

Team 393W: Girl Powered Initiative

By: Farishta ~ Legacy Magnet Academy, Tustin CA



Meet the Team

Farishta Islam



Sophia Lee



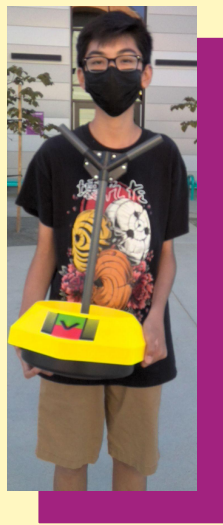
Nina Corman



Murad Malik



Brent Limbo



Braeden Bunya



Hunter Williams



Daniel D'Souza



Ishan Ravuri



Meet Farishta



- Hello! I am Farishta, and I am in 8th grade. I am one of the notebook managers for our team.
- I have 2 years of experience in Robotics, and am ready to increase my Robotics experience and knowledge this year!
- I participate in many extracurricular activities and clubs, such as NJHS, Gardening Club, and Science Olympiad, UNICEF Club.
- In my free time, I like to read, write, knit, crochet, craft, build, learn, play badminton, and play with my little sister.



Meet Sophia



- Hello! I am Sophia. I am in the 6th grade, and am one of the notebook managers for our team.
- I have one year of robotics experience. Nevertheless, I am excited to learn and improve this year
- I enjoy playing piano, pickleball, tennis, and baking in my free time



Meet Nina



Hello, I'm Nina. My role on the team is the social media manager.

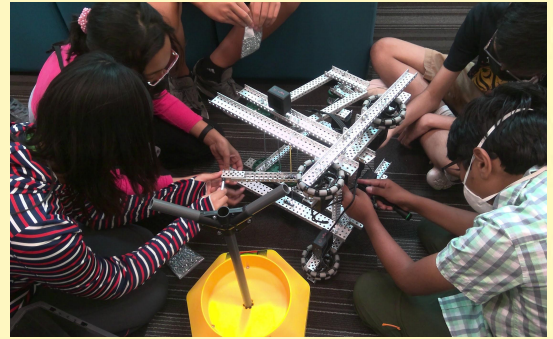
-I don't have any prior robotics, experience, but I look forward to this year of learning!

- Some of my hobbies are soccer, gymnastics, and watching Harry Potter.



“Girl Powered” in Team 393W

When I hear Girl Powered, I think of girls getting equal opportunities in the STEM field. I think of everyone being treated equally, no matter color, gender, race, or creed; I think of girls making a difference in the world. This affects my approach to Robotics, because I try my absolute best in Robotics, and learn as much as I can, because I know that I will be able to transfer these valuable skills to help me get the job I want, in the STEM field. With only three girls on a nine-member team, a glance at team 393W might make you think that we are an unequal team where boys overpower. But if you look deeper into the structure of our team, you will see that there is much more beneath the surface of our team. Our team

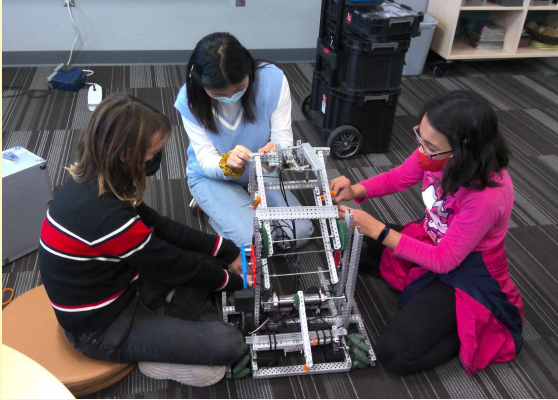


treats everyone equally and allows each member to grow and improve, no matter gender, age, or robotics experience. In addition, team members explore different jobs to gain experience in various subjects. This allows each team member to have a role that supports their interests and benefits the team as a whole. During each meeting, our team starts by creating a plan of what we will accomplish for the meeting. Then, we assign roles to each team member in a diverse way.

Girl Powered

Girls Powered

For example, if during a meeting, two people worked on the notebook, four people worked on the robot, and three people worked on the coding, then during the next meeting, everyone's roles are rotated to ensure each team member can dip their toes in the



various parts of Robotics. Another example of this was during our Robotics competition. During our competitions, we always change the drive team to make sure everyone can experience being part of the drive

team. At our first competition at Orchard Hills, our drive team consisted of Hunter (boy) and Nina (girl). During our second competition at McBride High School, our drive team consisted of two girls, Sophia and Farishta. This may seem like that the boys in our team are not given a chance to be on the drive team, but this is

not true. In the first competition, Nina and Hunter wanted to be in the drive team, so they were allowed to have that role.

At the second competition, none of the other boys were

interested in being part of the drive team. Only Farishta and Sophia were interested, so they got the role of drive team. Rotating roles helps our team, but the diversity of our



team, from age, to grade, to gender, also affects us, in a positive way. Different perspectives from each team member allows us to see our robot in different ways and make it the best it can be. This diversification also allows our team to work well together, because everyone gives insights that benefit the team. Although our team may have disagreements, having a diverse group of perspectives.

allows us to understand something from every point of view and make a compromise to help us succeed. My STEM role model is Dr. Firdausi Qadri. Dr. Qadri is a Bangladeshi woman scientist who leads pioneering work in microbiology and immunobiology, and researches how those can be used to detect



diseases. She is my STEM role model, because not only does she do very important and inspiring work, but also because she is a Bangladeshi. Having someone from my culture make such a big difference, inspires me to try my best. Dr. Qadri also inspires me to have a more inclusive team, because she had to go through a lot of trouble to be where she is today, and I want to make sure everyone can have equal opportunities. With this in mind, when you hear the phrase “Girl Powered,” what comes to your mind?