

# GIRL POWERED

Laying the First Stone of Success

65018B – "Nameless"

INNOVAGINE ROBOTICS – Rancho Cucamonga

65018B - Nameless

# INTRODUCTION

We are team "Nameless" - 65018B, made up of two experienced Vex IQ robotics participants. Many might wonder why a team with a mixture of boys and girls would participate in such challenge, but that is exactly what we are trying to prove; that girls have got the power of leadership, determination, strength, and knowledge just like boys, if not even better. Our teams main believe and goal this year is to achieve a good place in worlds competition. We try our best and work hard everyday in hopes of an effective result. Those hard work pays off, and continues to surprise us everyday with what us 13 year olds can do. [Even though compared to many other teams, there are still large rooms of improvement, but it has been a long journey and great experience to live the process of designing, competing, programming, and much more. It is noted that robotics is a widely competitive sport, but our team always tries to have fun while doing so. Over the past few months, we have achieved many of our goals and have won numerous awards in past tournaments and leagues. In the future, we are confident to complete much more that are awaiting us.





# GIRL POWER

When the phrase "Girl Powered" is mentioned, the first thing that comes to mind is teamwork, durability, determination, confidence, and independence. Teamwork is one of the most important parts as well as the most easily seen personality of women. Whether it's women working with other women, or women taking the role of a leader to men. And last but not least, it can also be women being able to follow and work alongside men. In this case, girls in the society of robotics can work and cooperate just as well as men can, if not even better. Not only that, it also helps prove women's durability, and determination. Breaking it down – Durability & Determination. Do these words really mean much when plainly said? Not really, but in many's heart, when these words are said, it simply brings women's power and their strength to keep up on track at times when others can't. It shows that women are strong, they're independent, they are able to stay fixed, to stay powerful even under pressure men can't take. It shows that others might look down on us, yet we stand to prove them wrong. And that is what is most important to girl power. Next, is girl powered only really anything that is powered by girls? Certain times, yes. Other times, no. There are situations where women are to prove their confidence as well. Bringing the past points back up, confidence is needed to achieve many things in life. And to accomplish goals you never expected. Without confidence, what can you really live with?

Girl ⚡ Powered.

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Teamwork, durability, determination, confidence, and independence is greatly show in our teams approach to robotics at all times. For one thing, Teamwork & Independence, don't these two words mean the complete opposite of one another? Teamwork is when a group of people with different skills and different tasks, who work together on a common project, service, or goal, with a meshing of functions and mutual support. On the other hand, independence is usually used for occasions where individual figure work alone, aside from the company of others. Then how can we show independence AND Teamwork? Working together but giving individual ideas and trying out things you feared in the past without others help can be a great example. In classrooms, our team helps each other when it is needed, other times, we leave the other alone for them to come up with unique ideas of their own.



Next, durability and determination are connected in many ways under our approach to robotics. Determination enables us to persist in the face of difficulties. It allows us to march fearlessly ahead with faith until we achieve our goal. Since life is never smooth, many of us fall off when we come across obstacles. With determination, we can overcome any type of obstacle, but we can't do so without durability. The sense that we can stand the multiple ways of pressure we take on. All in all, women can take on just as much as men can, we can accomplish just as well. And just to make it clear, it doesn't matter that our team consist of both genders, it doesn't mean anything, it doesn't change anything, no effect to the way women's think, no effect to the way I think as a girl on the team.





# CREATING AN INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT

Our team takes initiative to create a more inclusive environment that attracts a diverse group of students by giving each member their chance to speak up, to listen to each others advices or ideas. we try our best to communicate with each other as much as we can, whether it's about robotics, or outside of Vex, therefore including a variety of topics we can find our similarities in. For one thing, both me and my partner enjoy driving and designing, we absolutely love hanging out with each other, and it does make it easier that there are only the two of us, which makes getting along much easier. But I believe it should be made clear that we are still there to create the inclusive environment for each other, we try our best to talk to one another if we cross path with any disagreements or issues. On the other hand, to attract a diverse group of students, it could be easily done as well. The two of us also gives each other the chance to try a diverse perspective of activities. For example, we have both discuss on who will hold the responsibility doing which task, yet we are always encouraged to switch roles once in a while. Not only that, our team believes in attracting many others to join into the field of robotics, youths of all kinds, those who enjoy robotics, and those who don't. I trust that if told properly, it is not impossible to change the mindset of those who greatly dislike robotics. It's a fun activities, which it is competitive, it is always a great choice to communicate and make friends with others.



## ✿ TRYING VARIOUS ROLES

In our team, everyone is encouraged to try out different roles, from the range of programming, to driving, to designing, to building, and much more. I believe that it is important for everyone to get the chance of staying put with the role they enjoy the most. For example, in our team, I personally enjoy being the driver, programmer, and engineering notebook organizer. While Lexus also prefers being the driver and a big part of programming. From this experience, we learn to see all different responsibilities from separate perspectives to get a diverse view on things. Jobs in which we would have thought to be enjoyable could turn out showing negativity, and other jobs we didn't show liking to might just turn out to be one of our favorite roles in the team.







# DIVERSITY OF PERSPECTIVE

Diversity, what a bold word filled with different meaning. More broadly, fostering a diversity of perspectives is central to the mission of a world-class academic institution tasked with generating the ideas that shape a better, healthier world. It helps us to think critically, to see when we are wrong, and to improve at what we do. The thing is, diversity is about much more than hitting numbers and creating compelling talking points. They're more of a mindset that leaders need to embrace, that understands the value of new and different ideas. I believe that one of the main reasons we are trying, and largely failing, at diversity & inclusion is because we are layering a logical argument about the importance of difference onto the long-entrenched and outdated belief of similarity. Instead, on our team, we are encouraged to think in a limitless box of ideas. Our unlimited streaks of ideas blooming inside our body, each person containing the millions of different chances to make a great change. Our personalities leads us to success, each of us has a completed different mindset, waiting to be sprouted. Overall, never judge one by their cover, cause you never know just how much of intelligence can be hidden inside.





# **ANNIE EASLEY - COMPUTER SCIENTIST, MATHEMATICIAN, AND ROCKET SCIENTIST**

As a NASA mathematician, Annie Easley showed the world what a scientist could look like. Easley was one of four African Americans working at the NASA Glenn Research Center as a human-computer when she was hired. Human-computers calculated complicated math problems by hand for various NASA missions. During this time, she worked as a computer and rocket scientist, studying energy conservation and alternative power. Outside of her work with NASA, Annie Easley was a constant advocate for women and the Black community. She helped other African Americans prepare for literacy tests, which were required to vote at the time, and tutored elementary students. Hoping to inspire others to pursue STEM careers, she also became an equal employment opportunity counselor at NASA. In this role, she managed discrimination issues, creating an equal workplace regardless of gender, race, or age. Annie Easley helps create a more inclusive environment for our team because she stood up for the power of women at her time. She proved women's strength and she was the one that made our team to begin offering and encouraging more girls to join VEX IQ.