

# MathEdge Team Won Merit Award in 2008 Po Leung Kuk Primary Mathematics World Contest Held in Hong Kong

SAN JOSE, CALIF. – August 12, 2008 – Eight students from the Bay Area, ranging from 5th to 7th graders, have completed in the Twelfth Po Leung Kuk Primary Mathematics World Contest (PMWC) held from July 12th to 17th in Hong Kong. There were forty-four teams of about 200 students from various countries across the globe, including Indonesia, Singapore, Mexico, the Philippines, Bulgaria, China, India, Japan, Malaysia and South Africa. The math teams formed by the eight students represented California's East Bay and Silicon Valley. The team participation in this contest was by invitation only.

The students representing the East Bay team were **Jerry Wu** (6<sup>th</sup> grader from Mission San Jose Elementary School in Fremont), **Andrew He** (5<sup>th</sup> grader from Stevens Creek Elementary School in Cupertino), **Vincent Ho** (7<sup>th</sup> grader from Horner Jr. High School in Fremont), and **Alexander Hong** (5<sup>th</sup> grader from Eastbrook Discovery School in San Jose). The East Bay team won the Merit award and two of the team members, Jerry Wu and Andrew He, won third place for individual performance.

The students representing the Silicon Valley team were **Arjun Manimaran** (7th grader from Peterson School in Sunnyvale), **Rohan Mathuria** (6<sup>th</sup> grader from Gomes School in Fremont), **Isaac Lam** (7<sup>th</sup> grader from Miller School in Cupertino), and **Varun Mohan** (6<sup>th</sup> grader from Challenger school in Sunnyvale).

The two teams, administered by **MathEdge**, have participated very successfully in this contest for four years. They have consistently brought home awards.

The eight students were selected from two rounds of tryouts administered by MathEdge. The first tryout was held in early February with 134 students, ranging from 3rd to 7th graders, from 76 different Bay Area schools taking the tryout test. From that, twelve students (the top 10%) were selected for a twelve-week training. Besides the 8 students mentioned above, **Jason Xie**, **Sravya Bhamidipati**, **Victor Feng**, and **Allison Clark** were among the students who have gone through the training. A second test was administered in late April to select the final eight contestants. For these students, all expenses (except airfare) for five days including room and board, and local tours in Hong Kong were covered. This was a unique opportunity for the elementary school and junior high students to have an academic and cultural exchange with children around the world.

Qualifying to compete in the PMWC requires sound reasoning, logical thinking and, most importantly, problem solving skills, which is an excellent supplement to traditional school math. Therefore, the students selected had to show an ability to focus on the entire problem solving process instead of only getting the right answers.

## About MathEdge

*MathEdge specializes in teaching problem solving and competitive math training.*

**MathEdge** was created in 2004 to teach students to apply problem-solving skills to mathematics. As opposed to the computational skills normally taught in schools, the *MathEdge* technique focuses on the reasoning between a problem and its solution, rather than on the answer itself.

**MathEdge** students has won many awards in various national and International math competitions such as MathCounts, MathOlympiads, American Mathematics Contest, Primary Math World Contest, etc.



**California East Bay Team Receiving Award**

Caption left to right: Jerry Wu, Andrew He, PWWC organizer, Irene Zhang (assistant coach), Alexander Hong, Vincent Ho, Minny Guo (assistant coach), Eric Chan (coach)



**Silicon Valley Team Receiving Award**

Caption left to right: Rohan Mathuria, Deepa Mohan (assistant coach), Varun Mohan, Eric Chan (coach), PWWC organizer, Isaac Lam, and Arjun Manimaran