SC12 opens submissions for the Student Cluster Competition and a new event

The SC12 edition of the Student Cluster Competition, a spirited event featuring young supercomputing talent from around the world, is now accepting submissions from teams of students.

Applications for the competition are available at: **http://submissions.supercomputing.org/**

The deadline for submissions is April 27.

In this real-time, non-stop 48-hour challenge, teams of six undergraduate or high school students design and assemble a small cluster on the SC exhibit floor and race to demonstrate the greatest sustained performance across a series of applications. The added catch is that teams will be required to run workloads on the same power needed to run only three coffee makers.

Pre-competition team preparations include working with supervisors and vendor partners to design and build a cutting-edge cluster from commercially available components, that does not exceed the 26 amp power limit, and to learn the predetermined HPC applications.

After the starting gun at SC12, teams will compete to achieve the best high performance computing cluster (HPCC) benchmark performance and maximum throughput of accurate applications runs, all while remaining at or below their energy budget. Teams also compete to impress SC participants and judges with visualizations, presentations, and interviews. "Cluster computing is making HPC accessible to the broader research, academic and business communities, increasing the demand for related computing skills and talent," said Péter Molnár, chair of the SC12 cluster competition.

This year there are two tracks to the competition. The "standard" track of this competition requires teams to find a vendor partner who will provide the hardware competition at SC12. Over the last four years, the competition has drawn teams from around the world, including Canada, Germany and Taiwan.

New at SC12 is the addition of a second "pilot-track" to the cluster competition. While this track follows the format of the traditional standard "big iron" competition teams will use LittleFe systems. Eligible to apply to this track are teams of any institution that has not previously participated in the Student Cluster Competition or also submitted an application for the standard track.

The Student Cluster Competition is part of SC Communities, which brings together programs designed to support emerging leaders and groups that have traditionally been under-represented in computing. This program provides opportunities for students, faculty, early-career professionals, and international attendees to participate in the SC Conference through our Ambassadors, Broader Engagement, Education Program, Student Cluster Competition, and Student Volunteers activities. Limited travel support is available for some of these programs; we encourage you to apply. Applications are opening soon for our Broader Engagement, Education, and Student Volunteer Programs.

For more information or to register for the challenge, go to:
http://sc12.supercomputing.org/content/student-cluster-competition

E-mail: student-cluster-competition@info.supercomputing.org

About SC12

SC12, sponsored by the ACM (Association for Computing Machinery) and the IEEE Computer Society, offers a complete technical education program and exhibition to showcase the many ways high performance computing, networking, storage and analysis lead to advances in scientific discovery, research, education and commerce. This premier international conference includes a globally attended technical program, workshops, tutorials, a world class exhibit area, demonstrations and opportunities for hands-on learning.

Contact: SC12 Communications: communications@info.supercomputing.org