

# Tech Trek Accepting Nominations for Math and Science Camp for Girls

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Stirling Gilliland (left) of Weatherford and Madeline Conway of Duncan were two of the participants in the 2013 Tech Trek Camp at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford.

Forty-eight current seventh grade girls from all across Oklahoma will have the opportunity this summer to experience the second year of Tech Trek math and science camp. Teacher nominations of campers are now being accepted for the July 13-19 camp at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford.

Weatherford's American Association of University Women (AAUW) branch, in collaboration with SWOSU, is one of now seven sites across the United States to receive a \$10,000 grant to cover start-up costs to conduct this program outside of California. Tech Trek is one of AAUW's goals to increase participation of women in math and science.

Tech Trek is a week-long summer math and science camp uniquely designed for girls entering the eighth grade during the 2014-15 school year. Campers stay on the SWOSU campus during the week of Tech Trek while they learn about Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM); perform cool experiments and hands-on activities; and interact with female role models who are already working in STEM fields. Aside from a \$50 registration fee, the camp is provided free of charge to Oklahoma residents.

Last year, thirty girls from across the state participated in the inaugural year of Tech Trek. Due to its success, Tech Trek at SWOSU is expanding its program to include more campers, so that more Oklahomans can receive the opportunity to experience STEM learning and activities they may not otherwise be exposed to.

Camper applications are due March 7.

"Tech Trek is a great way to bring girls together who share an interest in science and math," said Camp Director Lisa Appeddu. "They are able to explore the different fields of STEM and related careers in an encouraging environment. Overall, Tech Trek provides a window of opportunity for girls to see the benefits of expanding their education and making a difference in the future of Oklahoma."

For more information about the camp, nomination materials, volunteer opportunities or to donate to Tech Trek, please visit the website <http://techtrek-ok.aauw.net/> or email [ttsuosu@gmail.com](mailto:ttsuosu@gmail.com).