

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA



POWERED BY FLORIDA SUNSHINE

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SOCIAL & CONTACT

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ABOUT US

WE'RE A SOLAR CAR ENGINEERING DESIGN TEAM

We're the new kids on the solar racing track, but don't let our age fool you. In less than a decade, we've quickly made a name for ourselves in the world of solar racing, proving that innovation and determination can overcome any obstacle.

We work tirelessly to achieve our goals. Even when facing the toughest challenges, our members work around the clock to keep things on track.

One of our founding principles is inclusivity. We welcome new members, regardless of background or experience, with the goal of helping them become better engineers and better people.



OUR TRACK RECORD

- Won 1st place at the 2023 Formula Sun Grand Prix after completing 707.5 miles on track.
- Designed and manufactured three solar cars from the ground up
- 100% student run
- Competed in the Formula Sun Grand Prix five times since 2016

TEAM HISTORY

Solar Gators was re-established in 2016, with the goal of competing in our first Formula Sun Grand Prix (FSGP) in 2017. With sparse funding and limited background knowledge, the team set out to defy the odds and build our first solar car.

Manufacturing a solar car from scratch was a grueling process, but with persistence and determination, our team debuted Torch at the 2017 FSGP, becoming the first Florida team to race since 1989.



2018 Team with Cielo



2017 Team with Torch

Defying all odds has become a recurring theme as we continue to break through barriers year after year.

Since 2017, our team has competed in the FSGP nearly every summer. We proudly represent the Sunshine State as we continue to set new records. Each milestone represents the culmination of years of hard work and dedication.



COVID 19 brought progress to a halt with limited in-person meetings and significant supply chain delays. Through this difficult time, the team banded together and worked relentlessly to complete our newest car, Sunrider, which made its debut in the 2022 FSGP. Sunrider set new records for the team, accumulating a total distance of over 700 miles and winning the 2023 FSGP by its second competition.

The knowledge and experience we gained helped to once again revitalize Solar Gators and pave the way for future innovations.



Sunrider on track at FSGP 2023



2023 Team with Sunrider

Since our inception in 2016, our team has poured countless hours into research, design, manufacturing, and testing to ensure that we produce cutting-edge solar cars. Along the way, our members have gained valuable hands-on experience that creates a heavy demand for our alumni in industries across the country.

Throughout our history, our sponsors have been at the center of everything we accomplish. As we continue to grow, we hope that you will join us in our mission to develop state of the art technologies and compete for championships. 5

OUR MISSION

- **Accelerate** the world's transition to sustainable energy
- **Develop** gator engineers through hands-on design and manufacturing experience
- **Inspire** students to explore their interests within STEM and become the next generation of innovators shaping the future
- **Build** awareness within our community about the transformative potential of solar energy



OUR GOALS FOR THE TRACK

- Compete in the American Solar Challenge for the first time in 2024
- Win first place in the Formula Sun Grand Prix and American Solar Challenge



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

We have created individualized projects, experiments, and learning experiences tailored to each event we attend. Our goal is to foster an interest in STEM and sustainability in the next generation of innovators and engineers. Our main local partner is Hands on Gainesville, but we worked with a variety of K-12 schools, museums, and other learning organizations.



Howard Bishop Middle School STEM Night



2023 UF Homecoming Parade

Every year we participate in UF's annual Homecoming parade. Not only do we strive to promote Gator pride, but we also hope to inspire others within our community. We aim to provide a small glimpse into the bright future of electric vehicles and sustainable energy.



SOLAR GATORS EXPERIENCE

We do all of the research, design, manufacturing, and testing of every component of our solar cars in-house. This allows our students to gain invaluable experience and skills that cannot be taught inside the classroom and sets a Solar Gators engineer apart from the crowd. The majority of our most dedicated team members are highly sought after for competitive internships and full-time jobs.

Many of our notable alumni are employed by companies at the forefront of their respective industries including:

- **NextEra Energy**
- **Northrop Grumman**
- **John Deere**
- **Lockheed Martin**
- **Lutron**
- **Tesla**
- **Blue Origin**
- **Delta**

If you are looking to hire, contact us at info@ufsolar-gators.org



Celebrating our victory at FSGP 2023

Although many of our students have graduated from UF, they are still an important part of our team. Alumni provide helpful advice during design reviews, attend races to cheer us on, and even attend meetings to recruit for their esteemed companies.

SPONSORSHIP



Sponsors play an integral role in our success both on and off the track. Donations help fund essential operations of the team, including: acquiring raw materials, research & development, manufacturing, and logistics.

For more information about sponsorship opportunities, please email us at info@ufsolargators.org

HOW TO SUPPORT

1. [Click here](#) for our fundraising page
2. Complete the donation form
3. Please ensure that "Solar Gators" is written in the Comment section of the form

Donations by credit card are assessed an additional 3% tax by the UF Foundation (on top of the 5% gift tax applied to all gifts).

If you have any questions, please contact us at
info@ufsolargators.org



Outreach event with Herbert Wertheim