

Lillian Bushley

Explain how the student embodies the philosophies of Gracious Professionalism and Coopertition through the FIRST Core Values: Discovery, Innovation, Impact, Inclusion, Teamwork and Fun. Please provide examples

Lillian exemplifies the values of Impact and Inclusion through the adversity she's overcome. Last season, a team mentor took Lillian away from her work to make robot bumpers, as they said that this component was 'a woman's job'. Rather than hide her frustration, Lillian shared her experiences with the Student Advocacy Committee (SAC), and advocated for other women, who then shared similar incidents.

Lillian has since worked to communicate with this mentor about how their words affected herself and others. Now, whenever bumpers need to be made, all hands, not just women's, are put to use. Lillian has continued to be highly motivated, working to inspire our young women to speak up and get involved. This is one of many reasons why our women elected her to be the SAC's Female Representative.

How has the student increased the awareness of FIRST? Describe the student's interests and/or plans to continue to engage with FIRST beyond high school. Please provide examples.

Lillian has greatly aided in the awareness of FIRST by organizing our Erie County Fair demonstration this past summer. At this demonstration, several thousand people learned about our team, Western NY STEM education programs, and FIRST overall. Lillian was the most involved student, and taught our young visitors how to drive our robot and how to make a button, all in the hopes of inspiring a new generation of robotics enthusiasts.

Lillian also spreads the mission of FIRST to her peer group, and has inspired her friends to continue FIRST's goals on the team. After she graduates, Lillian plans to pursue a career in biology or environmental science. Yet, no matter where she is, or how far the team travels, Lillian will always be the Warlocks' greatest cheerleader

Describe the student's technical expertise, using specific examples in the areas of programming, electronics, design, fabrication, making, illustrating how these skills have contributed to the team's success. Please provide examples.

As a freshman last year, Lillian immediately took interest in the fabrication sub-team. She aided in assembling the base of our robot- a job usually done by the most experienced members. Aside from this, Lillian singlehandedly completed all of the pneumatic work for last year's robot. We are confident that Lillian will take on these tasks and more in the seasons to come.

Lillian always makes sure to include younger team members on her projects as well, helping to ensure the longevity of the team and the passing down of knowledge.

During our off season competition, Lillian also became one of our drivers, where she strategize with teams before matches, shared ideas and worked cooperatively with others to win matches. We hope Lillian continues to pursue this in future competitions.

How does the student's individual contribution to the team benefit the team as a whole in the areas of fundraising, outreach, entrepreneurship, and creativity? Please provide examples.

Lillian has aided in the development of new team fundraising initiatives. She helped organize our bottle drives and bake sales, sold candy bars, and led our meat raffle. Lillian is a major reason we've generated an additional \$18k to help fund a possible trip to Houston.

Lillian was one of the only students to have engaged in every single outreach event. She's led new events at the community market and with our local Cub and Girl Scout troops.

Lillian's creativity can also be seen in the shop, where she works on innovative projects to help ensure our team's long term success. Whether it's prototyping a new climber, teaching students how to safely use machinery, or making bumpers for our new swerve drive, Lillian shows that she will take up and complete any challenge put in front of her.

Explain the student's leadership to their fellow team members. How do they motivate others? What is their leadership style? Please provide examples.

Throughout her time on the Warlocks, Lillian has worked diligently to foster an inclusive and engaging community. Her peers see her as a leader and a supporter, both inside and outside of the workshop.

As a freshman, Lillian was apprehensive to voice her opinion or ask questions. Since then, she is determined to be the advocate for our rookies that she did not have. Whether it's saying hello to them in the school halls, asking how their day has been, or asking them to aid her in her next build project, Lillian works diligently to ensure equal opportunities for all team members.

We can see our newer students significantly more involved when Lillian spearheads a project. When we needed motors from our 2019 robot, Lillian took the lead, and our rookies quickly followed to help.