



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Girls in STEM unite! Tech Savvy Conference is February 27 at Trinity College
Dynamic math and science program
welcomes 6th-to-9th grade girls, their parents and teachers

[Hartford, Conn., December 2015]—On Saturday, February 27, 2016, the American Association of University Women’s Connecticut Chapter (AAUW CT) will host its third annual Tech Savvy Conference from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Trinity College, 300 Summit St., Hartford, Conn. 06106.

The daylong event is designed to show girls firsthand how science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields can lead to exciting careers. As part of AAUW’s National Tech Savvy Pilot Program, the conference will welcome more than 200 sixth- to ninth-grade girls and their parents and teachers.

Registration for Tech Savvy will open in January at aauw-ct.aauw.net. Those interested in becoming presenters for the conference may contact Dr. Catherine Arico, Assistant Professor of Civil and Biomedical Engineering, University of Hartford, at arico@hartford.edu.

Although women fill close to half of all jobs in the U.S. economy, they hold fewer than [25 percent of STEM jobs](#). AAUW CT is one of 17 nationwide Tech Savvy sites working to improve those numbers. The local program is funded in part by AAUW, AAUW CT, NASA CT Space Grant and the generosity of individual local donors.

Last year’s Tech Savvy conference drew comments from girls such as "I hope Tech Savvy can continue for many years because it's a great experience to persuade us to get involved in STEM" and "I love how you kept encouraging us that we can be anything we want to be!" Eighty-six percent of participants strongly agreed with the statement “Women can have successful careers in STEM fields, and 70 percent said they plan to take advanced science and math classes in high school.

Tech Savvy and similar programs are one way to increase the number of women in the STEM pipeline. Other recommendations, including suggestions for employers, appear in AAUW's 2015 research report, [*Solving the Equation: The Variables for Women's Success in Engineering and Computing*](#).

Created in 2006 by Tamara Brown, then-president of the AAUW Buffalo (NY) Branch, Tech Savvy has since served more than 3,500 girls. As a result of her work, Brown was honored as a White House [Champion of Change](#).

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The American Association of University Women (AAUW) empowers women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. Our nonpartisan, nonprofit organization has more than 170,000 members and supporters across the United States, as well as 1,000 local branches and more than 800 college and university partners. Since AAUW's founding in 1881, our members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day — educational, social, economic, and political. Learn more and join us at www.aauw.org.