

Women Tech Council Holiday Social

Wednesday December 4th the Women Tech Council hosted their annual holiday social, sponsored by Adobe and Dealertrack. The event brought together a community of women from Utah's STEM industry. Among the guests were 100 of the SheTech high school students. The evening started with a mingle for the guests to get to know one another. Followed by a presentation which consisted of five women sharing how they are creating their career masterpieces. Each of the speakers shared stories from their life and how their experiences have created who they are and helped shape their careers in the tech industry.

Alisa Bergman, Chief Privacy Officer at Adobe, spoke about learning to strive for greatness from an early age. She recognized that her greatest strength could become her greatest weakness when healthy striving becomes unhealthy perfectionism. Understanding her strengths and weaknesses has helped her be a better leader. Now she hopes that she can help those she leads understand their strengths.

Selma Mlikota, Manager of Employee Experience at O.C. Tanner, told about becoming a refugee as a young woman and facing challenges in her life. She emphasized the importance of choosing our career destinations. Despite challenges she has charted the course of her career.

Tara Shipp, Product Designer at Pluralsight, explained how there are many ways to build a STEM career. The path she followed began with attending a tech boot camp which opened doors for her as she started her career. She also shared about her experience being a black woman in the tech industry. She hopes that women in this industry will continue to support one another and also provide extra support to underrepresented peoples.

Katie Cardon, Engineer at Cricut, spoke about the grief she felt leaving her job as an aerospace engineer in order to support her husband in his career. She shared about the vulnerability of shifting her career after she moved to Utah. She believes she will be able to mold all of the parts of her career into a beautiful masterpiece.

Becky Frost, SR. Director of Corporate Communications at Instructure, explained how her mother and her special needs sister have greatly influenced her career. She is passionate about inclusion of all people and celebrating diversity. She shared how special interest pursuits beyond our day job can enrich our careers.

The evening concluded with dance performance by Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company. The event was very inspiring and was a great reminder of the value women can bring to the STEM industry as they create their career masterpieces.

DECEMBER 4TH @ ADOBE 4^PM

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