

We are the Riveters

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Special Interest Articles:

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- Who are the Riveters?

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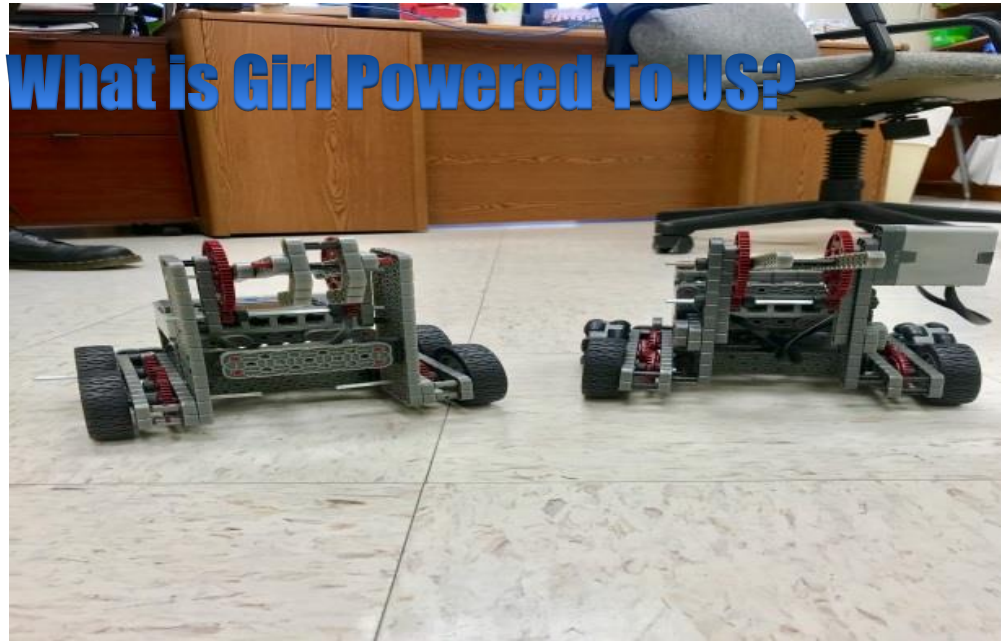
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GIRL
 POWERED...
 POWERED BY
 GIRLS!

When we hear the phrase girl powered, we envision girls working together to achieve great things. This phrase also makes us think about the powerful women who have made a difference in our lives. Girl powered reminds us of our coach, who is also our STEM teacher at school. She is the reason many of us want to pursue STEM in High School. She started the robotics program at our school and we have had teams compete in FLL in the past. While we have had competitive robotics and club robotics, we did not seem to attract many girls. Our coach, Keya Belt-Robinson, thought our school needed a new and exciting way to encourage girls to pursue their interests in STEM. She thought we would benefit from a fun way to learn about opportunities in STEM fields and it would provide a way for everyone to have the chance to become involved in STEM. Mrs. Belt-Robinson decided the best way to achieve her goal of educating young women about STEM and encouraging them to pursue their interests in STEM, would be by making an all-girls robotics team. This team would be a gateway to a world of opportunities for both those experienced in robotics and for those unsure of themselves by providing an encouraging environment to become confident, hardworking individuals that won't back down from a challenge. She made sure her robotics team had a variety of individuals that wanted to pursue STEM in their spare time and that were driven to help her encourage other girls to become involved in STEM.

GIRL POWERED MEANS THAT GIRLS CAN DO ANYTHING!
 - BELLE S.

GIRL POWERED MEANS THAT GIRLS CAN DO WHAT EVER THEY SET THEIR MINDS TO. OUR GENDER DOESN'T MATTER
 - HANNAH G.

GIRL POWERED MEANS THAT GIRLS ARE UNSTOPPABLE!
 - HANNAH P.

GIRL POWERED MEANS THAT GIRLS CAN COME TOGETHER AND SHOW THEY CAN DO ANYTHING THAT BOYS CAN DO AND THAT CAN DO IT WELL!
 - PRISCILLA R.

Why VEXIQ?

“...we wanted to try something new this season.”



Our team was made up of seven girls all equally driven to pursue robotics. Two of us compete on a FLL team last year, but we wanted to try something new this season. We started researching other competitions and found the VEXIQ challenge. We asked Mrs. Belt-Robinson if we could compete with VEX, and she started finding out what we needed to do to form a team. We were excited to start a new journey with a new organization. Since all of us were new to Vex Robotics, everything we did was truly a team effort. We grew together as a team; and as every one of us got more and more involved in robotics, we continued to encourage each other to become more familiar with areas of the Vex Robotics Challenge that were foreign to us. We were

As we continued to work harder and harder in order to be able to make our robot in time for competition, we realized that it was even more important than we thought to include every team member and to encourage others to try new things. When we did this, it was evident that the people we included and encouraged brought more to our team. Furthermore, the more confidence we instilled in each other, the more we helped in our community because of feelings of self-worth, and our knowledge of how just a few kind words or a helping hand can make someone's day.

Once we realized we would be ready for competition we were filled with joy, not because we would be able to make ourselves look better or be able to brag if we did well, but because we knew that our team was already more successful than it ever could be if everything had been easy. The challenges we faced and overcame had not only proved to us but everyone around us that an all-girls team was both capable and a good idea. We knew that just our one team of seven girls had been able to make a difference at our school. This means the world to us because of our love for robotics. Our goal in creating an all-girls team was to have a place where everyone could have a chance to pursue robotics. Without an early

motivated to try our best because we knew that our team was helping close the gender gap in robotics at our school. It soon was evident to us that we needed to do well in order to show that an all-girls team could be as successful as an all-boys team. We began planning extra meetings and working even harder to finish our robot on time. We tried our best to continue to encourage each other even with the extra stress of doing well placed upon us.

exposure to STEM fields, like robotics, there won't be nearly as much female interest in them. In a world where technology is continuing to become increasingly important, we believe that diversity will make the STEM field better. We are glad to be a very small part of making robotics more diverse, and hope that as time goes on STEM fields will continue to diversify and that everyone will feel like they have a place in this ever-growing field.



WE CHOSE THE NAME THE RIVETERS TO HONOR ROSIE THE RIVETER LIKE ROSIE, WE CAN DO IT! ROSIE THE RIVETER WAS USED TO RECRUIT FEMALES TO WORK IN FACTORIES WHERE MALES USUALLY WORKED. WE HOPE TO INSPIRE MORE GIRLS TO PURSUE STEM, LIKE ROSIE THE RIVETER WAS USED TO INSPIRE WOMEN TO ENTER INTO A MALE DRIVEN WORKFORCE.