## **PRESS RELEASE**

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## Si Se Puede Foundation's Degrees of Freedom Robotics Team Wins Top Honors at *FIRST* Robotics Competition World Championship!

**Dateline:** April 21, 2024 - Degrees of Freedom (DoF) is a robotics team based out of the Si Se Puede Foundation STEM Center in Chandler, AZ. This community team is composed of high school students from 10 different local schools in the Chandler area. Last week, they competed in the FIRST Robotics World Championship. Along with their robot named "Arnold," they competed with 600 other teams from 14 other countries around the world, including teams from as far away as China and India. The championship is divided into 8 divisions, each named after famous scientists or engineers. In the Milstein Division, DoF earned the top award, the Engineering Inspiration Award, given to the team that best advances "respect and appreciation for engineering within a team's school or organization, and community." Winning this award earns the team an invitation to the 2025 FIRST World Championship next April and a sponsorship by NASA to pay for the registration fee. Here are the rest of the Milstein Division Results. One student also earned the Dean's List Winner award, an individual student awards that recognizes the student that best helps increase "awareness for FIRST and its mission. These students have also achieved personal technical expertise and accomplishment." It is similar to an MVP Award. Of the ~42,000 eligible students, only 10 students are selected. This is only the 4th time a student from AZ has earned this award in the FIRST Robotics Competition since the origin of the award in 2010.

## Background:

- Degrees of Freedom is a FIRST team organized by the nonprofit Si Se Puede Foundation.
- In addition to support from the Si Se Puede Foundation, the team is sponsored by **General** Motors, Raytheon, the American Industrial Hygiene Association, Intel, Microchip, Honeywell, the Arizona Diamondbacks, ChemResearch Corp.
- SSPF STEM Center is located at 3225 N. Washington St. Chandler, AZ, 85225.
- DOF social media links: Facebook, Instagram, YouTube
- The competitions are organized and run by *FIRST*, For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology <u>FIRST</u>





