



# Outreach Plan



# Paly Robotics

FRC 8 | 2023



## Outreach Plan



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# Outreach Plan

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## Introduction

Paly Robotics continuously strives to create and maintain valuable outreach initiatives that bring us closer to our mission of enriching the education of our students and community through STEAM learning experiences. As a robotics team in the Silicon Valley Bay Area, we recognize the importance of STEAM education firsthand, and through our outreach efforts such as robot demonstrations, camps, and workshops, we are on the frontier of teaching the next generation of leaders and intellectuals. We are also combating educational access inequities in our community and beyond through offering educational opportunities for all students.

Our team has placed a focus on outreach since our inception. From creating an email system for our high school in the 1990s to constructing a communication device for a quadriplegic man in 2008 and establishing free LEGO robotics workshops for underrepresented students in 2016, we have expanded our outreach opportunities over the years to serve more communities and increase our team's impact.

We strive to preserve and expand our current programs in our community and beyond in the coming years. This outreach plan serves as a roadmap of the team's future outreach to allow us to create a positive community impact for years to come. All outreach plans and programs in this plan will be continued into the future after the date of their creation unless otherwise indicated.



# 2022-2023

For the 2022-2023 season, Paly Robotics is planning to maintain connections with the FIRST community by creating at least 2 FLL teams and hosting an FLL kickoff event. We also plan to organize a Lego Mindstorms kit drive to collect Mindstorms kits from the community and donate them to schools in a local underserved community.

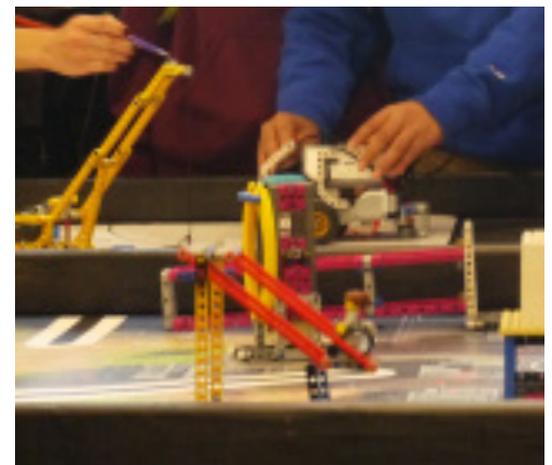
Paly Robotics will also further outreach by introducing local families to FIRST through the FIRST Showcase, helping students of all ages join FIRST programs. We also aim to continue demonstrating our robot at the company sites of our sponsors, and expanding these programs by demoing to members of the

# 2023-2024

Within the 2023-2024 season, Paly Robotics plans to host FLL championships to continue fostering connections with FLL teams and the FIRST community. Additionally, we anticipate starting both an FTC and FRC team to promote STEAM in the community and provide guidance to create sustainable programs.

We intend to implement FLL and FTC programs within the Palo Alto Unified School District to introduce students to STEAM materials and projects as well as providing hands-on learning opportunities. These subjects would be incorporated into school courses in addition to instituting after school programs. We would work with the Boys & Girls Club of the Peninsula to establish similar after-school programs at their locations to continue our community involvement and present FIRST & STEAM to students and their families.

Paly Robotics aims to demo our robots to state government representatives, including our governor and national congress representatives to strengthen connections between local communities and state governments to encourage FIRST engagement and awareness.



# 2024-2025

Paly Robotics seeks to expand our connections with the FIRST community in the 2024-2025 season by further embracing roles as mentors to other teams. We aim to start 2 FTC teams, allowing us to provide the valuable learning experiences that our team has offered to a wide range of students. Moreover, we aim to support other FIRST teams by hosting an FLL championship tournament as well as FRC off season competitions, inviting teams into our space to compete and prepare for the coming season.

Our team also aims to further develop our relations with STEAM learners abroad, helping us expand our impact beyond our local community and create new opportunities for students in other countries to become involved with FIRST. As FIRST grows in the coming years, we envision our team's impact growing along with it, allowing us to continue providing unique educational opportunities in new and exciting ways.

# 2025-2026

For the 2025-2026 season, Paly Robotics aims to increase our impact on the FIRST community by expanding our FLL and FTC initiatives to international communities. Continuing our partnership with the all-girls Townley Grammar School in England, Team 8 plans to establish FTC and FRC teams at the school, further spreading the mission of FIRST and our core values of diversity and inclusion to the global community.

We intend to increase our team's reach by hosting a food, toy, or book drive, supporting local underserved communities and those in need. Expanding upon our current storybook initiative, Paly Robotics hopes to publish a storybook, increasing our Art team's presence on the team and working to inspire K-5 students to pursue STEAM learning throughout their life.

Team 8 aims to host a robotics workshop convention, similar to the ones hosted by the Tesseract Initiative, WRRF, and FIRST Championships. Workshops pass down knowledge to younger members and rookie teams, ensuring the sustainability of the robotics community promote cooperation. Similarly, we aim to provide guest panels.



# Continuous Outreach Efforts

Paly Robotics emphasizes the importance of outreach through our continued outreach efforts that impact a large community of STEAM learners through both virtual and in-person opportunities.

The Paly Robotics Summer Camp provides middle schoolers with hands-on opportunities to explore different facets of STEAM. Our camp consists of four week-long sessions in the subjects of Robot Design & Hardware, Programming, Entrepreneurship & Web Design, and 3D Animation & Graphic Design, allowing students to participate in various aspects of robotics. Since its creation in 2015, the camp has served over 800 students.

Another yearly summer initiative is our LEGO Robotics Summer Program, a week-long free camp for historically underrepresented youth in a neighboring community. In its 6 years of activity, the program has served 100+ students by introducing them to the principles of robotics through LEGO Mindstorms, both online and in person.

Our team also emphasizes promoting FIRST within the broader community. We annually host robot demonstrations for organizations including Dreamcatchers for underrepresented students and local elementary and middle schools, as well as for our local May Fête Parade and school science fairs.

Team 8 also emphasizes creating strong connections with other FIRST teams. Our team hosts an annual inter-team potluck for 600+ Bay Area team members, and we open our full-sized practice field annually for scrimmage matches, which 25+ teams have previously attended.

Paly Robotics continues to host workshops to spread our STEAM experience and knowledge with the FIRST community and beyond. We have taught 5 Western Region Robotics Forum workshops and led 3 conferences on business and leadership at the FRC Houston Championships. We were also panelists on an international webinar giving guidance on awards submissions. In 2018, team members joined Tesseract, a Bay Area initiative to bring FRC workshops to the community. Additionally, in 2020, our team assisted FRC Team #840 with their scouting system, providing guidance on how to create successful and efficient software. Team 8 aims to continue these workshop initiatives as well as expand upon them with new conferences in the future.

# Outreach Statistics

Paly Robotics Annual Summer Camp

190 campers served per year

960+ campers served since creation

2000+ campers anticipated in the next 5 years

LEGO Robotics Summer Program

80+ campers served over 4 years

