Daily Bunner North American Bridge Championships Bunner North American Bridge Championships

2016 Youth NABC Editor: Brent Manley

Record turnout one of many Youth NABC highlights

They came in droves to the 2016 Youth NABC in Washington DC, with a record 233 different players over the three days of the tournament. Stephanie Threlkeld, ACBL's manager of education and communication, said the venue had a lot to do with the attendance. "There are so many things for families to do in Washington," she said, "and there are some really well-organized groups around the country supporting the tournament."

Threlkeld said she is grateful for the help provided by two ACBL employees, Shaneka Cunningham and Bryan Delfs, both of whom have lots of experience at the youth tournaments.

Delfs, marketing analytics manager, said the effort to attract young players is gaining momentum thanks to bridge teachers around the country and word of mouth among the young players.

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Florida Junior Bridge

ACBL President Ken Monzingo (at right) with the youth bridge players from District 9 (Florida). The district, longtime supporters of the Youth NABC, sent 32 players to Washington for the tournament.

Toronto Youth Bridge

Ten players from Toronto came to Washington to compete and to make new friends and renew acquaintances with old friends. The group (below) was led by Michael Yang. Three members of Toronto Youth Bridge will play for Team Canada in the World Youth Teams Championships in Salsomaggiore, Italy, next month.







Silicon Valley Youth Bridge

Twenty-four players from Silicon Valley Youth Bridge, started by Debbie Rosenberg three years ago, participated in the 2016 Youth NABC. The players prepared for the competition with extensive training and mentoring.

Open Pairs

Kevin
Huang
and Brent
Xiao,
winners of
the Baron
Barclay
National
Youth
Open
Pairs.





Jonathan
Baumel
and
Gianni
Hsieh,
runnersup in the
Baron
Barclay
National
Youth
Open
Pairs.

Swiss Teams



They were first in the Bridge Base Online National Youth Swiss Teams: rear, Xiang Liu, Zhengwen Li, Coach Min Liang and Yimin Yang; front, Zhefan Zhang, Penxiao Zeng and Yike Xie.



Second place in the Bridge Base Online National Youth Swiss Teams went to Evan Berman, Luke Williams, Jake Williams and Jake Olsen.

Sportsmanship Award

Avery Dyen of
Maitland FL (Orlando)
was selected by
the other players
to receive the
Master Point Press
Sportsmanship Award.
Dyen, 18, will soon
enroll in the University
of South Florida. "I
try to be nice and
friendly," she said.
"The best experience
is meeting people."



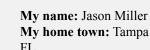
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Faces in the crowd



My name: Kyle Rockoff





My age: 18 My grade in school: Now in college

Why I like bridge: I don't know.

My favorite convention:



My name: Victor Lamoureux My home town: Halifax

NS **My age:** 18 My grade in school: N/A

Why I like bridge: Why

My favorite convention: Weak 1NT



My home town: Buffalo Grove IL **My age: 19** My grade in school: Sophomore in college Why I like bridge: It keeps the brain healthy. My favorite convention: Every hand an adventure

(EHAA) bids



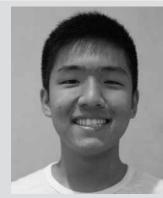
My name: Chris Welland My home town: New York City **My age:** 19 My grade in school: College sophomore Why I like bridge: ? My favorite convention:



My home town: Alpharetta GA **My age:** 12 My grade in school: 12th Why I like bridge: It's fun, addictive and it trains the brain.

My name: Alex Zhan

My favorite convention: Suction.





Erin Bayless and Jacob Rouette, first N-S, Strat A, Morning Cardrook Pairs; 1st N-S, Strat C, Afternoon Cardrook Pairs.



Marquis Douglas and Monica Harmon, first N-S, Strat C, Morning Cardrook Pairs.



Michael Moschella and Elise Bedell, first N-S, Strat A, Afternoon Cardrook Pairs.



Isabella Babb and Lauren Wilson, first East-West Strat B, Morning Cardrook Pairs.



Munachimso Iherobiem and Prince Antwi, first North-South, Strat A, Morning Cardrook Pairs.



Sayeed Bennett and Giovanni Peterkin, first N-S, Strat A, Afternoon Cardrook Pairs.

See you in Toronto July 27-29, 2017

YOUTH NABC YOUTH NABC YOUTH NABC **YOUTH NABC** YOUTH NABC **YOUTH NABC** YOUTH NABC YOUTH NABC



My name: Vincent Zhu My home town: Atlanta GA My age: 14 My grade in school: 9th Why I like bridge: It's a

fun game. My favorite convention: Mathe

Faces in the crowd

My name: Caleb Colburn My home town: Alpharetta GA

My age: 16

My grade in school: High school junior

Why I like bridge: It's a fun game that requires a lot of thinking.

My favorite convention: Suction

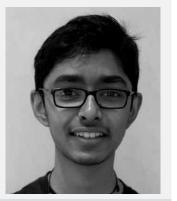


My name: Sidhesh Desai My home town: Atlanta GA

My age: 15

My grade in school: 10th Why I like bridge: It is fun.

My favorite convention: Puppet Stayman

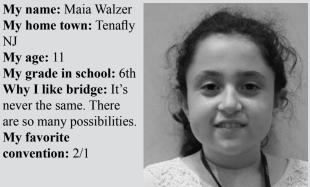


My home town: Tenafly My age: 11 My grade in school: 6th Why I like bridge: It's never the same. There

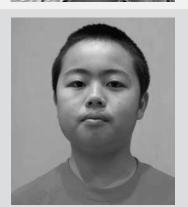
My favorite

convention: 2/1

Mv name: Maia Walzer



My name: David Zheng My home town: San Jose CA **My age:** 14 My grade in school: 9th Why I like bridge: Because I'm good. My favorite convention: Puppet Stayman



My name: Kayleen Iguban My home town: Virginia Beach VA **My age:** 10 My grade in school: 5th Why I like bridge: I get to be partners with different

people. My favorite convention: ?





Hao Hao Chen and Shi Chen, first N-S, Strat B, Afternoon Cardrook Pairs.



Sam Shroyer and Suchit Shrestha, first E-W, Strat A, Afternoon Cardrook Pairs.



Samuel Li and Michelle Yang, first E-W, Strat A, Morning Cardrook Pairs and Afternoon Cardrook Pairs.



Hallie Presley and Abbey Lavelle, first N-S, Strat B, Afternoon Cardrook Pairs.



Xiang Gao, Xichen Song, Jiasen Liu and Sihan Zou, first in Strats A, B and C in the Bridge Base Online National Youth Swiss Teams Consolation.



Chidumebi Iherobiem and Gabriella Morano, first E-W, Strat C

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Turnout

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From the beginning of the tournament, parents talked about the benefits of bridge for the children they brought to Washington. Anissa Dyen, who lives in the Orlando FL area, came with three of her children. They were among 32 players from District 9 who "have made friends and memories that will last a lifetime."

Another group came from Toronto, host of next year's Youth NABC, scheduled for July 27-29. Michael Yang founded Toronto Youth Bridge in 2013 and runs a bridge club to sustain his teaching activities. His organization now has about 50 members. Ten Toronto Youth Bridge players competed in Washington.

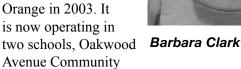
Another boost in attendance came from Silicon Valley Youth Bridge, 24 of whose members came to Washington to compete. Two schools in Orange NJ brought a total of 18 students. One teacher said students who joined bridge clubs at the schools were considered "nerdy" until other students saw how much fun they bridge players were having.

Barbara Clark – tireless promoter of youth bridge

One of the most energetic supporters of the Youth NABC and bridge in general, especially for young people, is Barbara Clark of Orange NJ. She is education liaison for ACBL Unit 140 and she has

tapped into numerous sources for donations to her program, including the estate of a wealthy man.

Clark, former director of special services in the Orange school system, started the school bridge program in Orange in 2003. It is now operating in



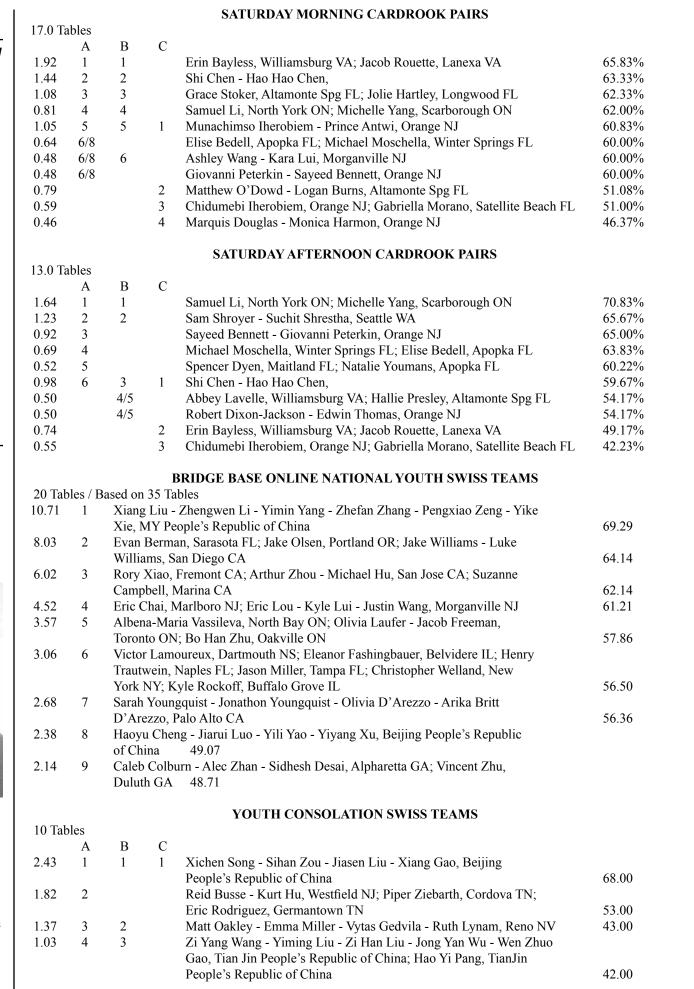
School and the Park Avenue School.

When school administrators took a favorable view of bridge teaching, Clark found a teacher on the staff who is a player. They developed a lesson plan. They soon found that the students took to bridge with enthusiasm. "We realized that the kids really like bridge," Clark says.

Some of the students like bridge so much that they come back to Park Avenue for the bridge even after they finish the elementary grades and go off to high school, where there are no bridge classes.

The young bridge players of Orange NJ experienced their first Youth NABC in Atlanta in 2013. Clark paid for nine players to attend the tournament. Some of the players experienced their first airplane rides. Others were away from home for the first time.

This year, Orange NJ sent 18 young players to the Youth NABC. Back home, some of them have



started teaching bridge to other students. "We are thinking about starting a bridge academy," Clark says

The principal of the Park Avenue School recently took the Learn Bridge In A Day? course and is looking for ways to expand the bridge program at the school.

The Orange players don't have to wait a year to play in a tournament. Thanks to Clark, District

3 youth coordinator, the students regularly attend sectionals and regionals in the district.

Clark helps organize fundraisers and knows she can depend on a large group of friends for donations. She has also approached Bridge Base Online for support.

Denise Harlem, a teacher at Park Avenue, says the thriving bridge program just keeps growing. "Success," she says, "breeds success."

SATURDAY MORNING CARDROOK PAIRS									
			NORTH-SOUTH	SECTION O				EAST-WEST	
A	В	C			A	В	C		
1	1		Erin Bayless, Williamsburg VA; Jacob Rouette, Lanexa VA	65.83%	1			Elise Bedell, Apopka FL; Michael Moschella, Winter Springs FL	60.00%
2	2		Shi Chen - Hao Hao Chen,	63.33%	2			Mitchell Dyen - Avery Dyen, Maitland FL	58.33%
3	3		Grace Stoker, Altamonte Spg FL; Jolie Hartley, Longwood FL	62.33%	3	1		Isabella Babb, Williamsburg VA; Lauren Wilson, Lower Coverdale NB	52.50%
		1	Marquis Douglas - Monica Harmon, Orange NJ	46.37%		2	1	Chidumebi Iherobiem, Orange NJ; Gabriella Morano, Satellite Beach FL	51.00%
			NORTH-SOUTH		SECTION P			EAST-WEST	
A	В	C			A	В	C		
1	1	1	Munachiso Iherobiem - Prince Antwi, Orange NJ	60.83%	1	1		Samuel Li, North York ON; Michelle Yang, Scarborough ON	62.00%
2	2		Ashley Wang - Kara Lui, Morganville NJ	60.00%	2			Giovanni Peterkin - Sayeed Bennett, Orange NJ	60.00%
3			Anahyah Muldrow - Reginald Smith, Orange NJ	56.67%	3	2		Matthew O'Dowd - Logan Burns, Altamonte Spg FL	51.08%
4			Vivian Lamoureux, Dartmouth NS; Emily Mattison, Dallas GA	56.58%	4			Ibrahima Sacko - Martha Johnson, Orange NJ	50.67%
		2	Nathan Bedell, Apopka FL; Sam Swaggerty, Altamonte Sprgs FL	45.83%					
				SATURDAY AFTER	NOON CAR	DROOK PA	IRS		
			NORTH-SOUTH	SECTION O				EAST-WEST	
A	В	C			A	В	C		
1			Sayeed Bennett - Giovanni Peterkin, Orange NJ	65.00%	1	1		Samuel Li, North York ON; Michelle Yang, Scarborough ON	70.83%
2			Lauren Liu, Cranbury NJ; Helena Hsieh, Naperville IL	57.50%	2			Matthew Pope - Katherine Pope, Justin TX	57.50%
3	1		Abbey Lavelle, Williamsburg VA; Hallie Presley, Altamonte Spg FL	54.17%	3	2		Robert Dixon-Jackson - Edwin Thomas, Orange NJ	54.17%
	2		Ibrahima Sacko - Martha Johnson, Orange NJ	50.83%					
		1	Erin Bayless, Williamsburg VA; Jacob Rouette, Lanexa VA	49.17%					
			NORTH-SOUTH	SECTION P				EAST-WEST	
A	В	C			A	В	C		
1			Michael Moschella, Winter Springs FL; Elise Bedell, Apopka FL	63.83%	1	1		Sam Shroyer - Suchit Shrestha, Seattle WA	65.67%
2			Spencer Dyen, Maitland FL; Natalie Youmans, Apopka FL	60.22%	2			Vivian Lamoureux, Dartmouth NS; Emily Mattison, Dallas GA	53.40%
	1	1	Shi Chen - Hao Hao Chen,	59.67%					
	2		Chidumebi Iherobiem, Orange NJ; Gabriella Morano, Satellite Beach FL	42.23%					