

# **Kate Matsudaira Wins 2016 NCWIT Symons Innovator Award for Leadership in Tech**

The National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT) today honors Kate Matsudaira with the 2016 NCWIT Symons Innovator Award for her outstanding work in managing and advancing technology startups, as well as building and operating large-scale web applications/sites. The awards ceremony takes place this afternoon at the Amazon Doppler Tower in Seattle, Washington, which will include remarks by NCWIT CEO and Co-founder Lucy Sanders.

Kate Matsudaira is an experienced technology leader. She worked in distinguished companies like Microsoft and Amazon and three successful startups (Decide, acquired by eBay; Moz; and Delve Networks, acquired by Limelight) before starting her own company Popforms, which was recently acquired by Safari Books. Having spent her early career as a software engineer, Kate is deeply technical and has led work on distributed systems, cloud computing, and mobile. Additionally, she exhibits leadership through managing entire product teams, research scientists, and building her own profitable business. She is a published author, keynote speaker, and has been honored with awards like Seattle's top 40 Under 40. She sits on the board of the ACM Queue and also maintains a personal blog at [katemats.com](http://katemats.com).

"We're proud to celebrate Kate for her outstanding change leadership in computing," said NCWIT CEO and Co-founder Lucy Sanders. "With this award, Kate has joined the ranks of many technical women who we hope will inspire others to pursue tech entrepreneurship and inspire the industry to recognize the importance of women's participation in IT innovation and business."

Kate was selected from more than 100 nominees who participated in the Entrepreneurial Heroes podcast series, featuring free interviews with notable women entrepreneurs in technology.

The award, created by the NCWIT Entrepreneurial Alliance, is named for Jeanette Symons – founder of Industrious Kid, Zhone Technologies, and Ascend Communications, and an NCWIT Entrepreneurial Hero whose pioneering work made her an inspiration to many. Previous winners include Shellye Archambeau, Katie Hall, Caterina Fake, Jessica Jackley, Audrey MacLean, Kim Polese, and Anousheh Ansari.

#### About NCWIT

The National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT) is a non-profit community of more than 700 universities, companies, non-profits, and government organizations nationwide working to increase women's participation in computing and technology. NCWIT equips change leaders with resources for taking action in recruiting, retaining, and advancing women from K-12 and higher education through industry and entrepreneurial careers. Find out more at [www.ncwit.org](http://www.ncwit.org).

NCWIT receives significant financial support from Lifetime Partner Apple, Strategic Partners NSF (the National Science Foundation), Microsoft, Bank of America, Google, Intel and Merck, as well as from Investment Partners Avaya, Pfizer, AT&T, Bloomberg, and Hewlett Packard Enterprise. View all of NCWIT's supporters at [www.ncwit.org/about/supporters](http://www.ncwit.org/about/supporters).

# # #