Prize

Every year, RWTH Aachen University bestows the Brigitte Gilles Prize to honor and support a University project, a school project, and an outstanding final thesis that have made a significant and lasting contribution to the advancement of women.

The prize is awarded in the following categories:

Projects, initiatives, and individuals that contribute to awakening and supporting women students’ interest in the disciplines of mathematics, computer science, natural sciences, and technology (STEM subjects).

Measures, initiatives, and individuals that improve the living, studying, and working conditions of women at the University and encourage them on their career path.

Outstanding theses from all faculties that focus on a topic clearly connected to gender equality.

The first two categories are endowed with 2,500 euros each, while the final thesis category is endowed with 500 euros. The prizewinners will be presented with their awards during the annual RWTH transparent event in January 2024.

“I want to open women’s eyes to all the opportunities available to them.”

(Prof. Dr. Brigitte Gilles, 1928-2003)

Application

The nominated projects, measures, and final theses should not be more than two years old. The projects and measures may be in the development stage, but their implementation must be ensured. Nominations must be submitted in writing. The application forms are available for download on the website indicated overleaf.

The deadline for the submission of nominations is November 30, 2023.

Objectives

Professor Dr. Brigitte Gilles was elected as the first equal opportunities officer of RWTH Aachen University in 1991. The award named after Brigitte Gilles serves to promote gender equity and gender equality at the University. It seeks to:

- Improve the conditions for study, teaching & learning, and research for women at RWTH
- Increase in the number of women researchers at RWTH
- Increase the number of female students in degree programs with a low proportion of women at RWTH
- Improve working conditions for women at RWTH
- Help implement RWTH’s Equal Opportunities Plan