

Girls STEAM Project Talladega County, AL

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

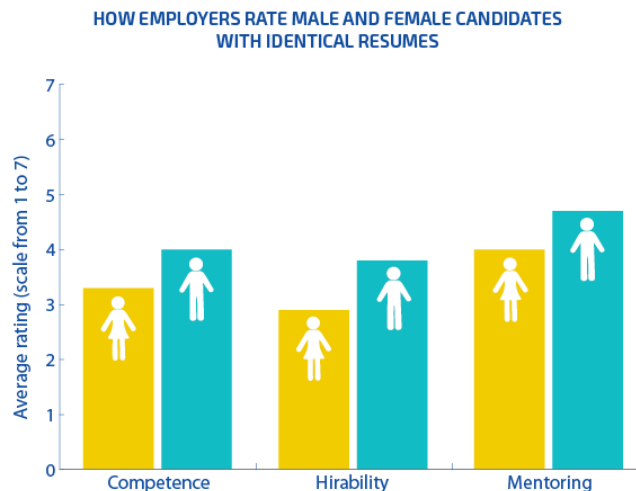
The Girls STEAM Project goal is to help seventh and eighth grade girls in Talladega County expand their horizons in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) with an Art component.

Solving the Equation: The Variables for Women's Success in Engineering and Computing (2013) – Part 2

Stereotypes and Bias Are Holding Everyone Back

We all hold gender biases, shaped by stereotypes in the wider culture, that affect how we evaluate and treat one another. Several findings detailed in the report shed light on how these stereotypes and biases harm women in engineering and computing.

One study asked science faculty to evaluate résumés that were identical except for the candidates' names. The researchers found that scientists were more likely to choose a male candidate over an identical female candidate for a hypothetical job opening at a lab. Both female and male scientists also offered a higher salary to the male candidate and were more willing to offer him mentoring opportunities.

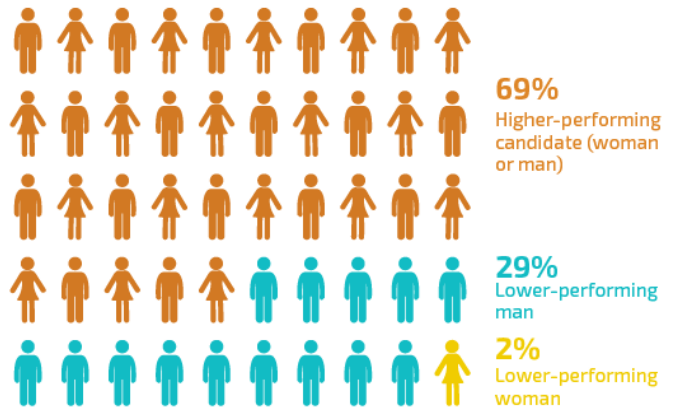


In another study, potential employers systematically underestimated the mathematical performance of women compared with men, resulting in the hiring of lower-performing men over higher-performing women for mathematical work.

AAUW: Seeking Success for Girls in STEM

But employers aren't the only ones making this mistake. Stereotypes and biases affect women's beliefs about their own abilities and the choices they make about their own futures as well.

CHANCE OF CHOOSING THE RIGHT CANDIDATE



Girls with stronger implicit biases linking math and science with boys spend less time studying math and are less likely to pursue a career in a STEM field.

More than ever before, girls are studying and excelling in science and mathematics. Yet the dramatic increase in girls' educational achievements in scientific and mathematical subjects has not been matched by similar increases in the representation of women working as engineers and computing professionals. Just 12 percent of engineers are women, and the number of women in computing has fallen from 35 percent in 1990 to just 26 percent today. (Source: AAUW Website, <http://www.aauw.org/research/solving-the-equation/>)

Watch for fun and educational events for Talladega County 7th and 8th grade girls in future Girls STEAM Project Newsletters.

Talladega County 7th & 8th Grade Girls go to CACC

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) Talladega County Branch is collaborating with three Talladega County Schools (Childersburg, Fayetteville, and Winterboro) in their combined Girls STEAM Projects on Friday, November 17, 2017, 9 am – 2 pm, at Central Alabama Community College (CACC) – Childersburg Campus.

During the morning session, approximately 175 seventh and eighth grade girls will come together to explore STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math with an Artistic component) careers and degrees by hearing Women in STEM from CACC, University of Alabama, and University of Alabama at Birmingham. Dr. Carry DeAtley, CACC Dean of Instruction, will present learning opportunities at CACC.

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