

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.

Ava exemplifies all of the FIRST Core Values, but best exemplifies the values of teamwork and inclusion.

Ava's teamwork is shown through her dedication to helping others. She's helped parents with cleaning up Saturday lunches, team members with completing their homework, and rookies with finding robot parts and tools. Because of Ava, everyone, from parents, to students, to mentors, feel welcomed and appreciated.

Ava exemplifies inclusion through our outreach events. Ava is the leader of Girl Power, an event where young girls learn about local STEM opportunities. She spent two weeks preparing activities and gathering resources. She also recruited other Warlocks to volunteer, and ensured they all had roles to fill. Ava is always excited to show other young women what STEM is all about.

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.

Ava's dedication goes beyond the robot, and into our community. She's at every outreach event from open till close, showing our community what FIRST is all about. She's often leading events- from the local meat raffle in February all the way to the winter parade in December. She's consistently adding to her repertoire as well- reaching out to new businesses to see if the team can demonstrate the robot there.

After high school, Ava would like to attend SUNY Cobleskill to major in animal science and minor in mechanical engineering. She also plans to mentor a local team- team 250, the Dynamos. She would also like to give back to FIRST by volunteering at the Tech Valley Regional.

After graduation, she plans to work in wildlife conservation, and continue her involvement in FIRST as a mentor.

How does the student's individual contribution to the team benefit the whole? Please provide examples.

On the Warlocks, Ava has many different responsibilities. She's the leader of our build team, working to design and construct an effective robot. When the student leads of the build team graduated, Ava immediately stepped up and worked for countless hours building the robot and training the new students. She also has taught multiple Robotics 101 classes about gears, pulleys, and drivetrains. Ava is also a leader in fundraising. She regularly leads bake sales, which bring in over \$500 each, and volunteers at our annual meat raffle.

Ava also exemplifies inclusion. When a student felt left out and debated quitting the team, Ava sought out to include him in projects. After including him in a robot deconstruction project, this student felt more comfortable with getting involved with the team.

Describe the students' experience in areas of STEM. This could include but is not limited to skills in engineering, software, CAD, fabrication, etc. Please provide examples.

In her first two years on the team, Ava was very involved in our build team, as she played a significant role in designing prototypes and the final robot. Last season, she built 5 prototypes for the main arm of the robot. When the arm needed to be secured, Ava was the first to suggest using two inverted flanges and door jams to keep it secure. Ava's quick thinking led her to become a crucial member of the pit crew in our competitions, as well as the repairman when the robot breaks at our outreach events.

Ava's problem-solving skills are supplemented with her technical background, as she's learned how to use equipment like the lathe and mill and teach it to others. This has led Ava to becoming the head of build, where she now teaches new students all of the skills she's learned.

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

Since her start on the team over two years ago, Ava has been a constant in our community. She's a dedicated leader, and her ever-presence speaks volumes.

Throughout her time on the Warlocks, Ava 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.

Ava works to engage rookies and help them find passion within our robotics team. Ava has organized missions to deconstruct robots with rookies, to help them understand how each component works before the build season begins. She recently led the new students in deconstructing our 2023 robot, Swirly. Because of this, we've seen a greater involvement and understanding within our new students, and this can be accredited to Ava's hard work.

Please share anything else you would like us to know about the student, including academic performance, specialized skills, or additional extracurricular activities.

Ava's passion and dedication goes beyond FIRST. Ava participates in wind and jazz ensemble, and music honor society. She also teaches crochet lessons to the community, and volunteers at an art shop. Ava also spent over a year working on illustrating a children's book with a local author.

She did all this while maintaining a 98 GPA, and taking several college level and AP classes. Ava's passion and leadership in these activities, and in our team, make her well-deserving of the Dean's List Award.