

Desert WAVE



Sponsorship packet 2025

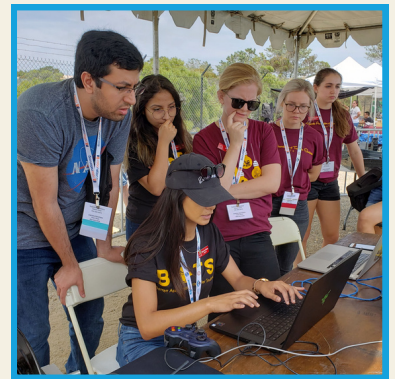
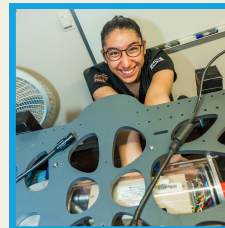
Desert WAVE
Women in Autonomous Vehicle Engineering



MEET THE TEAM

Mission

Our mission is to empower female engineering students through hands-on experience in designing, building, and programming autonomous underwater vehicles (AUVs), while inspiring the next generation through community outreach, mentorship, and support. We prepare our members with the interpersonal, professional, and real-world technical skills necessary to excel in their studies and careers. We hope to serve as an inspiration for the community and as role models for the next WAVE of engineers.



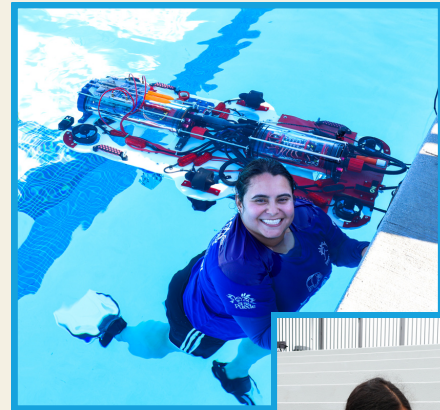
History

After retiring from 30 years in public education, Faridodin “Fred” Lajvardi sought a new way to stay connected to his lifelong passion: teaching. Joining the Firewheel STEM institute in Chandler, Arizona, he found it, by inspiring a new generation of innovators. Fredi envisioned forming an all-women AUV team. Through this foundation, he partnered with Dr. Dan Frank, a newly appointed lecturer at ASU’s Polytechnic campus, who eagerly agreed to help bring the idea to life. Together, they created Desert WAVE (Women in Autonomous Vehicle Engineering) an all-female collegiate robotics team that competes in the highly competitive International RoboSub Competition, one of the most challenging AUV contests globally.

COMPETITION

RoboSub

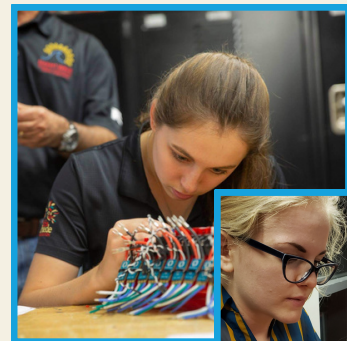
RoboSub is an annual international competition hosted by RoboNation. This competition challenges student teams from around the world to design and build AUVs that can navigate and complete a series of complex tasks all without human intervention. These tasks simulate real world challenges faced in underwater exploration such as identifying objects, navigating around obstacles, manipulating tools, and locating acoustic signals, all while relying on onboard sensors, vision systems, and software. RoboSub not only pushes the boundaries of engineering, programming, and innovation but also provides students with hands-on experience in teamwork, problem-solving, and communication.



Our plan of attack

This year, Desert WAVE is planning to build two brand-new robots, each designed with specialized missions in mind. By combining their strengths, one robot will handle the minimum tasks required to secure valuable time-bonus points, while the other will focus on the more complex, time-consuming challenges of the mission. Together, their combined performance will set us apart on the world stage.

To make this possible, we are upgrading critical components across both robots to maximize reliability and ensure consistent performance. With this dual-robot strategy and enhanced hardware, we are positioning ourselves not just to compete, but to win.



Fall semester:
Design and build

Spring semester:
Test and improve

Summer:
Test and prepare

WHY SPONSOR?

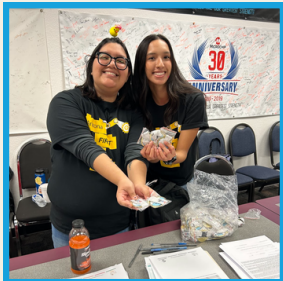
INNOVATION IN ACTION

By supporting Desert WAVE, sponsors are not only fueling competitive success, but also helping us expand access to engineering education and positively impact the community.

Trailblazing Team: As one of only few all-women's AUV teams in the world, Desert WAVE turns heads everywhere we go. Our story has been featured on TV, radio, and in magazines not just because we build world-class robots, but because we're rewriting the narrative in a field where women are underrepresented. Every article, every interview, every spotlight we earn also shines on the sponsors who help make it possible.



Community Impact: For us, the robots are only half the mission, the other half are people. Each year we reach hundreds of students, mentoring and inspiring young women and underrepresented groups to see engineering as a place for them. When you sponsor Desert WAVE, you invest in diversity, innovation, and the next WAVE of engineers.



Proven Success



RoboSub 2019

- Third place internationally, First place in the U.S.

RoboSub 2023

- Fourth place internationally, First place in the U.S.



RoboSub 2024

- First place internationally, First place in the U.S.



RoboSub 2025

- Second place internationally, First place in the U.S.



HOW TO SUPPORT

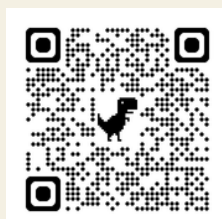
Our Needs

- Provide in-kind materials (e.g., metal, wood, 3D printing filament, polycarbonate, etc.)
- Offer discounts on goods or services relevant to the team
- Provide technical or non-technical mentorship
- Offer printing services for brochures, shirts, flyers, and more
- Contribute robot-related services such as manufacturing and machining
- Donate electronics such as computers or 3D printers
- Supply food for the team during competitions or meetings
- Donate tools or machines used for manufacturing
- Promote the team on social media
- Provide space for events such as robot reveals or demonstrations
- Offer internship and shadowing opportunities for current and graduating students

Sponsor Benefits

Sponsor categories	Ripple 1000+	Splash 5000+	Wave 7500+	Tsunami 10000+
Social Media Shoutout				
Logo on the team shirt				
Logo on the team website				
Logo on the robot banner				
Logo on robot				
Article/social media post about product				

Donation link & QR code:



<https://tinyurl.com/ytdmaykr>

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