

Note: Any program since last year's deadline of March 15 is eligible.

Category: (Please circle or highlight the category for which this program is being submitted.)

- Women – Education – Community – International – Cultural – Diversity

Title: Tech Savvy 4: Charting a Pathway to Success

CATEGORY: Education

Describe your project/ program/ event in 150-300 words. Be sure to include:

- how the project addressed **AAUW's mission** (15 points)
- **branch goals** in doing this program (10 points)
- **specific action steps** in planning this program (15 points)
- involvement of **other community groups** (if any) (10 points)
- **number of members** (5 points) and **nonmembers** (5 points) **in planning and in putting on the program**
- steps taken for **community visibility** (10 points)
- **number of members** (5 points) and **nonmembers** (5 points) who attended or benefited
- **number of new members** who joined (if any) (5 points)
- measurable **impact on the community** (10 points)
- **lessons learned** for future programs/ projects/ events (5 points)

Mission: Tech Savvy is a program to expose girls to careers in science, technology, engineering, and math-- a focus of AAUW. The program encourages girls to consider college and career options to encourage their economic self-sufficiency.

Branch Goals: This is the fourth annual installment of the program. This year's goal was to increase the number of student attendees to allow 50 more students and to expand the adult sessions.

Action Steps: Planning began in the fall. A theme of goal-setting and life mapping was developed. The keynote speaker, a US Army major, was invited and the curriculum for the day was planned. Materials for the attendees were sought, including discussions with the authors of a new book on life mapping-- which was a great resource for students, parents, and teachers.

Community Involvement: Two major partners from industry (Praxair, Inc.) and academia (University at Buffalo) co-sponsor. Additionally, the Girl Scouts, and several churches and schools bring students to the conference. The branch works with major school districts to publicize the program.

Number of Members Participation: Approximately 10-15 members participate in planning

Number of Non Members participating: Approximately 5 non-members participate in planning

Community Visibility: 8,000 brochures are distributed to individuals, more than 200 groups, Girl Scouts, and libraries. Newspaper advertisements in inner city and suburban papers were issued. Schools-- including public and private, church schools, and charter schools-- from Rochester to the Pennsylvania line receive brochures and announcement

Number of non-members who attended: This year's registration included ~450 students and 175 adults (parents, teachers, etc.)

Number of Members who attended: (Note: More than 40 members attended as volunteers for the day.)

Measureable impact on the Community: The branch received feedback this year that one of our previous students has enrolled in chemical engineering-- largely because of the exposure she received from our inaugural program. Additionally, the program has received a great deal of local and national praise, including a feature in the March, 2009 issue of American Chemistry.

Lessons Learned for Future Programs: This year approximately 5 new members were recruited at the event. We planned a special focus on membership this year, and plan to expand the membership recruitment next year as presenters and parents make ideal members!

Attach copies of newsletter and newspaper articles about this project/ program/ event.
(No more than 4 pages maximum)

4 attachments

Mail or email the original of your entire application with supporting materials to:

- Peggy Kelland, AAUW-NYS Program Vice President
- 13 Susan Lane, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

smkell45@aol.com

Questions? (845)297-0507



Booksale Corner

The Book Sale Committee is looking for a few good men. Especially those who have a little free time, a pick-up truck, van or even a big ole station wagon. As the sale date approaches collections are expected to increase and transporting books from libraries, private homes and other venues to the sorting site and collection depots will become a daunting task. Fred Howard has been doing terrific work in moving books and he could use some help. If you have a friend or relative who might fill the qualifications, Pat Baker would like to hear from you. All book sale volunteers are invited to borrow any books

in the collection and can even purchase them at our usual bargain prices.

The Committee also is looking for service-orientated youth groups in need of a project. Because of the nature of book sale work, volunteers must be strong high school age students who can handle heavy lifting. Their services will be required once the books are moved to the sale site. If you have information on such a group contact Judy Weidemann, 655-3649.

Cathy Weiss and Judy Weidemann are pursuing leads on possible sites and sorting continues at 995 Kensington Ave. every Tuesday and Wednesday morning.

Pat Swift MacClennan

Tech Savvy 4 is Saturday, March 7

Dear Tech Savvy Committee:

Thank you for the wonderful experience you and the AAUW provided for me and girls just like me. I had such a great time and learned so much about different opportunities for girls and women. I am excited to go into middle school with more direction as to what I might want to be when I graduate from high school but also the knowledge that I can be anything I want to be and also experiment with different opportunities that colleges and the world present to me.

I also want to thank you for the opportunity to win this wonderful laptop computer and printer. My family did not have a computer so this was such a blessing and we all are using it for many different purposes. This is the first letter that I am writing and printing on this computer and printer.

I look forward to future programs that the AAUW provides for girls. Thank you again for the chance to be a part of something so beneficial to my future.

Sincerely,

"Sara" (attendeo Tech Savvy 3 & winner of the laptop)

This is an excerpt from a letter we received after last year's Tech Savvy program. As you read this letter today, we are just days away from the fourth annual Tech Savvy event.

It is always a busy time—this year especially so since we have prepared for months to welcome more participants - about 400 girls and their parents - to this year's event. We work hard on the growth of the program toward that "400+" goal. However, this letter illustrates the real reason that many of you will spend your day with these young women: the importance of reaching just one young woman and helping to open her eyes to multiple possibilities.

***Join us on Saturday, March 7, at the SUNY Buffalo North Campus (7am – 3 pm)
as we open more eyes and open doors to these ladies' futures.***

***Also, come to the reception for the keynote speaker on Friday, March 6,
at the Buffalo Niagara Marriott (Millersport Highway) at 6:00 pm.***

Inspiring Youth



Photos courtesy Praxair

In 2006, Tamara Brown, Controller for U.S. Project Execution for Praxair and President of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Buffalo branch, wanted to create an opportunity for young women to explore the world of chemistry. Her vision and hard work led the way to creating the Tech Savvy program, a

day-long conference that offers a fun way for girls to explore careers in science, technology, engineering, and math. Now in its third year, the program has evolved to include over 400 girls, as well as parents and educational professionals, and is the largest program of its type in the Western New York area.

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distributed nationwide to 16,000 companies, professionals, and policy makers.

article is 3 pages long with pictures.

7 TO 18 FROM THROUGHOUT THE STATE

entored countless kids in careers included jobs from cab driver to a

John was the voice for all of the peo- who had no voice," said Hill on a re- t morning, her voice firm. "In a de- sed neighborhood, any point of light- e the Wiley complex] raises the spir- of the people. And what has hap- ed is a dishonor to his spirit."

We sat in the living room of her neat, gle-story home. Books ranging from eph Campbell and Bill Moyers' "The iver of Myth" to a Tupac Shakur bio- ily rested on the coffee table. Even as city, county and school district hag- over what should be done at Wiley d who will take care of the place, an- izer summer is lost and the communi- i voice is not heard.

That is the problem, once again. Pub- officials -- either out of ignorance or rance -- disregard the people they xk for. The community board -- with ill on it -- set up years ago to shepherd e complex should have had the loudest ice in this. Instead, they were all but nored. That has to change.

"They say the [\$2 million] somehow t lost," Hill said. "If they had let us ow about it, I guarantee it would not ve been forgotten.

"Here is this thing that can give us ope," she added, "and once again the mmunity is left out."

Nearly all the public officials who ear a share of blame knew Johnnie Wi- y -- who he was and what he stood for. hey have seen the place named in his onor slide downhill, week after week, ear after year. Each decided it was omebody else's problem. All of them ere wrong.

Dorothy Hill, keeper of the flame, nnows what Johnnie Wiley would say to hem, were he alive today: "Where is our commitment? What are you in of- ice for?"

It is a question each of them needs to ponder, as we see what -- if anything -- happens next.

e-mail: desmnde@buffnews.com

and he has been UFGALLIERS MAY

What differentiates the Niagara Cup invitational from others, he said, is the finals, during which the girls perform individually in front of the crowd while multiple events go on.

Members of the Niagara Team from Gleason's School of Gymnas- tics, including Danielle Thaler, 10, of Wheatfield, also participated.

Asked about gymnastics and the event, she said, "You meet a lot of friends and get to exercise at the same time."

The invitational, which is open to the public, continues today, starting at 8 a.m.

e-mail: hdavis@buffnews.com



Bill Wipert/Buffalo News
Brianna Gimbrone from Summit
Gymnastics in Elma performs her
balance beam routine.

village.

If successful, the five sep- erendums would go to voters targeted localities in either May June, Gaughan said.

An estimated 85 volunteers are fanning out in Cheektowaga to get signatures this weekend, with another 50 in Amherst, 70 in West Seneca, 40 in Evans and 22 in Blasdell, he said.

The required number of signa- tures varies. Under state law, signa- tures totaling 5 percent of the voters in the last gubernatorial election are required to get the measures on the ballots. But Gaughan said volunteers plan to get signatures totaling 10 per-

See Gaughan on Page C2

Workshops woo girls with science and math

of polymers: shellac, plastics, sil- con and Gummi Bears.

Janna, Sara and Shelby were among hundreds of girls from all over Western New York who at- tended a series of workshops Satur- day aimed at encouraging girls in sixth through ninth grades to be- come interested in science, engi- neering, technology and math.

The daylong event -- called Tech Savvy 4, or TS4 -- was held in Clemens Hall and the Student Union on the University at Buffa- lo's North Campus.

See Girls on Page C2 *add page*

BY DEIDRE WILLIAMS
NEWS STAFF REPORTER

Janna Smith, a student at East Aurora Middle School, wants to be a biomedical engineer when she grows up.

Sara Anderson does not like math but would love the opportu- nity to blow things up in her sixth- grade science class at Niagara Falls' Henry F. Abate School -- "if they would let me do it," she said.

Her friend, Shelby Krawczyk, a sixth-grader at Maple Avenue School in Niagara Falls, enjoyed learning about different examples



Charles Lewis/Buffalo News
Esther Aboesch, 12, center, and her teammates enjoy a project that focused on science, math and technology at the University at Buffalo's North Campus.

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Buffalo News
March 8, 2009

TECH SAVVY COMMITTEE

If service is the rent we pay for living, these members and friends have paid years' of future payments!
Thanks to those who assisted in the planning and facilitation of this conference.
You truly have helped to chart the path of this conference's success.

Planning Co-Chairs

Tamara Brown

Leona Barback

* Barbara Barksdale

* Constance Combs

* Kerry Collins Gross

* Sara Fuller

Barbara Libby

Susan McClary

Terri Miklitsch - non member

Elizabeth Preble

* Ruth Simmons

Judy Weidemann

Execution

* Judith Anderson

* Tonya Barksdale

Gloria Beceril - non member

Bertha Boston

Kristin Bojanowski

Courtney Brown - non member

Joyce Brown - new non member

Barbara Carrier

Elizabeth Casciani - non member

Freddie Cheek

Mary Christ

Suna Combs - non member

* Yvonne Curry

Joan Eschner

Donna Fitzgerald

Teresa Gessner

* Nicole Hamm

** Karen Howard

Anita Kunkle

Nancy Langer

Sharon Laverty - non member joined at Tech Savvy

* Sue Licata

Judy Malamas

Michele Maddox

Shelly Martin - non member

Lillis McLean

Pat MacClennan

Peggy Meini

* Kathleen Murphy

Sue Oliver

** Barbara Paulson

Joye Runfola

Beverly Schwiegerling

Joan Trinchera

Terry Zelasko - non member

"Thank you" is so important that this listing was double-checked. However, if we've omitted anyone and if new volunteers were added after printing, please kindly forgive any omissions!

* New members (less than ~3 years)

** members who were first time program participants