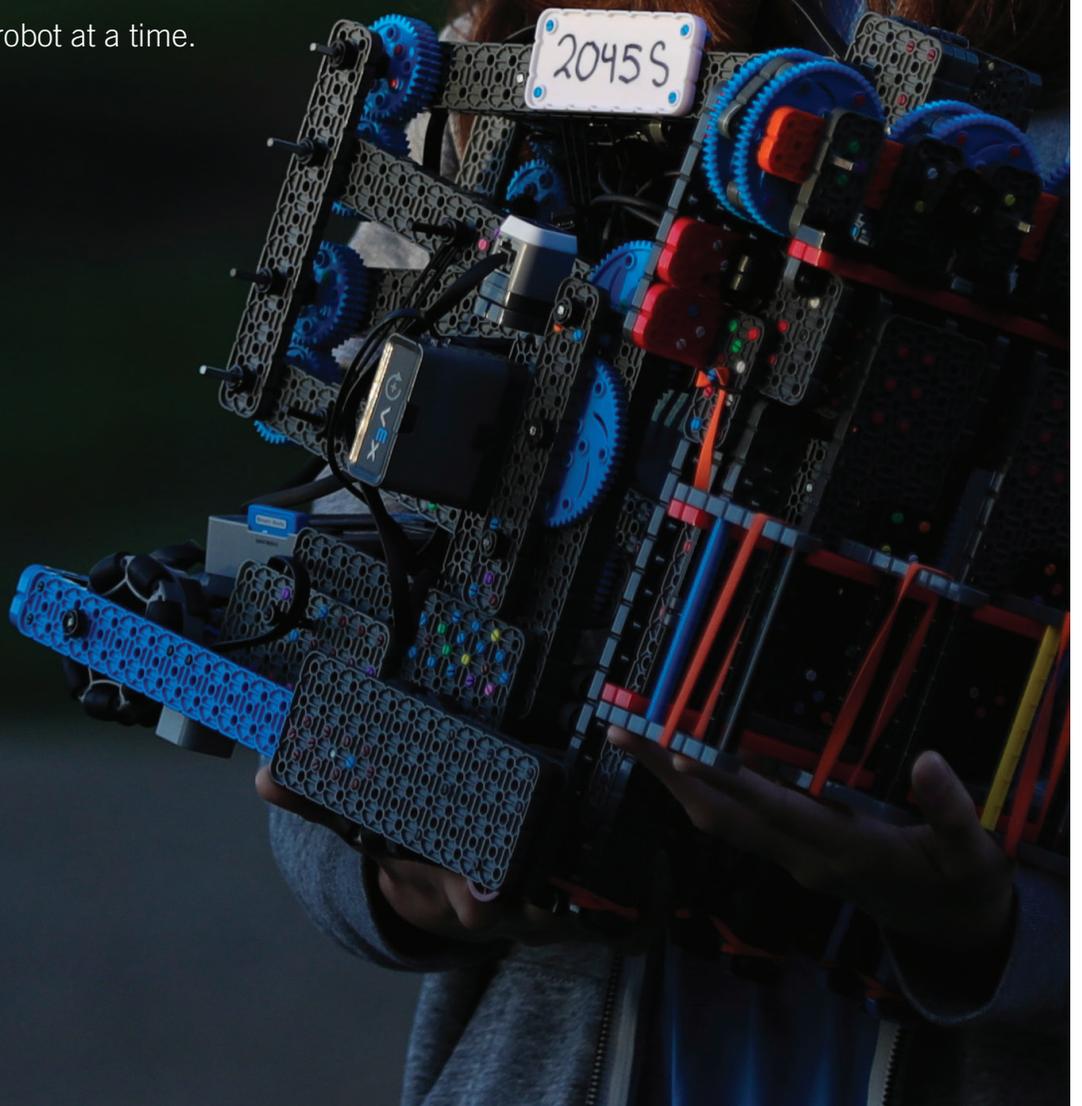


2017

ANNUAL REPORT

ROBOTICS EDUCATION &
COMPETITION FOUNDATION

Inspiring students, one robot at a time.





Our Company

The Robotics Education & Competition (REC) Foundation's mission is to increase student interest and involvement in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) by engaging students in hands-on, affordable, and sustainable robotics engineering programs.

We see a future where all students design and innovate as part of a team, experience failure, persevere, and embrace STEM. These lifelong learners emerge confident in their ability to make the world a better place.



2017 ANNUAL REPORT

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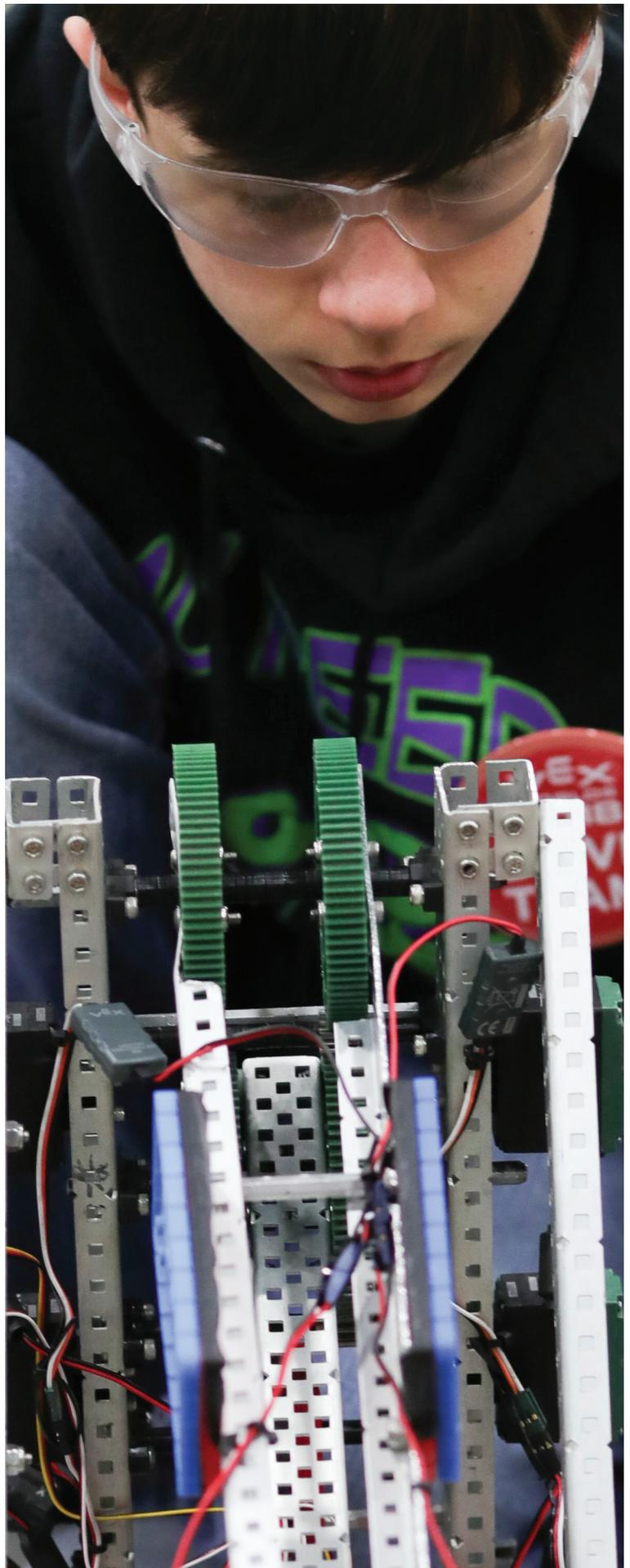
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WELCOME

Dear Supporters,

On behalf of the Robotics Education & Competition Foundation, I am grateful to our growing community for your encouragement and support of our work. We now engage students on over 20,000 competitive robotics teams in 50 countries. Our staff and event partners ensured a fantastic competition experience by offering over 1,700 events this past season. As a result of our collective effort, 93 percent of teams report their intent to return to competitive robotics next season.

The REC Foundation and VEX Robotics are working to make robotics reflective of the diverse world we live in. Our dynamic Girl Powered initiative includes team grants, workshops, Online Challenges, a new website and support materials. Over the course of the past year, the participation among young women grew from 23 percent to 29 percent. We are very excited about this and many of our other great new programs.

As we celebrate our accomplishments, I invite you to review the Robotics Education & Competition Foundation Annual Report for the 2016-2017 season. The report marks a significant step forward for the organization as we strive to increase transparency and engage our supporters more thoughtfully in our



“I am grateful to our growing community for your encouragement and support of our work. We now engage students on over 20,000 competitive robotics teams in 50 countries.”

work. In reflecting on my first full year as CEO, I am truly thankful to each of you for your commitment to advancing students in robotics and STEM.

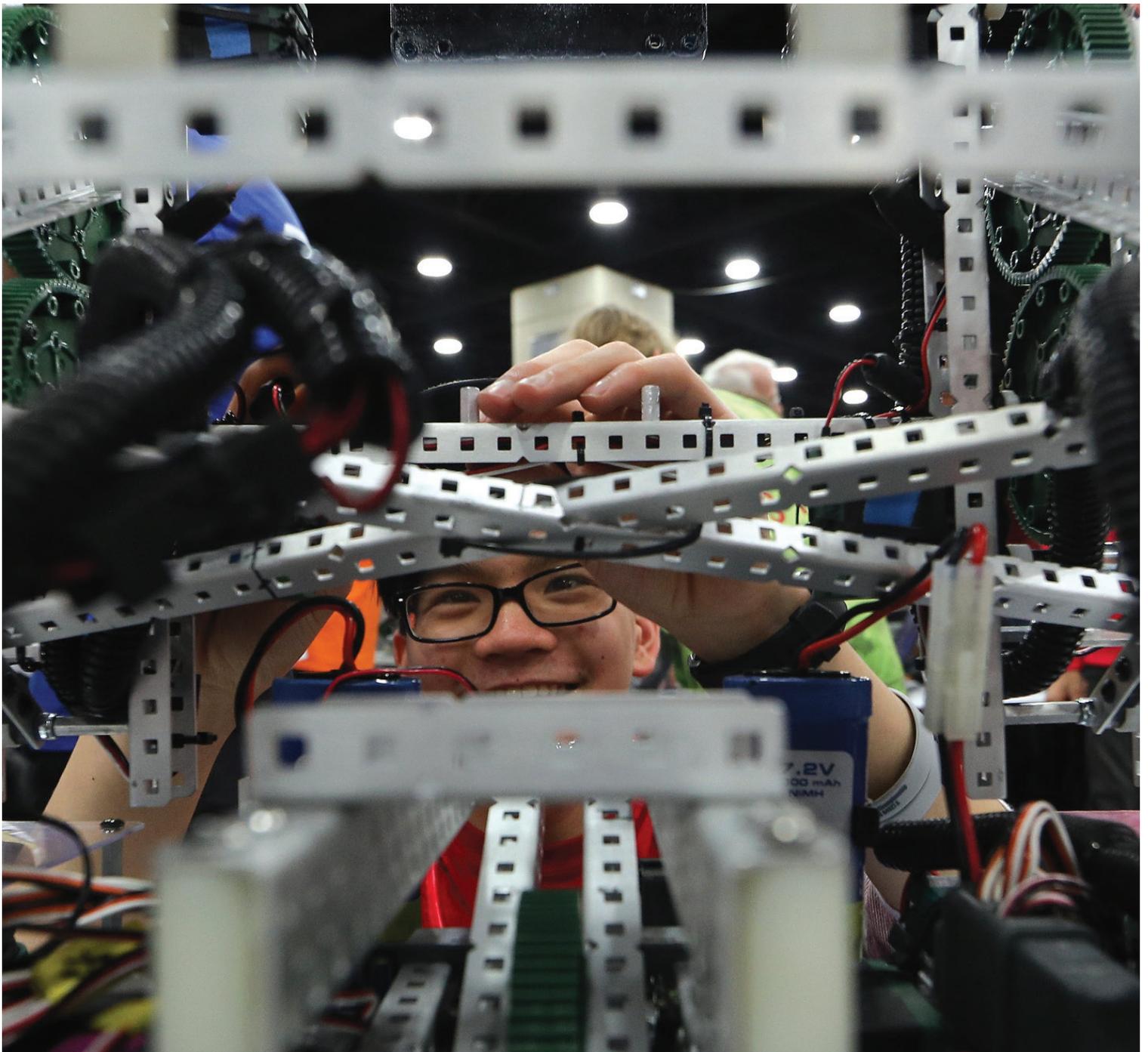
Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Mantz', written in a cursive style.

Dan Mantz

Chairman and CEO

Robotics Education & Competition Foundation



"We rely on innovative thinkers that are able to take problems that have not been solved before, from scratch, and come up with those complex solutions."

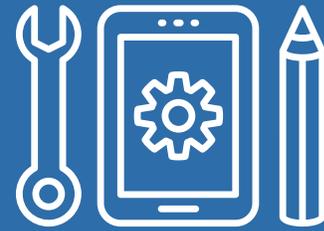
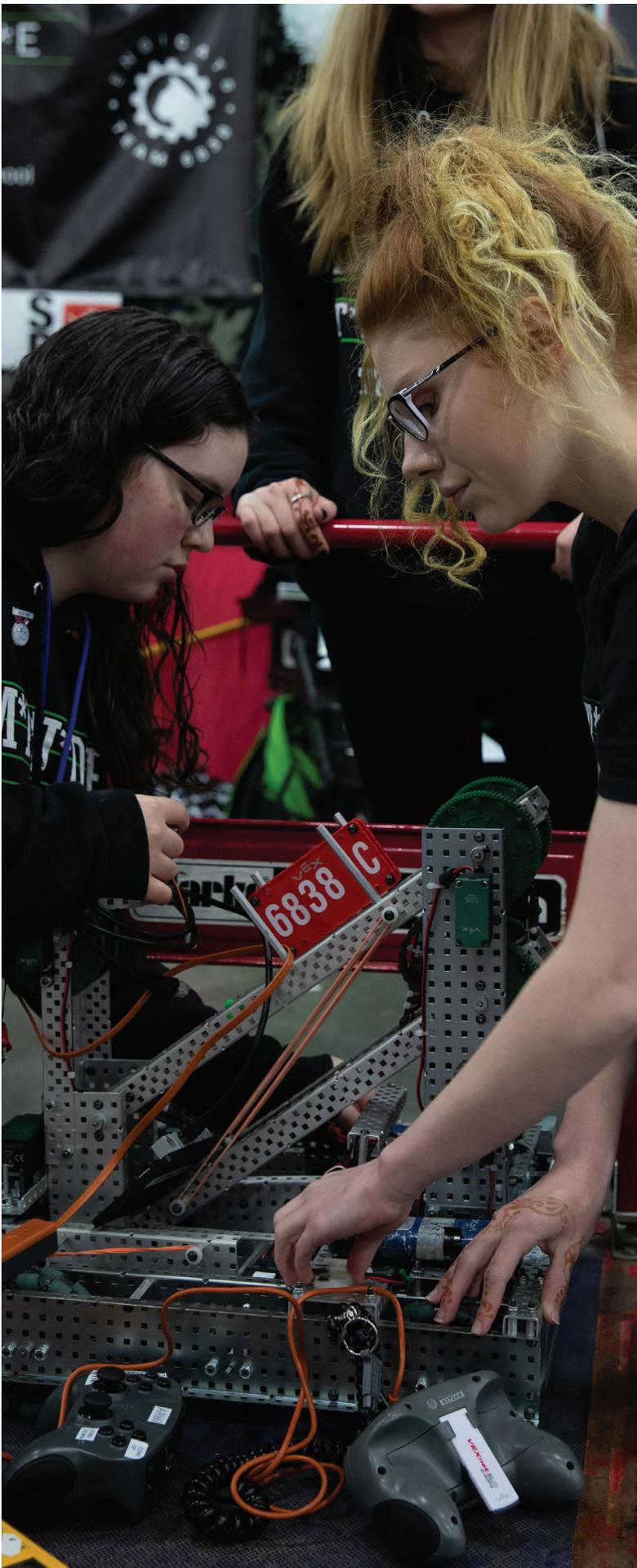
– Sean Love, Director of Business Development, Northrop Grumman

PROGRAMS

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

INSPIRING GREATNESS





STEM Education

Engaging in competitive robotics not only invites students to explore the fundamentals of STEM, but encourages important life skills like teamwork, communication, and collaboration. Even more compelling is the direct feedback from educators, who report that 9 out of 10 students express interest in pursuing STEM careers after participating in the VEX Robotics Competition.

Closing the STEM gap remains a complex and multifaceted issue and we are confident we're on the right track. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that, during the period 2010–2020, employment in science and engineering occupations will grow by 18.7%, compared to 14.3% for all occupations. This is promising news and an even more compelling call to action to redouble our efforts to provide students with hands-on, fun, and challenging robotics engineering opportunities.

Creating a workforce prepared to solve our future problems depends on our ability to harness students' natural curiosity, engage them in meaningful learning opportunities to incite passion and expand their interest in a variety of subjects. The VEX Competition experience provides just that type of environment, ensuring we have lifelong learners, excited to contribute to their future and ours.

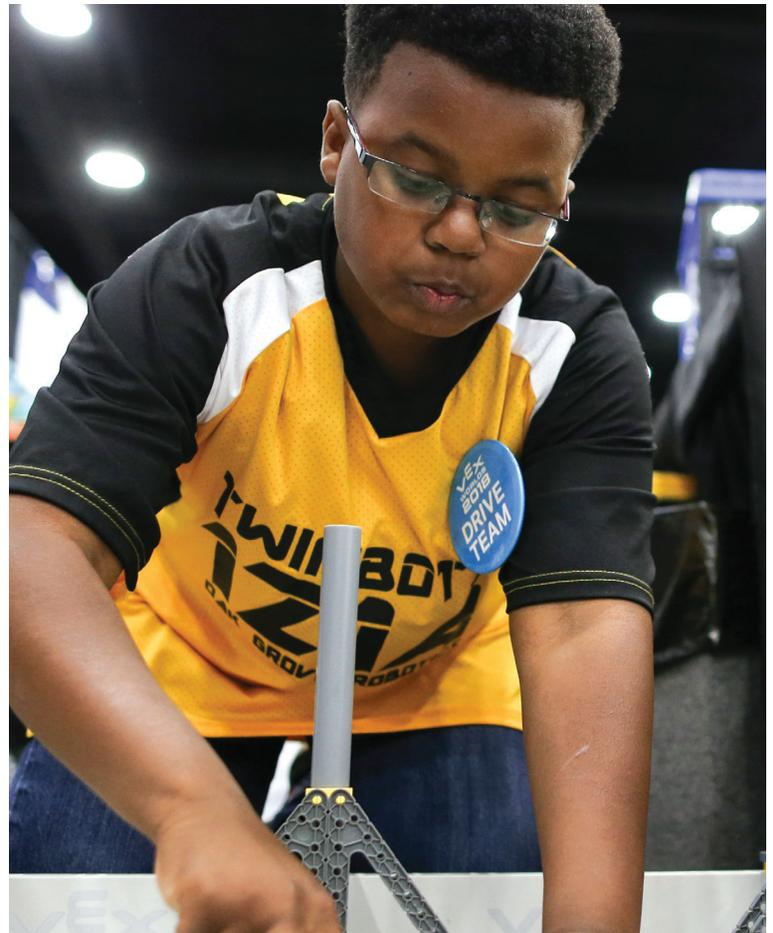
The Robotics Education & Competition Foundation is excited to have a dedicated community of educators, coaches, partners, sponsors, and volunteers who will support us in the months and years to come.

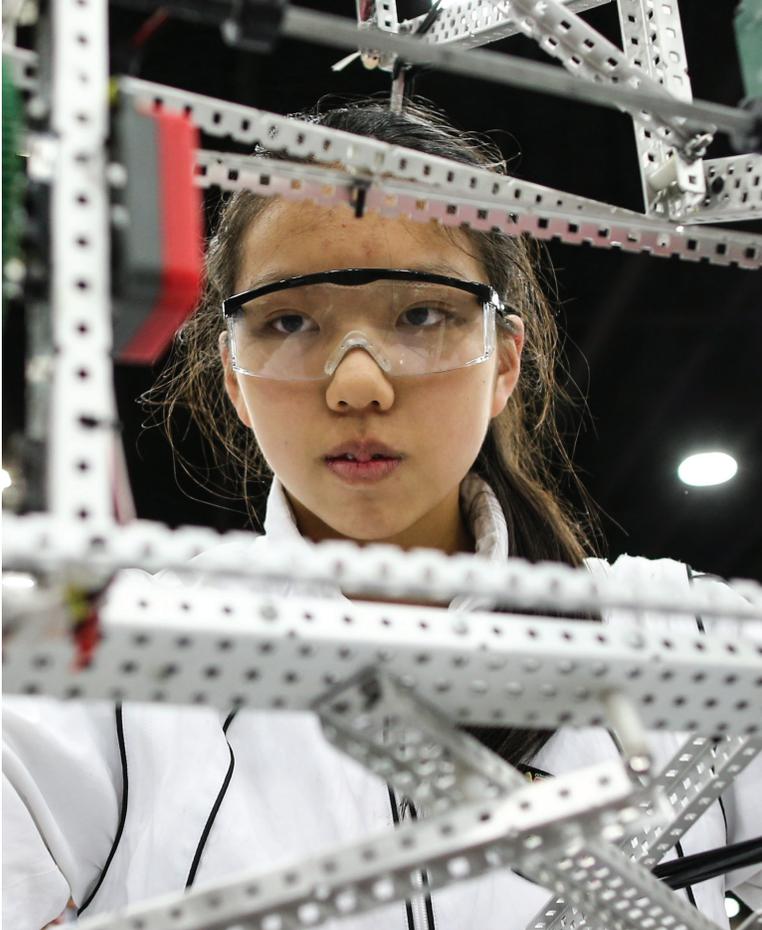


VEX IQ CHALLENGE

ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM AGE 8 -14

The VEX IQ Challenge provides robotics engineering and research project challenges that enhance students' appreciation for science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). With guidance from teachers and mentors, students work in teams to design, build and program a robot to compete in an exciting annual game challenge.





VEX[®]

ROBOTICS
COMPETITION

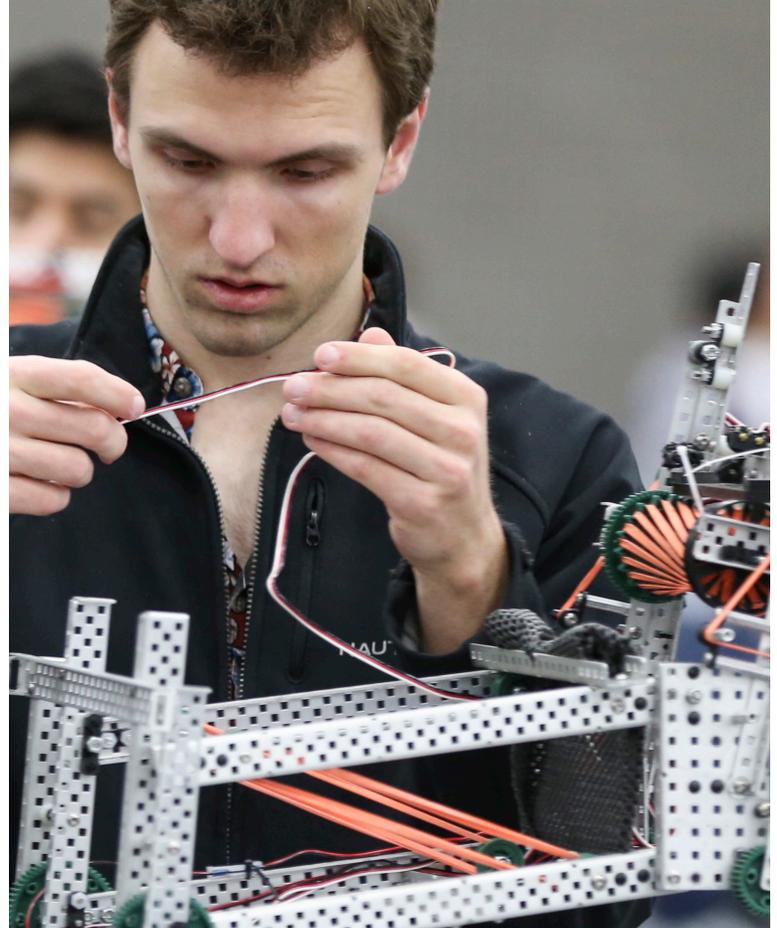
MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM AGE 11-18

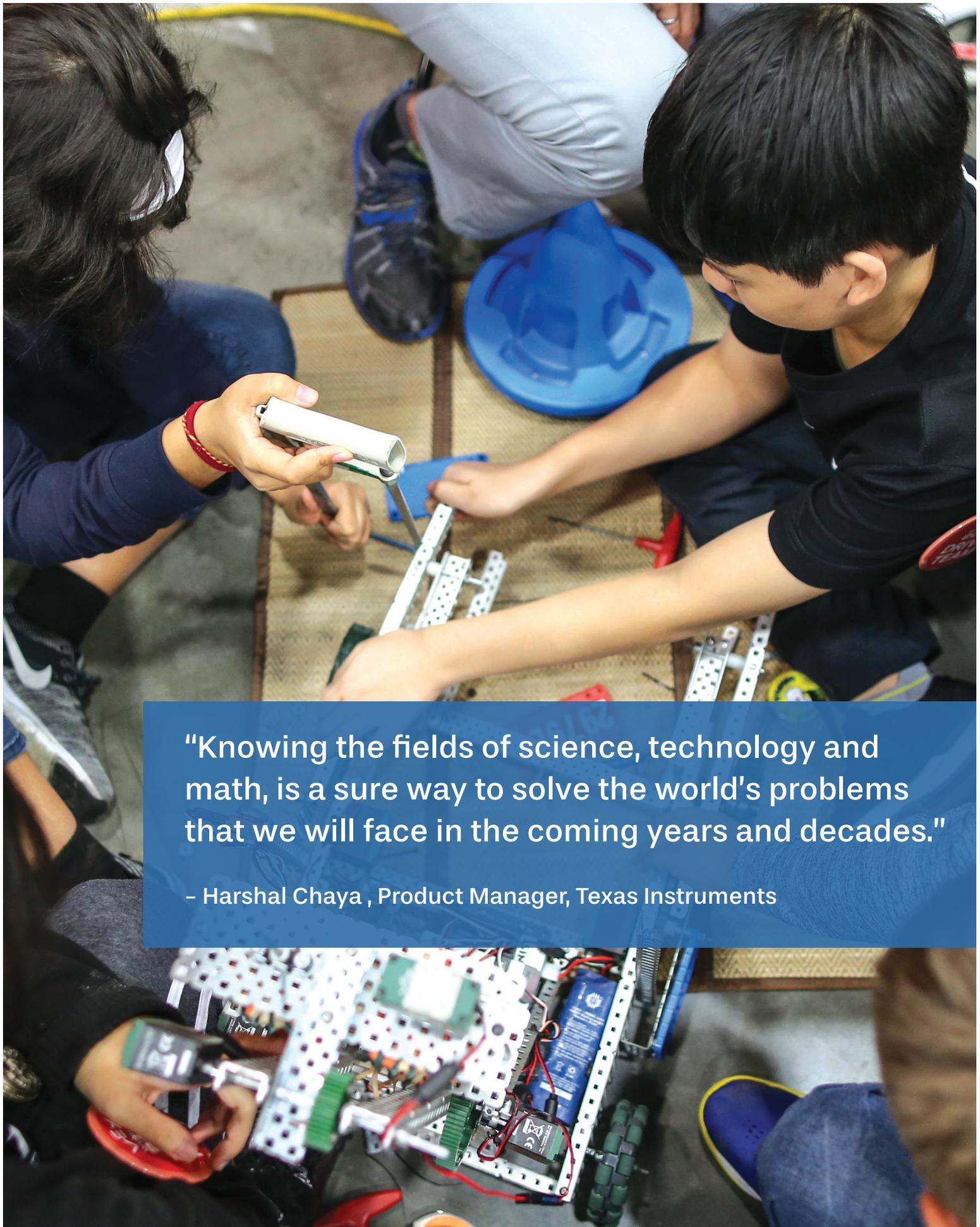
The VEX Robotics Competition is the ultimate STEM activity. Students, with guidance from their teachers and mentors, design, build and program robots in teams to compete in an annual engineering challenge presented in the form of a game. By competing year-round, students gain valuable life skills in addition to learning engineering and design principals.



COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY PROGRAM AGE 18+

VEX U takes the VEX Robotics Competition to the next level by opening it up to university students. College and university teams in VEX U build an innovative robot to score the most points possible in an annual engineering game challenge. When school pride is on the line, matches can get intense!





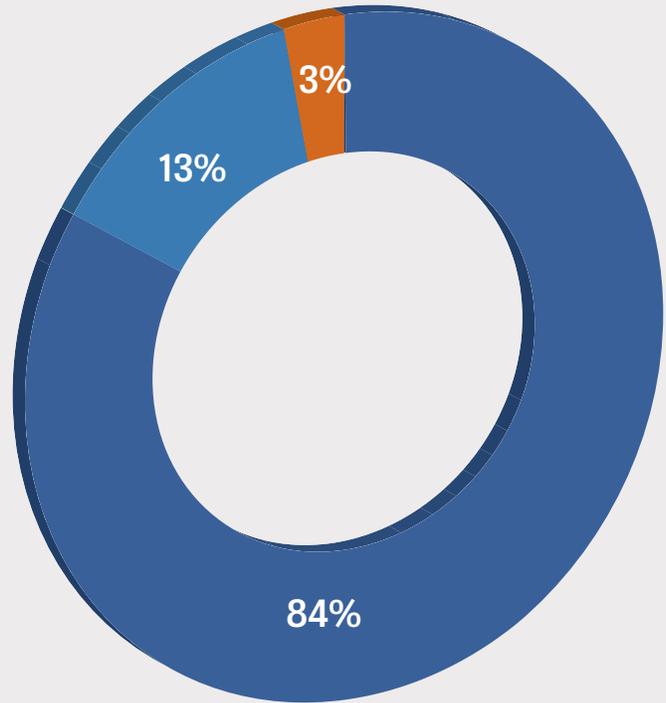
"Knowing the fields of science, technology and math, is a sure way to solve the world's problems that we will face in the coming years and decades."

- Harshal Chaya , Product Manager, Texas Instruments

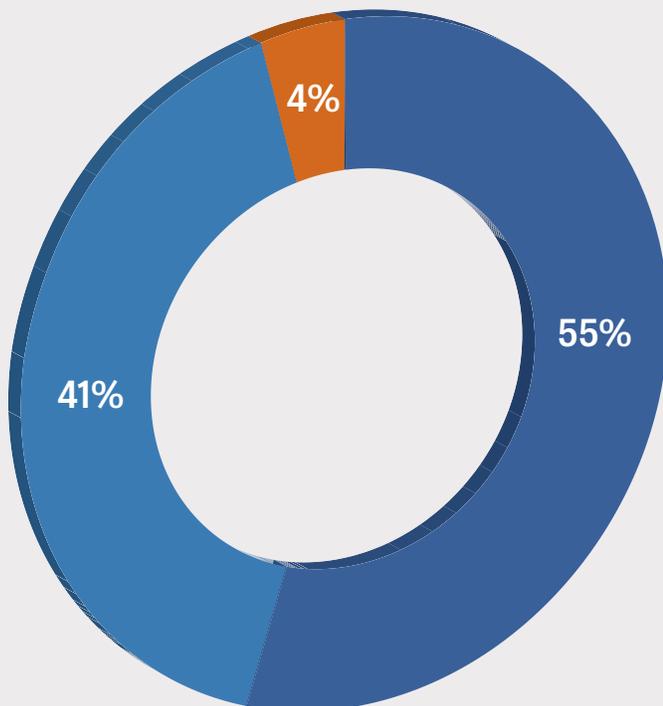
FINANCIAL

GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES

- Program Service ■
- Management and General ■
- Fundraising ■



SOURCES OF FUNDING



- Corporate and Foundations
- Government Grants
- Event Revenue



"I can tell you the kids coming out of here are kids that can work at Google. They know how to work as a team. They know how to program and they know how to deal with failure."

- Shivakumar Venkataraman, VP of Engineering, Google

FISCAL YEAR 2017

REC FOUNDATION FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

REVENUE, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS-UNAUDITED

	Total	Program Service	General Operating Expenses	Fundraising
REVENUE AND SUPPORT				
Contributions and Grants	5,073,791	5,073,791		
Event Income	3,561,618	3,561,618		
Total Revenue and Support	8,635,409	8,635,409		
EXPENSES				
Grants and Assistance to Others				
Compensation and Benefits	3,118,087	2,093,819	873,576	150,692
Advertising and Promotion	71,899			71,899
Office Expense	308,517	187,142	106,334	15,041
Occupancy	228,891	160,223	57,223	11,445
Travel	1,175,103	1,172,920	1,819	364
Depreciation	1,011	707	253	51
Insurance	7,979	5,585	1,995	399
Event Expenses	3,975,808	3,842,430	128,637	4,741
Total Expenses	8,887,295	7,462,826	1,169,837	254,632

OUR BOARD AND SPONSORS

REC FOUNDATION LEADERSHIP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dan Mantz

Chairman of the Board and CEO
Robotics Education & Competition Foundation

Tony Norman

CEO
Innovation First International

Ronald Arscheene

Utica Community Schools Center
for Math, Science and Technology

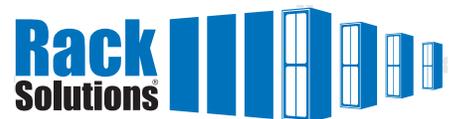
Paul D. Copioli

President
VEX Robotics, Inc.

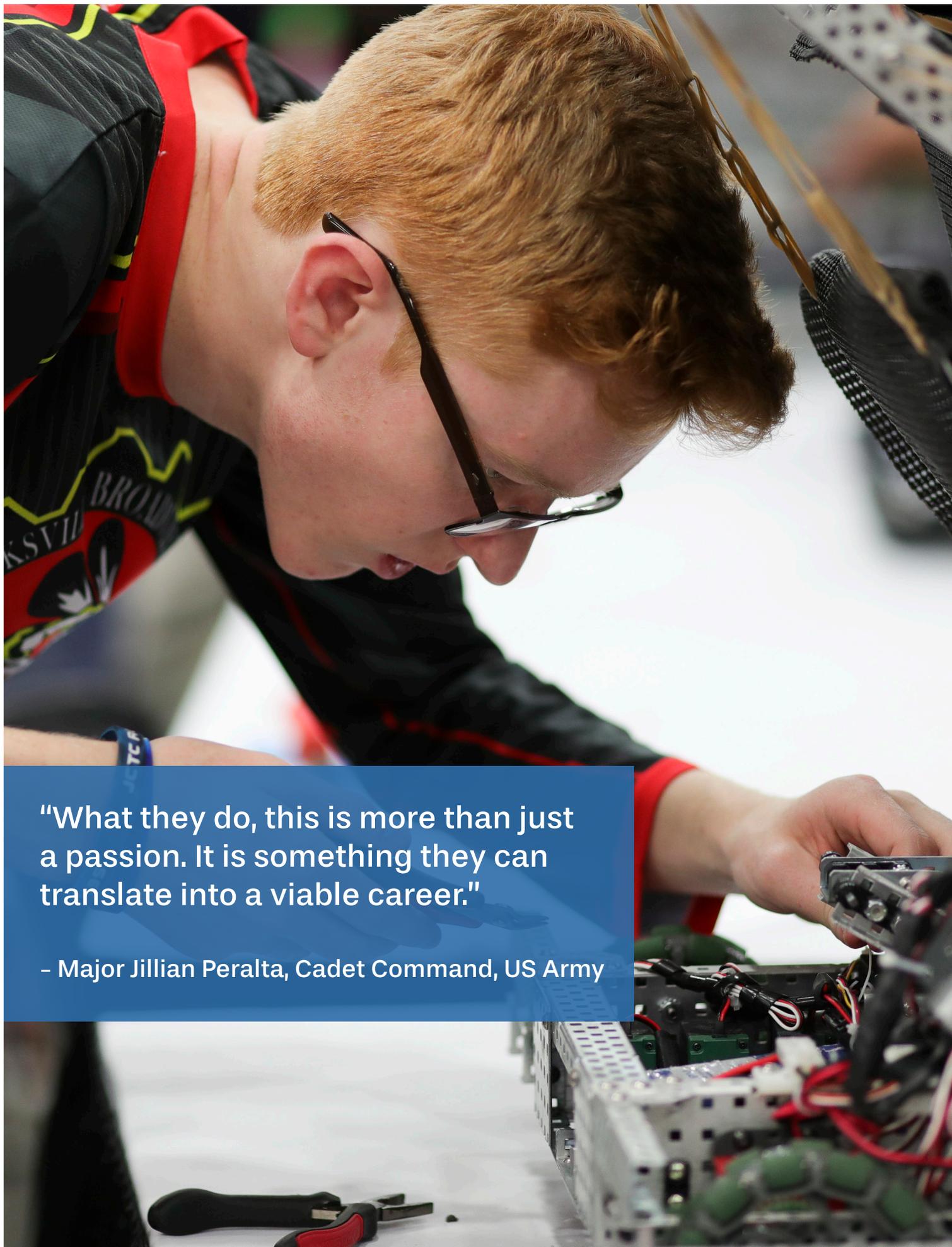
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Foundation



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- Nissan
- Nordson
- NXP
- Palmetto Partners
- Robot Mesh
- Tata Consultancy Services
- Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Kentucky, Inc.
- Toyotetsu
- UPS
- U.S. Army
- Volvo Group Trucks
- Zeon



"What they do, this is more than just a passion. It is something they can translate into a viable career."

- Major Jillian Peralta, Cadet Command, US Army

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