



## Youth Bridge in the Bay Area

Chris Chen and Amber Lin

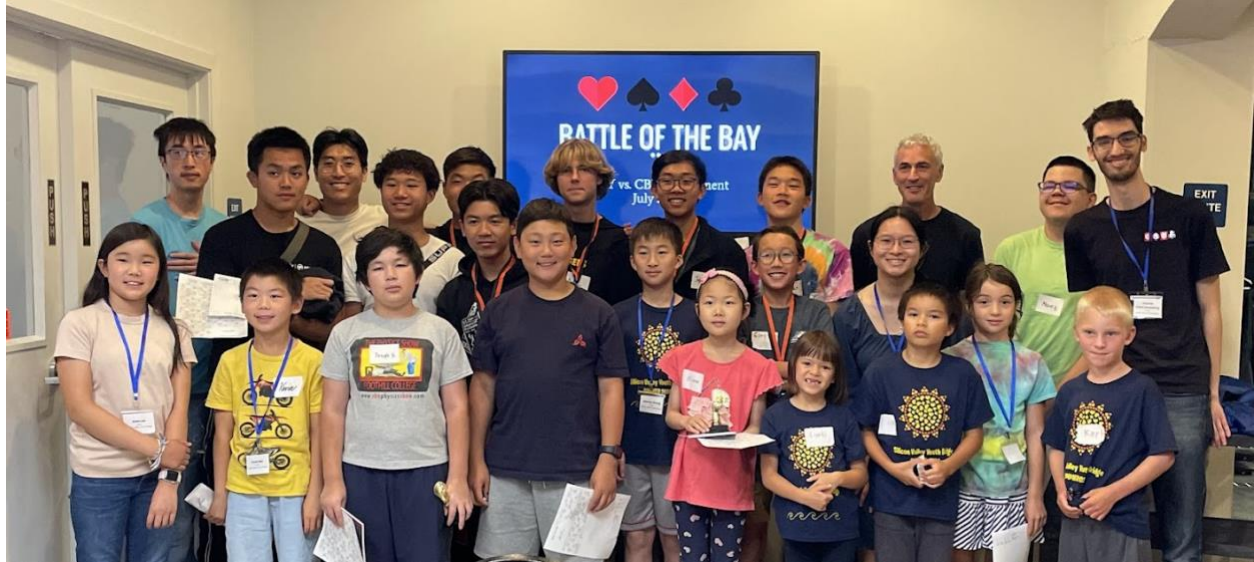
August 2024

### Background

For a while now, Silicon Valley Youth Bridge (SiVY) and Center for Bridge Education (CBE) have been working on promoting youth bridge in the Bay Area.

CBE hosts a casual game for San Francisco kids at Street Taco in San Francisco every Saturday from 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm. Street Taco is typically led by William Zhu or Dan Kroll with a rotating cast of volunteers drawing from CBE volunteers and past and present SiVY members. CBE also has a QuickTricks mentorship program whereby students play with other students or mentors at the [QuickTricks bridge club](#) in San Francisco on Mondays. After selected games, CBE will do a casual post mortem with interested kids at a local restaurant.

SiVY hosts similar events for South Bay kids and young adults at the Palo Alto Bridge Center. Every Friday, Amber Lin, Kevin Rosenberg, Will Watson and Kai Eckert lead a rotating cast of volunteers to play bridge casually at the Palo Alto Bridge Center starting at 6pm. They also host bi-monthly Pizza Party Tournaments and recently hosted a 4-day summer camp with 20+ campers over two weekends, July 22-23 and July 29-30. For additional details, please visit the SiVY site [here](#).



CBE & SiVY members at the "Battle of the Bay" on July 6th

Over the past year, SiVY and CBE have worked together more closely than ever before. CBE members Anant Rathi, Chris Chen, and William Zhu have volunteered or attended a few SiVY Casual Fridays and SiVY pizza parties. SiVY members Amber Lin and Kevin Rosenberg will drop in to the occasional Street Taco game or play at QuickTricks on teams with kids. This summer, CBE and SiVY jointly hosted the 1st ever "Battle of the Bay" featuring SiVY kids competing with CBE kids at the Palo Alto Bridge Center. Legendary bridge teacher Larry Cohen gave a wonderful pre-game lesson prior to the



tournament. There was lots of pizza, laughs, and good cheer at the game as CBE came from behind to win a close fought battle. ([Results](#) & [Photos](#))

2024 Youth NABC in Toronto

Thanks to the generous contributions of SiVY donors, CBE donors, and District 21, we were able to send 13 kids to the Toronto Youth NABC:

- Chloe Chow, 13 (CBE)
- Nathan Chow, 17 (CBE)
- Andrew Eidelhoch, 18 (CBE)
- Joseph Hoagland, 12 (SiVY)
- Michael Hoagland, 14 (SiVY)
- Clayton Kaneko, 11 (CBE)
- Jayson Lee, 12 (CBE & SiVY)
- Kate Lee, 11 (CBE & SiVY)
- Eddy Qi, 12 (CBE)
- Joey Qi, 18 (CBE)
- Kevin Wei, 9 (SiVY)
- Larry Wei, 6 (SiVY)
- Jeremy Zhang, 12 (SiVY)

Friday was a huge day at the Toronto NABC for our youth. It was the second day of the Youth NABC, and the day of the Baron Barclay National Youth Open Pairs where kids from around the world competed for a \$2,000 scholarship.

SiVY kicked off the day with a group photo shoot featuring 23 past-and-present SiVY students and volunteers.



Eight pairs from the Bay Area entered the National Pairs game with 6 pairs qualifying to the afternoon session. Andrew Eidelhoch and Joey Qi notched a scintillating **69.60%** to lead the field heading into the afternoon. 3 of the top 5 pairs in contention were from the Bay Area! Bay Area qualifiers: Jayson Lee and Lee Blocher (**2nd**), Nathan Chow and Chloe Chow (**5th**), Kate Lee and Katherine Yang (10th), Jeremy Zhang and Kevin Wei (13th), and Michael Hoagland and Ryan Sederstrom (19th).

In the afternoon, our youth played well against a tougher field. Andrew Eidelhoch and Joey Qi notched a respectable 62.39% in the 2nd session to finish 2nd and earn themselves a glittering **6.63 gold points**. The rest of our top 5 were also successful in the afternoon session. Nathan Chow and Chloe chow finished 6th to earn 2.53 gold. Jayson Lee and Lee Blocher finished 7th to earn 2.21 gold and 0.10 red. That's a 22:1 gold: red ratio for those counting at home.





# DIAMOND IN THE RUFF



*Andrew Eidelhoch & Joey Qi win 2nd in the main National Pairs event*



*Michael Hoagland and a non-SiVY partner Anna Grigoruk win double trophies in a side pairs*

Following the afternoon game, CBE hosted its annual **Douglas Keller Memorial Dinner** with 18 members from SiVY and CBE in attendance.



*Left: Photo from the memorial dinner. Right: Winners from the Aug. 10th SiVY Pizza Party Individual Tournament - Brian Zhang, Jeremy Zhang, and Evan Alexis.*

After the dinner, a few members of SiVY and CBE went over to kibitz SiVY's Kevin Wei, who had skipped the group dinner because he decided that 2 bridge sessions in a day weren't enough. When we arrived, it turned out that the Evening Side Pairs game was consolidated with the Evening Collegiate game. That turned out to be fortuitous when we bumped into Evan Alexis. Evan was in Toronto as a representative of Washington University at St. Louis bridge club, and it turned out that he was taught bridge by SiVY's very own Michael Xu back in high school! Coincidentally, two CBE students will start attending Washington University this fall, the aforementioned Andrew Eidelhoch and Nathan Chow. It's a bridge world after all.

We are extremely grateful for the generosity of our volunteers, donors, and District 21. If you'd like to donate to SiVY, please visit [here](#). If you'd like to donate to CBE, please visit [here](#).