



2014 Registration

Registration for Summer 2014 is NOW OPEN! We are excited to be continuing with our online camper registration system. It has never been easier for you to register for camp. Visit our website and fill out your application today. Don't wait ... priority registration for returning campers closes November 1st!!

Message from the Chairs... David Abrams and Sandi Smith

At the beginning of this New Year we reflect upon some of the memorable moments that we have celebrated at Camp George this past year. Highlights would certainly include the beginning of the construction of the New Jr. Camper Village with the completion of Cabins 1 and 2, our most successful camp scholarship telethon to date, and a remarkable Community Shabbat Celebration this past summer – Camp George style.

Underlying the success of many of these moments at Camp George, is the commitment of our community who came together to both financially assist and support camp. Earlier this year, we invited the synagogue's clergy and lay leadership to come together to strategize on how to better connect camp with the broader Reform Jewish Community of Toronto. It was an energizing meeting and provided an opportunity to hear so many voices and great ideas from our professional and lay leadership. In May, our annual camp scholarship telethon took place. Camp lay leaders and alumni joined together over three evenings and called numerous families and partners to raise scholarship funds.

The outpouring of support from the community enabled camp to provide financial assistance to many of our camper families. We all know that camp is a valuable and life changing experience. Camp George's mission is to ensure that every child can attend camp. We can't do it without the support of our entire community. This August, we extended an invitation to the broader community to join us at camp for a Shabbat Celebration. It was a great opportunity for guests to experience Camp George with a full day of activities, including meals, water sports and tours. The highlight of the day was a Shabbat walk, services at the Beit Tfillah, Shabbat dinner with campers, staff & new friends, and an incredible outdoor, services at the Beit Tfillah, Shabbat dinner with campers, staff & new friends, and the opportunity to Super Spesh Song Sesh. Guests expressed tremendous enthusiasm for having had the opportunity to experience camp first-hand. Our new camp friends left with great memories and hopefully, will talk about Camp George back in their home communities.

Our goal for this upcoming year is to continue to develop relationships with the greater camp community, strengthening ties and engagement with professional staff and lay leadership and welcoming more visitors to camp next summer to see first-hand how we foster a love of Reform lewish overnight camping.

We could not accomplish all that we do without the tremendous efforts or volunteers who assist of the samp of the Steering Committee and many of our Sub-committees. We are grateful for your continued support. Our work is far from done and we are always in need of new thinking and additional hands in the work that we do. If you are interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities at camp, we would welcome the opportunity to talk with you and help you to find your place in our sacred work.

You can reach us at:

David Abrams – david@thecollective.ca

Sandi Smith - sfsarchitects@rogers.com

Chai School

The Reform Educators of Greater Toronto are thrilled to be launching a new initiative: CHAI School. CHAI School offers a Jewish education program to Toronto high school students on Sunday evenings from 6:00 – 8:30pm. Both a credit program and a non-credit program are available. Courses even include cooking, "glee" club and driver training! This is an amazing opportunity for high schoolers to learn from some of the best educators in the city, engage with camp/synagogue friends, and meet new people from across the city. For more information direct your inquiries to chaischoolgta@gmail.com.









Junier Camper Village Update

This summer we were thrilled to see the completion of our NEW Junior Camper Village. In its inaugural summer, the new cabins were lived in by Nitzotzot and Lehavot girls. After months of watching the village construction progress, it was amazing to see the project completed. Adding watching the village was also the addition of our brand new playground! We look forward to watching our Junior Camper Village grow.

Tikkun Olam at Camp George

As highlighted on Facebook and Twitter, this summer one of our Project Barak programs focused on hunger and people in need, from our perspective as Jews and as global citizens. Campers and staff learned that the Parry Sound Food Bank was almost out of food to give to those in need, because there had not been enough donations over the summer.

In response to this, our campers helped to raise awareness for our first-ever Visitor's Day Food Drive. Campers made videos, created posters, and wrote home telling their families to bring non-perishable items with them to Visitor's Day! With the help of our community members both sessions, we were able to collect an astonishing amount of donations which have greatly benefited the Harvest Share Food Bank. We're so glad that we were able to make a difference in our local summer community and thank-you to our CG community for your generosity!



Introducing Windy Webber

Dear Friends,

This past summer was my first with Camp George, and what a summer it was! Although I started in April as Camp George's Director of Development, it was not until July that I experienced first-hand how unique the Camp George community is - both its supporters and its campers!

I had the privilege of being at Camp for Shabbat, and witnessed a community of kids who were excited and proud of being Jewish, and proved it with their spirited singing and dancing to Shabbat and Israeli songs. Kids got to celebrate being Jewish, amongst their friends and role models and you could see the sense of pride and community they felt as a result.

Whether through our annual scholarship telethon, recent and upcoming capital campaigns, or through your tribute gifts, you are making a difference. Choosing Camp as a place to invest your charitable support, you ensure that Camp George continues to be an exceptional place where children begin a life-long connection to Reform Judaism.

For more information on our fundraising projects, or how you can contribute to the Camp George community, please contact me at mwebber@urj.org or 416-638-2635 ext. 225.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Mindy

SAM Award Winners

We are delighted to announce the recipients of this year's SAM Award – Rebekah Houpt and Daniel (Costa) Marin. Rebekah and Costa were nominated by their fellow staff members for this prestigious staff honour. The SAM award recognizes two individuals who through their hard work best embody the mission of Camp George. Award winners are determined by the camp's senior staff. As SAM Award winners, Rebekah and Costa will carry on the

tradition of choosing a not-for-profit organization that the camp will donate to on their behalf. Rebekah has chosen to donate to Hamilton's Beth Tikvah House. Beth Tikvah House is an Orthodox Jewish residence for adults with developmental disabilities. As Rebekah says, "The people at Beth Tikvah house are incredible and provide a loving and enriching environment for all of their residents, both Jewish and not." Costa has chosen to donate to the REENA Foundation. REENA is an organization in Toronto that is devoted to helping individuals with developmental disabilities reach their full potential. Costa has chosen to support REENA because REENA has had a significant impact on a family member who "receives care and support to help her reach her full potential, as well as being given the resources she needs to have a brighter future and the opportunities to develop strategies to overcome daily obstacles." Yashar Koach to Rebekah and Costa on this amazing achievement!

A Word From Our Mini Menschers

This past summer, we held our first ever "Mini Mensch" program, where campers in Grades 1, 2 and 3 had the opportunity to be campers over a long weekend. To give you an inside look at the program we interviewed one of our very own Mini Menschers, named Evan. Read on to see what skills he learned at camp, why he loved the Mini Mensch program, and morel.

- 1. What's your name and what Grade are you in?
 My name is Evan and I'm in Grade 2.
- Yes. I had been to day camp, but this was my first time at overnight camp.
- 3. Why did you want to try the Mini Mensch program? Because I thought it would be fun and I wanted to try all the activities.
- 4. What was the most fun activity you did while at camp?
 The most fun activity was Banana Boating for sure!
- 5. What are some new skills you learned at camp?
 I learned how to do the ropes course, it was really fun.
- 6. What was your favourite camp meal? Shepherd's Pie!!!!!
- 7. What did you miss most about being at camp when you got home?
 I missed sleeping in a cabin with all my new friends.
- 8. If someone asked you if they should try the Mini Mensch program what would you tell them?

I would tell them that the Mini Mensch program is so much fun!!!!!

Watch out for information this Spring about the 2014 Mini Mensch program.



Rabbi Noam Katx

For the past four years, Rabbi Noam Katz has served as the Dean of Jewish Living Camp George and the Leo Baeck Day School. Noam has led us in prayer, music, teachings and of course a Star Wars skit or two.

Noam has done amazing things for both Camp George and Leo Baeck. At camp, he has introduced new and exciting summer themes (like "If Not Now, When?"), revolutionized "Choose Your Own T'fillah, and created many exciting Jewish Living programs for revolutionized "Choose Your Own T'fillah, and created many exciting Jewish Living programs for revolutionized "Choose Your Own T'fillah, and created many exciting Jewish Living programs for campers of all ages and staff. Highlights of Noam's work from this past summer include: organizing the Visitor's campers of all ages and staff. Highlights of Noam's work from this past summer include: organizing the Visitor's campers of all ages and staff. Highlights of Noam's work from this past summer include: organizing the Visitor's campers of all ages and staff. Highlights of Noam's work from this past summer include: organizing the Visitor's campers of all ages and staff.

As of this fall, Noam will be starting a new adventure, becoming the full-time Dean of Jewish Living for The Leo Baeck Day School, where he will continue his work as an educator and administrator. We will miss Noam but we look forward to seeing him continue to lead the Jewish community of Toronto. We can't thank him enough for the impact he has made on our camp community and are excited to stay connected and engaged with Noam as a faculty member and advisor.

We are committed to creating dynamic Jewish programming and continuing to build upon the creative and inspiring programming that Noam has established. Soon, we will begin looking for the next Jewish leader who will help us continue this important work. We look forward to updating you on our search in the months to come.

we sale Near and his family all the best and can't wait to have them visit us on Maple Lake





Community Service Kours Opportunity

Are you looking for a fun way to gain community service hours? Look no further! Camp George is looking for people who love Facebook, Twitter and writing blogs to "Join our Social Media Communications Team". We are looking for new, unique content, from YOUR perspective. Email Communications Director Jane HK at janesays@urj.org to share your ideas and help us create new CG content as a part of your community service. We can't wait to hear from you!

Ontarie Ceuncil fer Jewish Camps Events

We are thrilled to be working with the Ontario Council for Jewish Camps on an upcoming speaker event with renowned author, social worker, and friend of Camp George, Joey Rich. We hope you will join us for this evening that is sure to be thought provoking and entertaining:

Parenting in the Age of Technology:

From Pre-School to "Screen-ager"

Join us for an enjoyable and thought provoking event with renowned author and speaker Joe Rich. An evening for parents of children of all ages to explore the ins and outs of the day-to-day challenges of parenting in a world of technology. An opportunity to laugh and learn with others in our community.

FREE EVENT. Please RSVP to campgeorge@urj.org

Wednesday October 16, 2013 7:30 pm North York Memorial Community Hall, North York Civic Centre, 5110 Yonge Street, Toronto





Fun and Games at Camp George

Click here to watch!

Camp George TV

Click here to watch!



Alumni News

Wow – I can't believe it's already been four years since my last summer at George! It seems like just yesterday I came to camp for the first time in July 2000. That was the start of an amazing decade of camp for me as a camper, CIT, counselor, Assistant Unit Head and Israel Education Specialist.

Since moving out of 'The Lodge' I finished my B.A. at UWO and then went to teacher's college at the University of Toronto. I've worked as a teacher in several schools in the Toronto District School Board. I love every minute of my work as

a teacher, and my time at camp has definitely helped me prepare for my career in the classroom. This summer I got engaged to Josh Zelikovitz, who came to camp in 2009 as the Office Manager. We've also been fortunate to travel together in the summers since we've been at camp, and have been to some amazing places like San Francisco,

Scotland, and the Amalfi Coast in Italy.

Regardless of what I'm doing during the months of July and August, my mind always wanders to memories of all the good times I've had at Camp George. I'm grateful for the amazing friends I've made at camp. Even though we may not see each other often, we always greet each other with the widest of smiles and the biggest of hugs. Camp is all about creating lasting friendships, memories, and opportunities for people to get to know themselves. For me, Camp George succeeded on all fronts.



I was lucky to have spent 10 summers at Camp George, six as a camper and four as staff. Since camp finished, I have graduated from the Sport Management program at Durham College and will be beginning my Sport Journalism course at Centennial College in January. I also recently appeared on a television game show called Match Game. This past summer I spent two and a half months in Israel. I took a beginner Hebrew course, traveled, volunteered and met family. I didn't realize how many Hebrew words I actually learned at camp until I got there! While in Israel I met up with other Camp George alumni who were on Birthright trips, friends who had come to participate as athletes for the Maccabiah Games, and members of the Mishlachat who live there. It was very interesting to reflect on our camp experiences while visiting in Israel and it was nice to know that going to camp together gave us this international friendship. Camp is a great place to grow and I can confidently say that it has helped me become the person I am today. I learned how to become a leader and to work in a team. Many of the friends I have today I met at camp. I always think about the fun times I had at Camp George as both a camper and staff and wish I could be there every summer!

Stay Connected to Our Alumni Community!

amazing camp alumni who have passed through the gates of Camp George.

