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Women STEM Series
October 23, 2017

Girls STEAM Project Talladega County, AL

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

The Girls STEAM Project goal is to help seventh and eighth grade girls in Talladega County expand their horizons in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) with an Art component.

March for Science



Participants in the March for Science gather at the Washington Memorial before heading to the U.S. Capitol. (Astrid Riecken for The Washington Post)

March for Science

October 23, 2017. The Washington Post. The organizers behind the April 22 March for Science demonstration in Washington, D.C. and 600 satellite cities around the world advocate collaboration between scientific bodies and call for ongoing funding and support for scientific research.

Molecular biologist [Maryam Zaringhalam](#) was dissatisfied with march organizers' response to criticism about the way they addressed sexism and racism in science. She marched anyway alongside fellow members of the activist group [500 Women Scientists](#) "to show this is what a scientist looks like," she said. Months later, she is still in touch with people she met at the march and during online debates about diversity at the event.

Girls STEAM Project

*Central Alabama
Community College
Childersburg Campus
Friday, November 17*

*Childersburg
Fayetteville
Winterboro
School
girls will participate*

*The Girls STEAM Project
is funded in part by an
AAUW Community Action
Grant.*



Participants in the March for Science walk along Constitution Avenue in Washington on April 22. (Astrid Riecken for The Washington Post)

Zaringhalam said that the march — intentionally or not — forced discussions about the treatment of women and people of color in science into the spotlight.

“It was like a catalyst to open more eyes and minds,” she said. “We still have prominent scientific thinkers that are out there tweeting, saying that inclusion and diversity are distractions. But for every tweet that I see like that, I see 10 more that are people waking up to the fact that we haven’t done well by a lot of different kinds of people.” (Source: The Washington Post, www.washingtonpost.com)

Comments by AAUW Girls STEAM Project Co-Director, Audrey L. Salgado
March for Science organizers insist the march was simply calling for political leaders and policymakers to enact evidence-based policies in the public interest. “The article was not about inclusion and diversity, however I pulled out excerpts from the article about the attitude regarding inclusion and diversity, especially towards women,” says Salgado.

“I believe the Girls STEAM Project in Talladega County needs to take the discussion of science beyond scientific conference and into the wider community,” she continues. “This is one of the keys to breaking down barriers and engaging women in science, such as introducing the opportunities in STEM studies and careers to girls in seventh and grade.”

AAUW empowers women and girls to achieve their highest potential.

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TALLADEGA COUNTY
Girls STEAM