



# Girl Powered Challenge

Team 19122A, Montverde, Florida  
Annabelle, Alexa, Isa, and Ismael

# History of 19122A



Annabelle Pasiiecki joined Montverde Academy's Vex Robotics Competition team in 2020 during the Change Up season. The program consisted of her and 7 other boys. Annabelle continued another year into the Tipping Point season where the program grew to her and 11 other boys.

During the off-season after Tipping Point, Annabelle decided that her school's Vex program would benefit from more diversity than just herself. She spent a lot of time recruiting friends she thought would be a good fit for the program and Alexa Foxx and Isabella Jones were able to join.

Team 19122A now consists of 3 girls and 1 boy and is at the best it has been since Annabelle joined in 2020, with a tournament champions trophy and an invitation to the state competition.

# Meet our team



**Annabelle Pasiiecki**

She has been participating in Vex for three years as a programmer.



**Isabella Jones**

This is her first year in Vex and she is our driver.



# Meet our team



**Alexa Foxx**

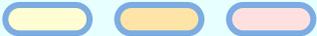
This is her first year in Vex and she is our notebooker.



**Ismael Ramirez**

This is his first year in Vex and he is our builder.





# “Girl Powered”

The term “girl powered” to our team means not being afraid to keep femininity in your work. We believe that many women think that in order to be “serious” they must repress their femininity. We are strongly against this belief and do not change ourselves in our work in Vex.



# Ways We Stay Feminine in Vex



## Bringing Personality Into Our Notebook

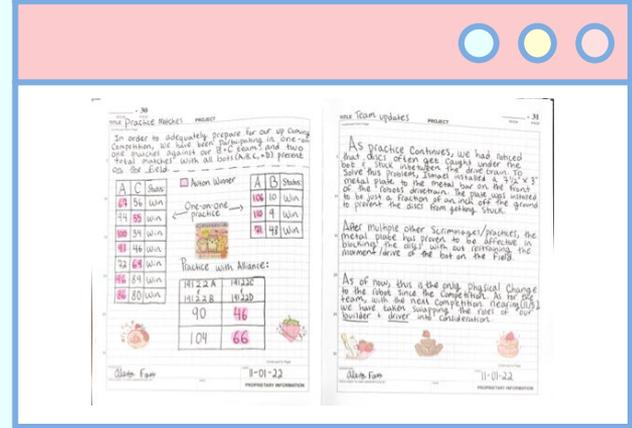
While staying true to the design process and judging rubric, our team uses a lot of color and stickers to bring ourselves into the notebook.



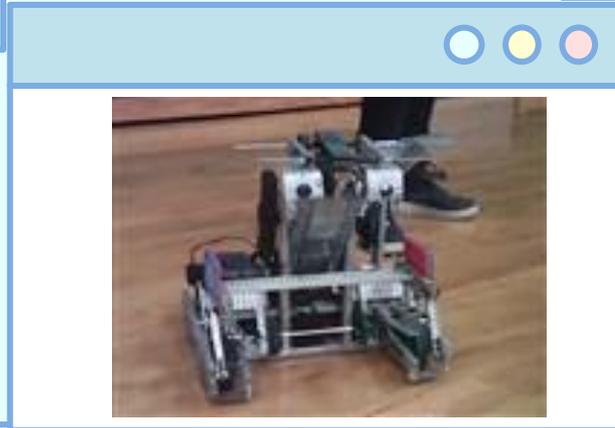
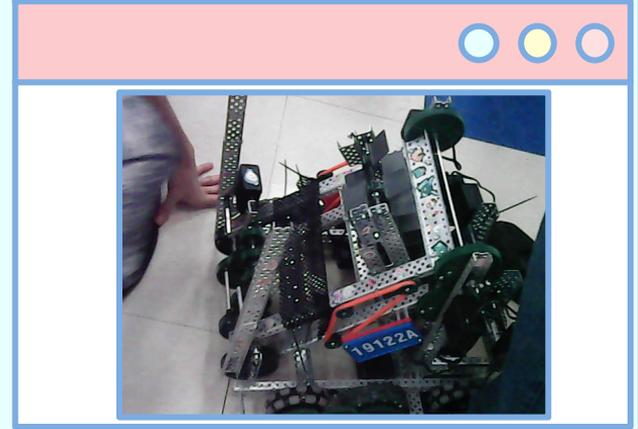
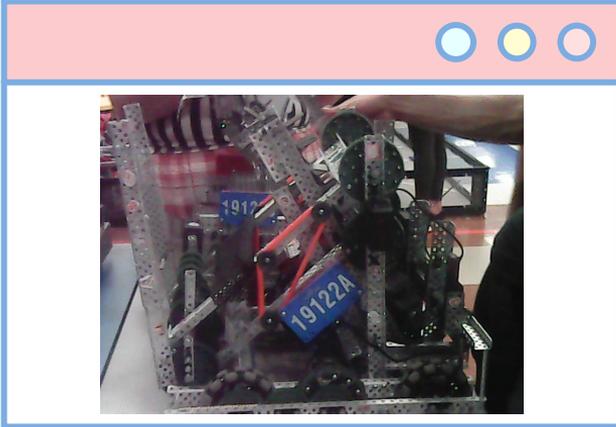
## Decorating Our Robots

Without interfering with our mechanisms, our team is able to decorate our robot with small sticker flakes and decorations.

# Photos from Our Notebook



# Photos of Our Robots





## Staying Feminine at Competitions

Competitions can be very intimidating as an almost all-female team. Debating with male refs and alliance selection have been known to be hard because of that fact, but it doesn't stop us from being who we are. One of the most common things our team does at competitions is document them on what we call the "kitty cat camera."

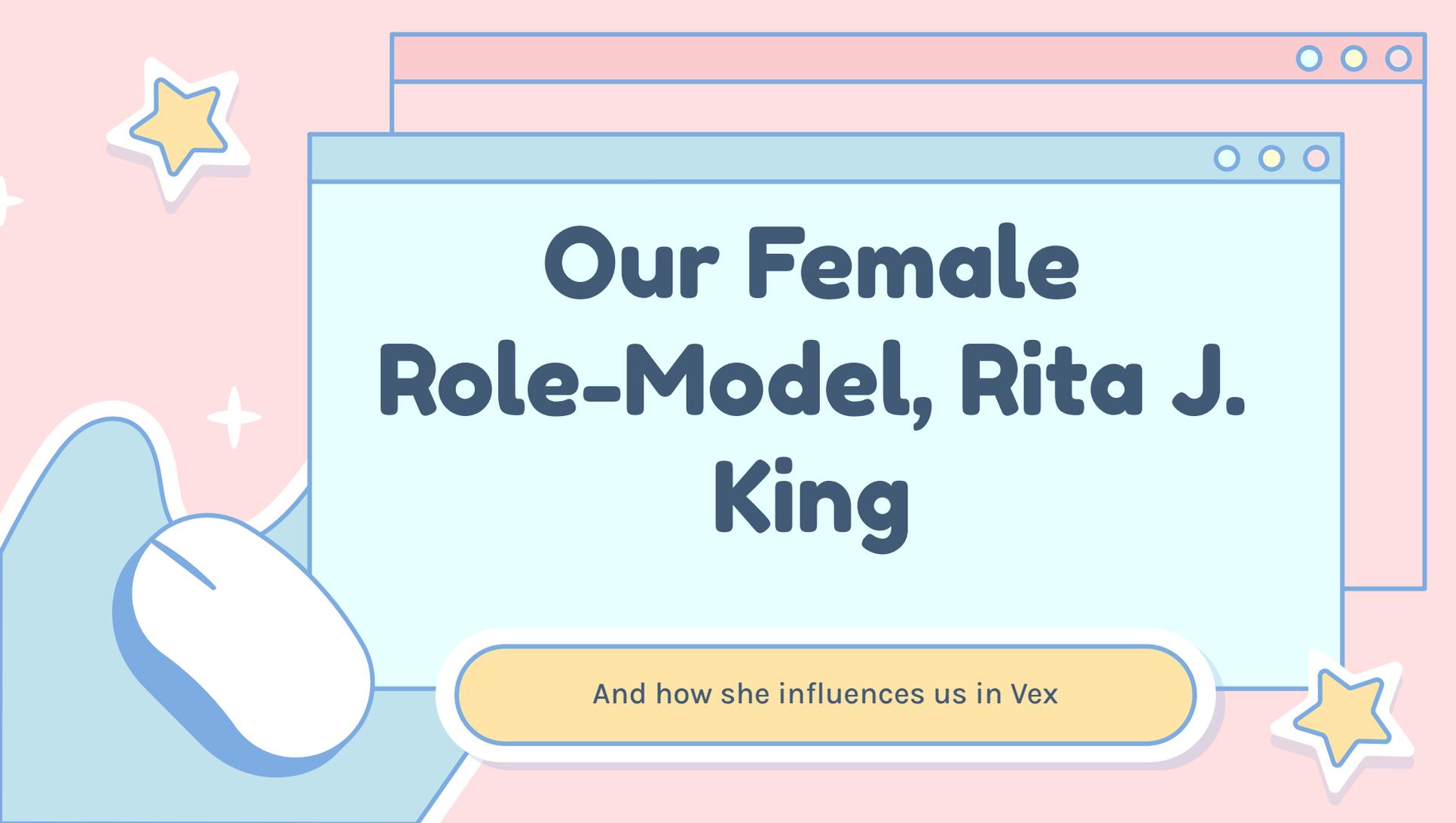
# Kitty Cat Camera

19122A takes the kitty cat camera, “KCC” for short, to every competition they go to. The camera is very small and has very poor picture quality but the team does not care and thinks it adds to the charm.



The KCC has 1592 photos on it and holds almost all photos taken from the competitions the team has gone to. While it might seem silly and “girly” to other teams, we have a lot of fun taking pictures and being able to hold onto these memories.





# **Our Female Role-Model, Rita J. King**

And how she influences us in Vex

## Rita J. King

Rita J. King is an Executive Vice President for Business Development at Science House in New York City. She became popular in 2019 when she wore a sparkly gold dress when giving a speech at NASA. King expressed that she became inspired to wear the dress when a young girl asked her if she could wear a sparkly dress to the speech to show that “scientists can also be sparkly.”



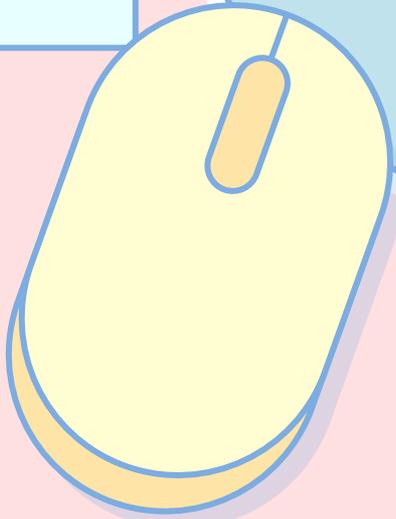
# ✦ Ways King Inspires us in Vex



King has taught us and many other girls that femininity and STEM can go hand in hand.



King has showed that women should not be afraid to be themselves.



King has shown that women should never try to change themselves even in a field that is thought of as male-dominated.



# Different Roles in 19122A

## Driver

Our head driver, Isa, does most driving at competitions, but when she is not able to make one, the team holds a skills challenge to see who is best fit for driving at the tournament Isa cannot make it to.

## Builder

Ismael is our head builder, but each team member was present and collaborative for the design process at the beginning of the season. The team discussed the challenges of the game together and ways to overcome them, and then each member created a design. The team then went over the designs together, using a design matrix to see which one would work the best in the competition. The team went with Annabelle's design and Ismael began the physical building process while the other three helped with problems that arose and opinions on what would work best.

## Programmer

Annabelle is our head programmer, but the team collaborates on what route and strategy is best to take during autonomous portions of the competitive matches and the skills challenge. She also works with Isa to make the controller buttons programming the best fit for her needs.

## Notebooker

Alexa is our head notebooker, but works together frequently with the other members of the team. Collaboration is crucial to the notebook as it is the best way to have accurate information for it. Alexa is very involved with the roles of the other teammates and the other teammates are very involved with the notebook.



# How Diversity Helps Our Team Succeed



## Experiences

Even though most members are new to Vex, everyone has some sort of engineering or robotic background that helps the team. Alexa's main hobby is building HAM radios, Annabelle participated in her previous school's robotics clubs, Isa has experience building Vex kits, and Ismael is the Co-President of our school's engineering club. These different experiences allow us to have broad and extensive knowledge that is very beneficial to having a well-rounded team.



## Perspectives

Each member's opinion on the design process for both the robot and the notebook are valued and taken into account when discussing solutions. Everyone's building experience is very helpful in creating different solutions for problems that arise.



# Team Chemistry

Even though there are differing backgrounds between members, the team is more alike than different. Everyone is able to work very well with each other, and everyone is close friends and enjoy working with each other a lot.



# Keeping Vex Feminine

