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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.

AAUW National Convention Report – Salgado and Williams represent Talladega County in DC



Audrey L. Salgado and Alesia Williams, Girls STEAM Project, attended the AAUW National Convention and report here on their experience in DC. The American Association of University Women (AAUW) Community Action Grant funds the Girls STEAM Project.

AAUW opening speaker, Judy Woodruff, Co-Anchor and Managing Editor, PBS Newshour, spoke of how the news team prepares for the daily news show and how it changes as the day progresses even during the newscast. Woodruff has covered politics and other news for more than three decades at CNN, NBC, and PBS.

A plenary session featured Linda DiVall, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer, American Viewpoint, and Celinda Lake, President, Lake Research Partners. As American Viewpoint's founder, DiVall has provided effective strategies to both political and corporate clients for more than 30 years. DiVall was the first Republican woman to launch a political survey research and strategy firm. Lake is the woman behind so many influential women in politics, crunching the numbers and figuring out how to get women candidates and women's issues into the halls of power.

Laura L. Dunn, J.D., Executive Director and Founder of SurvJustice, Inc., shared her personal story and how her organization enforces victim rights and holds both perpetrators and enablers of sexual violence accountable in campus, criminal, and civil systems.

Salgado and Williams, representing Talladega County, had the opportunity to visit with the staffs of Senators Richard Shelby and Luther Strange as well as Representative Mike Rogers in their offices at the United States Capitol. They discussed Title IX and Student Debt.

Women's Student Debt Crisis in the United States

As the Girls STEAM Project focuses on encouraging seventh and eighth grade girls

**DEEPER
IN DEBT**
WOMEN AND STUDENT LOANS

to engage in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math), they also are concerned about the cost of these young women pursuing their dreams through a college/university education. Read AAUW's research at <http://www.aauw.org/research/deeper-in-debt/>.

This report, Deeper in Debt, offers a broad overview of how student debt became a women's issue. Right now about 44 million borrowers in the United States hold about \$1.3 trillion in outstanding student loans. The report aims to change the conversation around student debt so that it includes gender-based analysis and solutions.

AAUW empowers women and girls to achieve their highest potential!

Want to be involved with the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Girls STEAM Project?

Share your interests and passions with the Girls STEAM Project Director to find a perfect fit for you. Be a part of the action to begin today to prepare for future Scientists, Computer Technologists, Engineers, Artists, and Mathematicians. Are you interested in planning a program to introduce young girls to women in STEM fields? Volunteer in an area you feel comfortable. Be a productive member of your community. Email audrey5190@yahoo.com, or call 205 249-7788 to learn more.

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