



# **DASH Robotics Girl Powered Challenge 2019 Programmers in Plaid**

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# Meet the Team

## Grace Updike - Co-captain

I do robotics because it challenges me to think critically and use skills I will need in my future career. I want to go into the engineering field because I want to show women can have math and science related professions too.



## Maggie Kohout - Co-captain

I do robotics because it's fun and encourages me to broaden the scope of my normal learning. It helps give me the skills that I would not normally exercise in my other classes.

## Who we are

We are a two person team at an all girls school in Omaha, Nebraska. Robotics has always been a club, but no one ever took it seriously. Maggie and I wanted to make it more than just a club, so we advocated and got it turned into a class. This year is the beginning of the new and improved robotics program. As we all like to say, Maggie and I are the pioneers of robotics at Duchesne. So far we have built our first robot and gone to one competition. We had a lot of fun at our competition, so we hope to enter in more throughout the next semester and in the years to come.





## Our roles

Since there are only two of us, Grace and I have used this season as a trial to see which roles best fit our skill sets. Just for this competition season, we are doing some multi-tasking. We have each tried every position on the team, whether its programmer, builder, driver, or journaling. This has not only helped us figure out our strengths, but also given us experience in every category in case we need it.



# Diversity Challenge

As the pioneers of the robotics program, Maggie and I are trying our best to set a good foundation for the future of Duchesne Robotics. It has been difficult with the lack of interest that comes with an all girls school, but we are working to promote young girls in STEAM. We currently have a team of just two girls, so it is really a challenge when it comes to experience, ideas, and helping hands. While we are working to spark more interest, the most we can do is work hard and learn from our experiences.






## "Girl Powered"

When Grace and I hear the phrase, "Girl Powered," we think of how there should be equal opportunities for women in all fields, especially ones related to STEAM. Not only that, but we would also like to see more empowerment of women in things like sports and clubs which are usually dominated by men. For example, at our last competition we were the only all-girl team out of the thirty-nine teams that were there. On top of that, less than ten of the one hundred plus people competing were girls. That situation is something we would like to see less of. With that being said, Grace and I are trying to promote robotics whenever we can like at Duchesne's open house or at our all school homeroom. We would like to find ways to promote women in STEAM outside of our school as well.





Thank you for watching our girl powered challenge!!!  
We hope to see you at competitions in the Nebraska area!!!!!!

Photo credit: Maggie Kohout  
and Grace Updike



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