

MWM • TX

Million Women Mentors® – Texas

Advancing Women and Girls in STEM Careers Through Mentoring

A movement organized by TxGCP and
lead organization UTWEP across Texas
www.txgcp.org/million-women-mentors



The 2019 Texas Girls Collaborative Project (TxGCP) Million Women Mentors – Texas (MWM-TX) Stand Up for STEM Mentor Award recognizes a STEM Professional engaged in mentoring women and/or girls in STEM. Awardees must demonstrate a passion for encouraging girls and women to pursue a STEM career, develop others via formal and informal mentoring relationships, and inspire others as a role model by showing what it takes to succeed in their chosen profession.

The 2019 Texas Girls Collaborative Project (TxGCP) Million Women Mentors – Texas (MWM-TX) Stand Up for STEM Mentor Award is presented to Mansoureh Tehrani.

“In order to be a mentor, and an effective one, one must care. You must care. You don’t have to know how many square miles are in Idaho, you don’t need to know what is the chemical makeup of chemistry, or of blood or water. Know what you know and care about the person, care about what you know and care about the person you’re sharing with.” — Maya Angelou

It’s easy to see that Mansoureh Tehrani cares. Her nomination was full of examples of how she cares.

After serving as a leader in information technology (Texas Instruments, Apple Computers, and American Airlines) for 15 years and seeing first-hand the unpreparedness of her new-hires, Mansoureh decided to change career and join public education in 1994. Her primary goal has been to transform students' educational experiences by integrating academic teaching/learning with work-based learning experiences. She has capitalized on her professional network to create private/public partnerships that benefit both students and the industry.

Mansoureh created one of the first STEM academies in the state of Texas (METSAs in Carrollton/Farmers Branch-ISD), recruiting from the most underserved population in her community (girls, Hispanic, African American, Economically Disadvantaged and others with special needs). She helped her students gain the confidence they need to excel in STEM fields by:

- *developing their foundational skills in math, science, technology*
- *developing their skills in communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking*
- *providing them with career awareness (guest speakers, work-site-tours), exploration (job-shadowing, mock-interviews), and preparation (internship, apprenticeship and capstone projects) opportunities, working with professionals in the field*

In addition, Mansoureh educates the parents through such avenues as newsletters, parents' nights/workshops, and online information regarding the importance of STEM performance and participation for females. She has made sure that they, like students, understand that females' and males' STEM abilities, regardless of performance, are comparable and are subject to effort and experience, not necessarily their aptitude.

In addition to providing skills workshops herself, Mansoureh works with business professionals from organizations such as NSBE, SHPE, SWE, as well as leading organizations, such as Verizon, Capital One and many others to share their knowledge and expertise with students. These workshops include topics such as design thinking, cyber-security, robotics, logistics, AI, App Development, etc. During these workshops, the facilitators share information about their career journey, as well, helping students as they are navigating their path to college & careers.

Congratulations to the 2019 Texas Girls Collaborative Project (TxGCP) Million Women Mentors – Texas (MWM-TX) Stand Up for STEM Mentor Award recipient Mansoureh Tehrani with TriReach Collaborative.