For the past 25 years, Houston has hosted the Houston Children’s Festival benefiting Child Advocates, Inc. Today it is known as the largest children’s festival in the United States!

For two years, ASCE has participated as booth sponsor. This year, ASCE Houston volunteers worked the night before building LEGO sculptures with sponsor logos and creations that represented civil engineers. During the day of the festival, volunteers showed up once again to facilitate a bridge building contest. Kids were given a sheet of plain paper, two paper clips and LEGO bridge supports; with these materials, they were asked to create a bridge and stack as many washers on the span as possible. LEGOos, Civil Engineering DVDs, books, ASCE bags and more were given away as competitive incentives for those kids who built bridges that could hold the largest loads!

Volunteers found it amazing to see all of the creativity come from the variety of children at the event. One of the best tools to get kids excited was just to encourage them to be creative and think out of the box, something we could all do more as engineers.

ASCE Houston looks forward to participating with the Houston Children’s festival again next year!