

The background of the image is a dark purple field covered with a halftone dot pattern. The dots are in shades of pink and orange, with a higher density of dots in the corners, creating a vignette effect.

# GIRL POWERED 2018/2019

# HEY!

We are the girls on the  
Rainforest Hunters  
19000H team!



# Meet Riya!

Hi I'm Riya Kadakia, I'm 12 years old in 7th grade and this is my 4th year in Vex robotics. Last year, I was part of another team where I experienced my first year in VRC but I'm still learning a lot about the competition. I have been on many different teams and I'm proud to say 2 of those teams made it to the Vex Robotics World Championship. I love robotics, I mainly help in the designing and building of the robot but I also like programming. This is my first year with the Rainforest Robotics Club though my twin brother was already on the team last year. I'm excited to join him on this team this year.



# Meet Ruhi!

Hi I'm Ruhi Koppula. I'm 13 years old and attend Ralston Middle School. I am in 8th grade and this is my 3rd year participating in VEX (IQ and now, VRC). All my past years, I was in the Rainforest community; all the way from my first day to today. In my first year, I was on a team with one other girl but in my 2nd year, I was on an all boys team (except for me). Both of my past teams were able to make it to the tournament and win an award! The first year, we won design, and in the second, division champion and amaze award. This year, I mainly work on the programming aspect of robotics, although, I try to help in any other areas as much as possible.



# Our Team

On our team, we have 6 boys and 2 girls-us. Our team can get a lot of work done when we need to, but we also like to goof off. We make sure we finish what we have to then have some fun- as a reward- since that's one of the most important parts!



Riya	Ruhi
Enzo	Nathan
Michael	Kush
Tsubasa	Arin



## “ The Starting of Girl Powered

The Girl Powered Movement started soon after we joined robotics so we've been to multiple talks about how it's important for there to be more female engineers. Listening to those talks and how older females didn't have the same opportunities make us feel lucky that we live a generation that is constantly working towards helping more girls pursue their dreams. -Riya



# Before VRC

While this is our first year in the VRC Challenge, we all have done robotics before. We have done robotics in Vex IQ for 2-3 years. We've had many of our friends and teammates on our teams that were girls, so at first it didn't strike us as being a big deal. We also get along with the boys pretty well; working and goofing off together. Although we get along, all of us know that going from Vex IQ to VRC is a big jump and that we're going to have to work a lot harder.

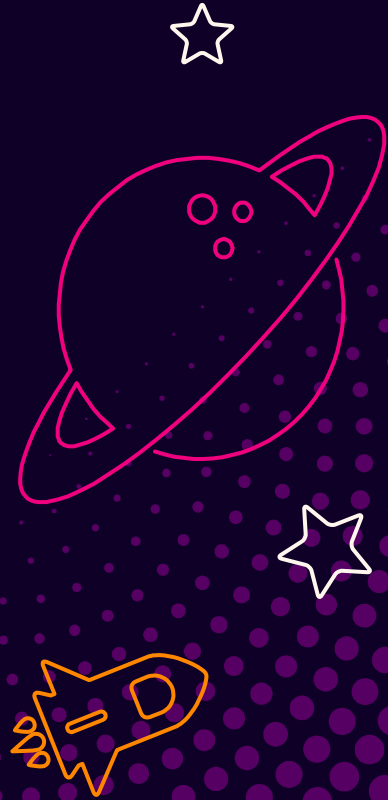
-Riya and Ruhi



# Worlds Before Us

As we said before, we've been on teams with girls and boys and it has never been such a big deal, but when we went to Worlds the first time, we realized how few girls there were. At most of the tournaments there we almost equal girls to boys, but at Worlds all the girls could fit into one a (big-ish) room. There were also very few all girls teams which surprised us and changed our perspective on actually how many girls participated in robotics.

-Riya



## Only Me

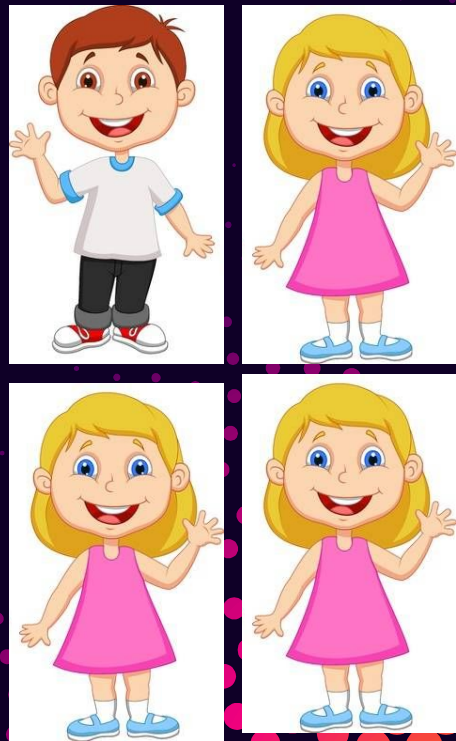
I've always heard the phrase, "*Girl Power!*" but just until last year, when I was on a team with all boys, I hadn't completely thought about it. Going through robotics with 5 other boys, was fun; but a little different. We did the same things, we worked together, we hung out together; it was no big deal, but sometimes I felt a little left out. Video games were not usually the topics I talked with my friends. :) Sometimes, whenever the topic of notebook came up, my name came up with it, too. Yet, in the end, everyone had the chance to do the notebook to make it the best we could. -Ruhi



# Only One Boy

Last year, I was on a four person team. There were three girls and one boy. It was a different experience than being on a team with all boys, but it was different in a new way. We weren't doubted for any task we did, or shown exactly how to make something so we didn't mess up. We were like equals if anything more, which is why it is sometimes hard to see myself going through quite the opposite.

-Riya



## 2 Different Mentors

For our team, we have 2 mentors; one female, one male. It is already awesome that we have 2 intelligent adults supervising and helping our team with everything; from checking in to tournaments and all the way to giving us advice on anything possible! Yet, having at least one female mentor is even better! A girl and boy definitely have different perspectives as do our 2 mentors! They each provide different ideas just like Riya and I would do compared to the boys. In conclusion, having another female mentor and friend is excellent since we all had the same experiences with boys that would help us be stronger in the future. -Ruhi



# Still Working Hard

Girls or Boys doesn't matter when you're a team. Our team has been to three tournaments now and we're getting better each time. So far, we have won an award at each competition but sadly, none of them have qualified us to State. Yet, we are still working as hard as we can to make sure in the following tournaments we will be able to qualify.

-Riya



Thank you for taking your time to  
read our girl powered entry!

We enjoy and love robotics from the bottom  
of our hearts and we cannot wait for a new  
season!



-Riya and Ruhi from  
Team 19000H, the Hunters



# The Huntresses Of Robotics

Authors: Riya Kadakia and Ruhi Koppula

Team Number: 19000H

Team Name: Hunters

Team Members: Riya, Ruhi, Arin, Kush, Michael,  
Tsubasa, Nathan, and Enzo