

# Female Student Technology Aspirations and Awards

VCCA October 2018

Session 2 Oct. 3 at 3.15-4.00 PM

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# Let's Talk About ....

Women in Computing

Value of Diversity in Computing

Female recognition from high school to college

Awards & Grants Just For Females High School - College

Real Experiences & Benefits

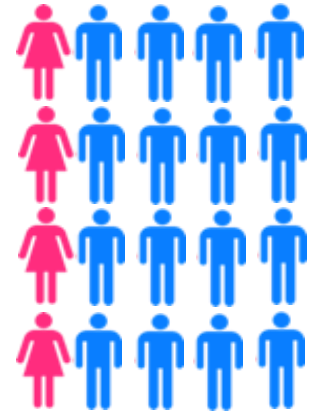
# Diversity is a problem in computing



High school  
computer  
science



University  
computer  
science



Software  
workforce

Women who try AP Computer Science in high school are ten times more likely to major in it in college, and Black and Hispanic students are seven times more likely.

# Young Women = Untapped Talent

Undergraduate degree recipients 57%

AP test-takers 54%

AP calculus test-takers 46%

ISEF finalists in biochemistry 63%

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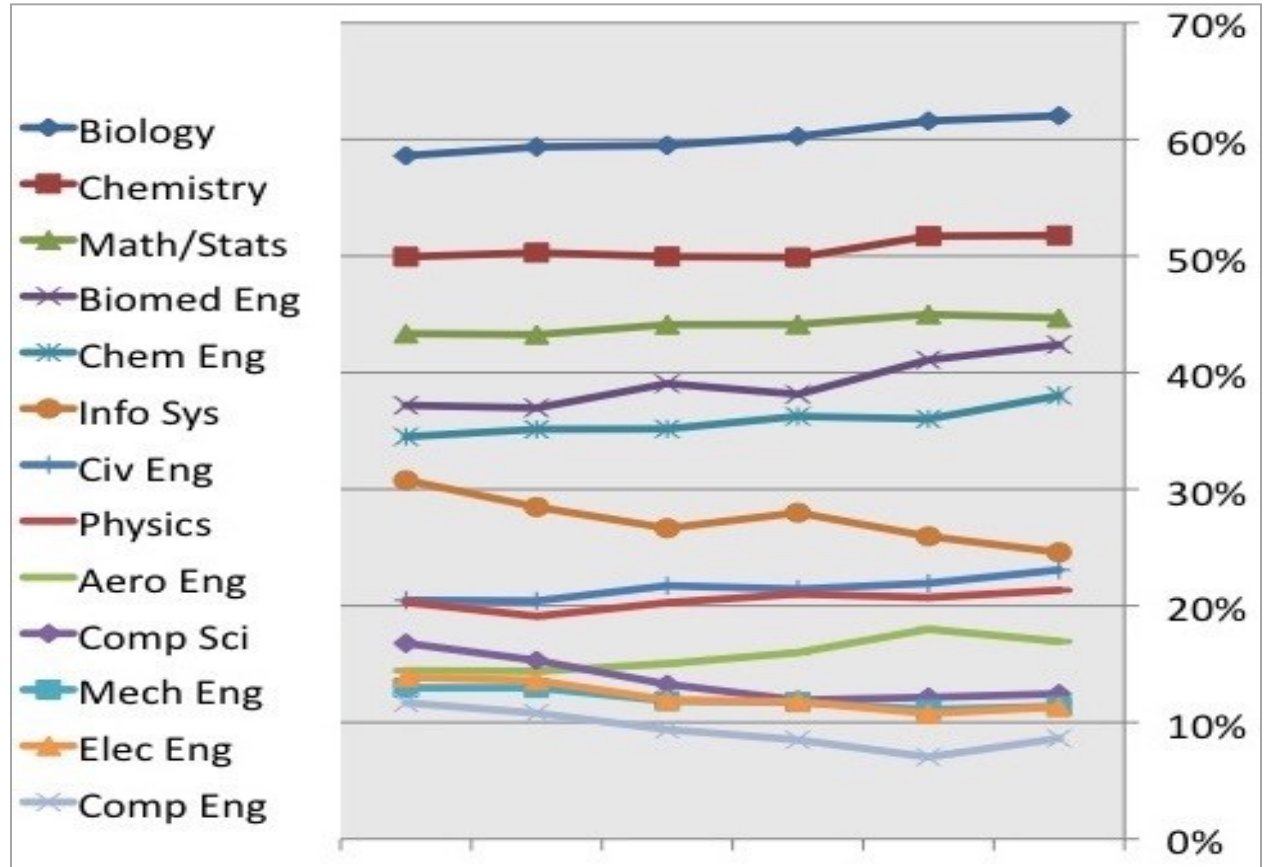
Computing degree recipients 18%

AP computer science test-takers 29%

Computing-related occupations 26%

# Women in Scientific Disciplines

**Percentage of Bachelor's Degrees Awarded to U.S. Women in Various STEM Disciplines**



Source: Data Retrieved from National Center for Education Statistics Integrated Postsecondary Educational Data System.

# The Value of Diversity to Computing

- Enhances Innovation
- Expands the Qualified Employee Pool
- Improves the Bottom Line
- Promotes Equality



# Aspirations in Computing

- » Identify, recognize and encourage young women for their technology aspirations and achievements
- » Build and support technical workforce talent pool
- » National award with local affiliate system
- » Provide peer networking through Facebook group – mitigating girls' isolation experience
- » Build direct relationships among girls interested in computing with universities and employers



# Aspirations in Computing

## What does the competition look like?

- » Checklist of computing activities
- » Six short essays
  - » Technology Access Question
  - » Experience Question
  - » Origin of Interest Question
  - » Leadership Question
  - » Career Goals Question
  - » Problem Solving Question





# Award for Aspirations in Computing

## What's in it for the female students?

- » Opportunity to join a growing FB support community of like-minded young women (nearing 12,000 members)
- » Attend an event held in their honor with individual recognition, a plaque for her and her school, plenty of swag
- » Opportunities for scholarships
- » Connections to professors at a number of universities who are involved with NWIT
- » Powerful resume item which is increasingly being recognized





More about Rachel at: [https://lfcc.edu/about-  
lfcc/news/profiles/students/rachel-stange/](https://lfcc.edu/about-<br/>lfcc/news/profiles/students/rachel-stange/)

2018 Awardee NCWIT Profile  
<https://www.aspirations.org/user/114685>



# Aspirations in Computing Program: **Collegiate Award**

- The Preliminary Round application includes essays, short answer questions, and a project endorsement
- The Finalist Round application includes a project presentation and letter of recommendation from a project advisor
- Honors outstanding technical accomplishments of college women
- Sponsored by Hewlett Packard and Qualcomm
- Winners receive an engraved plaque, \$10,000 and a trip to the NCWIT Summit
- Honorable Mentions receive a certificate and \$2500
- National Finalist receive certificate and plaque
- College must be an Academic Affiliate Member





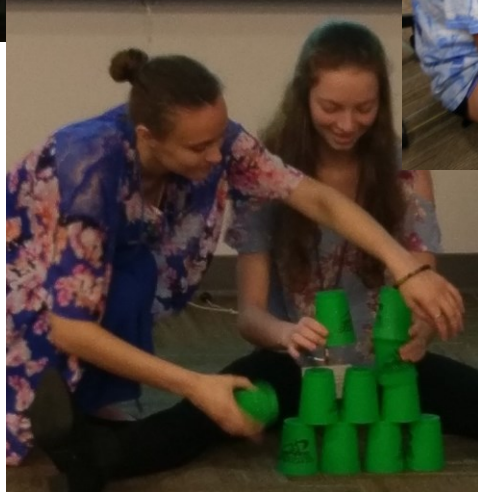
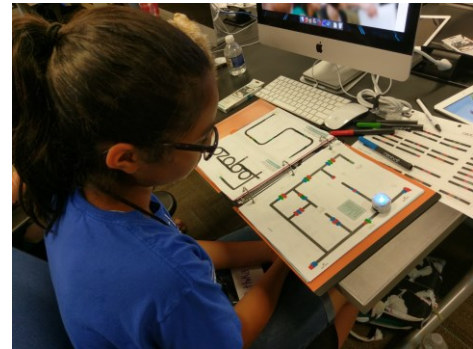
Amy's Project story on YouTube:  
<https://youtu.be/6OANbVDZ1jc>

More about Amy at:  
<https://lfcc.edu/about-lfcc/news/profiles/students/amy-buchanan/>

# Aspire IT

- Connects high school and college women with K-12 girls interested in computing
- Program Leaders (former AiC awardees) teach them computing and computational thinking is FUN!
- Request up to \$3000 to run the program
- Increases technology camps at institution
- Helps build resume with leadership skills





# Aspirations in Computing Program: K12 Educator Award

- Publicly celebrates educators who encourage high school women's interest and participation in technology pursuits.
- Sponsored by AT&T

## Awards:

- \$1000 (\$250 cash, \$750 for PD activities)
- Recognition at local Aspirations Affiliate
- An Engraved award for both the educator and the winner's school

The logo is a blue rounded square with a yellow corner tab in the top right. It contains the text "NCWIT Aspirations in Computing" in white and "EDUCATOR AWARD" in yellow.

NCWIT  
Aspirations in  
Computing  
EDUCATOR AWARD



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- AiC High School Link: <https://www.aspirations.org/participate/high-school> By 8p MDT on **11/5**
- AiC Collegiate Award: <https://www.aspirations.org/participate/collegiate-award> By 8p MDT on **10/15**

ACADEMIC

NCWIT &

ALLIANCE

