

ISSUE 02 / NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

# RobodoX

ENGINEERING A BRIGHTER FUTURE

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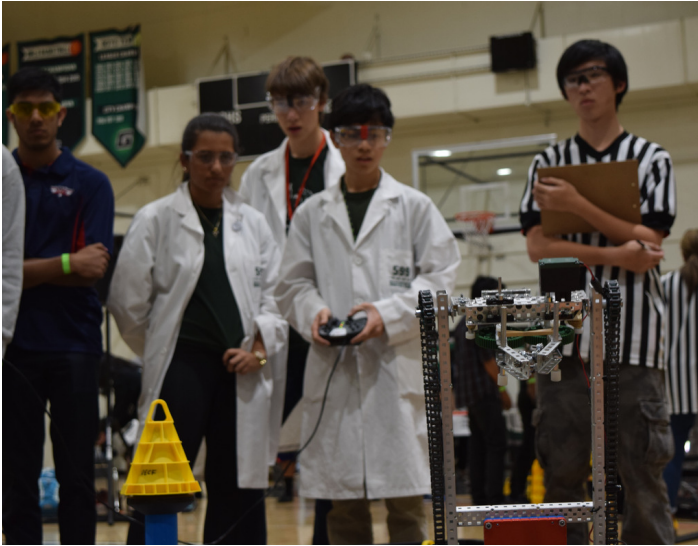
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# RUMBLE IN THE JUNGLE

The day started early in the morning on a Saturday. The gym doors were open, the concession stand was up and running and soon the pits would be flooded with teams from different schools. The Dox had been preparing for weeks for this day and it was finally here. Rumble in the Jungle was starting! Teams were in the gym tinkering with their robots. Soon the matches started and the teams were on the fields and in queue. The day went on and everywhere you looked there was something going on. The Dox worked throughout the day to queue people, reset fields, provide snacks and do fun engineering inspired activities with kids at their outreach section of the competition. The day went on and teams were being eliminated throughout the day, except for team 599B. Team 599B went on to be undefeated throughout the day and won the competition!!

# RESEDA COMP

Waking up early Saturday morning is hassle for most, but the 'Dox were up and ready in front of Granada Hills Charter High School ready to leave for the Reseda Vex Competition. The team arrives at their destination, Reseda High School at 7:00 am sharp and eagerly wait for competition doors to open. The team set up their respective workstations and secured seats in the stands. The 'Dox were ready to take on any challenges that could have come their way.

Like a well oiled machine the team worked together smoothly and efficiently. Though there were a few technical difficulties, the 'Dox didn't let that stop them from doing their best and performing exceptionally. While the majority of the team was focused on the main event of the competition, Alexis, Ian, and Leo graciously volunteered to operate the drivers skills challenge station where teams come to get their driving and programming skills evaluated.

After lunch, one of Robodox's competing teams, team 599B, successfully got past the qualification stage and qualified to participate in the elimination rounds. 599B and their alliance continued to advance all the way to the finals, which was, without a doubt, one of the most intense matches all day. Both alliances did extremely well, however only one alliance came out on top. Everyone sat on the edge of their seat, waiting in anticipation as the referees count the points scored by each alliance. The team jumps up from their seats as the scores are revealed. The blue alliance was announced as the champions of the Reseda Vex Competition. "Congratulations to team 3324V, 1437X, and team 599B!" The 'Dox celebrated as not only has team 599B won the competition, in doing so, they also qualified for States! AGAIN! The day concluded with the award ceremony and the 'Dox's signature celebratory cheer. Who rocks? Dox rocks!

# FINALS

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The school year was coming to an end and k2 was especially busy this day. Today was finals day. The Dox would put the knowledge that they learned throughout the year to the test. This years final was to take the original design of a catapult and improve it. The dox were put into groups of 3, given supplies and paper, and immediately started working. All throughout k2 dox were tinkering and testing and documenting their improvements. The objective was to improve the distance and height the catapult could toss something. The dox documented their projects, got their test scores and were done.



# SECRET SANTA

The Robodox hosted their annual Secret Santa gift exchange on December 14th. It was the day of the team final exam, and the whole team desired a reward for their hard work throughout the first semester. Students exchanged wish lists prior to the exchange and pondered about what they would get and give from a set of three options. A table's worth of presents served as the centerpiece for the celebration, consisting of bags of all sizes.

The metaphorical tree was the biggest on the block. However, it was time for the real event. The final exam was wrapping up, and presents needed to be unwrapped. Robodox members shouted out their giftees with friendly and humorous remarks, and the whole class clapped when people and their gifts were announced. Students went about giving in a cyclical fashion – when a Secret Santa present was hand-delivered, the giftee would then deliver their own Secret Santa to the next person, and so on. Of course, everyone was kept on their toes during the giving. Many different types of presents were exchanged, from books to gift cards to even Arduino microcontrollers. A merry tone filled the air as Robodox members admired their gifts, giving thanks and comparing with others. What a way to end the first semester!



# ICE SKATING

During this winter break, the Robodox decided to have a gathering at an Ice Skating rink on December 16. It was the day right after the end of the semester. As we first got there, people were first wobbly on ice, and then got the hang of it after some time. Ice Skating came easy to some people and came hard for others. It was a fun to teach our classmates how to ice skate, watch them figure out the trick to ice skating, and mostly spend time with them. Some people already knew how to ice skate and others were first timers! We were skating for roughly 2 and a half hours with our exhausted feet due to the quality of the ice skating shoes we rented. After while everybody was worn out and tired, we decided to go to a nearby Denny's to have a late dinner. This was a great night to remember. Ice skating was a perfect way to end a semester of hard work.