



WHAT DOES FIRST MEAN TO US?

4th DIMENSION-6429



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Hello, my name is Kaan. I'm interested in programming in FRC. I think, I'm gaining some skills with learning the codes and libraries. Also, we are making friends all around the world. I'm sure that I am going to use these are in the future. I want to be an engineer and software is a big advantage in colleges and work life. I want to do something different when I'm achieving my goals. World doesn't want robotic humans. World wants sociable people. We want to get the world better place. So, FRC is the best place for doing these at the same time.

Kaan Süleyman KARABACAKOĞLU

My name is Sıla and I'm 11th grade Science Tech student in Izmir Bahcesehir College. I participated in FLL tournaments and realized that growing with *FIRST*[®] is a different and unique life style. *FIRST*[®] inspires us in lots of areas from teamwork to engineering, art to physics, etc. That's why it affects the children's life in a perfect way. To begin with, what interests me most about FRC? Definitely, it is management as a team. As a person who joined FLL, I value teamwork a lot. It's not only the teamwork we do between our teammates but also with other FRC teams. I learned gracious professionalism thanks to *FIRST*[®], we cooperate with different teams from different regions. Also, as a team, we are all Science Tech students. That means we learn with experiments and we need to convert the things we learn into real life. FRC is the biggest chance to take what we learn and apply it in real life. So, it gives us the opportunity for making connection between them. Moreover, the skills such as leadership, speaking, time management, engineering and designing will help me a lot in the future. Whatever I follow as a career path, they have to be somewhere in my path. Actually, FRC simulates real work place, gives opportunity to face all the things, both good and bad sides that we will be responsible for in the following years of our lives. Long story in short, FRC is life itself.

Sıla DÖNMEZ

Hi my name is Alkan AKISÜ. I am an 11th grade student in Bahcesehir Science and Technology High School. 2 years ago, it was my first year in FLL and WRO. Last year, our FLL team was converted to FRC so I am a beginner in these robotics competitions. For me, FRC is a very huge difference in my life because I always want to do robots like in the factories. With FRC, I can achieve my goal of being a mechanical engineer so I am in the mechanics. In this way, I can improve my mechanical skills. Thanks to FRC, I can be very successful in my job career.

Alkan AKISÜ

Hi, I am Aslı Gençtürk from the Team 6429. I am attending Bahçeşehir Science Tech High School and I am a 11th grade student. This is my second year at the FRC, just like my beloved teammates, but I knew about *FIRST*[®] before. I have attended the FLL 2015 season and we had a lot of fun, also accomplished great achievements. I used to watch FRC championships and love the robots so I am happy that we are going to participate in FRC for the second time this year and I am super excited as well. The reason why I admire the FRC is because it gives us the chance to design and build a real robot. I am into designing and planning to be a designer someday. When I first heard about FRC I was surprised and happy because I have never thought that I could be in a robot building team. Also, I think that being in a team is better than designing a robot yourself because you always exchange information. That way, you can double or even quadruple your knowledge. I strongly believe that FRC will help me improve my designing skills and engineering knowledge. And I can easily say that the knowledge I gain and things I learn to do while doing FRC are unforgettable for the rest of my life. It is because we do it as a team and we do it in a fun way. The things which are unforgettable for me are also important for my career path I am considering to follow. It is related to designing and engineering. Besides, FRC is great about social network. I have already made some friends from the other teams! In the end, I think I will be able to express myself easily in public with all my confidence, thanks to *FIRST*[®].

Aslı GENÇTÜRK

My name is Su Hazal and I am a student from İzmir Bahçeşehir Collage. On my third year with *FIRST*[®], I am living the happiness for the chance of meeting two of its events; FLL and FRC! 2 years ago, on the first year of our school, I was a member of a FLL team and we went to Championship on April 26. Throughout the year, I learned multifarious skills from engineering to presentation, designing to dancing. This year I'm proud of being in FRC Team 4th Dimension and hopeful from our future. I'm interested about FRC because I will be able to work more than one area. (Even if I am in awards sub-team, I will also learn about the robot and software.) FRC is different because if you have more than one interest, you can use and improve all of them. As it's concept is mostly business; timing, making professional relationships with superior people, learning how to talk effectively and convincing, doing presentations, contacting with sponsors are just few examples of what I can gain. Furthermore, these abilities are all connected to my future. When I talk with sponsors, they know I am a candidate for their company; I can have good relations and also interested in engineering. When I have hard time getting all work done, I know it will need a good plan and first, I will start planning my work, then my life. Besides I will remember how I actually practiced English, math and science all in once and thank to it. I will have empathy for students who are trying to make their own path and become a supporter. All in all, *FIRST*[®] made me realize there is another world where you can practice with fun what you learn theoretically in school, actually, learn more than you do in school.

Su Hazal ÇALLI

I want to participate in FRC because I thought that it will develop all of my skills. Also, I thought that I need to attend this program for my job. Because it's developing all of my skills. I was in FLL, that has been contributed myself to attend FRC. I was a former member of "Mechanic Crew" and present member of "Advertisement Crew" in team 4th Dimension. I really understand better now what FRC is going to teach me. I want to be an engineer, so FRC will affect my future. In my job I can do, what I learned in FRC. FRC gives me the capability to do too many things in every area.

Burak YILDIRIM

Hi, my name is Yıldırım Adalıoğlu. I am going to Bahçeşehir Science and Tech. High school. I have done FLL for 3 years and I went 3 different World Championships. 2 years ago, I learnt that I was too old for FLL so me and my teammates decide to attend FRC. For me, FRC is the best place to improve my programming skills because in the future I want to design computers like our brains this is the only way that we can achieve to make a artificial intelligence. Also, I have inborn feeling that tells me lead something so I listened the voice that I heard and decide to attend FRC because in FRC we are just not doing robots also we are leading ourselves and other people to be aware of the beauty of science. My only passion is enlightening humankind and make the world a better place, to achieve this I have to spread the science everywhere and the best way I can do this is by attending FRC.

Yıldırım ADALIOĞLU

I'm Bora Karaman and I'm 11th grade at İzmir Bahçeşehir Science and Technology High School. I had participated in FLL for 6 years. 2 years ago, we watched FRC matches in World Championship. After that, me and my teammates ensured to participate in FRC. Designing, programming, building etc. All these things are the things that I am interested in. I think FRC is the one of the best places for improve my robotic skills. However, we know that FRC is not just robots. When I look back, I really can't believe how many things *FIRST*[®] Program taught me. I think the best motto in *FIRST*[®] Programs is 'Don't give up and try to do your best' because if you want to reach your goal you need to work hard. And we know that from our FLL years.

Bora KARAMAN

I'm Efsane Soyer and I'm a 11th grade student at İzmir Bahçeşehir Science and Technology High School. I met *FIRST*[®] 2 years ago and our team attended FLL Trash Trek season. Despite the fact that this was the first time for most of us, fortunately, we have some experienced members so that we were able to go to World Championship. Even though I came across with *FIRST*[®] late, I think I understand it's value. I love communicating with people like the business part but also I love science: building, programming, calculating etc. and this situation was making me confused. However, under favor of *FIRST*[®], I learn that I can mix these 2 things. For me, **the most interesting thing about *FIRST*[®] Robotic Programs is that you can learn whatever you like.** If you set your goal on this way, maybe, you can't win the championship for sure, but you will gain the key for everything you would like to have: "curiosity". In *FIRST*[®] Robotic Programs you need to carry on with this motto: **"Your curiosity is your only limit."** Nonetheless, every single person has been there for teach you something and you can feel this from the atmosphere. As I mentioned above, **you can obtain any qualification that you want to learn.** For me: I would like to be an engineer – I can't decide for sure but mainly- so that FRC is the best place where I can practice the skills that will form my whole life, maybe.

Efsane SOYER

My name is Yağız Yaşar and I am going to 11th class at İzmir Bahçeşehir Science and Technology High School. I attended *FIRST*[®] Lego League 2 years ago with my team Flashbang. That was when I met with *FIRST*[®]. **Thanks to FLL, I learned how to make project.** This year, I am attending *FIRST*[®] Robotics Competition, another *FIRST*[®] program, with my team 4th Dimension. So far, **I have learnt a lot of things from my team mates, our team coach and *FIRST*[®].** In my team, I am in sponsorship crew and I also help our mechanical crew. So far, I have learned mechanics, electronics and improved my presentation, communication skills. *FIRST*[®] Program helped me improve myself. **I am going to use everything that I learnt from *FIRST*[®], in my whole life.**

Yağız YAŞAR

I am Ece Yücer and junior in İzmir Bahçeşehir Science and Technology High School. 2 years ago, I met *FIRST*[®] by attending FLL Trash Trek season. Firstly, I had no idea about *FIRST*[®], but I found that it is an exciting tournament and I wanted to participate more *FIRST*[®] events, when the days passed. Then, I found myself a team member as our team won the Team Work Award, I learned lots of things and had a precious experience. The more the time passes, the more I interest in science and engineering. Then, I joined the precious team “4th Dimension”. FRC is more than robots, that’s why I learned how to make presentation and how to build robots at the same time. Maybe, we will not win anything, but the process is more important and I love to be a part of this team. This is the most important event of my whole life. *FIRST*[®] taught me to be myself. I have no idea about what I will be, but thanks to *FIRST*[®], I will be knowing it because it is all about to be more than a team and more than robots.

Ece YÜCER

For me, *FIRST* is more than just a simple organization. *FIRST* inspires me in a lot of ways. Because of *FIRST* and its competitions, I started to admire science and technology. In addition, *FIRST* is great because it promotes our social skills and relations. Thanks to *FIRST*, I can be much more.

Selahattin Kamil KÜPELİ

I met *FIRST* last year when I joined FLL for the first time and I can't imagine a better organization that can teach us how to be a part of a real team. An organization that lets everyone participate and learn a variety of different disciplines while having fun at the same time. To me, *FIRST* is a place to not only learn about robots, but about math, science, communication, confidence, and life skills. *FIRST* is an opportunity that I can grow as a person who can work independently as well as with my teammates in a perfect harmony. It is about sportsmanship and knowing that even if you lose, the knowledge you gain during the process is much more valuable than winning. I achieved a lot and experienced a lot thanks to *FIRST* even in two years. I now really want to continue this journey, continue achieving and experiencing with FRC.

İdil İŞSEVER

In my opinion, FIRST is a phenomenon which might signify numerous values for each individual. Inferring about such a precious experience, I firmly believe that taking part in FIRST organizations is **once-in-a-lifetime experience** that should not be missed out. It would be even more worthwhile if you participated more than once. One of the factors that greatly influence my opinion is the acquisitions through the process. As I see it, participants manage to gain lots of **essential values** within the FIRST marathons. **FIRST offers us the platform to express ourselves both liberally and professionally.** Furthermore, what FIRST means to me is the **unforgettable memories** in which you can see the promising marks of **teamwork, innovation, science and coopertition.** There is no doubt in my mind that the organization itself creates an ambiance which gives you a chance to share your **passion for engineering and technology.** What's more, it seems to me that I have been offered a great opportunity to improve myself in **communication and language skills** by courtesy of FIRST. Thanks to the work we have done as a team this year, I can gladly say that I have developed a more **persuasive and convenient attitude for public relations.** All in all, the atmosphere which is created by FIRST is worth all the effort in this long run. In regards to all of the efforts and every little memorable moment, I am very pleased that I have taken part in a FIRST event this year, whereas looking forward to be continued.

Ceren ÖZKARATAY

From my perspective, FIRST is the foundation with different crazes (FLL, FTC or FRC) that gathers different personalities -from youngest ones to teenagers- into a team by giving the opportunity to learn the competition, **work for the best, create the unexpected and win the unpredictable.** Without a shadow of a doubt, **it is the assurance of entertainment throughout a journey consisting of challenges and inconveniences but also experiences and an energetic ambience.** FIRST offers several tournaments in which we can gain the acquirements of **taking ownership or responsibility, corporation, respect, passion** and so on. It essentially combines **STEM+A and core values** that let team members to act as if they are a gear of a clock- it is a must to join all the pieces to see what time it is.

Selen BAYRAM

The name is Erman. I met FIRST when I was 13 via FLL. Back then I did not prefer teamwork, but thanks to FIRST, I have finally acknowledged the fact that with a team, every individual is stronger and and happier than ever. FIRST gave me a very solid reason to develop myself in both personality wise and knowledge wise, so I am very thankful and grateful. FIRST means a team full of dedication, lots of friends and general development to me. FIRST's actions are predictable and full of surprises. FIRST never ceases to amaze me and I really like that side. FIRST means a place full of opportunities, a place of healthy competition, fair play and lots of remarkable memories.

Erman ARSLAN

I'm Yiğit Pekçetin and I'm a 9th grade student at İzmir Bahçeşehir Science and Technology High School. Last year, I met FIRST. I joined our school's FLL team. After a tiring season we attended World Championship, Houston. In the championship, when I watched FRC match, I was mesmerized. Becoming a mechanical engineer is my dream, and FRC is an important milestone to achieve my goal. I have been improved myself with the help of FIRST, and I have a long road in front of me with the help of our encouraging mentors.

Yiğit PEKÇETİN

My name is Melis Menku and I'm a 9th grade student in Bahçeşehir Science and Technology High School. I've been a member of FIRST family since 2015. I participated FLL for two seasons and this year I'm proud of to be a member of FRC Team 6429. During the last three years I got the experience of public relations and communication also had the fun. FIRST gave me the opportunity to strengthen my effective communication skills with people and express myself in the public events like the one in Houston Championship. It was a fantastic organization where several cultures together making their colorful shows with their big robots. It was really the competition of ideas for future technologies and art apart from the robots only. STEAM is the main driver to experience the life today and to dream and imagine the tomorrow. It is now my time to share my experience and to coach our followers by giving robotic and STEAM training. I'm very proud of having this chance by helping my younger sisters and brothers. Thanks to FIRST for being the hope of young generation to challenge their future dreams in the global arena.

Melis MENKÜ

My name is Naz and I'm a 9th grade student in Bahcesehir Science and Technology High School. This is my fifth year in FIRST, but first year in FRC. Four years of working with FIRST taught me how to balance different areas and how to be both graceful and professional at the same time. I had a chance to participate a Championship in Houston last year. It was fascinating to see different people from different countries working in collaboration for the same aim: spread Science and Technology and let everybody to benefit the opportunities you have. Science knows no country, because knowledge belongs to humanity. FIRST is a place that you can learn it by experiencing. FIRST gave me the courage to get beyond the limits and I'm looking forward to learn more.

Zeynep Naz AVCI

When I first came to Bahçeşehir Sci-Tech, I wasn't aware of FIRST. After I filled the form for FLL, I hadn't been thinking that I was going to become a member of a FLL team. However, when they announced the results, I was shocked, and I had no idea what FIRST is. In the process, I met the "Core Values" that FIRST tries to give children. Also, starting from building game pieces to building a sniper; I learnt lots of basic engineering systems that led me to join FRC. With the help of our inspiring mentors, I even comprehended all 3 skills of FIRST and experienced them in my daily routine. When we participated in World Championship, I gazed that FLL is only the first step of my FIRST journey. I had seen that there is much more complicated competition that FIRST organizes as well as FLL. Since the first moment that I saw what our mentors achieve, I wanted to be in the part of their lovely family. FRC community is significantly wide that can be a huge milestone for my life with the help of my old mentors, new teammates.

Tuna ÇİMEN