

Dear Potential Sponsor,

Winnovation FIRST Robotics Team 1625 has started its 18<sup>th</sup> season of building robots and learning about STEM in a hands-on atmosphere. Winnovation's mission is to expose students throughout the year to leadership, teamwork, and community service. These community service opportunities allow our team to expand in a science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) environment via FIRST. More specifically, Winnovation strives to:

- Bring youth into positions of leadership
- Build cohesiveness, camaraderie and responsibility
- Support and engage the local community through service projects
- Generate experience and knowledge in the fields of STEM
- Demonstrate gracious professionalism

In the past 17 years, Winnovation has earned 42 trophies, including eight Regional Championships, and the Regional Industrial Design, Innovation in Control, and Driving Tomorrow's Technology Awards. In 2014 and 2010, we had the honor of being in the Final Four at the World Competition hosted in St. Louis.

About 80% of team members are pursuing further education in engineering, math, chemistry, and business. Colleges such as Iowa State, University of Wisconsin-Platteville, etc. are accepting students from Winnovation. Team alumni have interned with Woodward, United Technologies/Sundstrand, SpaceX, and Forest City Gear over the summer. They are now graduated and working for companies such as: Woodward, UTAS, John Deere, Sierra Space Systems, Auris Health, etc.

By being a part of FIRST Robotics, they have had a chance to dream big, help design a robot from scratch, improve the robot, and compete in exciting competitions. Students are also giving presentations, developing business plans, and doing community service. More importantly, they learn what teamwork is and gracious professionalism!

Currently, there are 28 students on our team. Adult mentors, team alumni, and upperclassmen are mentoring underclassmen to keep the team strong. In seventeen years, we have achieved the respect of long standing champion teams. During our off-season, we collaborate with other teams in the area to host an off-season competition at Rock Valley College. Students from Winnebago HS and Pecatonica HS participate on the team. Winnovation members also mentor a middle school FTC team and a 5th and 6th grade FLL team.

Hundreds of hours are donated from volunteer mentors to help teach our fellow students teamwork and to gain hands on experience. While we have support from the school districts, these funds are limited. We apply for grants to support the program, but approximately one third of our financial support comes from local businesses. We firmly believe that this program is important to building technical and leadership skills in our high school students. We hope you will consider financially supporting Winnovation FIRST Robotics Team 1625 for the 2021 competition season.

Here are some suggested levels of giving:

- **Golden Gears:** \$3,000 or more gift – We'll post your company name on the robot, in the program handbook, in the Pit area if there are in person competitions, at community presentations, on the team t-shirt, and bring our robot to a company picnic or event.
- **Silver Sprockets:** \$1,000 gift – We'll post your company name on a part of the robot, in the Pit area if there are in person competitions, and at community presentations, and on the team t-shirt.
- **Bronze Bearings:** \$500 gift – We'll put your company name on our team t-shirt. Pledges of gifts must be received before Feb. 7, to be included on the team t-shirt for competitions in March.

Any amount and/or in-kind donation is appreciated! Any amount makes a difference, especially in these trying times, though we understand that it's been a hard year on all of us. If you would like, students are available to visit and tell you about the program via video call. Financial donations are tax-deductible. All sponsors will be invited to our Annual

Sponsor Appreciation Dinner in May. Checks can be made out to Winnebago HS, please write Robotics on the memo line and send to: **Winnebago High School, Attn: Kim Bronkema, 200 E. McNair Rd., Winnebago, IL 61088**

Sponsors are our lifeblood, so please give this project serious consideration so that together we can develop a talented and educated engineering/manufacturing workforce. We are looking forward to competing again in 2022, so please consider keeping us in your community outreach budget. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

The Members of Winnovation

Jackson Newell  
Student Manager of Engineering

Hannah Jacobson  
Student Manager of Business Operations



**For More Information**

Contact Karen Hill, Coordinator of Team 1625 Winnovation  
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