# **#Girlpower**

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## **04.** The Environment **05.** Team Roles

**06.** Diversity of Perspective









### Introduction

Hello! We are team 8838E from Orchard Hills Middle School in Irvine, California. The team **includes of five boys and one girl**: Athena Yang, Calyx Yang, Joaquin Figueroa, Kayden Pranata, Nathan Kim, and Zeeshan Iqbal.

Our team **strives to be an inspiration to all girls that desire a future in STEM**. We hope that our team motivates girls to be confident about going into STEM with no fear or judgement.





### **Our Team**



#### **Athena Yang**

Athena is currently an **8th grader** attending Orchard Hills Middle School. This is her third year in a VEX robotics team. She has a **strong interest** for both **biology** and **engineering**. In the team, she **specializes in notebooking** and being a **project manager**.



### Joaquin Figueroa

Joaquin is in **8th grade** attending Orchard Hills Middle School. This is his fourth year in a VEX robotics team. He has an **enthusiasm** for **engineering**. With his ample amount of knowledge about robotics, he **helps the team** with **notebooking**.



#### **Nathan Kim**

Nathan is an **8th grader** that is in Orchard Hills Middle School. He has a **large passion** for **engineering**. Though this is his first year in a VEX robotics team, he **contributes to the team** as a **builder** and a **driver**.

### Calyx Yang

Calyx is in the **8th grade** currently going to Orchard Hills Middle School. This is his fifth year of being in a VEX robotics team. He contains a **fascination** in **mechanics** and **technology**. He **collaborates to the team** with his vast knowledge of **coding**.

**Our Team** 

#### Kayden Pranata

Kayden is an **8th grader** that goes to Orchard Hills Middle School. This being his fourth year in a VEX robotics team, he is **passionate** about **engineering**. Due to his long experiences of building with VEX parts, he **helps the team** as a **builder**.



#### Zeeshan Iqbal

Zeeshan is currently in **8th grade** attending Orchard Hills Middle School. This is his fourth year in being in a VEX robotics team. He has a **huge interest** for **engineering**. With his **extensive knowledge** in robotics, he **contributes to the team** as a **builder**.

### "Girl Powered"

When hearing, "Girl Powered", **it emulates to our team perfectly**. Even though the **team is mainly males**, Athena, the backbone of the team, takes leadership roles. This is shown by the constant notebooking, building, and consistent communication with one another. With Athena taking a leadership role, **she creates a safe place for our team** where we are able to confidently express each other's opinions without any fear of being judged. Even if there are struggles that occur to the team, Athena helps the team overcome them by collaborating together and empowering our strengths. With this team's dynamic, it truly expresses how **feminine empowerment is a prerequisite to victories** inside robotics.





### **The Environment**

In our team, **all member treat each other equally** and **encourage each other to participate fairly**. By accomplishing this, the team allows Athena to take the lead and direct us. Even if she does take leadership roles, **all members never get left out**. Though it's a bit abnormal that our team can relate to girl power as the team only has one girl member, we believe in girl power more than anyone else. The skill and intelligence of our girl member, Athena, helps improve and outstandingly proves that **she is just as deserving as everyone else is when pursuing in STEM**, the career that many people think is mainly suggested for men. As our team thinks that Athena uniquely shows how she is equally deserving just as others, it shows how not all men have to pursue in STEM. The leadership roles she takes in our team **inspires other women to join in a career like STEM without being afraid, creating an inclusive and comfortable environment** all around.



### **Team Roles**

In our team, each member is encouraged to learn and try out various skills of robotics such as coding, building, driving, and notebooking. Our team goes into a route where we all equally collaborate, assist each other at our best skill set, and teach each other to the best of our abilities. In the beginning of the year, each member of the team tried out each job in robotics. From this, we were able to learn each other's strengths and weaknesses. For example, Athena and Joaquin were more comfortable and surpassed the other team members with notebooking. This is how we decided to assign main jobs to each person. As each person has their own and different strengths, it allows the team to be powerful and

**strong as one**. Even so, our team still encourages members to try and help out in every different skill, allowing every member to be strong in every job in robotics.







"Strength lies in differences, not in similarities." -Stephen R. Covey

## **Diversity of Perspective**

Diversity in perspectives has greatly benefited our team. With a diversity of perspective, our team is **able to make such a unique robot design** that works perfectly. This is because the diversity within our team gives us multiple perspectives that **allows us to see things from other views, bringing the most creative and innovative ideas to the table**. With more people, we are able to analyze our robot to see any imperfections as well as figure out solutions to the problems that occur in our robot that can not be accomplished without a diversity of perspective. Despite our diversity, our **team's chemistry thrives off of our differences by helping each other in every possible way and seeing things in a new point of view**. With this special asset we possess, it **allows our team more success in our competitions and events** as our diversity in perspectives makes our team unique and strong.





"A life spent in the routine of science need not destroy the attractive human element of a woman's nature." - Annie Jump Cannon

### Annie Jump Cannon

Annie Jump Cannon is one of the most inspirational women in STEM, especially to our team. She had lived a normal childhood and studied astronomy her whole life. However, she had experienced lots of struggles in this field. Cannon was being criticized at first as it was uncommon for women to work in the field of STEM. Not only that, she had gained an illness called scarlet fever that affected her to become deaf. Near this time, Cannon's mother had also died, making life at home more difficult. Though she experienced these struggles throughout her life. she still preserved and kept on going with her astronomy career. Cannon was able to classified around **350,000 stars**, being more than anyone in a lifetime. Lots of her work were highly accurate as well as classify stars quickly. To our team, she's been such an inspiration by teaching us to never give up even though things will get tough. When Annie Jump Cannon faced through difficult problems that interfered with her career, she never gave up and kept on going. Cannon's perseverance motivates our team to work our hardest and try our best. With this motivation, we are able to gain a confidence in accomplishing anything.

# Overtake

Going into 2023, our team **hopes to be a inspiration and motivation to not only girls** who are afraid to go into the career of STEM, **but others**. For example, men that notebook in robotics shouldn't be afraid or judged about being good at it as it is seen as a "girl-based topic". **All activities and careers are meant for everyone**, not only just for one gender. As STEM continues to be one of the most discriminated to women stepping into it, **we wish that our team's chemistry, environment, and diversity** encourages every women of age to not be scared or fear they'll be judged when going into this career. Through the year, our team has **overcome the stereotypes and has thrived becoming an amazing team as Athena helps us by being our project manager**.



## **Works Cited**

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