



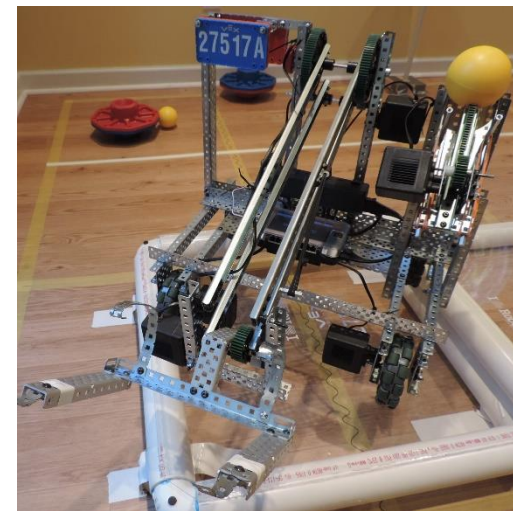
# A Different Kind of Power

Team 27517A: What Could Go Wrong?



# What Does Girl Powered Mean to You?

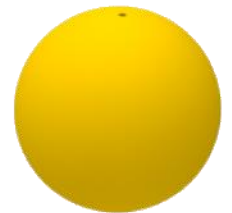
To us being a Girl Powered team is all about hard work, dedication, connection, and trust. We all work together and are friends. It's also about getting recognized for our effort and talent, by showing our strengths and getting awards for our hard work. Being Girl Powered has made us friends near and far, helping us make our way to our first national competition. It is also about being inspired and being inspiration for others. In technology, it is hard to start on your own as a girl, but if there is someone to look up to, it will be much easier.





# Hard Work and Dedication

From what we've seen, we are different from most robotics teams since we do not divide people and confine them to certain roles. Everybody gets to drive, build, and program the robot. At competitions we decide who drives the robot in our matches. Everybody gets to drive at least twice. Sometimes we put our strong drivers against tougher teams, and sometimes we will put less experienced drivers to face a challenge and push their boundaries. Each of us writes autonomous code, and we have 5 codes written by 5 different people, which we use in different situations. The more experienced programmers can create functions that can be used in other programs. We may not be the most competitive team, but we are well rounded, engaged, and get a lot out of it. Since all five of us have different strategies and ideas about how to design and drive a robot, we can easily compare different approaches and find the best option.

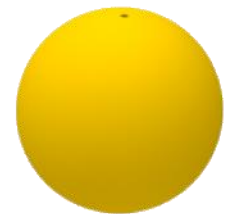


# Connection and Trust

When driving on the field, you have to make decisions in split seconds, which all affect the final result of the match. As a driver, you have to rely on your team members to help you with decisions.

If you are close to your teammates and communicate well with them, you can perform much better and more comfortably.

More than a few members of our team can't freely speak their minds if they are in a room full of strangers. Since we are friends, we feel comfortable enough to speak up and give new ideas or ask questions. This is our second season of VEX together, and we have become closer friends. We know a lot about each other and how to motivate and cheer them up.



# Getting Recognized for Our Talents

In mixed robotics teams, girls often play supporting roles, and their talents are overshadowed by their male teammates. In our Girl Powered team we each get a chance to *shine* and get recognized for it. We have been a team for two seasons, and at the competitions we've been recognized for our robot, programming, teamwork, and overall excellence. Receiving these awards have shown that all our hard work has paid off, and encouraged us to work harder and accept greater challenges.



# Finding new Friends

Sometimes being Girl powered opens doors for you, and you can find unexpected friends. Our team is independent and has no travel budget, but we really want to compete at the national level. A while back, we set up a fundraising campaign to raise money to go to the Google VEX Tournament. To our surprise, one weekend we received a donation from a fellow Girl Powered team from California, who also will be participating in the same competition. It was really nice to know that girls across the country are willing to help us and be our friends.



Orchard Hills Robohawks 8838A donated \$150 to

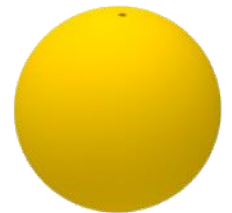
**"Send Our Robotics Team to Google VEX Competition!"**

Orchard Hills Robohawks 8838A says...

Proud to be #GirlPowered! Looking forward to meeting a fellow girl powered team at the Google Tournament in a few weeks! Good Luck! Love, 8838A Discovery

We are so excited to have new Girl Powered friends! Thank you, Team 8838A Discovery for helping us to raise money to travel to the Google Competition!

Team 27517A  
What Could Go Wrong?





# Empowering and Inspiring Others

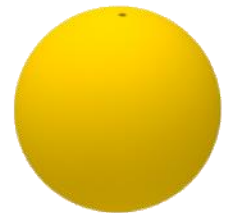
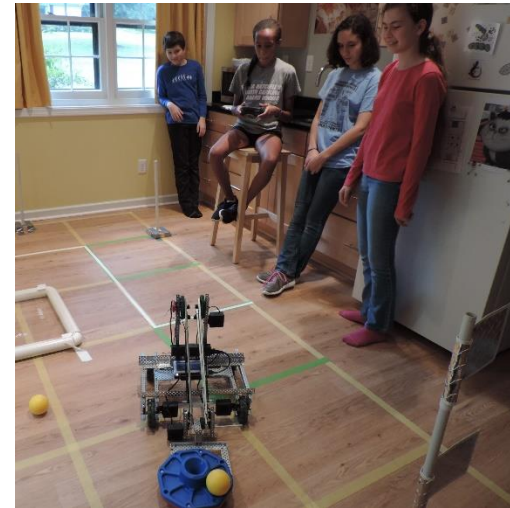
When thinking about Girl Powered, I remember the times when I was discouraged from doing something because I was scared of sticking out. It's really nice that there is an organization that tries to encourage girls to go into a male-dominated field. Girl Powered has helped us get together and encouraged us to keep working and build a good robot.

VEX Robotics is not the only organization which enables girls to pursue technology. There are more and more programs now which open doors for girls. One of them is the Nerd Girls program. It encourages girls to work with science, technology, engineering, and math to change the world. Karen Panetta, the founder of the Nerd Girls program is our inspiration to work hard to achieve our dreams. She is a professor of electrical and computer engineering at Tufts University. Her unwavering commitment to encouraging girls in science is enough to get her recognized and given an award by the President for her science, engineering, and mathematics mentoring.



# Our Future

In a few years we will all finish school and choose our own paths in life. Alice wants to be an Engineer, Reilly is interested in Ecology and wants to be a wildlife Rehabilitator, Ana aspires to be a Software Engineer, Alan wants to pursue Computer Science, and Ainsley has diverse interests from Engineering to History. But no matter what career we choose, the experience we got from our Girl Powered VEX Robotics team will help us to succeed. We learned about the design process, time management, programming, critical thinking, and decision-making as a team. These skills will apply to any field of research.





# A Different Kind of Power

Ana Badea  
Alice Karakachian  
Ainsley Adams  
Reilly Adams  
Alan Karakachian

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We are  
proud to be  
Girl  
Powered!!!

