



Strongly Supporting Michigan and Its Technology-Oriented Women

MCWT Mission and Vision

MCWT strives to encourage, advance and retain women within Michigan's technology community. Our organization provides women and girls with opportunities for mentoring, leadership development, networking, technology experiences, and college scholarships.

We offer programs structured to bring value to a diverse group of professionals, from Michigan's IT workforce and corporate partners to students and schools. We support a free flow of ideas and information, creating programs that foster valuable professional affiliations and relationships, and providing financial and professional resources to future technology leaders.

Additionally, our nonprofit foundation is dedicated to correcting the growing trend of gender disparity in the IT field by providing programs that support the education and orientation of young women throughout school and fostering women in various stages of their professional lives.

MCWT Benefits

We provide networking and educational opportunities to our members and partners.

- **Monthly networking events** provide information on IT topics as well as personal development. The sessions are designed to be collaborative and interactive, allowing participants to network and learn from each other.
- **LinkedIn Group connections** enable MCWT members to stay in touch.
- **Job posting access** highlights technology career opportunities within Michigan organizations.
- **Annual Technology Career Summit** allows guests to learn emerging trends and areas within IT from both nationally known and regional experts.
- **Mentoring program** matches participants based on shared needs and resources. Many of our mentors are in leadership positions within their organization. This voluntary program carries a suggested commitment of one year.
- **Fundraisers** bring together Michigan's technology leaders. Our annual Golf Classic raised more than \$50,000 in 2011 and our black-tie Signature Gala is a must-attend event for anyone in the technology industry.

Foundation Programs

We offer programs designed to inspire women to pursue IT careers, from technologically oriented students to professionals looking to change career paths.

- **Scholarships** each year go to a high school senior, undergraduate and graduate currently or slated to be enrolled in college-level courses for each academic year. We offer a graduate or undergraduate research grant and three laptop/printer stipends. Any high school student involved in our GET-IT program entering college or taking college-level courses in the fall can apply for a scholarship.
- **Camp Infinity** a weeklong, hands-on summer camp introduces 4th to 7th grade girls to computer and internet technologies. This free camp is attended by 40 students selected through an application process. Girls work in teams to create web pages, design video games, and program robots under the direction of university students, faculty and professionals. Participants meet female IT professionals, develop a website, and participate in fun, educational IT activities.
- **GET-IT High School Program**, or Girls Exploring Together Information Technology, encourages students to consider careers in IT by learning hands-on, creative team activities during this after-school club.
- **RoboFest Grants** enable students to compete in statewide robotics competitions.
- **Website Design Competition** provides tri-county high school girls the opportunity to win up to \$500 for their creative abilities and HTML programming skills. We offer a one-day seminar to teach programming, design, and presentation skills. Girls receive the theme along with guidelines and technical requirements each fall. Regional CIOs judge the finalists' designs and presentations.



Statistics

- The U.S. leads the world in tech-savvy women, however female professionals held only 25% of computing-related occupations in 2009, down from 30% in 2000, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.
- Global demand exists for technology workers while enrollment in technology programs is declining for everyone—and at even higher rates for women.
- High-tech occupations offer women high pay with the smallest gender wage gap of any industry. The future is bright for the projected IT job market, whether it be computer, internet, software or hardware application related.