

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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**BUILDING INTEREST AND CONFIDENCE IN STEM WHILE
RECOGNIZING INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL AT IRONDALE
MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRL POWERED WORKSHOP**

Girl Powered workshops to take place around the world in a global initiative redefining the face of STEM

Irondale, Alabama – November 16, 2020 – Irondale Middle School is proud to be one of the Girl Powered workshops that will take place around the world during the month of October and November coinciding with the [United Nation's International Day of the Girl](#). Now in its third year, this global initiative was created through a partnership between the [Robotics Education & Competition \(REC\) Foundation](#) and [VEX Robotics](#), who are working to redefine the face of STEM and make robotics reflective of the world we live in, and the one we want to leave behind.

The Girl Powered workshops are meant to engage and inform young women about STEM, connect young women with mentors, highlight examples of how women are changing the world, provide tools for success, and offer an environment where all students' confidence and abilities can flourish.

The [Irondale Middle School Girl Power Virtual Event](#) will feature dynamic STEM guest speakers, and an opportunity to apply for a grant to start a new VEX IQ Challenge or VEX Robotics Competition team.

"We're excited to support the REC Foundation and VEX Robotics by hosting a Girl Powered workshop. We've seen the results of this initiative first-hand, adding more young women to our programs and engaging with them around STEM and robotics with increased confidence," said Ronald Passmore, TSA & Robotics Advisor, at Irondale Middle School. "As a robotics coach, I recognize the perseverance, teamwork and problem-solving skills that students gain from participating in competitive robotics programs like VEX Competitions, even over the course of just one season. The Girl Powered initiative will help reach many more young women who might have an interest in robotics and STEM, make them feel welcome, show them they belong and invite their creativity to take root and thrive."

How is Girl Powered making an impact? The answer might depend on who you ask. Across the robotics community, Girl Powered has enabled hundreds of new teams, captured personal stories from girls in robotics through an expanded online challenge, and engaged dynamic female thought leaders at Girl Powered Connect events hosted at VEX Worlds.

For more information about the initiative visit GirlPowered.com.

About the Robotics Education & Competition Foundation

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. For more information on the REC Foundation, visit www.RoboticsEducation.org.

About VEX Robotics

VEX Robotics is a leading global provider of educational robotics products to schools, universities and competition teams. Their scalable and affordable solutions span primary and secondary schools while encouraging teamwork, leadership and problem solving. With easily customizable projects, educators can match their students' abilities and prepare STEM problem-solvers of tomorrow.

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