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2019 NCWIT SUMMIT: LOOK WHO’S TALKING

The speaker lineup is coming together for the 2019 NCWIT Summit on Women and IT, happening on May 14-16, 2019 at the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center in Nashville, Tennessee.

Plenary speakers include 2019 NCWIT Pioneer Award Recipient Lynn Conway, Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at Emerita University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; Robin DiAngelo, Affiliate Associate Professor of Education at the University of Washington; and Katherine Phillips, Reuben Mark Professor of Organizational Character in the Faculty of Business and Director of the Sanford C. Bernstein & Co. Center for Leadership and Ethics at Columbia Business School. Additional notable field experts will lead workshops covering colorism, how language shapes our identities, accessibility, evaluating diversity efforts, and more.

Stay tuned to the 2019 NCWIT Summit site in the coming months for further details about the speaker lineup and agenda events. We look forward to another year of exhilarating days of change-leading conversation and celebrations among educators, entrepreneurs, corporate executives, and social scientists from across industries and disciplines (both men and women).

2019 NCWIT Summit sponsors include Anchor Point Foundation, Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), Chevron, and FedEx.

www.ncwit.org/summit
2019 NCWIT AWARD FOR ASPIRATIONS IN COMPUTING RECIPIENTS SELECTED

NCWIT proudly announced the 2019 NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing national recipients, honoring 400 women in high school from all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and all U.S. overseas military bases.

Each year, U.S. women in grades 9 through 12 are eligible to receive recognition for their demonstrated interest and achievements in computing, proven leadership ability, academic performance, and plans for post-secondary education. This year, 40 winners and 360 honorable mentions were selected from more than 4,300 amazing, talented young women.

Thanks to the generous support of NCWIT Award for AiC National Sponsor Bank of America, each of the 40 national award winners receive various prizes, cash, and a trip to Bank of America headquarters on March 8-9, 2019 for a celebration and networking with Bank of America employees.

www.aspirations.org/19HSrecipients

The NCWIT Award for AiC is sponsored by Apple, Bank of America, Microsoft, Motorola Solutions Foundation, and Symantec.

TECHNOLOCHICAS 3.0 IS HERE

Alongside Co-producer Televisa Foundation, a non-profit that brings cultural and educational programs to Latinos in the U.S., NCWIT launched the third chapter of the TECHNOLOchicas campaign. TECHNOLOchicas underscores the critical need to acknowledge, celebrate, and raise visibility for Latinas in tech by focusing on the interests, strengths, and needs of the Latino community.

A launch event was held in Fall 2018 at the Microsoft Conference Center in Washington. Sixty students participated in a full day of video screenings, computing activities, and inspirational talks from TECHNOLOchicas ambassadors. As a special treat, NASA Astronaut Serena M. Auñón-Chancellor, M.D. sent a congratulatory video message straight from the International Space Station (http://bit.ly/AstronautSerena_TClaunch)!

First launched in 2015, this multi-media campaign features the powerful stories of Latinas in technology from diverse backgrounds and environments, in the face of their underrepresentation in technology. From optical and materials engineers at NASA to an intern and a graduate student, get to know the eleven Latinas of TECHNOLOchicas 3.0 who are thriving in tech in their own words: online videos and biographies profile their various paths to success, and reveal a day in their lives at work and at home.

www.technolochicas.org

NCWIT CELEBRATES CSEDWEEK

CSEdWeek is held annually in recognition of the birthday of Admiral Grace Murray Hopper (December 9, 1906). This annual event was first recognized in 2010 when the 111th Congress passed House Resolution 1560.
To celebrate, NCWIT held several virtual and physical events, including TECHNOLOchicas events hosted by AT&T and Pinterest, a Counselors for Computing (C4C) professional development workshop, an Equity in CS Twitter chat co-hosted by Expanding Computing Education Pathways (ECEP) and National Girls Collaborative Project (NGCP), and an Encouragement webinar led by NCWIT Research Scientist JeffriAnne Wilder.

Additionally, NCWIT shared tips and recommendations for engaging students in computing throughout social media, e-newsletters, and a blog post.

www.ncwit.org/csedweek

NCWIT ON THE ROAD

» CSforALL Summit
NCWIT was among fellow computing education stakeholders gathered at the 2018 CSforALL Summit to regard progress on the #CSforALL initiative and announce new commitments centered on addressing equity for underrepresented students, computer science accessibility for students with disabilities, cybersecurity education, and evidence-based computer science education pathways.

www.ncwit.org/events/csforall-summit-2018

» CISE’s Broadening Participation in Computing (BPC) Showcase
As an NSF-funded BPC Alliance, NCWIT offers scalable, evaluated, and packaged programs and resources that CISE Principal Investigators (PIs) and their departments can engage with as plans for broadening participation in computing are developed. Accompanied by the Sit With Me Red Chair, NCWIT staff showcased these programs, including Aspirations in Computing, Extension Services, and EngageCSEdu, as well as resources, directly with PIs.

www.ncwit.org/program/bpcnet

Additionally, several NCWIT staff made notable appearances at conferences nationwide:

» the Iowa Technology Summit where NCWIT President and CTO Terry Hogan presented “Innovation, Culture, and You”

» the Invent It. Build It. Expo at the Society of Women Engineers WE18 conference where Aspirations in Computing Program Director Edie Cheng and NCWIT Communications Director Adriane Bradberry led a CS Uplugged demonstration for K-12 students

» the American Evaluation Association conference where NCWIT Aspirations in Computing (AiC) Program Evaluator Lyn Swackhamer presented research and evaluation on short-term and long-term impacts of AiC participants receiving awards and being a part of the AiC Community

» the Rocky Mountain Celebration of Women in Computing where NCWIT Director of Research Catherine Ashcraft facilitated a “Leading Conversations about Microaggressions, Bias, and Other Nonsense” workshop

And, Counselors for Computing (C4C) staff and ambassadors provided professional development at the Georgia School Counselor Association (GSCA) Annual Conference and the Indiana School Counselor Association (ISCA) Conference.

www.ncwit.org/events
NEW NCWIT RESOURCES

» [Coming Soon!] Modern Figures Podcast // http://modernfigurespodcast.com/
   Presented by the Institute for African-American Mentoring in Computing Sciences (iAAMCS) in collaboration with NCWIT, “Modern Figures Podcast” is a conversational-style podcast that will elevate the voices of Black female scholars in computing. Guests from the Black Women in Computing (BWIC) community are invited to share their stories and perspectives on technical, societal, and personal topics. The first of ten podcasts is slated to roll out in late January, with others to follow throughout Black History Month.

   The NCWIT Scorecard shows trends in girls’ and women’s participation in computing in the U.S. over time, providing a benchmark for measuring progress and identifying areas for improvement.

   Technology is a fast-growing, high-paying, creative field. Here are 10 ways that you, as a family member, can encourage the girls in your life to study, and have a career in, computer science and related technology fields.

» Microsoft and Microsoft Philanthropies TEALS (Technology Education and Literacy in Schools) partnered with NCWIT to develop these tools to help educators convey the importance of computer science, and ensure that recruitment and retention strategies, curricula, and the classroom environment are welcoming for all students:
   » Computer Science Professional Development Guide // www.ncwit.org/cspdguide
      Three out of five schools in the U.S. do not offer computing courses that include programming or coding, yet we know that computing jobs are the way of the future. This computer science (CS) Guide not only empowers teachers, but also inspires students.
   » Computer Science Is for Everyone: A Toolkit for Middle and High Schools to Increase Diversity in Computer Science Education // www.ncwit.org/CSEveryone_Toolkit
      Schools across the country and around the world are working to increase access to quality CS education. But while CS classes and opportunities are expanding, too many students — especially girls, Black, Latino and Native American youth — feel like it’s not for them. As a result, the whole world misses out on the diverse perspectives needed to fuel innovation and drive change. The insights and tools in this kit will help ensure all young people understand the value of a CS education and feel welcomed and empowered to succeed.

   Women in Computing (WIC) groups on college and university campuses can help reduce feelings of isolation and increase a sense of community and belonging. They can also be places where members can discuss difficulties they encounter and strategies for addressing these challenges in the larger community. But sometimes, women’s groups can also produce unintended consequences (e.g. convey the idea that women are a homogenous group or need “extra help”). Use the following tips to avoid these pitfalls and to ensure the success of your WIC group.
NCWIT IN THE NEWS

Cognizant U.S. Foundation Award
In December, the Cognizant U.S. Foundation, a non-profit organization focused on supporting STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) education and skills initiatives for U.S. workers and students, announced a $4.1 million grant to NCWIT to fund digital skills education programs and an awareness campaign designed to increase interest among women of all ages in pursuing technology careers.

“As of 2017, women held only 26 percent of professional computing occupations in the United States,” said Lucy Sanders, Chief Executive Officer and co-founder, NCWIT. “To close this gap and fill an estimated 3.5 million computing-related job openings expected by 2026, we must make computing education accessible to all and attract diverse talent to the discipline. In doing so, a vast population with growing needs for technological products and services will be more equally represented in the innovation process. We are honored to have the Cognizant U.S. Foundation support NCWIT’s mission of increasing the meaningful participation of women in computing. With their award, we are more equipped to extend our reach and create sustained change at the local level.”

Read the full press release (www.ncwit.org/CognizantPR2018), and check out additional coverage facilitated by Ogilvy in EdScoop (www.ncwit.org/CognizantPR_EdScoop) and The Journal (www.ncwit.org/CognizantPR_Journal).

NCWIT Extension Services Clients’ Positive Outcomes
Published on EdScoop, with the help of Ogilvy, a three-part series contributed by NCWIT Editorial Consultant Angela Galik covers specific strategies and approaches used by NCWIT Extension Services Transformation (NEXT) Award recipients to produce significant positive outcomes.

Read the series online (https://edscoop.com/author/angela-galik/).

Aspirations in Computing (AiC): Where Are They Now?

Innovator to Innovator
Apple and NCWIT published the fourth edition of Innovator to Innovator, a series of personal essays and stories of innovation, as told by NCWIT AiC Community members by way of conversations with Apple executives. This latest edition featured AiC Community Members Ashmita Sarma and Sierra Schultz who spoke with Apple VP of Engineering Program Management Hope Giles and VP of Core Technologies and iPhone Operations Priya Balasubramaniam about finding allies and mentors, growing from learning, embracing strengths, and more.

Find all editions online (www.aspirations.org/InnovatorToInnovatorTOC).

Congressional App Challenge
In 2018, 47 AiC Community members were among those recognized in the Congressional App Challenge. The Congressional App Challenge (CAC) is a nationwide programming competition designed to encourage and inspire middle and high school students to explore STEM fields. Students work individually or in teams to create an original application for any computing platform, using any coding language. One winning app is chosen for each U.S. Congressional district. Each winning app may be put on display in the U.S. Capitol Building for one year.

Read all about the winning apps online (www.aspirations.org/CAC18).
Kavya Kopparapu Featured on Time’s Top 25 Most Influential Teens of 2018

“To determine TIME’s annual list, we consider accolades across numerous fields, global impact through social media and overall ability to drive news. In the past, we’ve recognized everyone from singer Lorde to Olympic champion Simone Biles to political activist Joshua Wong.”

Kavya is a 2017 National Affiliate Award for AiC recipient who attends Harvard University, researching at the intersection of medicine and computer science.

View the full list of teens online (http://time.com/5463721/most-influential-teens-2018/).

Kyla Guru Interviewed by CodeNewbie

“Humans are the weakest link… The biggest threat in security is the person sitting in the chair behind the computer. It’s not the software, it’s not the hardware, it’s the human and the human error aspect,” says Kyla Guru.

Kyla is a 2018 National Award for AiC recipient who, at just 16 years old, is the Founder and CEO of Bits N’ Bytes Cybersecurity.

Read more about Kyla, and listen to her interview online (www.aspirations.org/KylaCodeNewbie).

And More

NCWIT research, programs, and commentary were included in a number of national media outlets, including Essence, Fast Company, Forbes, Quartz, Teen Vogue, and The Wall Street Journal; as well as K-12 publications (the National Girls Collaborative Project blog).

www.ncwit.org/InTheNews