

Org-Type	Non-Profit-based		
Lead	Chabot Space & Science Center	PoC	N/A
PoC-Phone	510-777-9170	PoC-Email	techbridge@chabotspace.org
Address	7700 Edgewater Drive, Suite 519, Oakland, CA 94621		
URL	http://www.techbridge.org/		
Service-Region	Bay Area		
Type	Student Program		
Subjects	General Science Engineering Technology		
Level	Middle School (5-8th grade) High School (9-12th grade)		
Other-Objectives			
Served-per-Year	Demographics	Women Asian and/or Pacific Islander	
Content	<p>Techbridge is an after-school and summer program designed to encourage girls in technology, science, and engineering. The program was started in Oakland, CA and has expanded to other communities, including other school districts and the California School for the Blind in Fremont. Originally funded by the National Science Foundation, Techbridge has reached over 1250 girls since its founding in 2000. The program continues to build on its successes through expansion to new schools and partnerships. Not many girls have the chance to work with their hands in the classroom, but Techbridge introduces projects like building robots, assembling telephones, and taking apart appliances. Since girls may not ask to help with household projects or include tools on their wish lists, parents assume that they aren't interested. But our experience tells otherwise. When given the chance, girls do enjoy building with LEGOS and fixing household appliances. We see this first hand during hands-on projects. We imagine that experiences like these will help girls find technology and engineering less intimidating and more interesting as a career option.</p>		
Outcomes	<p>The goal of Techbridge is to welcome girls to technology, science, and engineering. The program encourages girls to do hands on projects and hopes that those experiences will lead to a career option in technology, science, and engineering. A bridge between middle school and high school "Techbridge comes at a critical time in girls' development," comments Project Director, Linda Kekelis. "Girls have many important decisions to make in middle school and high school, but don't always receive the academic guidance they need." Techbridge supports girls by teaching them technical and scientific skills and most importantly, helping them plan for the next steps to college and careers.</p>		
Started	Funded-Through		
Length	Cost		
Primary-Funding	Primary-\$		
Materials			
Other-Funding			
How-Assessed			
Best-Practice-Why			
Promising-Practice			
Sponsor	Sponsor-Org		
Sponsor-Phone	Sponsor-Email		
Other-Orgs	Oakland Unified School District Mills College National Science Foundation Moore Foundation S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation Juniper Networks The Fitzpatrick Foundation Adobe		