

FIRST Robotics Team 1923: The MidKnight Inventors

West Windsor - Plainsboro Regional School District | www.FIRSTrobotics1923.org



FRC Team 1923, The MidKnight Inventors, proudly nominates Ms. Libby Kamen for the 2015 Woodie Flowers Award. Libby lives and breathes “her” team. In 2006, high school freshman Libby convinced the administration of WW-P High School North that students needed to be part of the technology future, and that a FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) team was the way to do it. So, with some school support, 5 students and their parents, Team 1923 emerged. Since 2006, Libby has helped grow the team to more than 125 students & mentors and a whole family of FIRST teams (Jr.FLL, FLL, FTC & FRC).

Libby captained 1923 for 4 years until leaving for college. While away from Team 1923 she mentored many FRC & FTC teams from New York and volunteered for endless NJ district & regional competitions. New teams & being out of the area did not slow down her dedication to The MidKnight Inventors. She often showed up from college to help 1923 during build season, never complaining about the 7-hour drive to Plainsboro. Amazingly, even now though she is part of the adult workforce, Libby arrives every weekend during the build season. Her tenure in FIRST Robotics has helped 1923 in countless ways. She is known by many FIRST alums who now have teams of their own who are all willing to lend advice, knowledge & an occasional part or 2 to keep 1923 going at full strength. It would be difficult to count her seasonal volunteer hours, much less determine how many hours Libby has given Team 1923 during her 10-year tenure.

Libby’s influence on Team 1923 is seen in every aspect of the team. She has played a role in our team apparel ranging from zebra stripes to our black/silver/hot pink team colors. She helped design our logo & influenced the name of our team. As our team has matured, Libby has been instrumental in the development of our “MidKnight U” workshop series. She is singlehandedly responsible for leading the effort to make these workshops publicly available.

Libby’s involvement with “her” team does not end at close of the competition season. She serves as an event coordinator for our offseason event MidKnight Mayhem and this year she took on the same role for our new FLL qualifier Minion Mayhem. She adds creative flair to each event, hosting therapy dogs to catch Frisbees & introducing the smiley-face “Mayhem” ball for extra points.

Over the past 2 years, Libby has taken on another new role for the team. She has been selected as the team’s competition drive coach. “Coach” Libby, has matured into our game strategist, influencing not only the design of our robot but also how we play the game & scout other robots. You can find her at all of our competitions, supporting 1923 and many other teams.

As the team celebrates its 10th season, Team 1923 salutes Libby Kamen who has helped change culture in our schools & community and influenced the lives of literally hundreds of our students through her tireless and uncompromising efforts with FRC Team 1923.