

The Texas Alliance for Minorities in Engineering (TAME)

offers free STEM Competitions, Clubs, Scholarships, & Mentoring to K-12 & college students across Texas. Launching STEM careers since 1976. TAME.org

7TH GRADE

Ana returns to the TAME Club & attends another local STEM Competition. **She makes friends, builds confidence, and asks more questions in science class.**

9TH GRADE

Now a freshman, Ana approaches a teacher and asks for help starting a TAME Club at the High School. She recruits seven friends and a few join her at the Divisional STEM Competition. She's embarrassed after she makes a big mistake in the team Engineering Design Challenge and wonders if she really belongs. An 11th grader who's president of her chemistry club tells her she has felt that way, too, then teaches her the trick of treating mistakes like science experiments. **Reassured, Ana vows to come back again next year, speak up more, and try harder.**

11TH GRADE

Returning to her TAME Club full of excitement from the State Competition, Ana shares her experience and recruits even more students to join her at Divisionals. She advances to State with Tara, the shyest girl in the TAME Club, and befriends her on the bus ride by helping her with Calculus homework. At State, Ana is stunned to win a creativity award, presented to her by a Latina engineer from a famous STEM employer. They talk at the end of the ceremony and she's inspired by the woman's achievements. **Years later, Ana will tell this story in her first job interview.**

6TH GRADE

Ana registers with a TAME Club & attends a Divisional STEM Competition at a nearby high school. **She meets young people who also like math and science**, and is impressed by the older students who are taking Algebra early in the 8th grade.

8TH GRADE

Ana has now received three years of regular STEM support and free annual STEM Competitions. Though it took bravery to sign up for Algebra in the 8th grade, she discovers that she loves solving complex word problems. **Ana begins to see herself as a "math person," and considers a STEM Endorsement in High School.** The Divisional STEM Competition moves to a new science building at a local college and she hopes she'll someday be as cool as the older students she sees on campus.

10TH GRADE

After five years competing in Engineering Design Challenges at competitions, building her confidence and learning from older teammates, Ana helps her team win first place and advances to the State STEM Competition. It's the first time she's left her hometown, the first time she's seen bluebonnets, and she makes lifelong friends during the all-expenses paid trip across Texas. A senior on her team plans to major in engineering at a prestigious university, and when he asks her advice during the Design Challenge, **Ana realizes she could be an engineer, too.**

12TH GRADE

Ana has now received seven years of regular support and free annual STEM Competitions. **Every week her TAME friends help her feel that she belongs in STEM**, and she inspires younger students to follow her lead—like the once-shy Tara, who steps up to become Club President after Ana graduates. The TAME Club Sponsor writes a glowing letter of recommendation and Ana wins a TAME Scholarship. **Nervous and excited, she majors in mechanical engineering.**

COST OF 7 YEARS OF SUPPORT: \$0

SEE HOW TAME SUPPORTS ANA IN COLLEGE & BEYOND

ANA'S STORY, CONTINUED

FRESHMAN YEAR OF COLLEGE

Ana participates in TAME's Mentor Program and is paired with a volunteer STEM professional who was also a first-generation college student. Ana's mentor coaches her through the early months of adjusting to college life.

When she fails her first test and worries what it means about her chances of success, her mentor offers the critical support she needs to keep trying. She volunteers at the local Divisional STEM Competition.

JUNIOR YEAR OF COLLEGE

Ana volunteers to coordinate the Engineering Design Challenge at the local Divisional STEM Competition, where the enthusiastic young students remind her why she fell in love with STEM. **A fellow volunteer gives her advice about engineering internships, and she returns to her classes with new energy.**

GRADUATION

Ana draws on 11 years of practice and collaboration in a diverse STEM support network, and aces her job interviews. **She fulfills her dream to become an engineer with plans to volunteer, give back, and inspire more young people to see themselves in a STEM career.**

SOPHOMORE YEAR OF COLLEGE

Ana receives a TAME Evergreen Scholarship. **She visits her old Middle School TAME Club to talk about college and her enthusiasm inspires students to take another look at STEM.** Because of Ana, a few 7th graders in the club decide to take Algebra in 8th grade and all the students take another look at a STEM Endorsement.

SENIOR YEAR OF COLLEGE

Ana lands an internship at the STEM company that employed the Latina engineer she met at the award ceremony in 11th grade. She learns more about what it takes to be an engineer. When she completes her degree in mechanical engineering, she sends graduation invitations to her High School TAME Club Sponsor and the TAME mentor from her freshman year who encouraged her to keep trying.

COST OF 11+ YEARS OF SUPPORT: \$0

See how you can get involved at [TAME.org](https://tame.org).

FIFTEEN YEARS LATER

Ana's oldest daughter enters sixth grade. Ana approaches the girl's math teacher about Co-Sponsoring a TAME Club for her daughter and seven of her friends. They meet monthly to play math games, try experiments, and practice the fun engineering challenges that Ana plans for them. **After the excitement of her first Divisional STEM Competition, Ana's daughter begins to wonder if she might be a "math person," too.** Bursting with pride, Ana signs up with TAME to become a mentor and serve on the TAME Board.

She's invited to present at the State STEM Competition, where she speaks passionately about bravery and belonging, and making a difference as an engineer. A room full of 300 teenagers give her a standing ovation, and at the end of the ceremony a group of students line up to ask questions. **She makes the time to connect with every last student.**