

Friday NIGHTS

TOTALLY FREE!

Join us every other Friday Night!
TOTALLY FREE - TOTALLY FUN - 7:30-10:30PM

Friday Nights sponsored by:  Moraine Valley Community College



SEPTEMBER 3

Closed for Labor Day



SEPTEMBER 10

Outdoor Movie Night & Popcorn Bar



SEPTEMBER 24

Board Game Mania & Karaoke



OCTOBER 8

Decked in Denim w/ AJ Scrabis



OCTOBER 15

Thrift Store Family Night

OCTOBER 22

Scary-oke & Art Studio: Pumpkin Painting



NOVEMBER 5

Harvest Team Trivia w/ DJ Impulse



NOVEMBER 19

Bingo Night w/ Hot Apple Cider



DECEMBER 3

Thrift Store Holiday Shopping & Foosball Tourney



DECEMBER 17

Holiday Karaoke & Giant Game Night

2022

NEW YEAR'S!

Start the new year with our inspirational kit. Watch our website & social media for info!

OCTOBER 15 - THRIFT STORE Family Night

Gather the family and join us for an exclusive private shopping experience at The Bridge Thrift Store. The store will be open to Bridge student families ONLY from 6:30-8:30PM. We'll even make sure the store is stocked with lots of fresh merchandise! Students must present a Bridge ID card for families to enter. All families will receive an exclusive 'Bridge Family Discount' of 20% off your whole purchase!



Friday nights are FREE with a Bridge student membership. Advance Sign-Up required at thebridgecenter.org.

FREE AFTER SCHOOL BUS PICK-UP

- COME HANG OUT WITH US AFTER SCHOOL -



Need a ride? Check our bus schedule and sign-up to be picked up (for FREE) after school. Attend a program or hangout in our space! Our bus makes stops at Orland Jr. High, Jerling Jr. High and Summit Hill Jr. High on Tuesdays.

Visit thebridgecenter.org and click the green button to sign up!



EMPOWERING TEENS MONTH



VOLUNTEER



SHOP



DONATE

We are excited to announce our new "Empowering Teens Month" initiative launching in November (a new, positive spin-off from our 10+ years of acknowledging National Bullying Prevention Awareness month). This initiative brings much-needed awareness to the importance and impact of afterschool programs that help **ENGAGE**, **CONNECT** and **EMPOWER** teens to navigate life and discover who they were created to be.

Sponsorships and group service opportunities (at The Bridge Thrift Store) will be part of this exciting new month-long initiative - along with focused "On Mission" programs for students based on our holistic approach to afterschool programming. For details about how YOU, your BUSINESS, or your GROUP can help support our efforts to empower local teens, visit thebridgecenter.org and click 'Donate' or email us at info@thebridgecenter.org.

THRIFTASTIC® Job Readiness Program

Accepting Student Applications for the Fall!



Attention students! Are you looking to gain work experience and leadership skills in a fun, uplifting environment? If so, the **Thriftastic Job Readiness Program** is just for you...

- Experience in a working retail setting.
- Improve your communication.
- Develop leadership skills.
- Build valuable skill sets for your future.
- Help support the FREE programs at The Bridge Teen Center.
- Volunteer 2 hours a week (after school or on Saturdays)

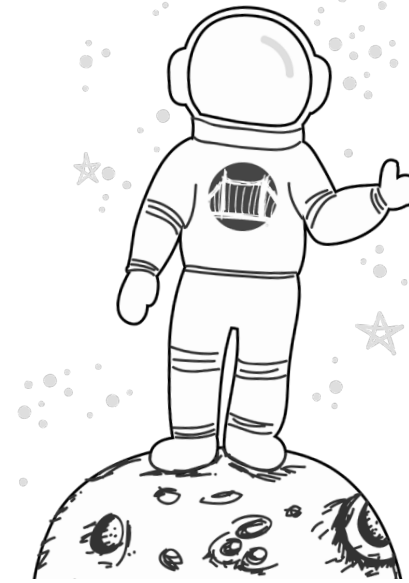
Apply Today!

*Opportunity open to teens in 7th - 12th grade with an approved Bridge student membership.

All applications encouraged by Friday, August 27th. To apply send an email to volunteer@thebridgecenter.org.

Sponsored by:  Moraine Valley Community College

THE BRIDGE TEEN CENTER



FALL • WINTER 2021

This semester is sponsored by:

PROVIDENCE BANK & TRUST

Bettenhausen

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE BRIDGE TEEN CENTER?

We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit community center for students in 7th-12th grade. We offer nationally-recognized FREE programs and events that are designed around the interests and needs of teens in the suburbs. To date, we have served 10,500+ different students from 128 communities.

HOW DOES A STUDENT BECOME A MEMBER?

Click the "APPLY NOW" green button on our website. The Student Membership Application (SMA) can be completed online or a hard copy can be picked up in person. Students are **required** to fill out an SMA only once. Once completed, signed by a parent/guardian, and approved by staff, students have access to all of our free programs.

HOW DO I SIGN UP FOR PROGRAMS?

Click on "Programs" on our homepage. Pick the programs you want to attend and click "Sign up for this program." Finish sign up by clicking the "shopping cart" icon on the top right. Then "check out" with your student ID and password. Watch our video tutorial on our website. Please email us if you do not have your student login info.



HOW ARE YOU MAINTAINING A SAFE & HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT?

We need everyone's help to keep The Bridge as safe as possible for our students, volunteers and staff. Learn about our COVID-19 safety measures, visit thebridgecenter.org/news.

WHEN ARE YOU OPEN FOR STUDENTS?

Our free afterschool programs take place on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 2:00-6:00pm during the school year. (In the summer programs take place between 1:00-6:00pm.) Every other Friday Night we are open to students from 7:30-10:30pm. All students must sign up in advance to attend a program and/or event at thebridgecenter.org.

HOW CAN A STUDENT EARN COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS?

Community service at our Thrift Store is available for students with an approved SMA on file. Complete the SMA online and mark "yes" to serving at the Thrift Store. Already a member? Call 708.532.0500 ext. 108 or email volunteer@thebridgecenter.org.

15555 S. 71st Court
Orland Park, IL 60462
708.532.0500

thebridgecenter.org
@TheBridgeTC



OUR FREE PROGRAMS ARE ORGANIZED INTO

5 BUCKETS:



MIND/
BODY



EVERYDAY
LIFE



COMMUNITY
CONNECTIONS



EDUCATIONAL
SUPPORT



EXPRESSIVE
ARTS

SEPTEMBER



August 31 (Tues., 4:00-5:45)
GARAGE HANGOUT
Meet some new friends and play games in the Garage. Try all of them and decide which ones are your favorites!



August 31 (Tues., 4:15-5:30)
DIY WORKSHOP: THRIFT STORE CORK MAGNETS
w/ Becca, Bridge Staffer
Create tiny magnet animals or sculptures from bottle corks to be sold at The Bridge Thrift Store, which supports the free programs at The Bridge! Community service hours given.



September 1 (Wed., 4:00-6:00)
PROJECT SERVE: THRIFT STORE
Give back to The Bridge! Help out at The Bridge Thrift Store, which supports the free programs at the teen center.



September 1 (Wed., 4:30-5:30)
#SKILLS SPORTS: BASKETBALL 3-ON-3
Practice your jump shot and work on your free throws. Blow off some steam with a game of 3-on-3!



September 2 (Thurs., 4:00-5:15)
INSPIRATIONAL VISION BOARDS & ICE CREAM
w/ Mandi, Bridge Staffer
Create your own happy vision board! Add photos, words, and embellishments. Cool off with some ice cream.



September 2 (Thurs., 4:15-5:45)
OPEN ART STUDIO
Explore the Art Studio and decide what you want to create. Paint, draw, crochet - it's up to you!



September 7 (Tues., 3:45-5:45)
BRIDGE PATIO HANGOUT AND POPCICLES
It's YOUR happy place! Hang out on The Bridge Patio with friends, play a game, chat it up, and just be.



September 7 (Tues., 4:00-5:30)
CULINARY: ARTISAN FLATBREADS w/ Cooper's Hawk
Embrace unique flavor combinations on flatbread pizzas like goat cheese, caprese and Italian sausage. Yum!



September 7 (Tues., 4:45-5:45)
FALL HAIR TRENDS
Use a straightener for curling, try easy buns and work on other casual looks. Get professional guidance, too!



September 8 (Wed., 4:00-5:15)
DIY: ARTISAN BEADED BRACELETS
Assemble colorful beaded bracelets with your choice of wire, leather, gems and charms.



September 8 (Wed., 4:15-5:45)
STEM: ADVANCED GAME DESIGN w/ Code Ninjas
Test your knowledge through designing and coding your own items and modifications to play in Minecraft!



September 9 (Thurs., 4:00-5:00)
WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE: MORNING RADIO HOST
w/ Moody Radio
Go for it! See what it's like to give a 3-minute mock radio segment, conduct an interview, and deliver a script.



September 9 (Thurs., 4:00-6:00)
HANDYMAN: WOODEN LAP DESK
w/ Operation Nehemiah
Don't have a desk space to call your own? Build one and make your homework time more productive.



September 14 (Tues., 4:00-5:45)
DONUTS & OPEN ART STUDIO
Have a donut AND express your creativity! Use charcoal on paper, construct a craft kit, or paint something cool.



September 14 (Tues., 4:00-6:00)
PROJECT SERVE: THRIFT STORE
Working on those community service hours yet? Help out at The Bridge Thrift Store, which supports the free programs you and your friends enjoy at the teen center.



September 15 (Wed., 4:00-6:00)
BEHIND THE SCENES: CITY BARBEQUE
We're visiting City Barbeque! See first-hand the slow, intricate process of smoking meat & make some amazing barbeque!



September 15 (Wed., 4:15-5:30)
CREATIVE PAINTING w/ UR the Artist
Let your emotions guide how and what you paint. Experience the calming power of art to reduce stress and anxiety.



September 15 (Wed., 4:30-6:00)
FENCING w/ Homewood-Flossmoor Fencing Club
Practice the art of the foil, epee, and the sabre when facing an opponent. Join us for the fun sport of fencing!



September 16 (Thurs., 4:00-5:30)
DIY: JAPANESE HANGING PLANTS w/ Get Growing Foundation
Dig into this Asian art of enclosing and growing plant roots in only moss. Hang yours near a window and enjoy!



September 16 (Thurs., 5:00-6:00)
HOW TO STAY AWAKE IN CLASS & SMOOTHIES
w/ Moraine Valley Community College
Explore tricks on how to make sleep a priority so you can thrive, not just survive the school day. Have a refreshing smoothie too!



September 21 (Tues., 4:00-5:45)
GARAGE HANGOUT
Get out of the house and play some Garage games! Brush up on your billiard skills... it's all in the wrist.



September 21 (Tues., 4:00-5:00)
HAPPINESS GAME CHANGERS
What makes some people happy no matter what? Try out their tips that will help you to keep smiling.



September 21 (Tues., 4:30-5:30)
JOURNALISTIC WRITING & STORYTELLING
What makes some stories so memorable? Hear from a journalist and find out how to improve your Instagram stories.



September 22 (Wed., 4:15-5:30)
STEM: DUCK BOAT CHALLENGE
Engineer a boat out of random materials - it must float and hold several rubber duckies. Winner gets... come and find out!



September 22 (Wed., 4:30-5:45)
SUCCULENT SKELETON PLANTERS w/ Catherine's Gardens
Use professional floral design to create a beautifully-scary planter filled with succulents.



September 23 (Thurs., 4:15-5:30)
GEARHEADS: ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE
w/ Bettenhausen Auto
Learn how to change a flat tire and jump start a car – fundamental skills for all drivers in case of an emergency.



September 23 (Thurs., 4:30-5:45)
FIGURE DRAWING & TEA w/ Pekoe & Bean
Express emotions through art! Draw large scale with simple shapes & gestures, while focusing on charcoal & pencil. Drink tea, too!



September 28 (Tues., 3:45-5:45)
BRIDGE PATIO HANGOUT
It's YOUR happy place! Hang out on The Bridge Patio with friends, play a game, chat it up, and just be.



September 28 (Tues., 4:00-5:15)
MAKING SUCCESS FROM FAILURE
w/ Moraine Valley Community College
Create a word cloud to remind you that failure is full of growth opportunities. Retrain your brain!



September 28 (Tues., 5:00-6:00)
BEGINNING DRUMS
Make your love for music legit by developing your skill in rhythm and timing. Drum pads and sticks provided.



September 29 (Wed., 4:00-6:00)
#SKILLS SPORTS: RACQUETBALL
w/ Silver Lake Country Club
It takes accuracy, agility, and speed to beat your opponent on the court. Come play this fast-paced game!



September 29 (Wed., 4:15-5:30)
OPEN ART STUDIO
Find that thing that fills your creative soul. Draw, paint, make a ring with wire and beads... just create.



September 29 (Wed., 4:30-5:45)
SOUL CAFE: HEALTHY FRIENDSHIPS
w/ Hope Enrichment Center
Design artwork that will help you stick to your own friendship goals, and explore healthy vs. toxic character qualities.



September 30 (Thurs., 4:00-5:30)
CULINARY: HOW TO MAKE CHOCOLATE
w/ Fabulously Sweet Creations
Tap into your inner Chocolatier! Use coating chocolate to make truffles and other sweet treats.

Hang Out at The Bridge!

SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER



September 30 (Thurs., 4:15-5:45)
GARAGE HANGOUT
Play your fav games in the Garage! Challenge a friend to Pop-A-Shot, or just work on beating your own high score.



October 5 (Tues., 4:00-5:45)
GARAGE HANGOUT
Shake off the day, chill and play some of your favorite games in the Garage! Ping Pong, anyone?



October 5 (Tues., 4:15-5:30)
DIY: SOLAR OVEN S'MORES w/ Forest Preserves of Cook County
Add black paper to the bottom of a box, cover the lid with foil and let the sun do the rest. S'mores anyone?



October 6 (Wed., 4:00-5:00)
FOSTERING ANIMALS w/ NAWS Humane Society
Meet a few kittens that love people! Hear what it takes to be a loving and successful foster furr parent.



October 6 (Wed., 4:15-5:45)
PROJECT SERVE: THRIFT STORE BOOKS
Give back to The Bridge! Help out at The Bridge Thrift Store, which supports the free programs you and your friends enjoy at the teen center. Community service hours given.



October 7 (Thurs., 4:15-6:00)
INTERIOR DESIGN: CREATING BALANCE IN A ROOM w/ Ethan Allen
Tour a furniture store and design a room that feels good to you by choosing furniture, paint colors, and accents.



October 7 (Thurs., 4:30-5:30)
RESTORATIVE YOGA
Relax and revitalize your mind and body through yoga. Make these techniques a part of your daily routine.



October 12 (Tues., 3:45-5:30)
GARAGE HANGOUT & NACHO BAR
Release that energy and play your fav games in the Garage! And have some nachos... enough said.



October 12 (Tues., 4:00-6:00)
STEM: INTRO TO ROBOTICS (MS ONLY)
Complete programming missions with a Lego EV3 robot & practice remote control commands. This program will be repeated October 13th - sign up for only one Robotics program.



October 12 (Tues., 4:15-5:45)
HULA TASSEL EARRINGS w/ Margaux Mays
Handcraft colorful hula-dancing tassel earrings – the perfect addition to your fav fall outfit!



October 13 (Wed., 4:00-6:00)
#SKILLS SPORTS: ARCHERY w/ Bow Doc Archery
Practice target accuracy with a bow and arrow at an indoor archery range. Equipment will be provided.



October 13 (Wed., 4:00-6:00)
STEM: INTRO TO ROBOTICS (MS ONLY)
Complete programming missions with a Lego EV3 robot and practice various commands by remote control.



October 14 (Thurs., 4:00-5:00)
DAILY SKIN CARE ROUTINE w/ Skin Sensations by Samera
Practice exfoliating, masking, and moisturizing your beautiful face with safe products.



October 14 (Thurs., 4:00-5:30)
CULINARY: FRESH HOMEMADE RICOTTA
w/ Chef Karla Temple, RDN
Whisk cream, milk and yogurt and simmer over medium heat. Add to pasta or spread on toasted bread.



October 14 (Thurs., 5:00-6:00)
SECRET STUDY STRATEGIES w/ Acom Public Library
Go into your next test feeling confident! Discover how to study in a way that works for you.



October 19 (Tues., 4:00-5:45)
CAFE HANGOUT
Buy yourself a lemonade and snack, play Chess with a friend, or create something cool in the Art Studio.



October 19 (Tues., 4:15-5:30)
SHIBORI TIE-DYED FABRICS
Bind, fold, twist, and compress cloth for shibori, a Japanese method of dyeing cloth with indigo dyes.



October 20 (Wed., 4:00-6:00)
HANDYMAN: WOODEN SERVING TRAY w/ The Maker's Hands
Get empowered to create! Measure, cut, sand, and drill wooden pieces together to create a serving tray.



October 20 (Wed., 4:30-5:30)
COLORING TO REDUCE ANXIETY
Explore how to let go of worries, add color to intricate designs, and set a plan for more happy days ahead!



October 21 (Thurs., 4:00-5:00)
BEGINNING ACOUSTIC GUITAR w/ One Fine Tune
Play basic chords, tune your strings and read sheet music to play a song. Guitars provided.

Throughout the semester we have various “hangout” times for students! Look for the Everyday Life bucket icon during afterschool hours below. Sign up today!



October 21 (Thurs., 4:15-5:45)
STEM: CODING FOR ARTISTS
Love art and computers? Learn about variables and loops, and try your hand at coding shapes. Beginners welcome!



October 21 (Thurs., 4:30-5:30)
PLANT HERBS IN A BAG w/ University of Illinois Extension
Make a mini greenhouse with a plastic bag and soil to grow basil, parsley and lettuce seeds indoors.



October 26 (Tues., 4:00-5:00)
HALLOWEEN STRING GARLAND
Whip up a scary skeleton decoration for a Halloween gathering! Use balloons, string, felt and fabric starch.



October 26 (Tues., 4:15-5:45)
BIG ROOM HANGOUT
Play a game with a friend in your fav Big Room booth or read a great book in a Hideaway pod. One person per pod.



October 27 (Wed., 4:00-6:00)
FALL PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT w/ Trinity Christian College
Bring your phone to take some pix! Learn about the science behind natural changes the fall season brings.



October 27 (Wed., 4:00-5:30)
CULINARY: SIGNATURE TEX-MEX ENCHILADAS w/ Chuy's
Hand-roll a corn tortilla and add meat, veggies and sauce to create a delicious authentic enchilada!



October 28 (Thurs., 4:00-6:00)
PROJECT SERVE: THRIFT STORE
Give back to The Bridge! Help out at The Bridge Thrift Store, which supports the free programs you and your friends enjoy at the teen center. Community service hours given.



October 28 (Thurs., 4:30-5:30)
PUMPKIN SPICE LATTES & Pictionary
Warm up with a classic pumpkin spice latte with custom toppings, and get your drawing skills ready!



November 2 (Tues., 4:00-5:45)
CAFE HANGOUT
Buy yourself a root beer and snack, play Chess with a friend or create something cool in the Art Studio.



November 2 (Tues., 4:15-5:45)
PROJECT SERVE: THRIFT STORE
Give back to The Bridge! Help prepare The Bridge Thrift Store for the holiday season by sorting through seasonal donations. Community service hours given.



November 3 (Wed., 4:00-5:45)
DESIGN YOUR DREAM KITCHEN w/ DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen
Explore interior design style, blueprint layout, and accessories to make your future dream kitchen come to life!



November 3 (Wed., 4:30-5:30)
SCRABBLE & SUB SANDWICHES
Put your word knowledge to the test and challenge a Bridge friend to Scrabble. Sub sandwiches on us, too!



November 4 (Thurs., 4:00-5:15)
BEGINNING ELECTRIC GUITAR w/ Down Home Guitars
Let that inner rock star out! Practice chords to a popular song. All levels welcome. Guitars provided.



November 4 (Thurs., 4:15-5:45)
CROCHET: POM POM CHAINS
Crochet a simple chain and cut yarn into pom poms. Tie them to the chain as a fun decoration. Beginners welcome!



November 9 (Tues., 4:00-5:30)
GARAGE HANGOUT
Grab a booth, game and friend (or volunteer) and relax as you play some games in the Garage!



November 9 (Tues., 4:15-5:45)
STEM: POPSICLE STRUCTURE COMPETITION
w/ Moraine Valley Community College
Construct a viable bridge out of sticks. Winner gets bragging rights and a stellar item from the prize bin!



November 10 (Wed., 4:00-5:00)
HIGH INTENSITY INTERVAL WORKOUT w/ Avolve Fitness
Attack that mid-semester slump with an energizing workout that will get your heart rate up!



November 10 (Wed., 4:30-5:45)
EMBELLISHED GREETING CARDS
Use craft label machines to enhance birthday, holiday, or “just because” cards for family and friends.



November 11 (Thurs., 4:00-5:00)
ANIMATION FLIP BOOK w/ Shelby, Bridge Alumna
Discover cool animation principles and make an object look like it's moving through a flip book.



November 11 (Thurs., 4:00-5:30)
CULINARY: THAI CHICKEN EGG ROLLS & MANGO SALAD
w/ Siam Marina
Pack crispy egg rolls with chicken, noodles, & spices. Make a salad with shrimp, mango, and lime dressing, too!



CULINARY PROGRAMS WITH
THIS ICON ALSO HAVE ZOOM
OPTIONS AVAILABLE.

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER



November 11 (Thurs., 5:00-6:00)
WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE: SURGEON w/ DuPage Medical Group
Experience how a doctor preps for surgery and check out medical instruments and a surgical robotic system.



November 16 (Tues., 4:00-6:00)
SEWING: HOLIDAY TABLE RUNNERS
Pick out festive fabric, thread a machine and sew a table runner for a holiday dinner! All levels welcome.



November 16 (Tues., 4:15-5:45)
BIG ROOM HANGOUT
Enjoy the open space and knock out some homework in your fav Big Room booth or relax and dream in a Hideaway pod. One person per pod.



November 16 (Tues., 4:30-5:30)
CAFE SNACKS & FINALS PREP (HS ONLY) w/ Sylvan Learning Center
Pick up some tips for finals and develop your own personal studying plan for tackling your exams.



November 17 (Wed., 4:00-5:30)
CULINARY: MEXICAN STUFFED GORDITAS
w/ Olivet Nazarene University
Roll out dough, warm it in a skillet, and create a center pocket. Fill with meat, cheese, cilantro and more!



November 17 (Wed., 4:15-5:45)
RETRO VIDEO GAME EXPO
Can you master classic gaming systems such as GameCube and Playstation 1 & 2? Winners receive a surprise!



November 18 (Thurs., 4:00-6:00)
ROCK CLIMBING w/ Trinity Christian College
Test your mental and physical strength as you climb on a rock wall. Also, get a sneak peek of a college campus.



November 18 (Thurs., 4:15-5:30)
SOUL CAFE: GRATITUDE JARS
w/ Fraser Vaselakos & Associates
Place a few notes of thanks in a jar to serve as uplifting reminders. Invite your family to participate, too!



November 18 (Thurs., 4:30-5:30)
DIY: FRIENDSHIP BRACELETS
Show how much you appreciate your friends by making them something special using colored strings and beads.



Middle School Crash Week
November 22 (Mon., 4:30-5:45)
CHALK PASTELS
Draw flowers and skulls through a unique and famous style of art. Get more skilled as an artist!



November 22 (Mon., 5:00-6:00)
AIR HOCKEY TOURNAMENT & WINGS (MS ONLY)
w/ Matt, Bridge Staffer
Compete in a high intensity game of air hockey! Dip tasty wings in your fav sauce, too. What a great combo!



November 23 (Tues., 4:15-5:45)
PROJECT SERVE: THRIFT STORE (MS ONLY)
Give back to The Bridge! Help out at The Bridge Thrift Store, which supports the free programs you and your friends enjoy at the teen center. Community service hours given.



November 23 (Tues., 4:30-5:30)
GARAGE HANGOUT & THANKSGIVING PIES
Hang out and play your favorite Garage games. Bonus: Have a warm piece of pie on us... you add the whipped cream!



November 24 (Wed., 4:00-5:15)
DIY: SOCK GNOMES (MS ONLY) w/ Becca, Bridge Staffer
Fill a sock with rice, create the face and beard with faux fur, and use another cozy sock for the pointy hat!

