

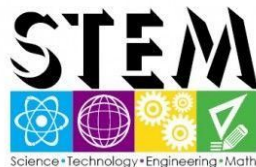


Eastern Delaware County Branch

The County Line Online

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Why



Why **S.T.E.M.**? This one question has been whispered and bandied about among members of our branch and other branches in regions across our country. But here are the facts: The STEM fields are rapidly becoming the *most in-demand and lucrative in the world*. But despite this demand, at almost every step of the STEM education path women and girls walk away. By middle school many girls are ambivalent toward these fields, and by high school a lot fewer girls than boys plan to pursue STEM studies in college. Also note, that women who do graduate with a STEM degree enter a workforce that is historically unfriendly to them. And from there stereotypes, gender bias, and the hostile environment of academic departments and workplaces continue to block women's participation and advancement. If you look at the underlined words, this is the unfairness AAUW has always used in its lobbying and grassroots efforts to push forward policies that break through educational and economic barriers for women. AAUW Eastern Delaware County branch in collaboration with Delaware County Community College **can be part** of AAUW's long history of opening doors for women and girls in science, technology, engineering and mathematics from the classroom to Capitol Hill.

This is the second year of our collaboration with DCCC and we truly hope that our membership will get behind our STEM initiatives to continue to encourage young women to seek STEM education and careers. Please take time to look at our branch website to read more about AAUW and STEM. Also, take a look at the '**What is STEM**' video and resources linked on our Branch STEM page to help educate all of us about the importance of STEM and women.

The direct link is: edelco-pa.aauw.net/activities/stem