Greater Sacramento**

Sacramento, CA — The Sacramento Valley Manufacturers Alliance (SVMA) will host its 2nd Annual High School Manufacturing Challenge on Saturday, April 26, 2025, providing local high school students with a unique opportunity to design and manufacture their own tic-tac-toe game using both additive and subtractive manufacturing processes. This event, aimed at sparking interest in vocational manufacturing careers, is part of SVMA's ongoing efforts to build a skilled manufacturing workforce in the Greater Sacramento area.

The Challenge invites students to create a functional tic-tac-toe game using various materials, including wood, metal, and plastic, within a 6.5-inch cube. The competition, to be held in Sacramento, encourages innovation and technical skill, and will award a total of \$5,000 in scholarships, including top honors such as "Best Overall" and "Most Artistic." Participating students will have a chance to connect with local manufacturers who may sponsor their enrollment in apprenticeships, introducing them to real-world manufacturing career pathways.

"At SVMA, we're committed to nurturing the next generation of skilled manufacturers right here in Sacramento," said Kevin McGrew, President of SVMA. "This Challenge is designed to not only enhance students' technical abilities but also connect them with industry professionals who can help shape their career journeys in manufacturing."

The event provides significant benefits to both students and local manufacturers. For students, it's an invaluable opportunity to showcase their creativity, gain hands-on experience, and engage with industry leaders. For manufacturers, the event serves as a first look at the emerging talent pipeline, offering insight into the next generation of skilled trades people, engineers, and innovators.

"Our manufacturing sector is key to Sacramento's economic growth, and events like this strengthen our industry's future by fostering enthusiasm and excellence in manufacturing," said Dean Peckham, Executive Director of SVMA. "We're excited to support students in developing these crucial skills and exploring meaningful career opportunities."

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**Challenge Details:**

Eligibility: Open to high school students in the Greater Sacramento region.

Competition Guidelines: Projects must be completed individually, utilize mixed media, and include at least one subtractive manufacturing processes.

Prizes: Up to \$5,000 in scholarships, including special recognition categories such Best in Show, Most Innovative Design, Best Technical Documentation, Most Complex Approach/Processes, Coolest Electronics, Most Artistic, Mentor of the Year, and People's Choice.

**For Sponsors:**

SVMA is seeking sponsors to support scholarship awards for this exciting event. Interested sponsors can sign up through our Eventbrite page: [2025 High School Manufacturing Tic Tac Toe Challenge Sponsorships](#).

**About Sacramento Valley Manufacturers Alliance**

The Sacramento Valley Manufacturers Alliance (SVMA) represents and supports the region's manufacturing sector, working closely with educators, industry partners, and community leaders to drive vocational, educational, and workforce initiatives. SVMA is dedicated to creating a strong pipeline of skilled workers and positioning the Greater Sacramento area as a hub of manufacturing excellence and innovation.

**For more information on how students and schools can participate, please contact:**

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