

Jared Miner

Hard working, respectful, kind, and committed to his robotics team, Jared Miner epitomizes Gracious Professionalism. He is always willing to offer a helping hand to mentors and other students, and he follows through on all tasks until they are complete. Although rather shy by nature, Jared has shown tremendous personal growth through his FRC experience which led to his being nominated as lead competition programmer at last year's Regional Events. The mentors chose Jared for this role because he can handle the pressure associated with changing code in the pits and he is careful and thorough enough that we can trust that the changes he implements will perform flawlessly on the field. Jared was making autonomous code adjustments in between every match last year as we attempted to tweak the shooter aiming. He was able to manage implementation of these changes without issue.

Jared has been active in FIRST since the 6th grade. He started as a programmer on the Lockport FLL Team and progressed to lead programmer in LabView for the FTC team during middle school. As a high school freshman Jared was able to actively participate on the programming sub team due to his previous knowledge of LabView. For the 2018 competition season, Jared had the opportunity to learn a new programming language as the team decided to make the leap from LabView to C++. He has moved very quickly up the learning curve, becoming highly proficient in C++ through hard work and the willingness to learn from the programming mentors. Over a 3 month period Jared has progressed to the point where he can not only create his own C++ code but can quickly understand and debug and fix subroutines written by other students or mentors.

From a leadership perspective Jared has progressed from a quiet reserved freshman, who was most often quietly sitting in the programming room (aka Nerderly), to a self-confident team member who volunteers to lead brainstorming breakout sessions or to report out on the programming team's activities. Jared took another huge step out of his comfort zone this fall by being one of our robot drivers at the 2017 Rah Cha Cha Ruckus off-season event. Witnessing this type of individual personal growth in the students is what brings the mentors back year after year and makes this program so fulfilling.

Jared has a strong work ethic and is one of our most dedicated students. He has been committed to spreading the message of FIRST throughout the community by actively participating in the team's robotic outreach demonstration events. Jared's STEM presentation/demonstration resume includes: YMCA Camp Kenan STEM week, Niagara & Erie County Fairs; Buffalo Museum of Science Bubble Bot Day, Relay 4 Life, and GM Buy America Day. Jared is one of the first students to arrive for set up, load and/or unload, and will do whatever is needed. He enjoys explaining what FIRST is all about and he is very patient when teaching younger kids how to drive the robot. He stays to the very end of events and always helps clean up. When the topic of Dean's List nominees came up this year Jared was an easy nominee choice for the mentors and teachers.

On the academic side, Jared's GPA is 4.0 and he is ranked 6th in his junior class. He has taken a challenging course load including several AP/college credit courses. Jared plays Saxophone in the Wind Ensemble and is a key member of the school's Scholastic Bowl Team. In addition to his participation in FIRST and excelling scholastically, Jared plays hand bells in the church choir and is a church elder which is quite an honor for someone his age and clearly reflective of his depth of character.

Jared plans to remain active in FIRST and to continue to learn and inspire students as a mentor while attending college for Computer Engineering. The mentors from FIRST Team 1507 "The Warlocks" have no doubt that Jared will continue to be committed to FIRST and that he is an extremely deserving candidate to join Dean's List.