

Women in Games

Eve Beauregard and Medic

Author: Brooke Geller



Medic is an international group of 95 people united by their passion for games and desire to make a difference in the world. Founded by cosplayer and super geek extraordinaire Eve Beauregard, they campaign for individual charities in their own uniquely geeky way. I spoke to Eve in the Diversity lounge at PAX to hear more about her

story and Medic's currently featured charity, Special Effect.

"I made Medic because I wanted to make the geeky community more socially conscious, and it felt like there wasn't a really strong presence for that," she said. "I knew all these people who wanted to do this kind of work, but they didn't know how. It just wasn't organized and

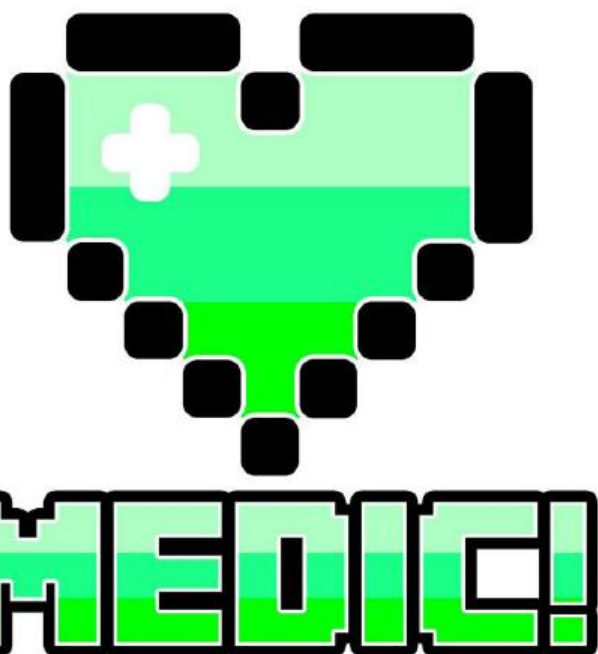
"IT WASN'T HAPPENING, SO I THOUGHT WHY NOT JUST MAKE IT HAPPEN?"





Far Left: Special Effect doing what they do best.

Left: Eve meets with the Special Effect team.



it wasn't happening, so I thought why not just make it happen?"

Despite being so passionate about games, many gamers tend to take for granted the fact that not everyone is physically capable of using a controller. That's exactly why Medic are fundraising for Special Effect, a charity that adapts consoles and controllers for disabled gamers, as well as assists developers with free consultants to make their game more accessible.

"They're amazing people," says Eve. "As an able-bodied person, you get to just step up and start playing a video game and escape in to that world, but for disabled people it's so much harder. Video games take on that role of escapism and freedom of the digital world, so to be able to access that, it's invaluable."

Most of the members of Medic are women, which Eve explains was an organic process.

"It started out as a women's group focusing on women's charities,

and then we realised there was so much interest from the community to broaden it and now we're open to everybody. Medic is around 90% female. It's just happened that way, just passionate socially-conscious women that want to get involved in charity work and dedicate their time and work. It's amazing."

As someone with a strong social media following and heavy involvement in the game community, Eve believes that she's in the perfect environment to initiate real social change.

"It's the best community to make change. Lots of problem solvers and critical thinkers."

Medic is an impressive example of not only the unlimited potential of video games, but of the social consciousness of gamers- and Eve is a testament to that.

"As you grow as a person, you realise that the hobbies you're involved in can be so much more."

Left: Eve prepping for PAX Aus.