

ASTOUNDING GIRL POWER

We're all winners, but let's have fun competing for the title of Miss Girl power

Women and girls have been an important part of life for a long time. So what automatically comes to my mind when I hear this phrase "girl power" is how girls work together with all their efforts to



achieve something? How it reflects to our team is how we work together, how we try solving our problems by ourselves, how we are very dedicated, and we have good analytical skills. Also we are a great team with passion, weaknesses, strengths, and our uniqueness. As a team we work very hard, we also try to accomplish the given task within the given time. Each of us is like one puzzle piece of the puzzle (the team). Each team member has one unique behavior that makes them stand out. If one of the puzzle pieces is missing (one of us) the puzzle stays incomplete and we can't achieve our goal the right way. So each of us have one unique role that will make this girl powered robotics team succeed.

For our contest, our S.T.E.M. project was forest fires and we won the award for it because the judges thought it would be very helpful for the environment. They thought this because other people would now know what to do when a forest fire happens, or at least they would know how to warn people. Also it would teach other students a natural hazard lesson. Our robot had a big uniqueness out of all the other ones. The uniqueness was that our robot had an escalator, and an empty part, all the other ones just had a claw that picks up the rings. Our robot would pick it up but with our escalator. The escalator drops the rings on the empty piece, and that releases the rings onto the pole.



Our team has been through a lot with robotics, and had many experiences with the pieces, the contests, and how everything works. We also always try to think of new ways to make the robot design. Navya, the oldest one in the group has a very good strategy. Her mind is always focused during robotics. She also had the role of the claw (new robot). Ruhi is intelligent in many ways. She has creative ideas and her mind is always on during robotics, thinking of new ways to improve the robot. Ruhi has the role of the drivetrain (new robot). Pragnya is very passionate about robotics. She also gets her work done on time and is a very organized person. Pragnya has the role of building the drivetrain with Ruhi and the escalator (new robot). Shreeya is very focused during robotics. She also likes to not keep her work pending. Shreeya is a very positive girl. Shreeya does the programming (new robot). Kashvi, she always tries to get the team to focus when our minds wander away she is also very supportive with her teammates. She's also really good at controlling the robot. Kashvi also does the programming with Shreeya. Kritika is very good at drawing and taking notes so we can look back at them. Out of a few robot designs we came to one decision. She does the claw with Navya, the oldest. We had some robot designs to choose from and we voted on one that had these parts. Programming, the claw, the escalator, and the drivetrain. For the design of the robot we faced a lot of problems and challenges.



After we finalized the robot design, what we did was we split it into 3 parts. Since we had six people in our team, two people would work on each part. We improved our understanding of the concept of building the robot because of the regular practice. We faced many challenges but we kept the confidence in us and knew we would accomplish our goals one day. One of the biggest challenges for the team was the programming part. We had to program the robot for the contest. The programming part in the contest is basically where you have to write a set of instructions or code so the robot can move by itself. When it moves by itself or when you program it, the robot basically just does the stuff you would do when you control it with a controller. Another challenge we faced was with the robot design, also a certain part in the design. It was with the empty part, the empty part was the hardest out of all of the parts. We kept having a lot of problems with it. But eventually we fixed it.



We are all different in our own way. Different people have different ideas. This benefits the team because more ideas make more opinions and more opinions make a better team and robot. On the day

of our first contest, we had mixed feelings of how we would do, if we would win or lose. But our girl power gave us confidence, and our confidence led us to a pathway of success. We have achieved so many things as a team. Some examples we worked on a good design strategy for the robot to be successful. We also have gotten very good at solving problems while doing the programming part for the robot.



Our S.T.E.M. role model is Shelly Counter. We chose her because is very responsible and punctual. She teaches an academy in Paris and meets up with little kids and teaches them about S.T.E.M. People do not even have to pay for her lessons. Shelly Counter just wants kids to be well educated. Also since she runs an academy in Paris, that makes us infer that she is very responsible. That's why we chose Shelly counter as our S.T.E.M. role model. She is an inspiration to kids all over the world.



What we have learned in our experiences is that we should always find a strategy before the contest. With a strategy, we know exactly what to do and we will not make a mistake. But the main part of the contest is to have fun and learn about how to improve on the robot design, skill, and strategy. There is also a lot of thinking involved in robotics. It helps if you get the hang of using the remote. All you have to do is try your best and focus on what you are doing.



Credits: Midnight owls 86348K Team Members: Kashvi, Navya, Shreeya, Praganaya, Ruhi, Kritika.