



AMERICA TRUE YOUTH PROGRAM

-  **AMERICA TRUE YOUTH EVENTS** – Providing a first introduction to the joys of sailing and demonstrating the accessibility and benefits of sailing to communities and participants.
-  **AMERICA TRUE YOUTH LEARN-TO-SAIL PROGRAMS** – Teaching the life lessons of sailing.

The America True Mission

America True is entirely dedicated to providing youth with opportunity to benefit from sailing and its inherent life lessons. We believe that sailing can teach youth valuable life lessons including confidence, independence, strategic thinking, teamwork and respect for the environment. We believe that sailing can, and should be open to all regardless of gender, culture, ethnic, or economic background. We believe that many of those who could benefit most do not currently have access to the sailing experience.

Sailors know that this sport promotes self-esteem, sharpens cognitive abilities, develops environmental awareness, and teaches responsibility and accountability. It provides physical activity, fun, and achievement for youth without being gender, size, or age-specific. Girls compete side-by-side with boys, big kids with little kids.

The America True Youth Program is comprised of three major initiatives: national America True Youth Sailing Events, the launching of America True Learn-to-Sail Programs, and the expansion of community sailing programs. Our goal is to initiate new programs in communities that can sustain them, and expand existing programs to diversified audiences.

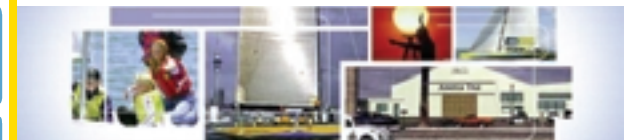


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America True Youth Sailing Events

Our Youth Sailing Events are one-day events organized by America True in the Bay Area and throughout the United States. We bring together youth groups from at-risk neighborhoods with sailing clubs, for day-long sails aboard club members' sailboats. It is an opportunity for the kids to experience sailing, the wind in their faces, the feel of the helm, and the carefree joy of leaving their troubles ashore.

We will be expanding this program to provide more events at major sailing venues that hold promise for development of community sailing programs using the America True model for Learn-to-Sail Programs. These local events will provide sailing experiences to hundreds of young people and provide the foundation for the establishment or expansion of ongoing low-cost community sailing programs. We will seek communities with a strong requirement for youth recreational programming and match them with partners within the sailing industry, local educational institutions, civic organizations, local government agencies and sailors who can help organize and sustain a model program on a local level.

Launching America True Youth Learn-to-Sail Programs

In 2002, America True launched the first season of the America True Youth Learn-to-Sail Summer Program on Lake Merced in San Francisco in partnership with San Francisco State University and the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department. More than 130 students, ages 8-16, received Beginner Sailor certification (based on US Sailing curriculum), most of who came from at-risk personal situations.



The program was offered for free to participants through local youth agencies. Supported agencies included the YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, Glide Memorial Church, Beacon Center, Tenderloin Neighborhood

Development Center, as well as referrals from area youth centers in neighborhoods adjacent to Lake Merced.

This was also the first season of an America True Community Sailing Program, a low-cost learn-to-sail program offered to the general public, ages 8-adult also in partnership with San Francisco State University and the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department. More than fifty children and adults completed the program, many of whom will be returning for intermediate-level training.

The America True business model is to initiate new Learn-to-Sail programs in partnership with community groups and other non-profit agencies that can become quickly self-sustaining. As an example of this model, in 2003, San Francisco State University took over management of the Lake Merced programs.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT—

Funding for the continuation and expansion of the America True Youth Programs will allow us to reach larger numbers of underprivileged and at-risk youth in your neighborhood and nationally, and to continue to grow diversified community sailing. America True relies on the generosity of sailors, support from the maritime industry, and a few small foundation grants to do this good work.

We need your help with a generous donation to America True. Give back to the sport we love.

All donations are 100% tax deductible. America True is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization #91-17558678. Receipts will be provided for all contributions.

For more information, contact Director of Development, America True. email development@americatrue.org, phone 415-974-1018.

Donor levels

- \$50 True Friend
- \$100 True Crew
- \$250 True Grinder
- \$500 True Afterguard
- \$1,000 True Skipper
- \$2,500 True Star
- \$5,000 True Champion
- + \$5,000 True Saint

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