



SENIOR COUNSELORS

JANE CASSADY
KIRSTEN EBERLY
DAVIDE HORN
JEAN JOHNSON
GRANT RAUCH
LORNA WILLIAMS
TIFFANY WILLIAMS

JASMINE KING
(HEAD COUNSELOR)

JUNIOR COUNSELORS

JOHN BERGLUND
PAIGE BURNO
MIA QUIN COLLINS
TONI LOMAX
NILE LYONS
DANA SHAW
JESSICA SHERARD



COUNSELORS IN TRAINING

DEVON COBB
IMANI HADI
ASHIRA NAFTALI GREER
SUITE-RIVER NELSON
TYLER PINDER-HUDSON



ALLENS LANE SUMMER ART CAMP

PARENT ORIENTATION HANDBOOK

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THE SUMMER ART CAMP STAFF

Sherry Ashton (Mrs. A.): Director

A love of the arts has always played an important role in Ms. Ashton's life. She started her professional career in the performing arts as a dancer and went on to become an actor, teacher and choreographer. She had principle parts in several movies, toured internationally with a dance revue and did a short national tour with a children's theater ensemble. She has belonged to several dance and theater companies, the most notable being the 127th Street Repertoire in New York City. She taught classes for and served as the director for several Summer Arts Enrichment Programs.

Ms. Ashton received her Bachelor of Arts Degree (BA) in Dance with a minor in Psychology from Point Park University and her Master's Degree (MSIS) in Information Science from Long Island University, C.W. Post Campus.

Susanna DiCastro: Assistant Director

Susanna studied Art History and Psychology in Italy. She worked as a manager in an Art Gallery in Rome for about 8 years with responsibilities of preparing, and organizing the monthly shows, receptions, invitations and catalogs of the shows. She instructed the employees on the setting up cleaning, and all the preparations for the shows. Correspondence and contact with the artists and the transportation companies, inventory, print and small work of art on paper inventory and sales.

After marrying and moving to the United States, she taught Italian at Berlitz and Drexel University.

Susanna then went on to work at the Institutes for the Achievement of Human Potential for 10 years as a teacher. She taught toddlers through 14 year olds in a variety of subjects from Early Reading and Math, Studio Art and Art History, Math, Science, Natural History, Mythology, Poetry, as well as the production of the annual Shakespeare play at the Evan Thomas Institutes. After leaving IAHP, Susanna worked as an interpreter and translator in a clinic that treated disabled and brain injured children and adults. She trained as a clinician, taking medical histories and doing evaluations. In this role she taught parents and family members programs and methods to improve the intellectual, communication, manual, and social abilities. She also worked as an interpreter for the institutes' non-English speaking families. She loves cooking and teaches classes on how to prepare real Italian dishes.

KEY STAFF

Terry Brennan: Drama

Terry is a professional actor, puppeteer, director and teacher based in the Philadelphia area. Terry has taught drama for several years at ALAC's Summer Art Camp. He's very excited about the new Performing and Visual Art Tracks Mrs. A. is implementing this summer. Terry is a founding member of Tribe of Fools, a physical theatre collective that produces original work for the Philadelphia Fringe Festival each year. Last year

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he directed *Armageddon at the Mushroom Village* for Tribe of Fools which received both critical and audience acclaim. Terry has served on 3 national tours with Enchantment Theatre Company and is currently the company manager for Enchantment's national tours. He has performed with various theatre companies around Philadelphia including, BRAT Productions, EgoPo Theatre Company, Simpatico Theatre Project, Philadelphia Children's Theatre and Theatre Ariel. Terry is a graduate of The University of Nebraska and The Dell'Arte International School of Physical Theatre.

Nsiah Oparebea: Dance

Ms. Oparebea's professional dance career spans 40 years. She began her professional dance career with the Arthur Hall Dance Ensemble at the tender age of five. She traveled with the group and was featured in "Fat Tuesday and All that Jazz" and "Orpheus". She received her early dance training from the Civic Ballet, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Freedom Theatre and Alvin Ailey Dance Company before graduating from the High School of Creative and Performing Arts in Philadelphia.

In her adult dance career, she has become a well known teacher of modern, jazz, African and ballet at various dance studios which include Brenda Lee Dance Studio, D'Shay School of Dance. She has been a Dance Specialist at the Allen's Lane Arts Camp for the past three years and looks forward to creating choreography for the summer camps end productions each year. Nsiah is currently pursuing her Bachelor's of Science degree in Behavior Health and Human Services and a minor in Dance Therapy.

Melissa Kapish: Arts and Crafts and Pottery

Melissa has always loved creating. She attended Northeastern University in Boston Massachusetts where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications and Art. In Florence, Italy, Melissa studied High Renaissance Art, classic drawing and oil painting. At Arcadia University Melissa studied Art Education and is a certified Art Teacher in Pennsylvania. Melissa loves working with children and states: "Art is inherently necessary for the developing minds of children. I am overwhelmed by the power that art has had in enriching my life and I strive to empower others. The visual arts allow students to respond to their life experiences through creative expression."

Jasmine King: Head Counselor

Jasmine is entering her 4th year as a Modern Dance major at Temple University. At Temple, she has performed in various dance and theater venues. Jasmine spent her years in middle and high school training in classical ballet at Wissahickon Dance Academy. It was there that she decided she wanted to spend her life training and dancing. Jasmine plans to attend Drexel University for their Dance/Movement Therapy Graduate program to work with adult women's self image.

SENIOR COUNSELORS

All Senior Counselors are either working and/or teaching professional artist, recent visual or performing arts graduates or in a college art degree program.

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INTRODUCTION

The following information is presented to provide you with answers to most of the question you may have as you prepare your child for the wonderful experience of attending Allens Lane Art Center's (ALAC) Summer Art Camp (SAC). The Senior Counselor and Head Counselor are always available to talk to you and answer specific questions about your child's day at camp.

ATTENDANCE

If your child will be absent, please notify the camp office as soon as you know and no later than the evening prior to the following camp day.

BUNK ASSIGNMENTS

Bunk assignments are determined by age, bunk requests and year in school. Special requests for group placement must be written on the application sheet or brought to the attention of the camp office prior to June 20th.

STORAGE FOR CAMPERS

All children have a shared cubby to store their belongings. Younger children should bring a change of clothes.

CLOTHING/SUPPLIES LIST FOR CAMPERS

ALAC Summer Art Camp supplies one t-shirt. Please make sure we have your child's size on file.

Please be sure to **label** your child's belongings. This is definitely helpful for any items which may be misplaced. If an item turns up missing, there will be lost and found containers to store items until they are recovered. Below is a list of items your child will need for camp. They are separated into two columns. One column is the items

you will leave at camp in camper's cubbies. The other column is the items the child will take home with them on a daily basis.

TO BE LEFT IN CAMP

Pair of flip-flops
Bottle for water
2 pair extra underwear
Cap or Sun Visor
Change of clothes
Goggles

ITEMS TO BE TAKEN HOME

Backpack
Plastic bag for wet clothes
1 Bathing Suit
1 Bathing Towel

- 1) On the first day of camp, campers should bring all items that should be left in camp. All items should be labeled with your child's name.
- 2) On swim days we suggest that campers bring their swimsuit, towel, goggles and plastic bag for wet swimsuit in their backpacks.

DISCIPLINE

It is our policy to keep disciplinary issues minimized and to help children monitor their own behavior. The staff presents model age-appropriate behavior guidelines and reflective communications. We encourage self-control, self-direction, responsibility, and cooperation. When practical and safe, logical or natural consequences will be presented to your child.

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We practice positive discipline which instructs the child as to what they should do. For example, “We walk inside the building,” versus, “No running!” “Time out” may be used selectively for children who are the risk of harming themselves or others. The period of “time out” will be just long enough to enable the child to regain control of him/herself and will never be longer than 1-2 minutes per each year of age. During the “time out” a member of the staff will visually observe the child.

Aggressive physical behavior (fighting, hitting, biting, etc.) by a child toward another child or staff member is unacceptable. Staff members will intervene immediately should this type of situation occur in order to protect all of the children and encourage more acceptable behavior. Physical restraint (a staff member holding a child) will not be used except as necessary for control of the situation. Parents will be informed if such an incident occurs. If the child’s behavior is extremely disruptive, and/or harmful to him/herself or others, a parent may be asked to remove the child from camp for the day. If the behavior continues and becomes a pattern the parent will be asked to remove the child permanently from camp. Open communication between home and camp is considered the key to effective discipline.

❖ If a counselor deliberately hits a camper in any way, they are fired immediately.

❖ If a camper hits a counselor they will be expelled from the Summer program.

STAFF CONTACT

You will be provided the name and phone number of the Senior Counselor before your child starts camp. Senior Counselors will call you a week prior to the start of camp. We urge you to discuss any matters that will be helpful to the counselor in dealing with your child. Please give any notes for the counselor or other staff member to the assistant director in the camp office.

HEALTH AND WELFARE/FORMS

The Health Form must be filled out by a parent, signed by a doctor and returned to the camp office a week before the child’s first day of camp. Campers will not be permitted to attend camp without the health form!

ALL FORMS

For any parents who have not turned in forms including health, medical/doctor’s note, or other, please do so immediately. The sooner we have this information, the more efficiently we will be able to care for your child.

DROP OFF/PICK UP

Drop off is at **8:30AM**. **Any parent who drops their child off before 8:30AM will be charged for before care.** It is important to arrive before 8:45 AM. Our swim and trip buses will leave shortly after. When you drop off, pull around the art center and drop your child off in the appropriate bunk line in the field. We will be there to assist in this process. If you need to speak with someone, please find a parking spot. Extra space is available near the playground. Please do not block the driveway. When exiting the art center, it is better to turn right onto Allens Lane and go around the block. Picking up your child is done the same way as drop off. Pick up is at 3:30PM. If someone else is picking up your child, or

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you need to leave them for after care, please let us know by writing a note, or calling the camp, so that we can notify their counselor.

DON'T BE LATE!!!!

Please pick your children up on time. If your child is checked into aftercare, you will be billed for that day. Our aftercare program ends at 6:00PM sharp. Please arrange for your child to be picked up on time. ***Our late fee is \$5.00 for every ten minutes after 6:00 pm.***

RAINY DAY DROP OFF/PICK UP

On rainy days, please drop your child off at the front door. Line-up will take place upstairs in the theater instead of the field. Pick up will be done in the same way. Please pull up to the front door, and your child will be brought to you.

LUNCH

Send in a lunch every day. We are not able to refrigerate lunch. Lunch is scheduled for 12:00 Noon. If you are concerned about spoilage, you can place an icepack in your child's lunch. Please send lunches that do not need to be heated in the microwave. On trip days, send your child's lunch in a disposable bag.

SWIM DAYS

Our swim days are Wednesdays and Fridays. All Bunks, 1-7, will swim at one session from 1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. at the Roxborough YMCA,

Wednesday: Y lifeguards and ALAC staff will teach the campers to swim and set guidelines for those that can already swim.

Friday: Is Game Day in the Pool

Campers should come with their swim gear, a towel and flip flops in their back packs/bags. You may also want to send goggles since some children frequently open their eyes under water. All campers will change in the dressing room at the pool before and after the swim session.

FOOTWEAR

Throughout the summer, there will be many activities that require sneakers such as hikes, soccer, softball and tennis, etc... Please be sure to have campers pack or wear sneakers each day, so that he or she does not miss out on a fun activity.

TRIP DAY ALERT

Our trip days are on Thursdays. On trip days please send your child to camp in their Allens Lane T-shirts. All campers will be given one T-shirt on the first day of camp. If your child comes to camp without their T-shirt on a trip day, you will be required to purchase another shirt for \$15.00. **There are no exceptions to this rule. Also, pack your child's lunch in a disposable bag with their name on it. We cannot carry lunch boxes on trip days.**

TRIP SPENDING MONEY

If you choose, you may send in spending money for your child to use on trip days. Some parents have expressed a concern about the request of trip money. It is very difficult to find a happy medium that will satisfy all of our families. Despite our best attempts, every trip offers the opportunity for campers to spend money. Therefore, it is your option to send in a few dollars for each trip. If you choose to do so, please put it in an envelope with

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your child's name on it with the amount and give it to the Senior Counselor unless you feel that your child is responsible enough to hold it themselves. Also, please inform your child what they are allowed to spend the money on. We are not able to keep track of how children choose to spend their money.

LABELS

Please be sure to label your child's belongings. This is definitely helpful for any items which may be misplaced.

BEAT THE HEAT

We do everything possible to keep the kids cool during the hot days of summer. However, there are a few things you can do to help out. You may want to send a water bottle that your child can fill up and take outside for sports. For children who are very sensitive to the sun you may also want to send in a sun visor or baseball cap. We provide sunscreen so it is not necessary to send in unless your child needs a specific brand.

CRAZY TUESDAY

Each Tuesday is based on different themes. Our camper will combine with other bunks to create, play and experience new things. We will have special guest performances and workshop classes.

GALLERY ART SHOW AND THEATER PERFORMANCE

The mid and ending performance productions and gallery shows will occur during weeks 4 and 8.

Every Friday look for our camp newsletter "Camp Connections," informing you of current and coming events.

AFTERCARE HEALTHY SNACKS

We are endeavoring to make sure our campers receive healthy snacks while they attend camp. The items below will be served to the Aftercare campers. Feel free to provide your own snacks if you do not wish your child to eat camp snacks.

Humus, Carrots, Celery

Apples And Other Fruit

Pop Corn (Organic)

Crackers And Cheese

Homemade Treats W/Marshmallow And Chocolate

Frozen Grapes

Frozen Bananas Dipped In Chocolate

(Natural Chocolate From Trader Joes)

Mixed Fruit Smoothies

Apple Toast

(Sliced Apples, w cinnamon on Buttered Bread, Broiled)

Fruit Kebab Or Veggie Kebab (Carrots, Cucumber,

Peppers, Grape Tomatoes...)

Fruit Popsicles (Homemade w real Fruit)

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2011 TRIP SCHEDULE

- ❖ Mural Arts Tour
June 30th

- ❖ Bartram Gardens
July 7th

- ❖ Philadelphia Magic Gardens and Smiths
Playground
July 14th

- ❖ Upper Darby Performing Arts Center (Narnia)
July 21st

- ❖ Dutch Apple Theater (Wizard of Oz)
July 28th

- ❖ Philadelphia Museum
August 4th

- ❖ Camden Aquarium and Children's Garden
August 11th

- ❖ Please Touch Museum
August 19th