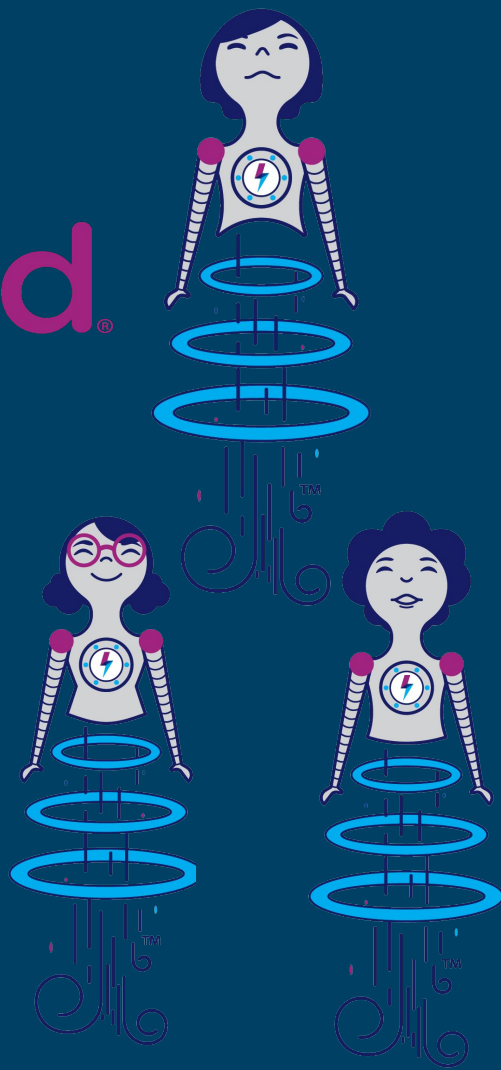


Girl Powered.

Inspiration Strikes Like Lightning



Girl Powered in the Sun City

Our Girl Powered story begins. Golden streaks of sunlight gleam through university windows, and brighten the smiles of those who never thought they could, because today and forever on, they are assured that they can. Wonder Woman, Captain Marvel, and Shuri, Eastwoods own Girl Powered mascots stand tall, strong, beautiful, and proud as they shape joyful the memories now imprinted in the minds of over 700 girls. October 12th, 2018 marks the day inspiration struck like lightning and the blue, purple, and pink Girl Powered bolt shined permanently in our Sun City. Team 8787 Eastwood Troopers had the honor of hosting the third annual world's largest Girl Power event ever known, in our home town at the University of Texas at El Paso



What is Girl⚡Powered.

My name is Amanda Coons, Im 16 years old and currently a junior at Eastwood High School. My educational career has primarily centered in STEM. Throughout my experience I have found girl power does not mean girls are better than boys, nor boys better than girls, but together we add up to be more creative, insightful, and overall have a stronger robotics program.



Troopers Taking Initiative

I have had the privilege of being a part of Eastwood's Girl Powered event for three years now, each year inspiring more young females in the community. Personally, I have enjoyed reaching out to coaches and mentors of other schools at our Girl Powered event to start a competition robotics team, influencing this to allow the girls to benefit academically. Our views and approach to robotics as a team has flourished from the happiness, and passion found in succession that this event allows us to achieve. We hope to soon expand our community to not only consist of our border city, but reach out internationally. My team, 8787 is determined to diversify the face of STEM and include all with a dream to create anew.



A Different Perspective

My name is Destiny James. As a woman going into engineering, I personally faced a lot of opposition from others as I explore my interest in the STEM field.. It all changed when I joined my robotics team, I saw first hand how many girls were in STEM, and excelled because of the wonderful environment of everyone supporting each other's work. Whether it's a math problem, building part of a robot, programing ,CAD (computer animated designing), or simply drawing a diagram of the robot and how it was built, empowerment and equality is heavily influenced into our team. At first I was nervous to expand in STEM, we all do different jobs on our team, and have all tried every aspect of robotics. I am glad that my team pushed me to do the engineering notebook. It has enhanced my skills of drawing, writing, and exploring the different elements of our team and their work as I document important ideas. I ensure I write ideas to where they can be expressed to others simply, no matter how complex. This helps our overall score at competition. Being a woman in STEM teaches you that nothing can stop you from achieving what you wish, just as my team did when we got recognized internationally at Vex Worlds 2018.



Ben Matthews

Girl Powered®

Destiny James



Changing the Face of STEM

My name is Ben Matthews , and as I see it, changes in our society are hard to notice along side the commotion of more “relevant” news, sometimes blinding our day to day motions. However, as history has proven time and time again, gradual changes are only the fuse to a much larger explosion. I have been fortunate enough to see this spark take flame first hand, being witness to the ever growing community of females in an area I grew up believing only interested males. You see, as a male, the Girl Powered initiative has impacted me heavily. Sharing such excitement and passion with my female peers has proven to me that STEM is an area so fruitful and prosperous not to be taken taken for granted. Excluding anyone from these interests would do exactly that. It seems to me that everyday I walk into our robotics room I am more impressed by the amount of girls aiding our club's goal, brightening our day and creating a positive dynamic and chemistry.

STEM Role Model

Diving into the depths of my early years in high school, I recall one person who stands out the most. Who through everything, has stayed the strongest most beautiful person inside and out. Diana Segura is, and will always be my STEM role model. At the start of my learning experience, I was lost, trying to follow a passion that had just sparked and achieve goals that seemed unreachable, but this wonderful young woman, who I'm grateful to call my friend, took time, thought, compassion, and patience to teach and guide me into who I am today. Since we met, every fall, winter, and spring break, as well as countless hours after school have been spent with her learning, developing, and creating new ideas in robotics. Yes, there have been times where it feels as being a woman is harder in the STEM field, but hardships pass, and her persistence, and passion has meant so much more to me than the fear of failure. Diana's intelligence and kindness has and will always fuel my passion to succeed as well as inspire other females in STEM.



Girl Powered.

Thank you for reading,
Team 8787B

