
ANNOUNCEMENT

Silicon Valley Youth (SiVY) Bridge Unveiled

New program seeks to inspire the next generation of bridge enthusiasts.

Mountain View, May 19, 2013: Today Silicon Valley Youth (SiVY) Bridge unveiled a new program to inspire young people to learn and play bridge. SiVY Bridge is an all-volunteer program that offers free after school bridge classes and clubs for 4th through 8th graders. The program is offered in conjunction with the national bridge association, American Contract Bridge League (www.acbl.org), and a similar San Francisco based program, the Center for Bridge Education (www.Center4Bridge.org).

The world's most challenging mental sport, bridge, is a game of skill, communication and infinite possibilities. Millions of people worldwide play at home. Many advance to tournament or "duplicate" bridge to enjoy its social and competitive aspects. To ensure the future success of the game, the ACBL and its local affiliates work together to promote bridge to younger players.

"School Administrators and Parents are in search of after school activities that are safe, easy to offer, fit within their budgets, and provide the students with fun, worthwhile engagement. Additionally, schools are always looking for new ways to improve basic skills such as math, logic, and critical thinking," said Debbie Rosenberg, Founder and President of SiVY Bridge. "Our after school program will offer a way to address these needs."

Silicon Valley Youth Bridge classes are based on the well-structured and proven ACBL School Bridge Lesson Series, which teaches over 4000 students each year. The initial instruction consists of between 16 and 40 hours of lessons and practice play in 60-120 minute sessions. At the end of the program, the students will have the opportunity to compete in a tournament for a chance to win a trophy. Participants who successfully finish the program will also receive a completion certificate.

For students who wish to continue to play after the initial instruction, more advanced lessons will be made available through SiVY Bridge. Additionally, websites and online programs to continue their learning will be provided. Some youth bridge players go on to participate in regional, national, and even international tournaments.

One of the most famous and successful bridge players is an inspiration for aspiring Silicon Valley bridge players. Bill Gates, Microsoft founder and ACBL member has this to say about bridge: "It's a game you can play at any age. If you take it up young, you have fun doing it the rest of your life. A lot of games don't have that depth. This one does."

To learn more about how to volunteer, donate, or introduce SiVY Bridge to a school, go to their website :
SiliconValleyYouthBridge.org.

MAY 19, 2013