

## TTAG NEWSLETTER - September 2022



**ARE YOU READY FOR A NEW TTAG SCHOOL YEAR?**

### TTAG Membership

If you attended Tech Trek during the Summer, you are invited to join the AAUW-SF Tech Trek Alumnae Group (TTAG; pronounced TeeTAG) of the San Francisco Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW-SF).

If you attended Tech Trek in prior years and are not part of TTAG yet, this is a good time to consider becoming a member.

TTAG Membership will not only provide you with a community of like-minded girls interested in STEM, but also with access to college readiness workshops, STEM career panels, and a newsletter with opportunities and events tailored to TTAG's goals and interests. Finally, TTAG members will be eligible to apply for the TTAG Scholarship offering up to \$16,000 over 4 years to support college related expenses. More info and application form to come.

To Join TTAG or Renew your TTAG membership, please fill in this [survey](#).

For questions; please contact us at: [rpcvalle@gmail.com](mailto:rpcvalle@gmail.com)

# Join the Tech Trek Alumnae Group!

TTAG is a group of TechTrek Alumnae who continue the TechTrek experience by exploring and expanding STEM opportunities and setting themselves up for success in college and beyond. To learn more about TTAG, check out [\\_https://sanfrancisco-ca.aauw.net/](https://sanfrancisco-ca.aauw.net/).

Develop Leadership Skills

Explore STEM fields

Host educational events and college prep workshops

## Interested? Join us & Apply

Email [rpcvalle@gmail.com](mailto:rpcvalle@gmail.com) to be added to our email list and to receive announcements about upcoming events



## TTAG Announcements

### Recruiting TTAG volunteers ASAP!!!

#### AAUW-SF new website

**When:** ASAP

**Who:** Tech Trek Alumnae (whether or not part of TTAG, you must have attended a Tech Trek camp to participate)

**What:** email a testimonial (one sentence to one paragraph) on your Tech Trek experience to appear in the NEW Branch website!

**Contact:** [sonialee3068@gmail.com](mailto:sonialee3068@gmail.com)

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#### 2022 Tech Trek Welcome Back Party

**When:** Saturday September 10 - 3:00 PM

**Who:** 2022 Tech Trek Campers, their families, and AAUW-SF

**Where:** Sports Basement Bryant Street - 5th Floor

**What:** Welcome back the 2022 Tech Trekkers, share your TTAG experience, and mentor younger girls!

**RSVP:** [azelea19@icloud.com](mailto:azelea19@icloud.com)

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#### How to Find your College Fit

**When:** Sunday, October 23, 12:30 - 2:30 PM

**Who:** TTAG, TTAG parents welcome

**Where:** online (link for registration coming soon)

**What:** In our College Prep Series, discover the criteria to consider when applying for college, from campus size to financials - with Brianna Bennett, independent Educational Consultant from Climbing to Success College and Career Consulting.

## STEM Activities & Opportunities

### Competition: Congressional App Challenge

**When:** From now to October 1st, 2022 (Apps must be submitted no later than 8:00 pm PST)

**Who:** middle and high school students

**Where:** online

**What:** Compete with other students in your congressional district to code a project using any language on any platform! You can submit individually or work in teams of up to 4 students. Some past projects dealt with pandemic, climate change and mental health. Submissions will be judged in November and winners announced in December!

**Full rules at:** [RULES - \(congressionalappchallenge.us\)](https://www.congressionalappchallenge.us)

### Program: Headwaters Science Institute Fall 2022 Research Experience

**When:** September 13 to December 13, 2022

**Who:** high school students

**Where:** online meetings and independent research in location of student's choosing

**What:** Cost \$1,350- financial aid available - get out of the classroom and immerse yourself in hands on research - work along a professional scientist, get mentored and impress those college recruiters!

**Info:** [Headwaters Research Experience - Headwaters Science Institute](https://www.headwatersresearch.com)

## SUMMER EXPERIENCES

### NYU-Simons Science Explorations Program - Summer 2022

This summer, I attended the Simons-NYU Science Explorations Program, which is a 3 week program located on the NYU campus. Throughout the course of the program, I listened to lectures from NYU professors about topics ranging from neuroscience to the accelerating expansion of the universe. We got to do labs in the afternoon for biology, chemistry and physics. I loved how I got to explore different fields of science with this program, and the immersive experience of living on campus.

As a current high school senior, this program gave me valuable insight on what college might be like at NYU, and made me think about what factors I think are important when applying for college this fall, like student to faculty ratio, student body, location and campus size. I also enjoyed the freedom that the program offered, since we were free to explore New York City during our weekends and free time. I got to visit so many new and exciting places, making me feel like I know NYC a lot better now. If you're interested in science, I highly recommend this program for next summer! The application is open to rising seniors in high school (older than 16) to college sophomores, and I encourage you to check their website for eligibility and application details. The program was graciously funded by the Simons Foundation, which covered all of my costs. The application doesn't open until spring 2023, so keep an eye out for it, and feel free to email me at [lexilexi1825@gmail.com](mailto:lexilexi1825@gmail.com) if you have any questions about my experience!

[Simons-NYU Science Explorations Program Website](#)

### Meet the TTAG Interns!

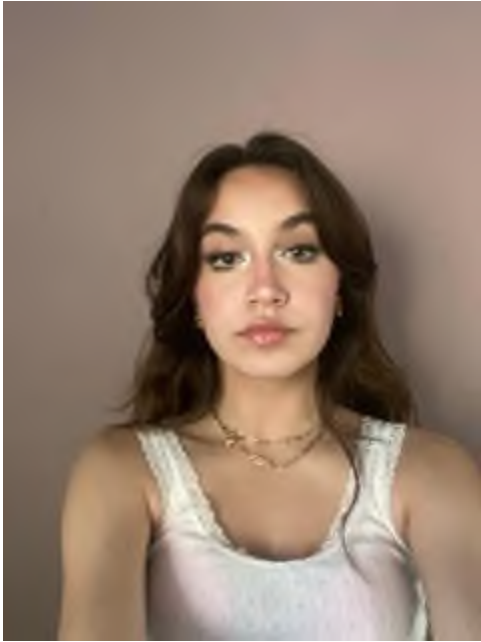
#### Sonia Lee



Hi everyone, I'm Sonia! I attended a Tech Trek camp in 2019. I'm currently a junior at Lowell. Some of my interests include things in STEM (especially robotics), traveling, and editing!

As a TTAG intern this summer, I worked on the *new* AAUW-SF branch website. I was able to assist with designing and creating content for the website while expanding my creativity and communication skills!

Best,  
Sonia Lee



### **Azelea Artiga**

Hello, my name is Azelea Artiga and I am a junior at Abraham Lincoln High School where I take part in a business and entrepreneurship pathway. My skills from this class helped me with my TTAG internship this summer. My task throughout the internship was to plan and organize a welcome back party for returning TechTrekkers and their families, as well as creating fliers and QR codes for the event.

### **Caitlin Dainas**



If you ask me to describe myself, I would do so in a few words: bubbly, enthusiastic, strong willed. However, I am also another one of those nerve-induced high schoolers, keeping myself busy with cheerleading, leadership activities, and clubs. Yet in light of recent American politics, my finite passion for human rights and gender equality has only grown, and I am always eager to learn more on these topics. As an intern under the AAUW SF branch, I was not only able to pursue these interests, but I also learned skills that I will carry with me for years to come.

I became the official editor of the Avanti newsletter in late May, and I could never have guessed what a profound experience it would be. I was tasked with creating a monthly compilation of the branch's events, informational articles, and even theatre reviews, which would be viewed by all members. Although the task was initially difficult filled with endless details, I made new connections with several others, receiving lots of help along the way. I concurrently learned to balance new ideas and innovations with pre-existing ones, even adding my own segments and artistic twists when possible. During the summer, when I took a summer course on racial equality and

witnessed the mass unrest due to Roe v. Wade, I was thrilled to incorporate them into my work as well. As I continue my work, I look forward to the opportunities continuously arise, strengthening passions that are deeply rooted in me.

## CONTACT US

It's our goal to bring you workshops, camps, extra-curricular activities, internships, and other exciting opportunities in STEM. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to share with your TTAG community any cool STEM Ed event taking place at your high school. Want to share info and opportunities or give us feedback?

Please contact us at: [rpcvalle@gmail.com](mailto:rpcvalle@gmail.com)