



## BridgeWhiz!

### Teaching Young People Across North America to Play Bridge Online

The ACBL Educational Foundation has established an initiative to teach bridge digitally to students in grades 4 through 12 using an online teaching model developed by Bridge for Youth (B4Y) in the Seattle area. This new program, **BridgeWhiz**, will be directed by Al Bender, who, along with David Dailey and an active group of other volunteers, built Seattle's successful program.

The model aims to enroll 1,000 students in Year I who will learn to play bridge *for free* and includes twenty 1.5-hour classes to be taught via Zoom and Shark Bridge. Recruitment and training of teachers, especially those experienced in teaching bridge to young people, will begin immediately, in partnership with the American Bridge Teachers' Association. Both teachers and volunteer class assistants (who will help individual students online) must be proficient in using Zoom.

Student recruitment starts in September 2021 with a formal program launch in October. Classes will be held after school according to each time zone. More program information will appear in the August Bridge "Bulletin".

Funding for **BridgeWhiz** will come from the Educational Foundation's program budget, a generous gift from the Hawai'i Bridge Center, and gifts in tribute to Peggy Kaplan and Betsy Ross Bare – both experienced teachers of young people. The Foundation will soon begin seeking additional donors in order to sustain and expand the program in future years.

[www.ACBLEF.org](http://www.ACBLEF.org)

June 2021