

Looking forward to helping out

It was a beautiful and sunny Sunday, and instead of going to the park, mall, or to a movie with our friends, we decided to help the South Bay Vietnamese Cultural Center (SBVCC). We helped them by volunteering at the Manhattan Beach Hometown Fair. Each year the SBVCC has a booth.

This year, the booth is called "Fruity Smoothies" which sells smoothies to help raise money to give scholarships for students in Vietnam. The SBVCC sold all different types of smoothies such as Strawberry Smoothies, Strawberry Banana Smoothies, Passion Fruit Strawberry Smoothies, Mango Smoothies, Mango Lemonade Smoothies, and Passion Fruit Mango Smoothies. We also had Thai Tea. Boba was also available with any drink.

We put whip cream on the smoothies, if the customers wanted it, and called out their numbers and sometimes we took orders. There were many customers and it was very busy all day long. We worked all the way until it was over and helped clean up. It gave us a wonderful feeling and it was a great experience!! We were so happy to be able to help other kids our ages in Vietnam go to school. We are looking forward to helping out at the next fund-raising events.

*Jonathan and Justine Tran
Age 10 and 12*

Vietnamese culture is very deeply rooted and not forgotten

It is important to know that even though we live in the United States our Vietnamese culture is very deeply rooted and not forgotten.

I wanted to take this time to share an opportunity that I had recently. I helped volunteer at the SBVCC smoothie booth during a visit to Southern, CA. I was able to experience first hand the dedication of the volunteers that worked the booth. I was honored to donate my time to such a worthy cause (and I was able to speak my mother language with many people!). I was not aware that such an organization existed that directly helped the people of Vietnam. The stories that were shared with me truly touched my heart. Now that I am aware of the SBVCC and what they do I share this information with people that I know in hopes that they too may become interested in helping such a worthy cause. The founders of the SBVCC continually brainstorm in an effort to find the most efficient way to raise money; so more people can be helped. There are many people that are trying to help the less fortunate by providing them an opportunity to go school so the can have a better future.

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