Blue = proof required/given

* Rise Bio: You could become one of up to 100 Rise Global Winners! 🤞 In 100 words or less, what would you like the world to know about you? Click [here](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oYKFgAqFdio4hBsRw72GuDRpFvoIYyKCmmDtMVbG-ao/edit?urp=gmail_link) to see the Rise bio guidelines.
  + Soumil Goyal is a 16-year-old Singaporean student living in Houston, Texas. He is passionate about robotics, programming, public speaking, physical fitness, and foreign languages. He has participated in various robotics competitions and debate tournaments, and has acquired skills in engineering, web development, and business. He is fluent in English, Hindi, and Mandarin Chinese. He aims to understand complex concepts and apply them in his daily life. He is a hard-working and self-motivated learner who strives to produce the best results and exceed expectations.
  + Soumil Goyal is a 16-year-old Singaporean student who has a passion for learning and exploring new fields. He was born in India and now lives in the USA, where he attends Lamar High School. He is proficient in robotics, programming, public speaking, physical fitness, and foreign languages. He has participated in various robotics competitions and debate tournaments, and has acquired skills in engineering, web development, and business that showcase his talent and creativity. He is fluent in English, Hindi, and Mandarin Chinese. He is a curious and diligent learner who can grasp complex concepts and apply them in his daily life. He is a high-achiever who always strives to produce quality results and exceed expectations.
  + Soumil Goyal is an Indian-born, Singapore citizen, living in the US. He is extremely capable in robotics, programming, public speaking, physical fitness, and accomplishing his ambitions. Combining these passions, he is proud of his accomplishments such as being guest speakers for the Vex Robotics World Championship and the Consulate General of India, being a 4-time qualifier to the National Debate Championships, being a 3-time qualifier to the Vex Robotics World Championships, as well as being the second highest ranked speaker in his state of Texas. Even more than these, or any other of his accolades, he is most proud of continuously following his vision of persistent improvement. Through the philosophy of continuously improving himself and his surroundings, Soumil works non-stop to ensure that he enhances any aspect of both himself, and others around him.
  + Soumil Goyal is an Indian-born Singaporean living in the US. He excels in engineering, programming, public-speaking, physical-fitness, and community outreach. Combining these passions, he is a guest speaker for the Vex Robotics World Championship and the Consulate General of India, a 4-time National Debate Championships qualifier, a 4-time Vex Robotics World Championships qualifier, and the second-ranked competitive speaker in Texas. More than his accolades, he is proud of his vision of persistent improvement. Through the philosophy of continuously improving himself and his surroundings, Soumil works non-stop to ensure that he enhances any aspect of himself, others, and his surroundings.
* Summary: We loved seeing your Rise Challenge project during the application! Please write a short summary (up to 100 words) of your project’s aims and objectives.
  + Society’s technologies for disaster response are appallingly underdeveloped, being too early, too late, inflexible, and unable to actively help the victims of disaster. This is the main target of the Robust Adaptive Network. Akin to a superorganism, it’s a collection of robots interconnected into a rescue-network that tackle land-roaming (rovers) and air-travel (drones). Each of these small robots spreads in a coordinated swarm through disaster areas (wars, outages, natural disasters, etc.) to deliver payloads, provide communications, and collect firsthand data. Additionally, RAN also serves as an educational bed for students to learn key STEM skills through RAN’s prototyping and development.
* What was the impact of your project? Discuss the impact of your project.

RAN is a disaster response robotic network, yet to be deployed in any unfortunate circumstance, but despite this, RAN has also impacted broad ranges of education, technological development, advocacy and community awareness.

In terms of education, RAN has provided itself as an open-door opportunity for anyone to learn integral STEM skills through RAN’s own development. This means that while RAN is being developed, others are free to participate/replicate its design process while developing their own knowledge by learning from the ground-up implementation of this robotic system. Many local students have taken this opportunity to learn various skills like 3D Printing, CNC Laser Cutting, or CAD design through RAN.

Through its prototyping and development, RAN has impacted the state of natural disaster technological development. This is because society’s current technologies for disaster response are in forewarning systems, and post-disaster scenarios. These current disaster technologies are always too early, too late, not flexible, and not able to actively help the victims of disaster. On the other hand, the Robust Adaptive Network focuses on the crucial time in the middle of disaster, where the victims are most in danger. Through this novel idea and its implementations in CAD, RAN is a significant step in reducing natural disaster casualties. Additionally, the prototyping of the physical subsystems in RAN contribute to a vital growth in reducing the casualties of disaster response.

Additionally, RAN has made significant impacts in the sectors of advocacy and community awareness around natural disasters. One example of this is RAN’s partnership with the local government. RAN has partnered with the Mayor of Houston to propel the goal of advancing natural disaster response technologies. Through this RAN-Houston partnership, the Houston government has agreed to lend significant prototyping and mentorship opportunities to RAN’s aforementioned educational goals, as well as developing better natural disaster response solutions. Along with this governmental advocacy, RAN is also a notable player in its community, continuously striving for positive change. One example of this is RAN’s wide community involvement. RAN is also partnering with organisations like the Taco Bell Foundation, the Ashoka Foundation, HISD, ION Houston, DiscoBots and the Houston Community College. This growing network of community involvement impacts the community by bringing awareness to the key issue of disaster response, aids in RAN’s educational, technological, and advocacy goals, as well as supporting the future developments of RAN.

* Achievements: Please list your achievements.

I have been dedicated to improving myself over many areas, including engineering, programming, physical-fitness, public-speaking, arts, and community projects.

In the area of engineering, I have spent a lot of time practising and experimenting with various skills to increase my boundaries of invention. One of these skills include Computer Aided Design (CAD) in which I am proficient in various industry-level software such as AutoCAD, Onshape, or Fusion360 (of which I am a certified user in). Additionally, I have refined my skills of Engineering Design Principles such as being adaptable to additive manufacturing, subtractive manufacturing, or any other mechanical engineering. Along with these adventures, I am also certified with the OSHA General Industry Safety Certification to ensure safety within any workplace or design. From these skills, I have qualified to the Vex Robotics World Championships 4 times, thrice as a team captain, qualified in both my years to the FIRST Robotics State Championships, and have been recognized in numerous design challenges such as the US National Veterans' Memorial Museum’s design challenge, or the National Wildlife federation’s Climate Resilience Design Challenge. Additionally, I have been called as a guest speaker for the Vex Robotics World Championship.

In the area of programming, I have mainly focused on being flexible and future-proof. Being self-taught, I mainly focus on projects that improve upon my broad range of programming applications. These include designing and implementing several commercial and educational websites, publishing within multiple repositories of open source software, and programming through various competitions for success. These competitions included the aforementioned successes in the 4-time qualification to the Vex Robotics World Championship and the twice-qualification to the FIRST Robotics State Championship.

While improving myself mentally, I have not missed to direct focus to one of the most important priorities of anyone’s life: their health. My body is my interface between myself and the world, it is my only vessel of experience, so I make it a serious matter to develop it as best as possible, and take great care of it. This includes eating well, and committing to rigorous exercise. I also take part in swimming, soccer, tennis and Taekwondo. Through my sports, I have qualified to state-level swimming competitions, and won local leagues of soccer. Additionally, I have earned a position as a Black Belt of Taekwondo, along with winning the World Taekwondo Open Poomsae Challenge of my division. This maintenance of my physical fitness scores me in the Gold and Silver range of the Individual Physical Proficiency Test.

I have practised public-speaking for a long time, honing my skills as a communicator. I am able to easily give elaborate oratories, or impromptu speeches in front of a wide variety of audiences. With this invaluable skill, I have been recognized through various organisations. In the US National Speech and Debates Association, I have qualified 4 times to the National Championships, along with being ranked as the second-best speaker in the state of Texas. I have also been called as a guest speaker to the Vex Robotics World Championships, speaking in front of many tens of thousands of people. Additionally, I have also been recognized for delivering speeches in Hindi and Mandarin Chinese as well. For example, I have competed in numerous Chinese speech competitions, winning up to first place. I have also given speeches, in Hindi, at the general consulate of India.

Along with these areas, I push to be a well-rounded person, also acquiring elite skills in performing and visual arts. I have participated extensively in theatre, winning a “Superior” rating through the Texas Thespians Festival, qualifying to the International Thespians Competition, and participating in multiple mainstage productions. I also enjoy visual arts such as drawing, winning first place in the CCZJV Arts Contest.

Additionally, I also spend a significant portion of my time to aid in community projects. This includes my Rise Project (elaborated in the rise project sections), as well as other initiatives I have developed. One example of these projects is called “Pedal Power” where I partner with Lamar High School to implement and distribute off-grid human-powered charging stations. I also engage in other community projects, such as teaching educational STEM camps, or volunteering at community competition events, totalling more than 220 hours of volunteer time.

* **Serving Others: List the ways in which you currently help or have helped others in the past. This could be through volunteer work, organising or participating in social justice initiatives, setting up an organisation or NGO, tutoring, working in your community, supporting your family, and more!**

I have served others and my community through persistent volunteer work and organising/participating in community outreach events.

In terms of individual volunteer work, I have contributed more than 220 volunteer hours to my communities.

One of my most notable contributions includes contributing more than 100 hours to teaching at various local educational events. This is because, as a young student, I deeply relate to the impact a good guide/instructor can have in any subject. This is why, as I am thankful to all my teachers who have helped me, and look to further spread their positive impacts, I have a deep drive to further teach the knowledge and skills I am fortunate to have. In these educational events, I target young age groups (8-14 yrs) in order to show them hobbies, studies, and options they may not have considered before, along with bringing new perspectives and skills into their growing range of experiences.

Another one of my notable contributions to the community includes more than 60 hours of community service towards multiple competition events. As a competitive student, I have been deeply thankful for all the tournaments and competitions I have been able to participate in. Amongst all these events, not one of them ran without volunteers. I recognize that my accolades, skills, and experiences were built upon the gracious selflessness of other volunteers. From this, I have a deep calling to continue their prosperous impacts. In this way, I have likewise contributed my time to volunteer in various competitions to ensure that any other students will have the opportunity of smooth, fair, constructive competitions that provide them with lifelong skills, experiences, and memories, just like the volunteers before contributed to me.

Additionally, I participate in various organisations, like the US National Honours Society, my local AYM (Indian cultural learnings and volunteering organisation), and the DiscoBots outreach team to spread help, resources, and service to many communities. Some of these activities may include distributing meals to underprivileged community elders, showing gratitude to public workers, and hosting free learning camps for minority students.

* **Future Aspirations: Tell us about your aspirations for the future.** 
  + My main goal for my future is to continue on my path of continuous improvement. My main motto and motivation in any scenario is to improve myself, my surroundings and my peers. I do not know any future factors that may completely change my career, social, educational, or financial path, but I do know that from whatever actions I can effect, I will make sure that I spend all the time I can control towards making sure that I can leave myself, or others better than before.
* Which universities would you consider? Please enter the full name of each university, for example enter 'The University of Oxford' not 'Oxford'. List no more than 6 and separate universities with a comma.
  + Carnegie Mellon University, Massachusetts Institute Of Technology, Stanford University, Texas A&M University, University of Texas, Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

VEX robotics awards (The website does not attribute your name or the awards won)

* RECF link
* Vex Speech link

Twice-qualification to the FIRST Robotics State Championship.

* Cap+badge
* Pictures at event
* Build thread link
* TBA link

First place in the CCZJV Arts Contest

* Invite
* Cropped picture
* Calendar picture

Chinese speech competitions, winning up to first place

Further to this, for your volunteer hours I will need proof from the organisations themselves - I cannot verify these based on a list of hours compiled by yourself I'm afraid.