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## Cal Poly Event to Honor Aspiring Female Computer Scientists

SAN LUIS OBISPO — The Cal Poly Computer Science Department and the National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT) will recognize 13 Central California high school female students for their accomplishments and aspirations in computing and technology. The regional NCWIT Aspirations in Computing awards ceremony will be held March 13 at Cal Poly.

The winners — from San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura and Fresno counties — will be honored at the event. The awardees include Kyra Heintz from San Luis Obispo High School (San Luis Obispo County); Anna Brewer, Maria De Angelis and Makala Hieshima from Santa Barbara High School, and Megan Handley, Kally Zheng and Brianna Doyle from Dos Pueblos High School (Santa Barbara County); Caitlyn Rose Fastenau from Ventura High School, Katherine Eisenbrand from Thousand Oaks High School and Shruti Aggarwal from Oak Park High School (Ventura County); Callie Carbajal, Sati Smith and Lindsay Perales from Buchanan High School (Fresno County).

De Angelis is also a winner at the NCWIT national level. The high school junior is co-founder of Dream It, Code It, a two-week summer camp where middle school girls learn how to write computer programming code. She was one of 35 national winners selected from almost 3,000 applicants.

At the Cal Poly ceremony, each honoree will receive a \$200 gift card, engraved awards for the recipient and her school, and the opportunity to meet with faculty, students and industry representatives from the field of computer science.

The Central California awards event, coordinated by computer science professor Zoë Wood, is a collaborative effort by the Cal Poly Computer Science Department, the Cal Poly student club Women Involved in Software and Hardware, the Cal Poly Women in Engineering Program, and the Santa Barbara County Education Office. The Central California award is sponsored by Cal Poly's Computer Science Department, Northrop Grumman, iFixit and Mindbody, with additional sponsors supporting the March award ceremony.

For more information, contact Wood at [zwood@calpoly.edu](mailto:zwood@calpoly.edu).

### About NCWIT

NCWIT is a coalition of corporations, academic institutions, government agencies and nonprofits working to increase women's participation in information technology along the entire pipeline, from K-12 and higher education through industry and academic careers. Find out more at [ncwit.org](http://ncwit.org).

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