



From First Clicks to *First Competition*

We're excited to share a special story with you this month!

Two years ago, some girls at CREA were learning to use a computer for the first time.

In September, six girls from CREA's Robotics program arrived in the capital, Managua, with robots that they had built and programmed themselves, ready to compete in their first regional World Robot Olympiad.

It Started with *Books*

CREA began with a simple idea: put more books into the hands of children.

What started as a small lending library has grown into a place where children and young people strengthen their reading, writing, and math skills while learning science, technology, art, and more.

Robotics is one of the many programs happening at CREA today.



Where It *Began*

CREA was introduced to Community Bots, an organization that brings hands-on robotics learning to girls and young women around the world. They selected CREA as one of the sites to launch the program in Nicaragua.

The girls progressed from basic computer skills to coding, building, and programming their own robots. Along the way, they learned to test ideas, solve problems, make adjustments, and try again.



Their *Skills in Action*

Next came more challenging projects. For National Robotics Week, the girls designed and programmed robotic airplanes and pirate ships, then presented them to all students and teachers at CREA.

They also visited NicaPhoto, another Nicaraguan organization teaching robotics through Community Bots, to share their projects with other girls.

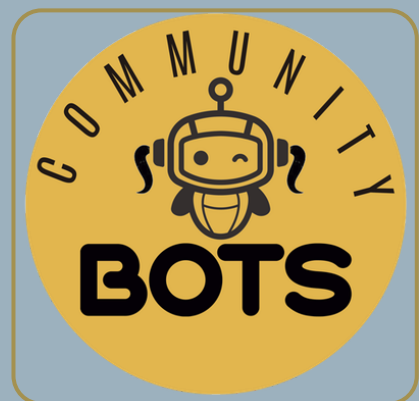
As CREA's robotics program grew to include both beginner and advanced levels, the advanced girls were invited to compete in Managua. They started coming to CREA on extra days to prepare.

Building *Possibilities*

Community Bots believes that girls and young women benefit from early opportunities to explore science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

Through hands-on robotics activities, mentorship, and positive female role models, Community Bots helps girls develop technical skills, discover new interests, and see themselves in STEM fields.

CREA is proud to work with Community Bots to bring these opportunities to girls in rural Nicaragua.



Ready for *Competition*

Two CREA teams competed in the junior division of the World Robot Olympiad on September 26th.

Their first competition brought plenty of unexpected challenges. Despite the unfamiliar and sometimes chaotic environment, the girls remained composed and highly focused as they worked through obstacles.

The top four teams earned prizes, and the top three advanced to the national competition. Although the CREA teams didn't place, the girls came away positive about their experience and eager to return next year. They were already discussing how to improve their robots for the next competition.



Two years ago, a handful of CREA girls were learning how to use computers. Today, they're building and programming robots!

This progress is possible because these girls keep showing up, their teachers learn alongside them, and supporters like YOU make these opportunities possible. THANK YOU.

Just imagine what these young women will accomplish in the next two years at CREA.

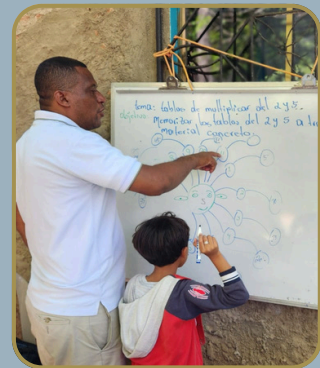
In Other *News*



Fables Come to *Life*

Children are reading animal fables, exploring the lessons behind them, and writing stories inspired by Nicaraguan proverbs.

In Mommy & Me, mothers and children read fables together, talk about their morals, and explore how those values relate to everyday family life.



Math in *Action*

At CREA, math is about more than memorizing answers.

Students use hands-on activities, drawings, and everyday objects to understand numbers, recognize patterns, and understand how math works.