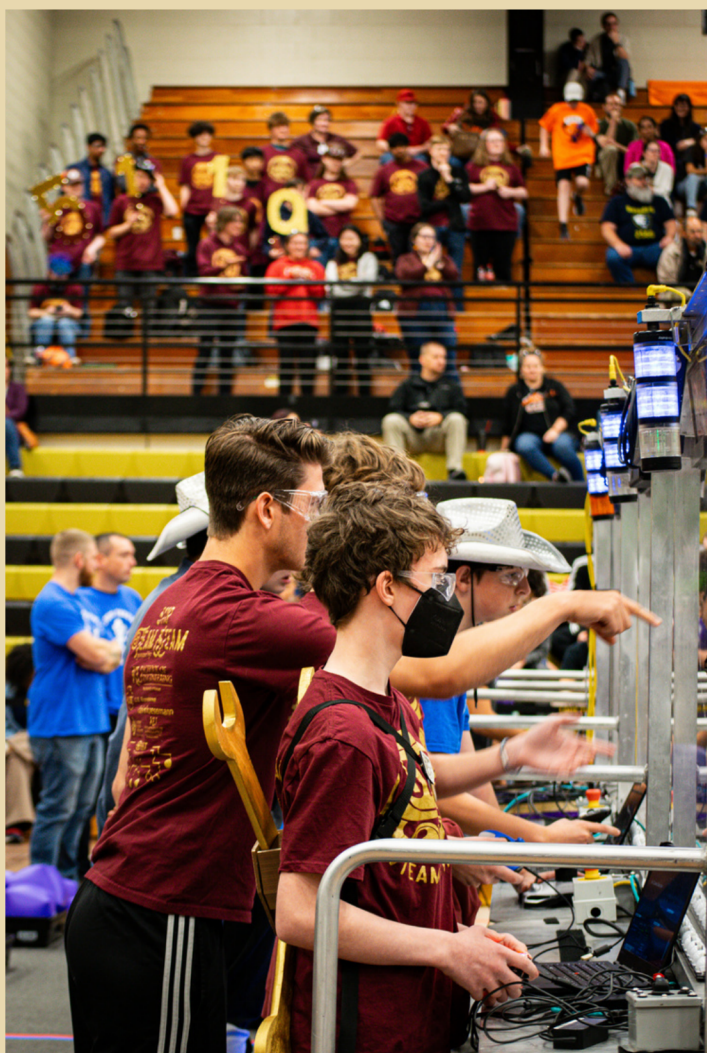


TEAM & TEAM ROBOTICS

FAMILY & FRIENDS NEWSLETTER - OFF SEASON

Welcome to our first newsletter for the 2023-24 season of robotics! We are excited to share what our team has been up to and keep you updated on our progress. These newsletters will also feature important events, deadlines, and information about the team. You can expect to receive these newsletters throughout the year, so keep an eye out for them. Our goal is to keep you informed and engaged with our team's work, so feel free to reach out with any questions or feedback. Thanks for your continued support!



COWTOWN

Team STEAM attended Cowtown on October 28th. Cowtown offered rookies a glimpse into the spring competition season in a fun relaxed atmosphere. This event offered rookies from Team STEAM and numerous other robotics teams in the Kansas City area a first-hand chance to visualize what their teams are working towards and helped rookies

place their individual goals. Cowtown also facilitated robot games with FLL (*FIRST* LEGO League) teams on the same day, serving as a stepping stone to the high-energy nature of the spring competition season. In an alliance with teams 3284, 1710, and 1730, we placed second in the final matches!



ROOKIE UPDATE

In the Mechanical sub-team, the rookies have completed their introduction to basic tools and are developing proficiency with electrical robot parts. Tonight, students took apart the arm of last years robot, A.N.D.Y., to understand the fundamentals of how it was built and to salvage it for parts. The Controls sub-team has been hard at work learning the fundamentals of Java. Students learn through example projects, and recently, they moved to learning the specific knowledge needed for robot code, all with the goal of being able to write code confidently. Finally, the Marketing and Creative sub-teams have worked on a variety of projects for sponsor acquisition and preparation for various events, in addition to preparing this newsletter. All these sub-teams have worked hard to prepare for build season coming up this January.

SUMMER CAMPS

The Team STEAM summer camps were a wild success this year! We had total attendance of over 25 students, split between a June camp, intended for female and non-binary students, and a July camp, which was open to all interested students. Campers spent four days learning how to program and build their own robots with LEGO® Mindstorms, a student-focused robotics platform that teaches students the fundamentals of robotics. Beyond robotics, students learned soft skills such as teamwork, collaboration, public speaking, and friendly competition.



GIRLS IN TECH

The Girls in Tech conference occurred on April 27th at the Lawrence College and Career Center. Co-hosted by Team STEAM and teacher Sara Mahoney, the event aimed to promote gender diversity in STEAM professions. We had more than 130 students attend the conference compared to around 90 in 2022. This conference included keynote speakers, small group learning sessions, demonstrations, panel discussions, and networking opportunities. Students learned about different paths available to them in STEAM fields, were inspired by small group interactions with different successful women in the community, and gained a sense of community through networking with peers and adults.

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