

## ROBOSUB 2025

Arizona State University & Si Se Puede Foundation  
Desert WAVE

### Community & Outreach Description

Over the past year, Desert WAVE, the all-female underwater robotics team powered by the Si Se Puede Foundation and Arizona State University, has been making headlines and inspiring communities across Arizona and beyond.

Following their strong performance at the 2024 RoboSub competition, the team was featured in a wave of media coverage, including Univision, Telemundo, 12 News, 3TV, and Fox 10. These segments showcased their achievements and brought STEM inspiration to a broad audience, including Spanish-speaking communities. They were also highlighted in an ASU commercial, and the ASU magazine Diversity in Action celebrated their accomplishments. The team even graced the red carpet at Chandler's Contigo Film Festival during a special screening of Spare Parts, proudly displaying their AUVs, Dragon and Baby Dragon.

Desert WAVE's community impact extended far beyond the screen. They led STEM panels including Women in 3D Printing, where they gave a tour of their STEM Center and shared insights on 3D printing and underwater robotics. They presented to ASU's Polytechnic Board and industry partners during the ERG IAB Panel. The team also contributed to the Southwest Robotics Symposium and shared the stage with other teams at the RUMARINO underwater robotics panel.

The team continues to be deeply engaged in FIRST Robotics, volunteering at the Si Se Puede Foundation's FIRST LEGO League Tournament and building field elements. They also formed Arizona's first "Robot in 3 Days" team, creating a competitive robot in just 72 hours to inspire FRC teams statewide.

In support of STEM access and inclusion, Desert WAVE collaborated on multiple assistive technology initiatives. During the annual "Jeep Hack," they modified and donated three ride-on toy Jeeps for children with mobility impairments. For Mother's Day, they hosted a "Mother and Solder" event, where moms learned to solder and adapted five toys for children with disabilities.

The team also earned recognition from the City of Chandler and was honored with the Rosa Parks Diversity Award by the Women in Transportation Society. Their commitment to outreach continued through events like the Bilingual Robotics Expo, where they introduced young children to STEM in both English and Spanish. At another event, they made encouragement cards for teens learning about imposter syndrome.

Their technical achievements were documented in a Waterlinked case study focused on inter-vehicle communication using acoustic modems. Meanwhile, Desert WAVE inspired the next generation of engineers at ASU's Semiconductor Day by showcasing their work to local high school students.

Through hands-on innovation, public engagement, and inclusive STEM outreach, Desert WAVE continues to champion a future where opportunity in robotics and engineering is open to all.