

Fairness For Females

By: Team 14X

Members: Bhuvan, Brandon, Logan, Aiden, Jacqueline

Location: Marsteller Middle School / Bristow, VA



“Team 14X (Giga-Techs)”

Left to right: Jacqueline K. (Builder), Brandon B. (Builder/Scout), Aiden W. (Programmer), Bhuvan V. (Builder/Notebook), Logan B. (Builder)

Introduction:

Team 14X is a hard-working dedicated team. Every day we come to robotics with a positive attitude and an upbeat mood. Because of this, we are able to excel in areas that other teams have difficulty with.

Our team consists of four boys and one girl. We are very proud of our team's diversity and how we treat everyone with respect. We have proved ourselves many times over at competitions and at regular team meetings. An example of that is being tournament champion at our first competition. This is only possible because of our accomplished and supportive team.



Team 14X has many achievements and we are glad of that because it shows that we have been trying and attempting even with a dividing gap between male and female. We do argue but that is what makes our team so successful. If we each share our own perspective on a certain idea, then there is a higher probability that we will discover a newer, more flawless, idea and we get to experience various ideas and thought processes.

Roles:

On team 14X, we do not assign ourselves to a singular role, we experience a wide array of jobs. In doing so we exhibit ourselves as a strong and independent team. Since everyone knows each role to some extent it makes it easier if someone is absent for a meeting then we will not lose any of the progress we could have made. To assign a role to someone is to bind them to that. They have no choice but to build or work on the notebook even if they want to program or scout. This allows people to do what their hearts desire!

Motto:

Our motto on team 14X is “cum labore ac proposito nos succedent”. This is in Latin and it means with hard work and determination we will succeed. This embodies the very reason why we come to robotics everyday and we are excited to work. When we work, we are thinking of this always and it gives us the courage and motivation to keep going.

Leadership:

Our coach is a big reason for our energy. She motivates us to keep going and she gives us the tools and resources to learn. But she also lets us think for ourselves and asks us questions that we have to think more analytically to answer. For these many reasons we respect our coach and strive to be like her every day.

Our Team:



“Jacqueline K.”

Above is a picture of our female team member. She has been through a lot of struggles trying to prove the phrase “girl-powered” and how it applies to her. This word has a lot of meaning to her especially because she has gone through a lot of struggles so that people can accept her for who she is. This word defines her entire life and it illustrates her attempt to let people know the hardships that she has faced and how she overcame them. She believes that she will succeed in her endeavor and her team wholeheartedly supports her and they are behind her back no matter what.

Our team has noticed that robotics teams around the world are mostly male, but we seek to change that and make the dividing gap between male and female nonexistent. People should respect females and what they bring to the table. Team 14X has been attempting to do this and, even though we only have one girl, she, backed by her female coach, is striving to maintain the progress made in the current VEX robotics program.

Because of our views on gender equality our approach to robotics is very different in positive ways. It allows us to expand our thinking in ways that other people cannot do. we have a very different approach to robotics and many times we think of some unique solutions that may include using parts that others might have thought useless.

This brings us to our inclusive environment. Marsteller robotics is a very diverse team and each and every one of us is more than willing to include people of different backgrounds. VEX robotics is an area where people can share their feelings and their ideas with no judgement or hard feelings. Our coach has dedicated herself to making everyone feel included. She even made sure that people who didn't make the team during tryouts were offered another chance at a different engineering club. This shows some of the many reasons why Marsteller robotics is a very inclusive environment.

Our inclusive environment and our team's perspective also affects our design and other important aspects of our robot. There are many reasons as to why the diversity of our team's perspective influences our robot, our engineering notebook, or just the overall wellbeing and attitude of our team. An average team argues about robot design and other parts but when the arguing becomes repetitive and you do not make any progress then it becomes a problem. You need someone who is impartial and has a different view on the robot to settle these arguments with logical answers. A different perspective will also influence your team's decision-making process positively. Therefore, your team will go into competitions more confident and likely to succeed because you trust in your robot and your decisions for how it should be built.

As a result of our belief in our robot, our team works well together and we have no trouble at all coordinating and tackling certain challenges that teams may face.



“Our team at its finest!”

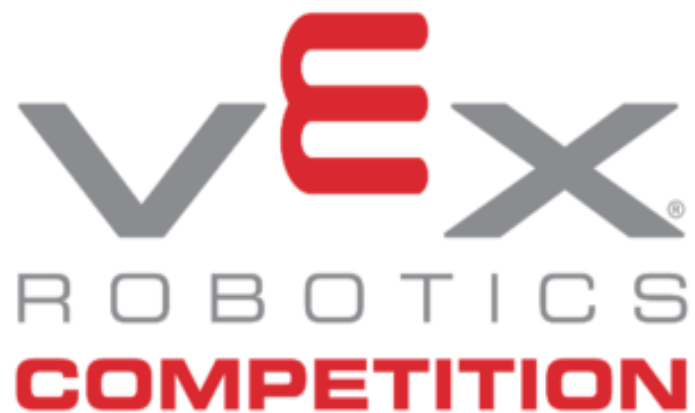
Another reason why we work so well together is because our team follows the legacy of Marie Curie. She is a STEM role model that our team believes in. She is a role model in STEM because she has solved many scientific questions and theories that people had at the time, as a pioneer in the fields of chemistry and

radioactivity. Marie Curie was also a successful scientist as the first woman to win a Nobel Prize and the only person ever to win a Nobel Prize in two different scientific fields.

She was also passionate and persistent about her goals and the ways that she achieved them. Each day we are inspired by Marie Curie and her legacy and it gives us the determination to keep going. For these numerous reasons our team believes that Marie Curie is one of the most influential STEM role models in the world.

“We must believe that we are gifted for something and that this thing must be attained.” -Marie Curie

Team 14X is a very determined and persistent team and we hope that the VEX robotics program will help us in achieving our goals, but we will always be trying to change this world for the better. As Abraham Lincoln once said, “The best way to predict the future is to create it.” and, as he fought for the rights for people, we will continue to do the same.



Sources:

<https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/physics/1903/marie-curie/biographical>

<https://wearetechwomen.com/inspirational-quotes>

<https://www.roboticseducation.org>