



# AAUW NC STEM Projects

Here is a sampling of recent STEM projects

The **Greensboro Branch** has been extremely involved in STEM projects over the last few years. Here are highlights from just one of their many projects: **IT is for Girls**. This project, headed by Dr. Lakshmi Iyer of UNCG, received an American Association of University Women National Community Action Grant for 2 week-long **IT is for Girls** Summer Workshops 2011 and 2012. The **IT** workshops aimed to increase high-school girls', grade 9-11, perceptions about CSIT education and career options through hands-on activities and interaction with women CSIT professionals. Participants created animations and video, designed web pages, developed Android mobile applications, and learned to tell a digital story by creating a storyboard, filming, and editing their own video production. Several tours explored computer and Internet security, building and repairing computers, and much, much more. This project was a collaborative effort of UNCG, Guilford County Schools, AAUW Greensboro Branch, and AAUW. It served seventy-five high school girls during each summer (2011 & 2012), and will be offered again during summer 2013 open to girls grades 8-11 with a similar format.

The **Gaston Regional Branch** works with the girls and boys club in Gastonia with their after school program. AAUW members develop science, math, or technology experiments and then pull a class of about 12 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade girls to present a hands on, fun, and hopefully meaningful experiment. AAUW members encourage them to consider careers in science and math and indeed this is part of the lesson.

The **Twin Rivers/New Bern Branch** of AAUW gives a scholarship of \$250 to cover the cost of a 7<sup>th</sup> grade girl attending the summer week long Engineering Camp on the Havelock campus of Craven Community College. This event is planned by NCSU and Craven Community College. The scholarship is based on need. Acceptance into the program is based on ability and teacher recommendation. After the application deadline the attendees are selected by the program sponsors (NCSU and CCC).

The **Chapel Hill Branch** sponsored a STEM project called SPARC, in the fall of 2008. The project provided a 5-week program, 2 days a week, for 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> grade girls in the After School Program at the Oak Grove Elementary School in Durham, NC. Their goal was to provide one to two hands-on activities with a female professional in a STEM field. Two to three branch members were in attendance at each session and assessments were made at various points during the program.



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The **Asheville Branch** has scheduled a meeting in March to begin plans on a STEM project in the up coming year. They plan to have several speakers to contribute in the STEM areas.

The **Salisbury Branch** has applied for a grant from the Bill Gates Foundation to develop a STEM project to be connected with the North Carolina Research Campus.

The **Wilmington Branch** awards an annual scholarship to a woman who has completed a degree at CFCC and is attending UNCW. Priority is given to nontraditional students majoring in STEM areas.

There are twelve other community-based branches in NC:

Brevard	Hendersonville	Sandhills/Southern Pines
Bryson City	High Country/Boone	Statesville
Charlotte	Jacksonville Regional	Tryon Area
Eden	Raleigh/Wake County	Winston-Salem

In addition, the Tar Heel Branch is a virtual branch that serves the entire state.

If you need a community partner for your STEM related activity that has a gender-equity component, please contact one of the branches or AAUW NC.

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To find out more, visit

AAUW: [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

AAUW STEM initiatives: [www.aauw.org/stem](http://www.aauw.org/stem)

AAUW NC: [www.aauwnc.org](http://www.aauwnc.org), 866-525-2155, [info@aauwnc.org](mailto:info@aauwnc.org)

20 Branches in North Carolina: [www.aauwnc.org/branches](http://www.aauwnc.org/branches)

AAUW Tar Heel Branch, serving the entire state: [tarheel.aauwnc.org](http://tarheel.aauwnc.org)