

Los Angeles Unified School District
OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS
333 S. Beaudry Avenue, 24th floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Phone: (213) 241-6766
Fax: (213) 241-8952
www.lausd.net



News Release

February 23, 2009
08/09 - 236

Francisco Bravo Medical Magnet High School wins 15th Annual American Society of Civil Engineers Popsicle Stick Bridge Building Contest

Los Angeles - Students from Francisco Bravo Medical Magnet in the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) were declared the winners of the 15th annual American society of Civil Engineers Popsicle Stick Bridge Building contest on Friday February 13th at UCLA. Members of the winning team were Charisse Wong, Winnie Wong, Jung Hoon Lee, and Matthew De Los Santos all members of the class of 2010. The team was coached by long-time Bravo science teacher and Science Department Chair Michael A. Morgan.

The students competed against more than 40 teams from Los Angeles area high schools and Orange County high schools. Teams are judged on multiple categories including technical reports, presentation, poster boards and the ability of their bridge to support large weights, aesthetics, and bridge efficiency. There is also an impromptu design challenge. Popsicle stick bridges can only be constructed of standard Popsicle sticks and white school glue. Parameters for the bridge design are supplied by ASCE and bridges can weigh no more than one pound (453.6 grams).

Bravo's bridge supported 489 pounds and weighed only 420 grams. In addition Bravo's to the overall first place finish, the Bravo's team also won first place in Impromptu Design and Best Display Board and second place in Bridge Aesthetics and Technical Report. This is the third year in a row that Bravo has placed in the Bridge Building competition including a first place overall in 2007 and third place overall in 2008.

Additionally, Bravo's second team of Amelica Aguilar, Angie Yi, Mindy Kim, and Carol Yeung won a third place in Bridge Aesthetics.

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