



Team 76892A: Changing The World One Girl At A Time

Vex Photography Challenge: High school

Team Members: Cassidy Crabb and Emma Ferrero

Aka, The Unstable Unicorns

Sayre, Oklahoma

Hello! This is Cassidy Crabb and Emma Ferrero, and we are The Unstable Unicorns (aka Team 76892A)!!! We are high school seniors from a small town in western Oklahoma. We are an all-girls team that absolutely adores robotics and the impact it can make on people's lives!

We both started our robotics careers in the 6th grade with Vex IQ, and it was love at first sight. The learning, the competitions, and the team bonds all made robotics an exceptional experience that could not be beaten. It was wonderful, but we began noticing some odd things after some time. In the 7th grade, when we went to Vex Worlds, we were paired with over ten different teams from all other countries, states, you name it! The weird thing, though, was that those ten teams were all made up entirely of boys, excluding ONE girl on ONE team. This moment sparked a deep feeling within us and an intense need for change.

At our own school, we realized that there was a gender gap in robotics, too. Boys tended to flock to robotics, while girls were few and far between. So, whenever we got into high school, we began to host a yearly Vex Girl Powered event for 3rd-5th grade girls in our school district. These events have introduced over 100 girls into the world of STEM through engaging activities such as engineering design challenges, lipgloss chemistry DIYs, and coding workshops. It has been so inspiring to see the excitement for STEM in all of these young girls. Even more inspiring, after we began these events, the enrollment of girls in middle school robotics increased by over 50%. We believe in the importance of introducing young girls to STEM and Robotics, especially in rural areas where this is even less common.

Whenever we first decided to submit to the photography challenge, we scrambled to find team pictures that best represented us. We have dozens of pictures that showcase our goofy personalities and amazing team bond, but none of the pictures seemed to represent us perfectly. Then we found this picture, and we knew.

This picture is from one of our school's annual Girl Powered Events, which we hosted. If you want to try to spot us, we are both standing above the girls and wearing our pink Unstable Unicorn shirts. This beautiful picture was the obvious choice because there is no better way to showcase us than to showcase all of the little girls who, just like us, have an intense passion for STEM and a belief that they can change the world.