



BRIDGE BULLETIN

FALL 2019

BRIDGE SHAPING FUTURES THROUGH COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY

We always appreciate hearing feedback from students and parents about how The Bridge has impacted their lives. Having served over 8,000 different teens since 2010, we are a statistical success; however, we firmly believe that our true success lies in the individual stories of the students we serve. We are excited to share two stories about how Bridge programs provided students with direction for their futures.

The first came from a Mom who shared, "My daughter asked me to go to Trader Joe's for ingredients that she has used during a culinary program....while there, she was approached by an employee that praised The Bridge. Then we went to Chuy's for lunch and my daughter then was conversing with the people there that she knew through The Bridge. THANK YOU for making my daughters' life dream of becoming a chef even more attainable!"

The second revolves around a completely different career path, thanks to our friends at Colonial Chapel in Orland Park and a volunteer teacher from Tinley Park High School. "My daughter wants to become a mortician....last year she was able to visit, tour, and speak to the director at a funeral home. This year, she was also able to dissect a fetal pig during a program at The Bridge. The Bridge offers incredible opportunities."

We consider it a privilege to provide more than 350 different opportunities like this each year that help provide our students with hope, purpose and direction in their lives. Of course, none of this would be possible without the volunteer and monetary support of the community. To everyone who pours into the lives of our students, THANK YOU for investing in our students' future!



FEATURED PROGRAM



During this STEM program, volunteer Paul (pictured left) from Rightpoint showed students how to construct a 3D tower using balsa wood (pictured right) and tested the strength with books.



"This is the best summer my brothers have had in a couple years. They both struggle with being bullied. We got through the summer without one single crisis, and the main difference this summer was attending the Bridge. Thank you for all you do."

- Sister of Bridge Students



Last year, we set a new record for the total number of different students served with 1,521. Those students "checked-in" at The Bridge more than 11,500 times during the same period.





SUMMER PHOTO RECAP



TOP LEFT: Students learned how to shoot a bow and arrow and practiced target accuracy with our friends at BowDoc Archery.

TOP CENTER: Students held a giant snake during this Wild & Exotic Animals program.

TOP RIGHT: In the Art Studio, students created a unique design using the Japanese Shibori dyeing technique.

BOTTOM LEFT: In the Kitchen, students made their own omeletes with our friends at Bonefish Grill.

BOTTOM CENTER: New friendships were formed in The Bridge garden while enjoying delicious ice cream sundaes.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Students learned how to change a flat tire with our friends at Bettenhausen Auto.

FOR MANY MORE PHOTOS, VISIT THE "NEWS" SECTION AT THEBRIDGETEENCENTER.ORG



UPCOMING EVENTS



DRIVE OUT BULLYING

Volunteer, shop or drop off donations at the Thrift Store throughout October!

For details, visit:
thebridgeteencenter.org/news/dob2019



The culinary event of the year is Thursday, March 5th! Sponsorships and corporate tables are available now.

For details, visit:
thebridgeteencenter.org/donate



SUPPORTER Spotlight

Inspire Dental Wellness is one of our newest supporters. Not only do they sponsor our Educational Support programming this semester, but they also sponsored and volunteered during "Drive Out Bullying." Welcome to our family of supporters!

STAY CONNECTED ALL DAY/EVERY DAY!



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