



“We want to encourage and inspire other girls to be motivated towards STEM and have the opportunity to explore their interests.”

“Girl powered”, to our team 92H Phoenix, means that all girls are capable of performing equally and alongside with boys in all fields including STEM. STEM stands for science, technology, engineering, and math. STEM is in every aspect of life and is a pathway to success in our eyes, especially for the girls who are interested in those fields. We want to encourage and inspire other girls to be motivated towards STEM and have the opportunity to explore their interests.

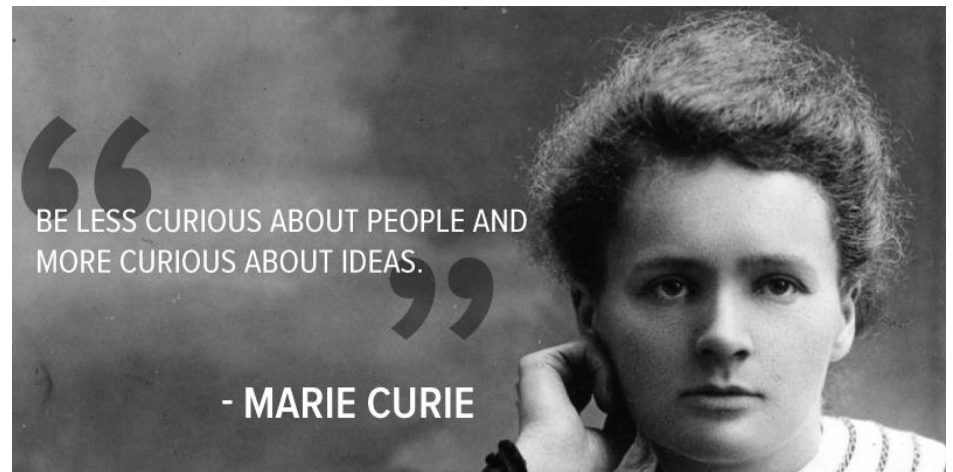


*Team Members Malaika, Chloe, Reyna and Akshara are ready to kick off the VEX IQ robotic season*



“We want to build the confidence within us, as well as in kids around us to realize that women can do more, to pursue and be successful in STEM careers.”

Many famous women have made a mark in this world by discovering the unknown, researching new ideas, understanding and introducing new technology, and so much more. Think about the famous scientist, Marie Curie; she made a huge impact on our world almost a century ago, when she showed that women could do just as much as men. She discovered the elements, Radium and Polonium, and even won the Nobel Prize. The fact that she had done that at an age when generally only men were scientists, inspired other females to push their limits and boundaries. She really made a difference in everybody’s lives and proved that people can do anything, whether they are a boy or a girl.



Another example of a woman who inspires thousands of people is the American astronaut and physicist, Sally Ride. Although she passed away a few years ago, she left a mark for girls, proving that they are fierce people who can achieve anything. She went on two space missions aboard the Orbiter Challenger, which is a major accomplishment for anyone. After retiring from NASA, she became a champion for science education, especially for girls and formed a company called Sally Ride Science. She also wrote many books on science for kids to encourage them. Unfortunately, she isn’t as well-known as other astronauts like Neil Armstrong or Michael Collins, but this is what ‘Girl Powered’ wants to change and our team wants to contribute to this mission. Both Marie Curie and Sally Ride are our role models and like them, we want to build the confidence within us, as well as in kids around us to realize that women can do more, to pursue and be successful in STEM careers.





“We always value everyone’s talents.”



*Wonderful moment captured during our robotic skill practice*

Our team consists of girls with varying interests. For example, Malaika’s interest in Legos helps us in building the robot, while Reyna and Chloe’s interest in electronics and video games helps us in driving and programming the robot. Akshara has an interest in photography and filming, which helps us with the engineering notebook and team interviews. Even though each one of us excel in different areas of robotics, that does not mean that we just focus on one aspect each. We always value everyone’s talents and use them to help us in robotics, but all of us teach and learn from one another to create a happier and more productive environment. Whether it is programming, driving, building, or designing, all of us contribute and collaborate as a team, every single day.



“We believe that all girls can achieve their dreams and do what they want to do.”

To encourage other girls to do the same, we have been spreading the word to our friends at school on how robotics is a fun and educational experience. We have also been taking part in STEM activities such as ‘Invention Convention’ at our school, science fairs, and the regional science carnivals, with our friends who aren’t aware of ‘Girl Powered’. It’s important that everyone understands the goals of the ‘Girl Powered’ organization, which focuses on helping girls understand that they have the capability of doing those STEM activities that they don’t always get an opportunity to be part of.

Since the members of our team come from different ethnic backgrounds, we are well aware that girls in many families across the world don’t get to pursue careers in STEM fields. When one of our team members visited her home country, she noticed that a lot of kids, especially girls who don’t receive an opportunity to study for a career in the STEM fields because their gender or race typically doesn’t do it. This isn’t fair

because everyone deserves to learn new things. We want to share our knowledge and experiences from our robotics activities.

The famous actress and UN Women’s Goodwill Ambassador, Emma Watson once said, “Girls should never be afraid to be smart.” Girls should be able to show their talent in the STEM fields, without being judged that they’re doing ‘boy things’. We want to share our interests in our community and even take it a step further by using our creativity for greater things. We love being a team of all girls because we can show people the things that girls can do. We believe that all girls can achieve their dreams and do what they want to do, even if it isn’t stereotypically a “girl thing”. We are 92H Phoenix and we are a proud ‘Girl Powered’ team!



## CREDITS

# Girls in STEM – to inspire and be inspired.

## Team: 92H Phoenix

Akshara Raparla

Chloe Chan

Malaika Yadavilli

Reyna Kondaveeti



Photo credits:

[yourstory.com/2016/11/remembering-madame-marie-curie](http://yourstory.com/2016/11/remembering-madame-marie-curie)

[nasa.gov/feature/sally-ride-first-american-woman-in-space](http://nasa.gov/feature/sally-ride-first-american-woman-in-space)