

TN GIRLS COLLABORATIVE

TENNESSE GIRLS IN STEM



Mission Statement

TNGC connects, advocates and amplifies efforts to ignite enthusiasm and equitably advance STEM opportunities for TN youth.

Women in Computer Science

This quarter, we want to focus on women in computer science. These roles have been rapidly increasing over the last 50 years.

Annie Easley was a brilliant example of how quickly/continuously these roles are changing. She started out as a “human computer” where she worked on problems and found solutions for researchers. Then as computers were developing, she adapted. She learned different coding languages like Formula Translating System and Simple Object Access Protocol which benefited her career with NASA.

Women in Computer Science are vital to the modern world. Through this field, there is a whole new way for women and girls to use their creativity and innovation. In regards to women having a larger role in STEM, Annie Easley said, “You can be anything, but you have to work for it.”



STEM CAREER HIGHLIGHT

Stephanie Zeiger, Ph.D., Tennessee

Stephanie Zeiger, Ph.D., is a scientist, engineer, and educator with over 15 years of experience in STEM education and program development. With advanced degrees in nuclear and biomedical engineering, she combines her scientific expertise with a passion for designing innovative learning experiences. Stephanie has led initiatives in curriculum development, professional learning, and educational outreach designed to empower educators and inspire students. As a Computer Science Education Consultant for the Tennessee STEM Innovation Network, she develops impactful resources and training to support educators statewide, fostering inclusion and excellence in computer science education.

[CONNECT HERE](#)



CHAMPION HIGHLIGHT



Dale McCreedy, Ph.D.
Champion since 2024

Dale started caring for girls and women in STEM long before the National Girls Collaborative began. Right out of college, she worked in a research lab focused on influenza virus. At the same time, she took graduate courses in science and education at the University of Pennsylvania and started to help run a STEM sleep-over program on weekends at the local science museum, The Franklin Institute. She fell in love with informal science learning. Until that time, she had had no idea how many career opportunities were needed and available in museums: education facilitation on site and in the community; curriculum development; exhibit building; content creation; and all the functions associated with companies – HR, marketing, etc. – to name a few.

[CONNECT HERE](#)

The overnight program led to my joining the museum full time to lead an initiative to support girls in science that grew into a national dissemination partnership with Girl Scouts of the USA, training more than 12,000+ Girl Scout leaders nationwide who helped their 140,000+ Girl Scouts earn their Brownie and Junior Try-Its in science. When the National Girls Collaborative started in Pennsylvania, she was eager to be a part of it.

Since then, she received her Ph.D. in Education, with a focus on women in STEM, moved to Tennessee where she first worked at Discovery Center in Murfreesboro, a children's museum, and is now in NE Tennessee as the President & CEO of Hands On! Discovery Center at the Gray Fossil Site. She continues her passion and advocacy for girls and women in STEM while leading the TN Girls Collaborative.

GET INVOLVED

- Follow along with our new Tennessee Girls Collaborative Website
- Share our newsletter
- Check out [this article](#) on the Power of Mentorship from the National Girls Collaborative
- Follow us on our Facebook!



EVENTS AND WEBINARS

- Stephanie is leading a [Coffee and Chat](#) on [January 24th](#) at 12:30 pm est.
- The Adventure Science Center is hosting their TWISTER Conference on [February 8th](#). It's a day to explore, connect, and envision your STEM future—you do not want miss it. Any high school senior attending can apply for two scholarships before January 27th.
- Some scholarship deadlines are approaching, please share with any high school girls in your circle to look on the Women In Technology of Tennessee's website. If you are seeing this on a pdf file, [click here](#).
- The the Tennessee STEM Innovation Summit is coming up, May 8-9th. A great opportunity to meet and build community partnership. You can register [here](#).
- Engineer Week is February 16th through the 22nd!



If you have an event over the next few months and want to be featured in our next newsletter, send us an email!

[FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK](#)