

# BayCC Community Newsletter



Welcome to our monthly newsletter! In this newsletter, we will be sharing updates on our current projects, upcoming events, and ways that you can get involved and make a difference.

We hope you will join us at our upcoming events and continue to support our mission to make a positive impact in our community!

## Newsletter Highlights

Interview With  
Dr.Oktay

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Chess Championship

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Woman's Art  
Workshop

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Writing Contest -  
Inspired by Risale-i  
Nur

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Bowling Night

# Interview With Dr. Oktay

Interview by Nilufer S.



*Photo by Levent M*

Dr. Oktay is one of the first Turks to come to the Bay Area.

**Q:** Amerika'ya ne zaman ve nasıl geldiniz? Hikayenizi anlatabilir misiniz?

**A:** ABD'ye 1977 yılında geldim. Stanford Üniversitesinde Computer Engineering master yaptım.

**Q:** Adaptasyon sürecinde yaşadığınız bir problem oldu mu? Nasıl üstesinden geldiniz?

**A:** Benim ABD'ye geldiğim yıllarda maalesef buralarda çok az Türk vardı. Fakat üniversite civarında az sayıda da olsa Türkler vardı. Onlarla irtibatımı muhafaza etmeye çalıştım. Benim Stanforda geldiğim yıl üniversite kampüsünde Cuma namazları kılınmaya başladı. Daha sonraki yıllarda SF Bay Area da hem Türk toplumu ve hem de Müslümanların sayısında ciddi artışlar oldu. O yüzden adaptasyon problemi pek yaşamadım.

**Q:** Başka Kültürden insanlarla diyalog ve bağlantı kurarken dikkat etmemiz gereken veya önemli noktalar nelerdir?

**A:** Nasıl ki biz diğer kültürlerden gelen insanların bize saygı duymasını bekliyorsak bizler de onlara (onların kültürlerine) saygı duymamız gerekir.

# Interview With Dr. Oktay (Continued)

Q: Sizce Amerika'da bir Türk olarak yaşamak nasıl bir deneyim/experience?

A: Kişinin kendi ülkesinin dışında başka bir ülkede yaşaması başta bazı zorluklar getirir fakat insan yavaş yavaş bulunduğu ülkeye alışır (adaptasyon). Şöyle bir Türk atasözü vardır "İnsanın vatani doğduğu yer değil, doyduğu yerdir." Bence Türkler ABD de dahil dünyanın pek çok ülkesinde bulunmalıdırlar. Kültürümüzün güzelliklerini ve yüksek ahlaki değerlerimizi gittiğimiz ülkede yaşatmalıyız.

Q: Gençlik yaşlarınıza geri dönebilseydiniz, dönermiydiniz?

A: O yaşlara geri dönmeyi pek düşünmedim. Şimdi iyiki dönmemişim burada kalmışım diyorum.

[Click here to read entire report!](#)



# Past Events



*Wishing a very Happy National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day to all the officers who care out there enforcing law and Bay Area cultural connections protecting us all.*

*from Pacifica Institute and*

*January 9, 2023*

## National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day

Pacifica Institute and BAYCC volunteers visited city police departments in Bay Area to congratulate police officers on National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day on January 9, 2023. Volunteers gifted a box of sweet Turkish baklava by sharing their appreciation for the officers' duty and expressing good wishes.



## MLK Day of Service

Pacifica and BAYCC volunteers participate in various voluntary projects on Martin Luther King Jr Day, 16th of January 2023. Pacifica is one of the active members of the Peninsula Multifaith Coalition and San Francisco Interfaith Council.

# Past Events



## Neorama Winter Retreat

A group of young (at heart) individuals with new perspectives and ideas organized a 4-day Winter Retreat program full of panels, group discussions, recreational activities, and project-building sessions. Events included panels such as "Status and History of Black Muslims in the United States" by Imam Abu Kadir and "Said Nursi Story: How he can be understood by all?" activities such as Paint Swap, Hiking, and escape rooms.



## Tea Talk 03

We had the 3rd session of Tea-Talk on January 14th, Saturday. We met to discuss how we can make a positive impact through volunteering and charitable giving. We had special guests who shared their stories. Yvonne from Compassion Week and Dilek from Embrace Relief gave examples of how volunteer actions have benefited both our local community and others abroad. We also explored ways to incorporate giving into our daily lives while enjoying some delicious Turkish food and tea.

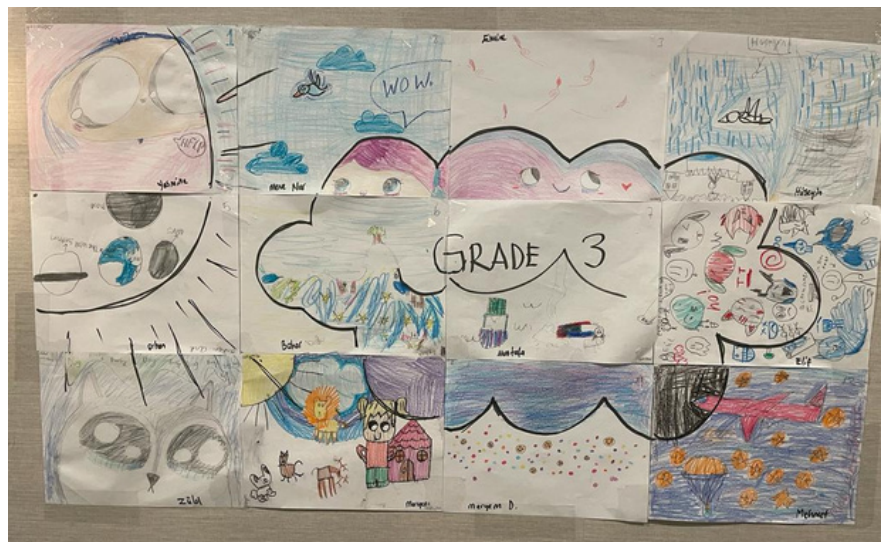
## Winter retreat in Irvine

High school students from Bay Area visited Irvine for a winter retreat. The event was rich with lectures, picnic and discussions. Participants made new friends and returned with spirituality.





Painting by school students during winter retreat



Click Here To Register

# BAYCC CHESS

## CHAMPIONSHIP

**HOLDING BY BAYCC CHESS CLUB**

**FEBRURAY 12, SUNDAY**

**STARTS AT 11:00 AM**

**ENTRY FREE**

**AT CULTURAL CENTER**

**THREE SECTIONS SCHOLASTIC, MEN  
WOMEN**

**PRIZES TROPHIES & CASH**

**REGISTER HERE**

<https://forms.gle/7Y22tb3KXAH9ajmw7>

Contact:  
612-987-7412

Space is limited  
Register early!



## Click Here To Register

Jointly organized by  
Peninsula Temple Beth El & Pacifica Institute

# Heart to Art

WOMEN'S ART WORKSHOP

Relli Siegel, a certified facilitator of the Open Studio Project, will guide participants from different faith traditions through a creative **process** that will allow them to explore their inner self in a **safe, relaxing, and supportive** way. No art background is necessary. Materials will be provided.

SATURDAY | Peninsula Temple Beth El  
01.21.2023 | 1700 Alameda de las Pulgas  
2-5 PM | San Mateo

**Register**


 PTBE:  
[asiu@ptbe.org](mailto:asiu@ptbe.org),  
[dprager@myastound.net](mailto:dprager@myastound.net)  
 Pacifica Institute:  
[nurdin.kaparov@gmail.com](mailto:nurdin.kaparov@gmail.com)

Questions?

[Click here for YouTube link](#)

The poster features a dark blue background with a vertical purple gradient on the left side. The words 'THE BRIDGE' are written vertically in large, light purple, semi-transparent letters. At the top right, there is a teal speech bubble icon containing the word 'talks' in white. Below this, the date and time 'JAN 21 | SATURDAY 6:00 | PM PT' are displayed in white. A circular portrait of Kari O'Rourke, a woman with short grey hair, is centered. Below the portrait, her name 'Kari O'Rourke' is written in white on a pink rectangular background. A teal banner with the text 'THE BRIDGE' in white is positioned below the name. Underneath that, a pink banner contains the text 'A TALK ON HEARING EACH OTHER'S VOICES' in white. At the bottom left, the text 'join us every saturday @erguvariantalks on youtube' is written in white and teal. Below this, 'CONTACT US erguvariantalks@gmail.com' is written in white. At the bottom right, there is a red YouTube play button icon with the text 'CLICK TO JOIN' below it.

talks

JAN 21 | SATURDAY  
6:00 | PM PT

Kari O'Rourke

THE BRIDGE

A TALK ON HEARING  
EACH OTHER'S VOICES

join us every saturday  
@erguvariantalks  
on youtube

CONTACT US  
erguvariantalks@gmail.com

CLICK TO JOIN



# BOWLING NIGHT

**SATURDAY**  
**JAN 21**  
6PM

**ENTRY**  
\$19 PER  
PERSON

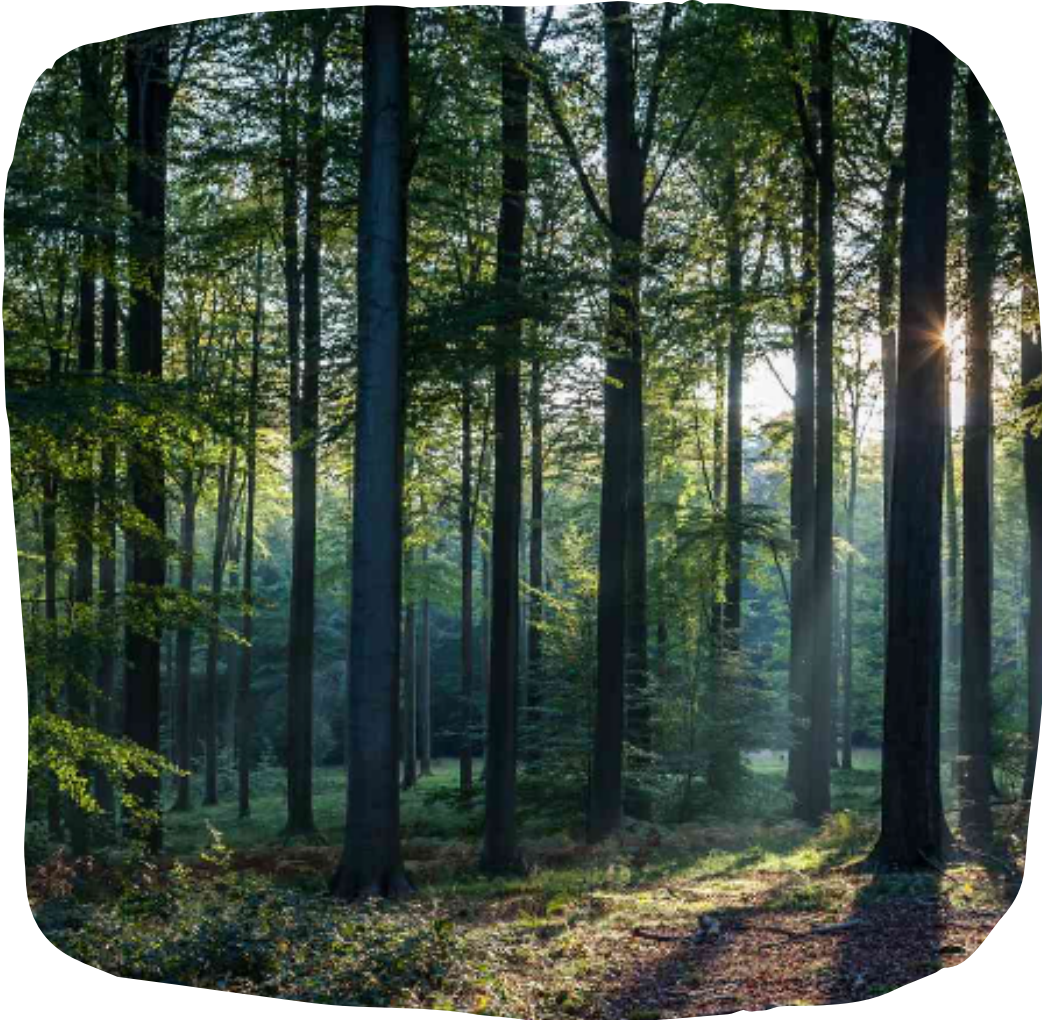
**4TH STREET  
BOWL**  
1441 NORTH  
FOURTH STREET,  
SAN JOSE, CA 95112



**CONTACT FOR  
INFO &  
REGISTRATION :**  
**ESRA NUR**  
**(650)-963-6982**

**PAY**  
**ZELLE: (650)-963 6982**  
**VENMO: INDIGOSPILLS**

# Jan 28 - Balancing Forest Health and Fire Safety Management - Hike



Join park staff as we explore the question: How can we balance forest health with community safety in our parks?



[Click Here To Register!](#)

[Click here for the Zoom link](#)

# ÇAĞLAYAN DERGİSİ

OCAK AYI **Kahoot!** YARIŞMASI



## West Youth

**ÖDÜLLER:**

Birinci: **APPLE WATCH**

İkinci: **AIRPODS PRO**

ÜÇÜNCÜ: **AMAZON \$75 HEDİYE ÇEKİ**

— **3 ŞUBAT - 7:30PM (PST)** —

Anatolia Cultural Center  
13742 Jamboree, Irvine

 **ZOOM  
KATIL**

# Writing Contest

## Risale Explained

We invite you to showcase your writing talent by creating short stories inspired by the Risale-i Nur Collection of Said Nursi to convey its beauties to today's youth!

DEADLINE  
**Feb 28**

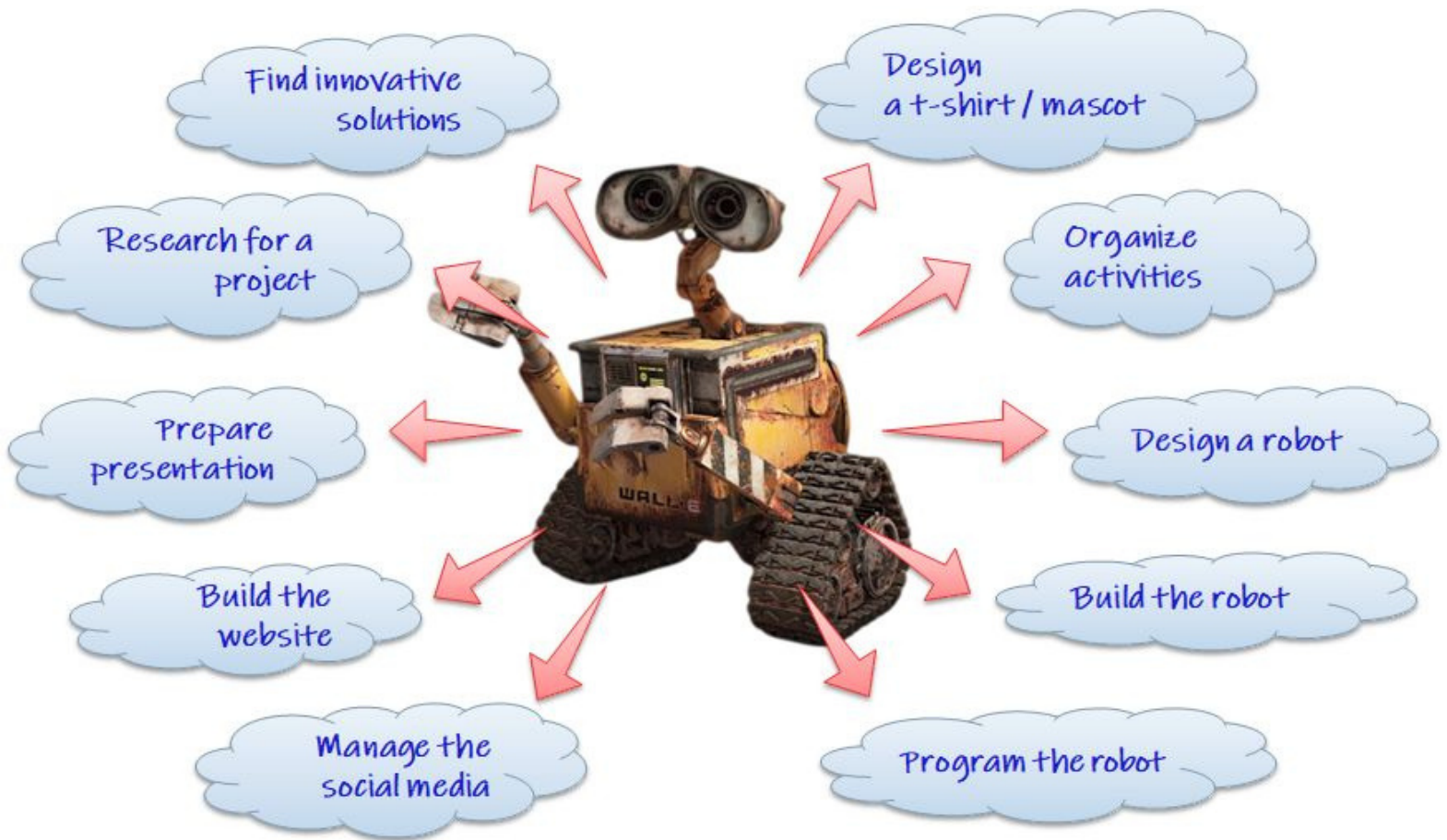
[RISALEEXPLAINED.NET](http://RISALEEXPLAINED.NET)

Two Categories: Middle school and below | High school and above  
Prizes are for each category

1st Prize	2nd Prize	3rd Prize
<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$250</b>	<b>\$100</b>

10 honorable mentions: \$25 worth of gift cards

# Robotics Club



For grades: 4-7

- Why Robotics?
- Robotics Competitions
- Our Robotics Training

**Join our Robotics Team!**

Date-Time: Jan 21 @ 1:30-2:30pm

Location: 4701 Patrick Henry Dr building 18, Santa Clara, CA 95054

[Zoom Link](#)

## Bay Area Sports Clubs

Sports enthusiasts have initiated several sports clubs: football, volleyball, hiking, basketball, diving, pickleball, stargazing, tennis, table tennis, diving and surfing. Everyone is welcome to join any sports club they are interested to be part of. Kindly click the links below to join the WhatsApp group for each club.

01. Table Tennis, Sat, 8 am

02. Basketball, Sun, 8 am

03. Soccer, Fri, 8 pm

04. Young Soccer

05. Pickleball, Mon, 5 pm  
(Family friendly)

06. Divin' Deep

07. Volleyball, Wed, 8:30 pm

08. Surfing

09. Hiking (Family friendly)

10. Stargazing

11. Tennis





[Click here to download for Android](#)

[Click here to download for iOS](#)



# READING TOGETHER HAS NEVER BEEN **EASIER!**

What you can read:

- Quran
- Jawshan
- Dhikrs
- Tawhidname

Two one(1) have the value of 2 unless they unite. But if they unite together, they acquire the strength and value of 11. App Eleven lets you create reading circles with your friends without needing to sign up!

## DOWNLOAD THE APP



# Angry Hot Chicken - Halal and Delicious Chicken Restaurant in San Jose!



**ANGRY HOT CHICKEN** Email Us  
Theangryhotchicken@gmail.com

*Our Awesome*  
**STREETFOOD**  
**STORY**

ANGRY (NASHVILLE) HOT CHICKEN IS FRIED CHICKEN WITH A MAJOR KICK. THE CHICKEN GETS A HEFTY DOSE OF SPICE THANKS TO HOT SAUCE AND CAYENNE IN THE COATING, AS WELL AS A SPICY SAUCE DRIZZLED OVER THE TOP. THIS VERSION OF FRIED CHICKEN IS SERVED WITH WHITE BREAD AND PICKLES TO HELP BALANCE OUT THE HEAT.

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*nothing*  
BRINGS  
**PEOPLE**  
**TOGETHER**  
LIKE  
*Angry Hot Chicken*

