



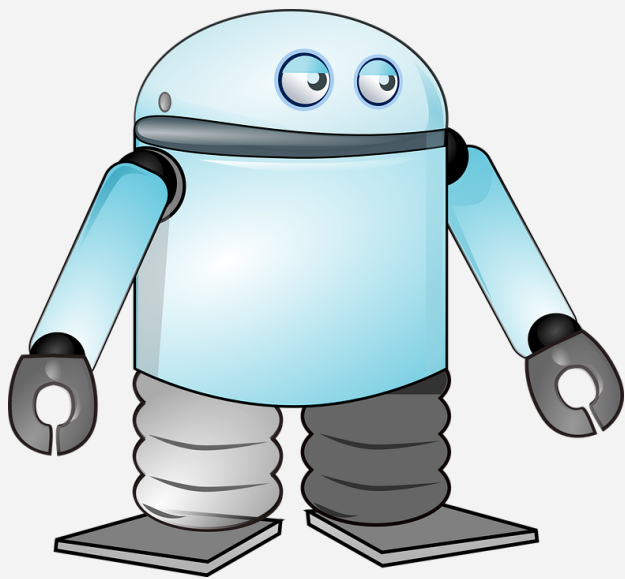
# MDQronicles!

Editor-in-Chief: Hayaa Beig/Farha Ferdous

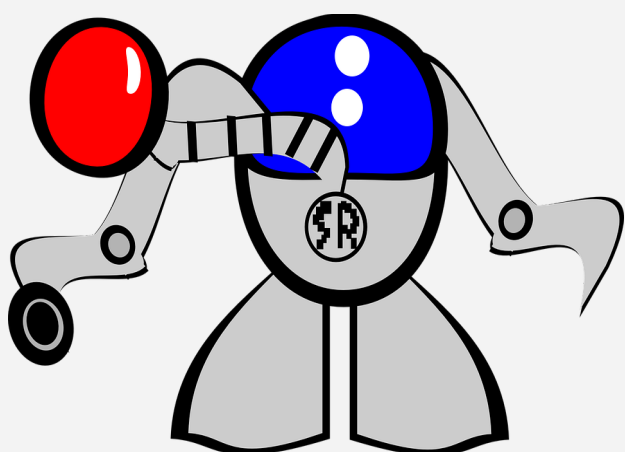
2/16/2017

## ***Tech Challenge: A Builder's Reaction***

**By: Haisam Amin/Grade 10**



As a builder for the first MDQ Academy First Tech Challenge (FTC) Robotics team, I enjoyed my experience. The team consisted of seven students and two coaches. Since this was our first year going into this tournament, we all began the journey not knowing much, but as time went on we learned more about how robots work and the mechanics they use to execute a task. In the beginning we spent a bulk of our meeting time discussing ideas for how the robot should do the tasks for the competition. We would bounce ideas off of one another until we all agreed on one final result. At this point the builders and programmers began. As we continued building we realized why certain ideas would not work and were forced to change them until our robot was finally finished and we were ready for the competition. Over the few months of working on the robot we all learned a lot about the capabilities of robots and how, with the right programming, a robot can do almost anything that we can.



## ***Academy Is Officially Accredited Institution by AdvancEd***

**By: Farha Ferdous/Grade 7**

After being recognized by NY State BEDS for years, our school has received additional accreditation by a non-profit regional accrediting body, AdvancED. Alhamdulillah, this month, MDQ is celebrating this achievement and thanking all parents, staff, and of course the hard-working students who create a motivation for our efforts.

The Accreditation is based on the following qualities and standards:

- ❖ stable governance, management, and leadership;
- ❖ a coherent course of study;
- ❖ a reliable system by which to assess students' progress;
- ❖ instructors who have a clear understanding of what they aim to teach, how, and why; and
- ❖ access to the resources they need.

Jazakum Allah Khairan for your continued support of this Islamic Institution!

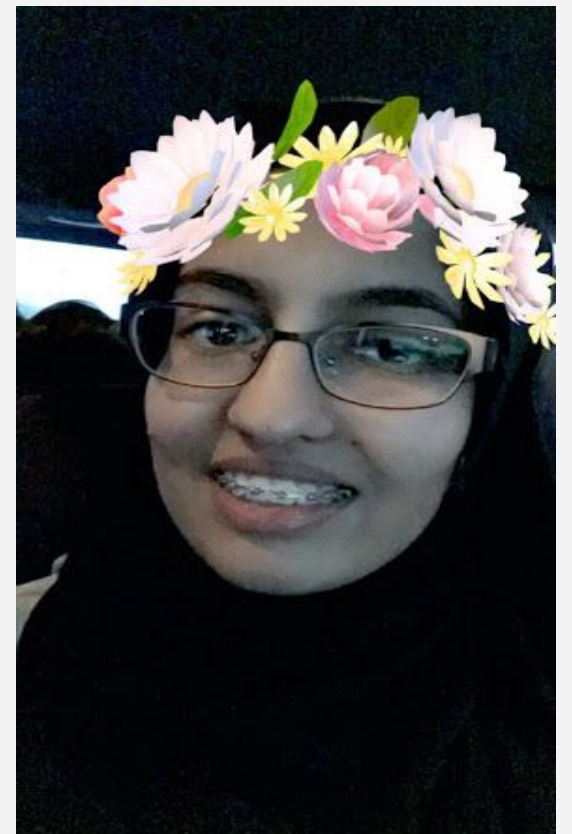


**By: Sara Khan/Grade 10**

Maintaining relationships with people of different religions, cultures, and races is important and is our duty as a Muslim individual. On February 1, 2017 the students of MDQ Academy participated at the Interfaith Ambassador Program at the Central Islip High School. There were three presentations: Our own group at MDQ being the first; a presentation on the awareness of treating people with disabilities by Lisa Zimmerman; and the third being a

## ***Meet The Seniors: Manaa Ahmad***

**By: Naseeha Ahmad/ Grade 10**



1. How have you changed since your freshman year?

Well, I started freshman year when I was living in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. I had just come out of middle school, and I didn't expect high school to be much more challenging on a different level. As soon as you enter 9th grade, everything counts towards college. There was definitely a lot of pressure, and I realized that I had to work harder and more efficiently. So, I learned that if you put in the time and effort, you got it!

2. If you could start high school over, what activity would you participate in this time that you didn't before?

Well, I recently applied for a volunteering program at a hospital. I wish that I applied to this earlier to get more experience, but Alhumdulillah, I did various things and it all worked out :)

3. Who has taught you the most while you've been in high school and what did you learn from this person?

Well, all of my teachers taught me so much. I have learned a lot from Br. Tayyib, Br. Ruman, Dr. Thomany, Sr. Ebtesam, Br. Rumaiz, Sr. Ayesha, Sr. Zelikha, Sr. Alaa, Sr. Kainat, Br. Adeeb, Sr. Rabia, Sr. Fefe, Sr.

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**By: /Grade 6**

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In this "Solar Oven", there is a lamp being used as the main source of heat for the whole box. A flashlight is placed at the bottom center of the box so that the light from the bottom can go straight up to the lamp and add more heat. The foil paper is placed on all four sides of the box so that the heat can be reflected around it. Therefore the whole "oven" will be heated up. There is also a black paper at the bottom for absorbing heat...( for the purpose of cooking/heating the s'mores )

condensed version of the history of racism by Aaron Johnson.

The MDQ group consisted of our own high school students: Maham Ismail and Sabrena Khan doing Quran recitation and translation; and Juvaria Shahid, Sher Ali Khan, and Maria Sheikh presenting their own speeches on certain matters in Islam. Lisa Zimmerman spoke of the cloud surrounding disabilities and aimed to raise awareness on the injustices they face. Aaron Johnson taught us that racism is a social construct that, to this day, creates division around us.

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**By: Maryam Sadiq/Grade 10**



What does it mean to have courage? Courage is the ability to do something that frightens one. So you can be courageous anytime! You don't have to go to a public rally or movement (but you could) to be courageous. Standing up to bullies or even delivering a speech can be courageous. Standing up to any obstacle is hard but not impossible. Making a positive difference in your community is brave and can be done with the help of others.

Mariana, etc. However, I want to point out a very special person in my life, my dad. I consider my dad as my life coach. He has taught me a lot and I continue to learn so many things from him. There are times where I feel weak because of all the stress high school is capable of situating in one's life. So I go to my dad and he understands what I am going through, and he guides me through it. His words motivate me to continue on and be strong. His words trigger something and I just wanna reset.

4. What will be your major in college?

I don't have a final major. When I was applying for college, I put down a bunch of majors of my interest. Like Business Management, Anthropology, and Psychology. Even though I want to become a medical professional Insha' Allah, I want to explore my opportunities in college and find what intrigues me, and also I already know that Pre-Medical courses involve health science studies, so why not put some rainbow sprinkles on the already mint chocolate chip ice cream, instead of chocolate with chocolate? Let's add some flavor.

5. A piece of advice for this year's freshmans...

Hang in there guys. Hakuna Matata. Don't underestimate yourselves, because you're capable and your life is in your hands.



