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2022 VIRTUAL NCWIT SUMMIT: HAPPENING NOW

The 2022 vNCWIT Summit on Women and IT, happening May 16-19, 2022, is currently in full swing. The virtual experience offers NCWIT Conversations for Change keynotes with nationally-recognized DEI experts; practical workshops on understanding power dynamics and building inclusive cultures; a celebration of inspirational women in tech; and more! Sessions include:

- » Julie Battilana, Professor at Harvard Business School, “Harnessing Power for Positive Impact”
- » Brad McLain and Catherine Ashcraft, NCWIT Research Scientists, “Powertilt: Examining Power, Influence, and the Myth of Meritocracy Within Technology Teams”
- » Damon A. Williams, Nationally Recognized DEI Expert, “Navigating the New Normal: Renewal, Allyship, and Joy During the Twin Pandemics”
- » Bethy Leonardi and Sara Staley, Co-founders of A Queer Endeavor, “Queering Leadership” and “Inclusive K-12 Education”



The first 750 registrants are eligible to receive a swag box full of ways to further engage with NCWIT. What's in the box? An exclusive, luxe Sit With Me seat cushion; a printed copy of re:think, the thought-leadership magazine from NCWIT; a newly-released set of stickers; and a resource card to inspire further actions for change.

NCWIT is deeply grateful for the support of 2022 Summit sponsors PNC, Bloomberg, and Royal Bank of Canada Capital Markets.

See the full agenda here: <https://ncwit.org/summit/2022/>.

NCWIT REGIONAL INITIATIVES EXPANDS TO PITTSBURGH, PA

This April, NCWIT Regional Initiatives expanded its programming to include Pittsburgh, PA. With generous support from the Henry L. Hillman Foundation, NCWIT will work with change leaders in education and industry in Pittsburgh to share opportunities and build infrastructure to increase the meaningful participation of a diverse range of women and girls in computing. NCWIT Regional Initiatives bundle research-backed programs and practices to increase the local participation of women and girls in tech fields and careers. NCWIT partners with local community stakeholders to build awareness, inspire participation, and connect women to like-minded peers, role models, and opportunities. As part of the Regional Initiatives strategy, NCWIT will be working with the Pittsburgh Technology Council on supporting a regional coordinator to help lift up programmatic efforts as well as build relationships with those in the Pittsburgh technical ecosystem.

Learn more about NCWIT Regional Initiatives here: <https://ncwit.org/program/regional-initiatives/>.

NCWIT ASPIRATIONS IN COMPUTING PARTNERS WITH APPLE SCHOLARS

This spring, NCWIT Aspirations in Computing (AiC) partnered with Apple to award scholarships to ten members of the AiC Community as part of the Apple Scholars program. In addition to the \$15,000 scholarship, each winner will receive a technology package and exclusive participation in an immersion event with Apple. NCWIT AiC is one of ten organizations that collaborated with Apple to identify a total of 100 Apple Scholars for the initiative's first cohort. The AiC awardees, all of whom are currently seniors in high school, were selected based on their achievements in the Aspirations in Computing program, their intention to pursue studies in computing or engineering after completing high school, and their potential to benefit from the Apple Scholars experience.

Learn more about the scholarship recipients here: <https://www.aspirations.org/news/2022-aic-apple-scholars>.

NCWIT AIC HONORS 3,610 STUDENTS AND EDUCATORS

As the 2021-2022 awards season comes to a close, NCWIT Aspirations in Computing (AiC) is proud to announce that this year, a total of 3,610 unique recipients received a combined total of 3,893 recognitions. NCWIT AiC offers three distinct awards for high school students, college students, and educators, recognizing aspirations, abilities, technical accomplishments, and influential guidance. To make this awards season possible, more than 500 volunteer reviewers completed a total of 10,434 application reviews. The dedicated efforts of these volunteers are crucial to the success and ongoing impact of the NCWIT AiC Recognitions program.

See a complete breakdown of awardee numbers here: [aspirations.org/2022all](https://www.aspirations.org/2022all).

To join this effort, learn more about volunteering to review AiC Award applications here: [aspirations.org/get-involved/volunteer-reviewers](https://www.aspirations.org/get-involved/volunteer-reviewers).

NCWIT HONORS MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

NCWIT Higher Ed Awards celebrate faculty members of Academic Alliance member institutions who are doing outstanding work to develop inclusive computing programs and support collegiate women in tech. The recipients of two major service awards have been announced this month:



The 2022 Harrold and Notkin Research and Graduate Mentoring Award recipient is Dr. Tiffany Barnes, Distinguished Professor of Computer Science at North Carolina State University. This award, given in memory of Mary Jean Harrold and David Notkin, honors outstanding research, graduate mentoring, and contributions to diversity efforts.



The 2022 Joanne McGrath Cohoon Service Award is Dr. Christine Alvarado, Associate Dean for Students of the Jacobs School of Engineering and Teaching Professor of Computer Science and Engineering at the University of California, San Diego. This award, which is being offered for the first time this year, honors distinguished educators and staff who have effectively challenged and changed the systems that shape the experiences of women undergraduates in postsecondary computing programs.

RE:THINK MAGAZINE ISSUE 3 PLANNED FOR FALL 2022

Production is underway for the third issue of re:think, a thought-leadership magazine from NCWIT that advocates for a more diverse, equal, and inclusive technology industry. The unifying theme of this issue will be accessibility in tech. Planned article topics range from the importance of creating accessible tech workplaces and learning environments, to spotlights on members of the NCWIT community who are finding innovative ways to use technology to make everyday activities more accessible. For this issue, NCWIT will partner with NCWIT Affinity Alliance Member AccessComputing, a University of Washington-based organization that is a national leader in the field of accessibility in tech. The issue will feature contributions from AccessComputing Associate Director Brianna Blaser, as well as 2019 NCWIT Harrold and Notkin Research and Graduate Mentoring Award Recipient Richard Ladner, among others. As part of this partnership, NCWIT will work with AccessComputing to ensure that the online reading experience for re:think magazine meets the highest standards of accessibility.



**Be the first to know when additional re:think articles and issues become available:
ncwit.org/subscribe-rethink.**

NCWIT ON THE ROAD (IN PERSON AND VIRTUAL EVENTS)

[NCWIT at SIGCSE 2022 // ncwit.org/event/ncwit-at-sigcse-2022/](https://ncwit.org/event/ncwit-at-sigcse-2022/)

The SIGCSE Technical Symposium (March 2 - March 5, 2022) is the annual conference of the Special Interest Group on Computer Science Education, attracting more than 1,500 researchers, educators, and others interested in improving computing education in K-12 and higher education. The SIGCSE Technical Symposium addresses problems common among educators working to develop, implement, and/or evaluate computing programs, curricula, and courses. It provides a forum for sharing new ideas for syllabi, laboratories, and other elements of teaching and pedagogy, at all levels of instruction. NCWIT participated in several events throughout the conference:

- » **Belonging in Computing: The Contribution of Gender-based Community Building** (Panel)
- » **Increasing Computing Participation through School Counselors** (Poster Session)
- » **Departmental Culture and Pedagogical Choices: Student-Centered Teaching in Introductory Computing Classes** (Paper Session)
- » **Why Should Computer and Information Science Programs Require Service Learning?** (Paper Session)
- » **NCWIT Virtual Reception** for those attending SIGCSE virtually and in-person, as well as anyone else interested in networking and sharing dialogue

Broadening Participation in Computer Science (CS) Education // ncwit.org/BPCSEduWebinars

This spring, the Broadening Participation in Computer Science webinar series concluded with the final three episodes. The six-part series addressing the importance of increasing girls' and women's meaningful and influential participation in tech innovation and development was produced by NCWIT AspireIT in partnership with the Infosys Foundation USA and its digital learning platform, the Pathfinders Online Institute. The series is free and open to the public — geared towards K-12 formal and informal educators as well as high school and college students. All past episodes can be replayed via the Pathfinders portal, and each session will be available for viewing on ncwit.org 90 days after its original release.



Advising for Future-Ready Careers // ncwit.org/C4CAdvisingWebinars

During this quarter, NCWIT Counselors for Computing (C4C) continued to host the webinar series, Advising for Future-Ready Careers. The series provides information and resources to help counselors support students in pursuing opportunities in computing. This webinar series is free and open to the public, ages 16 and up, and frequently features guest appearances by representatives from NCWIT member organizations who discuss the intersections of computer science with a wide range of career paths. Topics covered this year have included Preparing Students for a Mobile Workforce with Apple (February 24), CS + Machine Learning with Meta (March 15), an Educators' Virtual Coffee Hour with Citizen Schools (March 23), and CS + Barbering: Leveraging the Social and Cultural Capital of Barbering to Support African American Boys' and Young Men's Interest in Computer Science (April 20).

Meeting of the Minds // ncwit.org/meetingoftheminds

The Meeting of the Minds online conversation series, hosted by the NCWIT Academic Alliance, also continued this spring with two new installments. By bringing together experienced practitioners and evidence based research, the series takes on today's largest broadening participation challenges in computer science. This series is free and open to the public – geared toward postsecondary computer science faculty, staff, researchers, graduate students, and those in student-facing roles. Recent topics covered include “Faculty Hiring: Ensuring Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion from the Job Description to the Offer” and “Broadening Participation Through Partnerships Between Two-Year and Four-Year Programs.” Past installments can be replayed at the link above.

Follow #NCWITontheroad on Twitter to keep up with NCWIT events.

NCWIT IN THE NEWS

Counselors for Computing Broadens Student Exposure to STEM

A March 2 article in the K-12 Dive highlighted the work NCWIT Counselors for Computing (C4C) does to equip school counselors with the tools and knowledge they need to make computing programs more equitable and accessible. One counselor who was interviewed for the article shared how attending a C4C workshop helped her understand the importance of ensuring that students at all levels have opportunities to explore computing. As she reflected, “My goal is to change the trajectory of my kids’ life.”



Read the full article at ncwit.org/C4C-K12-Dive.

NCWIT Expands Higher Education Offerings in Southeastern WI Through Grant from MKE Tech Hub Coalition

With support from the MKE Tech Hub Coalition, NCWIT is able to expand offerings for the higher ed community in southeast Wisconsin. As the press release states, “This grant will provide the opportunity for computing faculty, administrators, and staff within the seven-county region surrounding the city of Milwaukee, to engage in a webinar series focused on increasing the diversity, equity, and inclusion of their students who identify as women.”

Read the full press release at ncwit.org/MKETechHub.

Aspirations Award Celebrates Accomplishment and Encourages Women in Computer Science

“While the field of computer science has experienced substantial growth in the last decade, women, genderqueer, and non-binary students continue to be underrepresented in the major, including at UW-Madison. To increase their representation in the major, the UW-Madison Computer Sciences Department created the Aspirations Award, first awarded in 2012. The award provides \$1,000 to students who declare computer science as a major and have previously won the Award for Aspirations in Computing from the National Center for Women in Technology (NCWIT).” This retrospective of the Aspirations Award program highlights students who have received the award through the years.



Read the full article at ncwit.org/UWMadison.

And More

NCWIT research, programs, and commentary were included in a number of national and regional media outlets and blogs, including The Ad Council, CNBC, Columbus Dispatch, Employee Benefit News (EBN), State Scoop, Technical.ly, Yahoo! News Finance, and ZDNet; as well as community and trade publications and announcements (Flatiron School, Northern Nevada Business Weekly, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, and Utah State University Today).

ncwit.org/InTheNews

NCWIT ASPIRATIONS IN COMPUTING (AIC): WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

- » Twenty AiC Community members were listed among the top 300 scholars in the 2022 Regeneron Science Talent Search, one of the nation's most prestigious science and math competitions for high school seniors: Neha Ayyalapu, Sohini Banerjee, Maggie Bao, Srihitha Dasari, Amy Feng, Alice Feng, Sheryl Hsu, Sonya Jin, Su Kara, Jui Khankari, Sophie Krajalnik, Jennifer Lew, Comfort Ohajunwa, Anika Puri, Navya Ramakrishnan, Ashlyn Roice, Natalie Shell, Ella Wang, Katherine Xie, and Zara Yu. AiC Community Member Ella Wang went on to be named one of the Top 40 finalists in the competition.
- » "I was encouraged because I grew up with a female role model in my mom, who was a software engineer, and I built a community of peers who were interested in computer science, too... But it was sad to see incredibly talented people leave the field who were turned off by the gender gap and didn't have support in place." // In an article in Points of Light, AiC Community Member Pooja Chandrashekar talks about the organization she founded, called ProjectCSGIRLS.
- » AiC Community Member Favour Nerrise is currently serving as National Chairperson of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE). She's working to increase the number of Black engineers and computer programmers through "Game Change 2025, a strategic plan that Nerrise implemented to see 10,000 Black engineers graduate annually by 2025." Nerrise's work was highlighted in an article on CNBC.

Get monthly updates on AiC Community members and more at aspirations.org/news.

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