

CITRUS CIRCUITS

2023 SENIOR APPRECIATION

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GRADUATING SENIORS

Now that our 2023 season is over, we would like to celebrate our senior members and their valued impact to the team. This newsletter highlights each senior with a brief synopsis of their post-graduation plans, personal achievements, and words of wisdom. We are extremely proud and grateful for your contributions, and we wish you all luck in your future endeavors. Congratulations!

MELODY HO - BUSINESS AND MEDIA

What will you be doing in the future?

I will be attending the Sauder School of Business at the University of British Columbia. There, I will be majoring in commerce!

What was your role on your subteam?

When I first started, I was all over the place. I was doing press releases, social media posts, making things in illustrator, and working on the website. It wasn't until my junior year that I was mainly managing team finances, maintaining the website, and taking media at competitions. Senior year was pretty much the same, however, I am learning the power of delegation.



What is one thing you learned during your time on the team that you will always take with you?

I will always remember the importance of communication. The team has taught me many life lessons that I wouldn't have been able to get elsewhere, but communicating with the people I work with, laugh with, and spend many hours with is extremely important to me.

What was your proudest achievement on the team?

My proudest achievement on the team was making the AAPI logo as well as taking media that was used in many of the social media posts and videos that we produced while I was on the team.

What's one thing you would like to tell any incoming students?

While you're on the team, find time for yourself. The team isn't everything, and it's important to understand that. Outside of Citrus, you have friends, family, and events happening all around you and it's important that you don't miss those moments for a few hours at robotics.

A quote?

"We've got to color code things because what are we, animals?"

Do you have any future plans regarding FRC?

Not at the moment. I'm going to enjoy my time as a college student, but I may consider mentoring for a Canadian FRC team.

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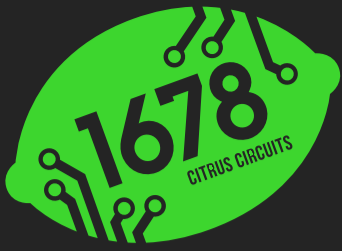
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ROHAN NEPOMUCENO - ELECTRICAL

What will you be doing in the future?

I plan to attend Sacramento State, pursuing a degree in Electrical Engineering.

What was your role on your subteam?

I was the subteam lead and specialized in pneumatics and systems electronics.

What is one thing you learned during your time on the team that you will always take with you?

A lesson from the team I learned is the importance of creating a work environment built on respect and trust.

What was your proudest achievement on the team?

My proudest achievement on the team is making it to Einstein with a robot, and more importantly a subteam, that I had worked with over the course of a full season.

What's one thing you would like to tell any incoming students?

I would like to tell incoming students that it's important to make mistakes and to be comfortable with failure.

A quote?

"You don't have to save the world to find meaning in life, sometimes all you need is something simple, like someone to take care of."

Do you have any future plans regarding robotics/FRC?

I hope to mentor a rookie FRC team once I graduate college.



OLIVIA SAGAYARDI - SOFTWARE ROBOT



What will you be doing in the future?

I'm going to UC Irvine for biomedical engineering.

What was your role on your subteam?

I was a software programmer on software robot. I helped train new members and also specialized in writing different mechanisms on the robot (climber, turret, etc.).

What is one thing you learned during your time on the team that you will always take with you?

Probably the experience of working with a large group and sharing exciting experiences with the people around me.

What was your proudest achievement on the team?

Winning the Engineering Inspiration award in 2022 and Impact Award at the Sacramento Regional.

What's one thing you would like to tell any incoming students?

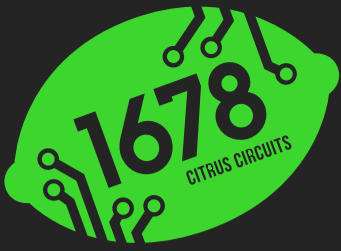
To always ask questions even if they sound silly because that's the best way to learn.

A quote?

"For the past four years, 1678 has basically consumed my life in the best way possible. I came in here not knowing anything, but I've now gained so much technical knowledge that I'm excited to apply in real-world situations and also an incredible community with this team. This team became almost like a second home for me where everyday brings another wave of excitement. I can't thank all my friends, mentors, and teammates in 1678 enough for making my high school life so memorable."

Do you have any future plans regarding robotics/FRC?

I'd like to go out and experience college first, but in a few years, I'd definitely love to come back and see if I can be a software mentor for a FIRST team.



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HIROSHI GRIFFIN - ELECTRICAL

**What will you be doing in the future?**

I will be attending UC Santa Cruz studying Cell Biology for my major.

What was your role on your subteam?

I am a member of the electrical subteam. I assisted in making sure that the connections function properly all the while cramped in a small room with my teammates yelling at me. I help other members route wires and ensure that the robot is in a state to be tested, without breaking down or having technical issues.

What is one thing you learned during your time on the team that you will always take with you?

Communication is imperative in order to be successful within a team. Ensure that you express your concerns with others no matter how insignificant you think it may be.

What was your proudest achievement on the team?

I'd say being able to help out in any way possible. I like to think of my job as part of the queue crew for one of the DYR tournaments. I helped navigate countless teams to where they needed to be, it was stressful and very tiring, but pretty fun.

What's one thing you would like to tell any incoming students?

Be productive and have fun! (and use deodorant please)

A quote?

"Joining my senior year in Citrus has given me the freedom to make more mistakes as everyone just assumes you are a sophomore."

Do you have any future plans regarding robotics/FRC?

No, as in I will not be pursuing a career in anything robotics related. I am, however, interested in continuing to participate.

MICHAEL JAO - HARDWARE DESIGN

What will you be doing in the future?

I will be majoring in computer engineering at UCSC.

What was your role on your subteam?

I mainly assembled in my first year and designed the bellypan and battery box for this year's robot.

What is one thing you learned during your time on the team that you will always take with you?

The importance of communication in a team.

What was your proudest achievement on the team?

Assembling the indexer for Epsilon and Comp in a weekend last year.

What's one thing you would like to tell any incoming students?

Try to be as proactive as possible to maximize your impact and knowledge on the team.

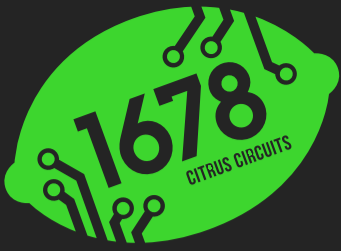
A quote?

"Fail faster" - Mike

Do you have any future plans regarding robotics/FRC?

I hope to major in similar areas of STEM that I learned in robotics such as design or software.





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DANIEL QELI - HARDWARE DESIGN

What will you be doing in the future?

I will be attending UCSC for computer engineering, but I might switch to electrical engineering.

What was your role on your subteam?

Not super specialized but did a whole lot of assembly.

What is one thing you learned during your time on the team that you will always take with you?

The ability to cope with stress.

What was your proudest achievement on the team?

Making the indexer on Margie.

What's one thing you would like to tell any incoming students?

You're dedicating a lot of time, so push yourselves hard and make the time worth it. Just remember to take a breath once in a while.

Do you have any future plans regarding robotics/FRC?

Might mentor a team at some point. Otherwise, I am open to a career in robotics after college.



MASON RUIZ - HARDWARE FABRICATION

**What will you be doing in the future?**

Reed College in Portland, OR. Psychology and Environmental Studies.

What was your role on your subteam?

I specialized in the lathe and made lathe parts.

What is one thing you learned during your time on the team that you will always take with you?

I know more than I think I do.

What was your proudest achievement on the team?

Making it to the Championships as a team this year!

What's one thing you would like to tell any incoming students?

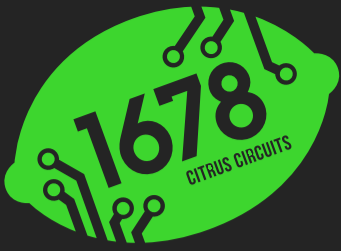
Be confident. You'll never know when you'll need it.

A quote?

"If there was nothing wrong in the world, there wouldn't be anything for us to do."

Do you have any future plans regarding robotics/FRC?

If I can find a way to, I plan to mentor a team.



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OWEN WATKINS - HARDWARE FABRICATION

What will you be doing in the future?

I am going to CSU Chico for mechanical engineering.

What was your role on your subteam?

On hardware fabrication I specialized in routers, but because there are others that are more skilled, I often spent the time helping members on any of the machines.

What is one thing you learned during your time on the team that you will always take with you?

While on the team I have really considered other people's situations, for example if someone is particularly stressed, I would try to help.

What was your proudest achievement on the team?

My proudest achievement would probably be seeing the result of the hard work and often tiring meetings to see it pay off when we won the Regionals that I attended on the travel team.

What's one thing you would like to tell any incoming students?

Try to stay on the positive side of things, and find someone that you can laugh with when you need to.

A quote?

"If you get pooped on when you first step outside, be prepared for the worst. "

Do you have any future plans regarding robotics/FRC?

Perhaps mentor a team in the future, not sure.



RAFAEL SANDOVAL - ELECTRICAL

**What will you be doing in the future?**

I will be attending college and majoring in mechanical engineering.

What was your role on your subteam?

I mainly route and crimp wires.

What is one thing you learned during your time on the team that you will always take with you?

I will take the knowledge of knowing how to work with a team as well as the electrical skills I've learned.

What was your proudest achievement on the team?

My proudest achievement was helping set up and manage a DYR tournament and seeing it turn out pretty well.

What's one thing you would like to tell any incoming students?

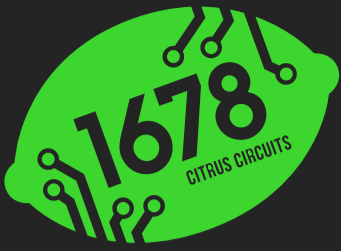
Time to get serious.

A quote?

"That's insanely insane."

Do you have any future plans regarding robotics/FRC?

As of now no.



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RAUL COOK - HARDWARE FABRICATION

What will you be doing in the future?

I will be attending a JC with transferring in mind, majoring in mechanical engineering.

What was your role on your subteam?

I did quite a bit of bumpers and never met standard tolerance on the mill.

What is one thing you learned during your time on the team that you will always take with you?

Imperial measurements are much worse than I thought.

What was your proudest achievement on the team?

Making bumpers really fast.

What's one thing you would like to tell any incoming students?

Fabrication is chill for most of the time.

A quote?

“OR 1 = 1 ; printf(hash(?)) ;”

Do you have any future plans regarding robotics/FRC?

I might volunteer as a mentor at some point.



JETT NELSON - HARDWARE FABRICATION

**What will you be doing in the future?**

I will be attending UC Merced for mechanical engineering.

What was your role on your subteam?

I became specialized in the mill, so I did most of the training of new members on the mill, I made many of the mill parts each season, and I maintained the mills which means keeping them running and accurate.

What is one thing you learned during your time on the team that you will always take with you?

What I learned is that there is an unbelievable amount of knowledge and information that can be learned about almost any subject; that if I ever reach a point where I think

I've “learned it all,” it is because I haven't begun to comprehend how much more there is to it. Whatever “it” may be, because I believe this applies to pretty much everything.

What was your proudest achievement on the team?

I'm just proud to have become a useful member of the team. I joined the team pretty late, not expecting to learn enough or receive enough training to contribute meaningfully during the season. I got level 3 training on all the machines pretty quickly, so I was actually able to make plenty of parts during my first build season. Now I'm the mill specialist and am training new members, so I'm proud of where I'm at.

What's one thing you would like to tell any incoming students?

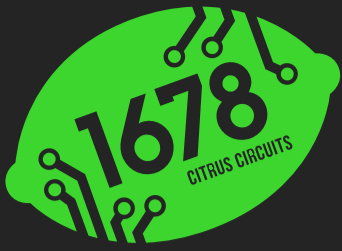
Join fabrication!

A quote?

“[Henry David] Thoreau is like an 8 year-old kid who just realized that trees look cool” -Brendan

Do you have any future plans regarding robotics/FRC?

No plans for FRC in the future.



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KATHY LI - SOFTWARE SCOUTING



What will you be doing in the future?

I'll be studying cognitive science and computer science at Brown University, but I also have plans to explore philosophy, public health, and biomedical engineering.

What was your role on your subteam?

I was one of Front End's veteran software developers. I contributed heavily to our Match Collection App and entirely rewrote the Picklist Editor in freshman year, led the creation of the Whitepaper, worked on all other apps, created new training documentation and taught Software General, brought in new logistical processes, and more.

What is one thing you learned during your time on the team that you will always take with you?

Ask questions. Be curious and don't be afraid to hear the answer. If something seems wrong, bring it up.

What was your proudest achievement on the team?

Working towards better team culture around scouting and getting to be a role model for younger students (my children <3). Also, getting to witness the impact of the outreach I've done!

What's one thing you would like to tell any incoming students?

Things have gotten better over the years, but things can still get better. Look for ways where you can leave a positive impact, whether it's on the team or in the community, and find a way to make that change. You can do it! Also, do outreach.

A quote?

"Is my legacy on this team really just gonna be Among Us??"

EMILY XIA - SOFTWARE ROBOT

What will you be doing in the future?

I will most likely be pursuing Mathematics and Computer Science at Stanford University.

What was your role on your subteam?

I was the Software Robot lead, and this past year, an Impact Award presenter

What is one thing you learned during your time on the team that you will always take with you?

Being on the team has taught me valuable software, communication, and management skills, and the ability to work well in both large and small team settings. However, more than both technical and soft skills, I've learned that the connections you create with other people are what define and shape your experience.

What was your proudest achievement on the team?

Whether it be supporting team members as they grow as Team Captain and Software Robot Lead, watching the excitement of students as I MC at DYR competitions, or empowering other teams with my technical knowledge through Citrus Service, I'm proud of the impact I've been able to make on those around me throughout my time on the team.

What's one thing you would like to tell any incoming students?

Be kind to yourself, open to others, and never stop dreaming big.

A quote?

"All your life you wait, and then it finally comes, and are you ready?" - All the Light We Cannot See

Do you have any future plans regarding robotics/FRC?

Though I don't have any immediate FRC-related plans, I hope that I'll be able to give back to the FIRST community in the future by volunteering at competitions and supporting teams near me.

