

Once again, the nomination, interview and selection process for 2019 Tech Trek went well with the great support of North Tahoe School 7th grade teachers Lindee Eckert and Lisa McCready. Both have now retired from teaching.

The fruit of their labors was having our 5 Tech Trek girls see the bigger world that awaits them as professional women, and they got a taste (literally!) of college life at UC Davis during their week-long camp. This year's campers are: **Miya Casci**, **Diana Reyes Sanchez**, **Alana Hendricks**, **Olivia Parker** and **Zara Arington**. They met new friends and were inspired in Core Classes of Anatomy/Physiology, Genetics, 3-D Math, Computer Science and Security, and Engineering.

We received continuing support for Tech Trek from our members, and grant monies from Tahoe League for Charity, Rotary Club of Tahoe City and the Shirley Allen Family Trust.

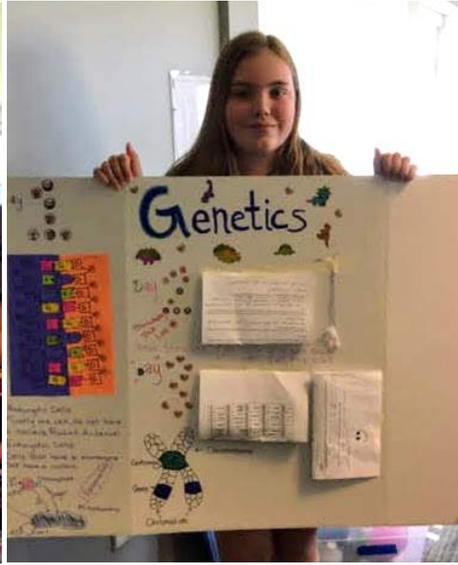
Working with two new 7th grade Science and Math teachers at North Tahoe School to nominate girls may be a challenge this winter, but I think they will see the value of the program. Once school begins, I will introduce myself and invite them to our October social event where our Tech Trek girls speak to our branch about their camp experience. Enjoy their heartfelt **Thank You Notes** on p. 4-8.

Next March, after the 7th grade 2020 campers are selected, I suggest we hold an **ice cream social**, or some get together, inviting the current year and previous year's campers and their parents for an informal, after-school interaction with girls and parents.

Also, I received approval by our Leadership team to pursue the idea of changing our October Tech Trek luncheon to an after-school social. By changing the time, the girls will not miss school, and it will allow teachers and other school staff to attend; also, it may increase attendance by parents and branch members. Changing the event from luncheon to after-school social would simplify the event for our branch and focus specifically on the TT girls.

Meri McEneny







Our member **Priscilla Mills** (far right) was a fantastic dorm mom at Tech Trek camp this year. Below are her reflections:

Tech Trek 2019 was an incredible experience for everyone involved! This week of STEM education gave 94 twelve and thirteen-year-old girls unparalleled opportunities to dabble in different non-humanities fields.

Our North Tahoe AAUW branch hosted 5 local girls. They lived in a dorm at UC Davis with their dorm moms and junior counselors, ate in the dining commons, and got a taste of college life. Every morning the girls attended a core class of 3-D math, genetics, engineering, anatomy/physiology, or computer science. The afternoons and evenings were filled with workshops in such diverse subjects as physics, veterinary science, space travel, personal finance, chemistry, forensics, self-esteem, and sound technology.

There were also mingling sessions with women in STEM fields, giving the girls a chance to see what life is like for real women scientists, engineers, and mathematicians. These activities were interspersed with a variety of fun bonding activities. Plenty of friendships were established, complete with giggling, nicknames, and contact numbers exchanged.

We should be proud to sponsor this dynamic program. Tech Trek plays an important role in fulfilling AAUW's goals of empowering women and girls.



July 26, 2019

Dear North Lake Tahoe AAUW Branch,

I very much appreciate you for nominating me to have the best experience ever! ❤️ I enjoyed all of the different, unique activities we had. My favorite part of this camp was meeting new nice people. My core class (anatomy) had the most memorable experiences ever, along with the whole camp. This camp was such a great opportunity! I am grateful for how you chose me. It was nice to see and feel how my future collage will be like. Once again thank you so much. I can never repay you.

Respectfully,

Diana Reyes/UC Davis 2019

Tech

Trekker

Tech Trek @ UC Davis



7-26-19

Dear AAUW North Lake Tahoe Branch,
Thank you so much for sending me
to Tech Trek. I really enjoyed
learning about Genetics especially
when I got to extract Strawberry
DNA. I also am very happy that
I got to meet new people and
try new things. I loved learning
about Forensics, I thought it was
so cool how fingerprints can be
found on almost everything. After
the Tech Trek experience I know
a lot more about Finances, college,
and careers. Thank you again
for this truly amazing experience.

Sincerely,
Olivia Parker

Tech Trek @ UC Davis



July 26, 2019

Dear AAUW of North Lake Tahoe,

Thank you for selecting me for Tech Trek! I had an amazing and unique experience here at UC Davis this week. Nominating and selecting girls for the camp is difficult, so I am very grateful to have gone. One of the great activities I got to do was Safe Credit Union's Reality Fair. It was really fun to experience how to spend money in the real world. Another activity that was really fun was a presentation called "Girls With Confidence". It taught me how to respect myself and it was kind of emotional for me. I am very thankful that I was chosen for Tech Trek. With appreciation,

Miya Casci

Tech Trek @ UC Davis



7/25/19

Dear AAUW North Lake Tahoe,

I would like to thank you for the time you put in to helping young girls like me. You helped to expose us to the importance of STEM. Being at Tech Trek really helped me to think about a career that interests me. I have learned so much that my brain hurts every night after my core classes from so much information. Tech Trek was an opportunity I will always remember. My core class was engineering. I loved building solar cars and testing them (so fun). It showed me that you can make anything that you think of with only a few materials. My favorite workshop was chemistry. It was fun seeing stuff blow up. The food was the best part. It was like a buffet dream. Thanks again for this amazing opportunity it was great.

LOVE,

Zara Arington

Tech Trek @ UC Davis



July 26, 2019

Dear AAUW North Lake Tahoe,

Thank you for this unforgettable experience! I enjoyed every minute of the time that I had at Tech Trek. Every person I have met has been another friend in my heart. Normally, I can only really talk to the people I'm close to but Tech Trek has allowed me to open up to more people and not be afraid. My core class was engineering. I loved building everything, but my favorite part about my core class was building a solar oven, having a s'more party, and meeting new people. Tech Trek has made me an overall better person.

Thank you,
Alana Hendricks

Tech Trek @ UC Davis