

Jeffrey Ditalia
Kennebunk
LD 1740

My son Liam DItalia (17) is on the Outliers Robotics team part of Baxter Academy for Technology and Science where he's a sophomore in High School. This is his second year with the program and we're very thankful for being part of such a well organized and highly educational program.

Over the past two years, Liam has thrived in this program, gaining invaluable knowledge, technical skills in robotics and programming, and highly meaningful team experiences. The Outliers program has united a community of like-minded students, fostering collaboration and hands on learning which is exactly the kind of environment where young learners like Liam grow and excel. Beyond sparking a newfound passion for technology, the program has given Liam outstanding friendships with peers who share a similar curiosity and drive.

Programs like this are central to why our family relocated to Maine nearly six years ago. We sought opportunities that would nurture our sons' growth through innovative, community focused education and this initiative has delivered on that vision.

However, sustaining this impact relies on critical support. The grant we're applying for will ensure access to our shared practice space, which serves three local teams and empowers dozens of students eager to explore technology. Without it, we risk losing a vital resource that benefits so many young minds.

We're deeply grateful for the opportunities this program has provided and sincerely hope it can continue inspiring future innovators. Thank you for considering our request to help keep this transformative experience alive.