

Girl Powered Robotified Dreams

Madeleine Chan

Team Number 2549C

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San Marino, California, USA

Girl Powered. The idea equalizes men and women for once, when women have so often been secluded and looked down on. It makes the world a more diverse place, and allows girls to have different roles in life. What also helps are the women that are already in STEM, as they inspire more and more girls to do what they do, which is really important.

When I hear the phrase “Girl Powered”, I think of girls having more power, and doing jobs unusual for their time. I think of Sally Ride, Florence Nightingale, and other women who did things that were very unusual for women and not really heard of for their time. These women inspired other girls to join male dominated areas. Sally Ride was the first American woman in space, and Florence Nightingale introduced new ideas in medicine, at a time where women were not usually nurses and doctors. “Girl Powered” reflects on our robotics approach by including everyone. We include boys and girls and we also expect the same of everyone. This sets a very good impression, setting us up for a successful future.

I volunteered at multiple Girl Powered events to help other girls learn more about



robotics. I taught people who were very new to this concept, and now a lot of them are joining our robotics studio. I think that robotics is not just only for boys, and girls can be engineers, and great ones too! There are many famous female engineers in the world, including Ada Lovelace, who was the world's first computer programmer and Katherine Johnson, who was a NASA mathematician, physicist and was also the first African American woman to work as a NASA scientist. My teammates always include me, even though I am much younger than some of them. We also include one of my other teammates, even though she is younger than

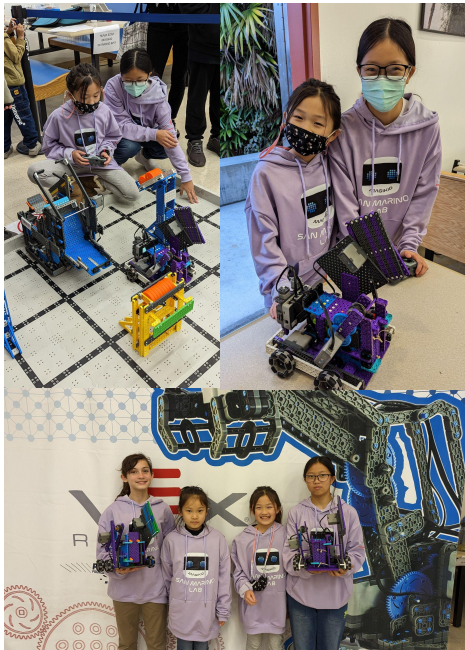
all of us, including me. We all include each other, no matter if we are younger or older than the people around us, because we believe everyone’s voice matters . Like I said earlier, it builds a good impression for how we should work with others in life, and can help us.

We all take different roles when building and coding. Last competition, I went first while driving. The next competition, my teammate went first. We take turns building, and coding too. Sometimes, at the competition, we switch who goes first at the last second,



right before the match begins. We decide who will do most of the building, and who will do most of the coding before we even start. Switching roles is very important, and it is so that we can learn a lot more. It will also help us later on in life, and will also help if we choose to become a robotics coach later on in life, or if we eventually have our own team.

Me and my teammates all see differently, and that's okay. It helps us make



changes to our bot, and sometimes it makes our bot even better. We all see things from different perspectives, as no person is alike. I believe that the diversity of perspective changes our bot, because we can all see things the other people can't or just don't really notice or think is necessary. For example, I could see a pin we would need to place somewhere to keep our bot from wobbling, while my teammate would not see that but instead see something else to fix, like a clever way of compressing a wheel into a smaller space. We learn to drive better from each other, and that may add different ways of driving and turning in our brains. You learn something new everyday, especially in robotics.

My STEM role model is Marie Curie. She is the woman who invented the x-ray and was also the first woman to win the Nobel prize. She won the Nobel prize in both physics and chemistry, the Davy medal, the Benjamin Franklin medal, and many others. She also discovered and named the elements polonium and radium, which are both now on the periodic table of elements. She also had the element curium named after



her and her husband, Pierre Curie. She inspires me because she shows that women can do anything, from discovering new elements for the periodic table of elements to inventing new technology to help the world. I first heard about her when I was much younger and I thought she was cool. She also represents the idea that women are brave and take steps to be the first of their kind. She inspires me to be inclusive, and to expect the same of both girls and boys, as she has done many wonderful things in her life. She shows that women can do really great things, maybe even greater things, than men in all things in life, from doctoring to robotics, physics to math.

Girl Powered is a good thing, as it equalizes both men and women. It helps with their self esteem, and makes them believe that women can achieve great things in life. Ada Lovelace, Marie Curie, Katherine Johnson, all help as women in STEM. More people mean more role models, and role models in different subjects too. I hope that one day I will be a role model for girls in STEM.