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**MSSM  
Summer  
Camp**



Pre-Camp

# NEWSLETTER





# Ryan McDonald Camp Director

**THE ONLY THING I DON'T LIKE ABOUT THE CAMP, IS THAT I CAN'T JOIN ALL THE CLASSES. THEY ALL LOOK SO MUCH FUN.**

**He's not a triplet, but he likes using Photoshop.**

**ORIGINALLY FROM WARM GEORGIA,** I have been at MSSM for 3 years. This is my second year as camp director and before that, in 2017, I was an instructor and taught Magnetic Levitation Trains (*where we learned about magnets and then built a MagLev train and raced them.*) The other class was Spy Technology. Though a bit ambitious, it went over well. Using a prototyping device called the Arduino, we made laser trip wires, motion detectors, RFID tags, pressure sensitive fabric, and even humidity detectors. It was a great introduction to the Arduino and it had the effect I wanted from a number of kids. Some of them nearly exploded and said, "WOW This exists? I am going to build a new thingy widget when I get home."

That's what the camp is all about. We don't make anyone an expert in programming or engineering or calculus, but we introduce new STEM ideas to them and hope to get them interest-

ed in these fields. There's a huge shortage in Maine and the U.S. for anyone, but especially women, in STEM fields. Luckily this year Aroostook county was highlighted by NASA Astronaut, Jessica Meir, a 1995 Caribou High School graduate. Meir is scheduled to launch to the International Space Station on board Soyuz MS-15 in September 2019, as a member of Expeditions 61 and 62.

Part of my job is walking around taking photos of all the classes. I both love and hate this part because I want to stay and participate in each of them. In fact, the only thing I don't like about the camp, is that I can't join all the classes. They all look so much fun.

We have some new ideas this year and have made some camper-suggested changes and we truly believe this will be the best camp so far. Thanks !



## » Summer Camp Admin Staff



**Matt Bartlett**

**Bio:** Matthew Bartlett is going into his third year as Residential Director for MSSM Summer Camps. When he is not working summer camp he is a Senior Residential Instructor for the Maine School of Science and Mathematics. If you have any questions or concerns throughout the summer please do not hesitate to call Matt at 1-207-540-6013.

**Favorite Part:** I am really excited for MSSM Summer Camp 2019! We have a great staff this year who are really excited about making camp an awesome and memorable experience for all campers. We have a fun packed summer in store and we hope it will be the best year yet!



**Wendy Van Trump**

**Bio:** Originally from Caribou, Maine, Wendy's earliest career goal was to be a missionary to Peru to start an orphanage; however, after graduating from Hyles Anderson College in 1995 with a degree in Secondary Education. She soon began working as a nursery school teacher in Napa, California, and discovered an interest in Elementary Education. She is currently the Administrative Assistant to Operations and Summer Camp here at MSSM. Her hobbies include: reading, writing, Star Trek the Next Generation, classic movies, terriers, handbags, spending time with her family, shopping.

**Favorite Part:** I am really excited about meeting all the campers in person after seeing all their applications come in.



**Michelle Geaghan**

**Bio:** Michelle lives in Waterville, Maine and we welcome her as a first-timer to our camp!. She's a recent college graduate with a MEd in Academic Administration and a professional background in multicultural operations. Her hobbies include gardening, fishing, theater, and volunteering within the migrant community to support integration. She is also trilingual in English, Spanish and Portuguese.

**Favorite Part:** Without a doubt, my favorite part of this type of community program is making new friends. The relationships you help support and build can last a lifetime! It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to have an extensive amount of FUN with new friends exploring first-time activities, foods, and new sites!



**Alan McManus**

**Bio:** Alan obtained an Associate Degree in Liberal Arts from Northern Maine Community College (2005) and later a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from University of Maine at Fort Kent (2012). He has been working as a nurse over the past 6 years in Canada as well as the United States (Maine, New Hampshire, and Arizona). He has nursing experience in Med/Surg, Emergency Room, and Urgent Care Clinics, and travel nursing; albeit, his specialty is in psychiatric / mental health / drug and alcohol detox with adults as well as adolescents. He is a native to Aroostook County Maine as is his family. He is married with seven children (6 boys and a girl from ages 25 down to 4 years old).

**Favorite Part:** I am looking forward to meeting the campers and helping them in any way I can.

**One more introduction on the back page.**

# » Summer Camp Instructors



**Chris Beckwith**

**Bio:** Chris recently moved to Hampden, Maine. He has been teaching science, math and technology in Maine middle schools for the past 25 years. He is currently the Technology Integration Specialist at Reeds Brook Middle School in Hampden. When he is not teaching, he enjoys laughing with his family. To keep his sanity, he is a toy collector, (Star Wars and Skylanders), video gamer (Overwatch), and a costume maker. This summer will be his sixth year at camp.

**Favorite Part:** My favorite part of camp is observing what students are capable of when we remove the restraints of traditional schools. I'm also a big fan of Monster Night!



**Larry Berz**

**Bio:** Larry Berz stands out as the only remaining original camp staff instructor, having passionately participated in every 22 Summer Camp seasons since 1997. Resident of Limestone for over 20 years, Mr. "B" divides his happy homelife to the needs of family as well as a devoted observational commitment to northern Maine's starry skies. Daylight hours bring weeding the garden and playing with the family cat.

**Favorite Part:** Late night telescope patrols with both campers and staff, pointing out the passages of the International Space Station and dramatic Iridium "flares" building eclipse boxes, and supporting the talent shows for both girls and boys.



**Peter Crone**

**Bio:** Peter lives in Howard, Ohio, where he teaches high school math. In addition to teaching, Peter also coaches high school baseball. When he is not at school, he can be found spending time with his wife and children. Peter enjoys hunting, fishing, hiking, and spending time outdoors. This will be Peter's first time at camp.

**Favorite Part:** This is my first year at camp. I am looking forward to this new experience and learning as well as teaching while spending time with family, and making new friends.



**James Dochtermann**

**Bio:** Jim lives in southern Maine but is originally from New York and other parts of New England, but also lived in Japan for almost 10 years. He enjoys DIY projects and painting in his free time. This will be his second year at camp and he looks forward to seeing all the interesting projects the kids and staff create.

**Favorite part:** I really enjoy being up in beautiful Aroostook County and meeting and working with all the great people, but more specifically, looking at the night sky with a huge telescope.



**Junko Dochtermann**

**Bio:** Junko lives in southern Maine but is originally from northern Japan. She enjoys doing Japanese traditional arts like shuji (calligraphy) and origami, and cooking. Junko works at Bonny Eagle Middle School in Buxton, Maine. She volunteered at camp last summer and is excited to return as a teacher and to meet the campers!

**Favorite part:** I really enjoyed teaching Japanese during Monster Night!



**Lisa Fernandez-Mitchell**

**Bio:** Lisa is an artist and art teacher from Kingsport, TN. When she's not making art and teaching, she enjoys reading, construct fake artifacts, create subtleties and confections for historical banquets, play games, visiting with friends and swimming.

**Favorite Part:** I am excited about meeting new friends, learning new things, and Monster Night.



# » Summer Camp Instructors



### Alex Hennings

**Bio:** Alex lives and works in the Portland area, playing ultimate frisbee, board games and rock climbing. This is his 11th year teaching at camp and he enjoys escaping from a cubicle to a classroom each summer. He keeps coming back to teach the classes that are exactly the things that he wants to be doing. It also reminds him of the three years he attended as a camper.

**Favorite Part:** I look forward to spending time with students in class where the activity is loosely defined, and just letting the kids steer.



### Nicole Karod

**Bio:** Nicole lives in Bath, Maine and teaches at Mt. Ararat Middle school as a seventh grade science and mathematics teacher. She has been teaching for 16 years and graduated from MSSM in 1999. She's been working at camps for 16 years.

**Favorite Part:** My favorite part of the camp is always the kids!



### Gary Kaszas

**Bio:** Gary lives in Fort Fairfield, Maine and has lots and lots of hobbies and has turned some of them into businesses. He is a metalsmith and with that skill, he loves making jewelry. He also loves to grow and sell fruit trees and roses and teach and play guitar, but his long-time favorite hobby is muscle cars. He has owned many and you will see one of them at camp!

**Favorite Part:** My favorite part is when new campers start each week. They arrive full of energy and enthusiasm that gets everyone off to a great start.



### James Robertson

**Bio:** James lives and volunteers at MSSM during the school year with his wife and newborn daughter. His hobbies include solving Rubik's Cubes, playing soccer, playing board and computer games. This is his third year teaching at summer camp teaching Calculus in a Week.

**Favorite Part:** I can't wait for monster night and stargazing with Mr. Berz.



### Laurie Spooner

**Bio:** Laurie Spooner teaches science at Van Buren District Secondary School and lives in New Sweden, Maine. She has taught Lego Robotics for 8 years and coached First Lego League and Junior Lego League teams. She likes to watch sports, garden, and participate in events for Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts.

**Favorite Part:** Meeting all the new campers on the first day.



### Andy Whitman

**Bio:** Andy lives in Boston where he just graduated from Boston University (after MSSM in '15). He likes to play hockey, build rockets, and is a hot sauce connoisseur. This is his first year teaching, but has been with camp 4 years in the past. You can usually find Andy scurrying around getting ready for exciting class activities!

**Favorite Part:** Rocket launches at the end of the week have always been what I look forward to at camp!

# » Summer Camp Counselors



### Emma Collins

**Bio:** Emma lives in Woolwich, Maine with her parents and her sister—who was the one who introduced her to MSSM. She has played the violin for approximately nine years which is one of her biggest passions. She also loves to run and swim. She was a camper at MSSM for three years and this is her second year being on the camp staff.

**Favorite Part:** The way that activities are incorporated into the day and it still leaves lots of time to do science and math. I can't wait for another summer at MSSM!



### Justin Davis

**Bio:** Justin lives in York, Maine which is a southern beach and tourist town. He enjoys tinkering around and building things as well as playing games on his custom-built computer. He also owns two guitars which he enjoys playing and learning new songs. At MSSM, he was involved in VEX Robotics as a team captain, president of SeaPerch underwater robotics (*and won #1 Engineering Notebook this year at Nationals*).

**Favorite Part:** I love introducing kids to robotics on the ground and underwater.



### Taylor Devoe

**Bio:** Taylor lives in Limestone, Maine. Her hobbies include drawing, painting, playing sports like soccer and softball, and many other outdoor and crafty activities. She just recently graduated from Caribou High School, and will be pursuing Chemical Engineering at the University of Maine. She was a camper for 3 years in a row and loved doing the many craft activities, especially tie dying, and making new friends from Maine and beyond.

**Favorite Part:** Going down the slip-n-slide and the various activities the camp has to offer in the evening. I am definitely looking forward to all of it again!



### Mallory Gilman

**Bio:** Mallory lives in Danforth Maine. She likes to read and play sports. Mallory has just recently graduated from East Grant High School. This will be her second year working at MSSM's summer camp. She loves playing sports with the campers and watching them grow and have fun each day during their activities.

**Favorite Part:** During downtime where I am able to talk one on one with campers. It gives me a chance to really learn more about what they're interested in, what drives them, and who they really are individually.



### Sadie Hart

**Bio:** Sadie lives part time between Shin Pond and Fort Kent, Maine. Some of her hobbies include hunting, fishing, sports, and basically anything outdoors. She is also a second degree black belt in karate. She has spent three years as a student at MSSM. During camp, she loves participating in sport and cooking activities, as well as hanging out with her campers.

**Favorite Part:** My favorite part of camp is usually eating snacks and laughing during song-in-a-bag. Can't make more memories and meet my future schoolmates!



### Maggie Hood

**Bio:** Maggie lives in Perry, Maine but now attends College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor Maine. In her free time she plays volleyball, sings in choir, and travels. Her favorite place she's traveled so far was France where she spent time singing at festivals.

**Favorite Part:** This will be my first time at MSSM and I am extremely excited to be a part of this community. I am most looking forward to spending time learning about everyone's interests and having a wholesome experience with my campers.



# » Summer Camp Counselors



### Fox Maxwell

**Bio:** Fox lives in Pittsfield, Maine on an alpaca farm when he is not at Hamilton College working on a Math Major with an Education Minor. His hobbies include Dungeons & Dragons, cooking, and board games. This will be his first year working at MSSM but he hopes that his experience with other camps will help him focus on group games and more nerdy activities.

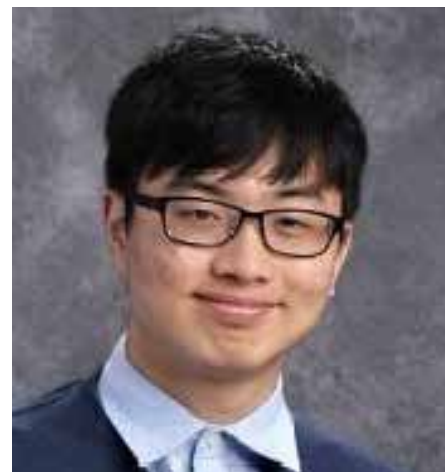
**Favorite part:** I'm looking forward to meeting new people and telling some of my many stories.



### Jonathan McEndarfer

**Bio:** Jonathan has been with camp since 2012. Born in Massachusetts, he now lives in Woodland Maine. He enjoys learning about forest survival skills and has a lot of knowledge on how to use wild plants for food and medicine. During Camp he likes to participate in sports activities, lead hikes and camp fires.

**Favorite part:** I enjoy helping the campers try new things that they never thought they could do on their own. I'm also known as the hardest "challenge" on monster night.



### Ryan Oh

**Bio:** Ryan lives in Seoul, South Korea. His hobbies include playing sports, cooking, and talking about any tech or engineering-related topics. Ryan also loves watching any kind of movies. He spent two years as a student at MSSM, this will be his first year as a counselor at summer camp.

**Favorite part:** During camp, I am looking forward to cooking and movie nights, as well as hanging out with my campers.



### Alexis Pelkey

**Bio:** Alexis is from Easton, Maine. Her hobbies include writing, reading, photography, working with her local FFA Chapter, and traveling. In 2020, she will continue to travel the world by spending time in Australia and New Zealand. Alexis is a proud Easton Bear at Easton High School. This will be her first time working at MSSM. She is excited to meet all of the campers and to enjoy the overall camp experience.

**Favorite Part:** Getting to know all of the campers and making amazing memories.



### Mari Witmer

**Bio:** Mari lives in Fort Kent, Maine and is starting her 4th year at MSSM as a senior in August. She enjoys reading and playing volleyball. She will be one of two lead counselors at camp this year and will help with afternoon activities like arts and crafts, cooking, and capture the flag. She attended the MSSM camp as a camper for one year and has been a mentor and counselor.

**Favorite Part:** My favorite part about camp is getting more people interested in math and science.

# » Summer Camp Mentors



**Brice Carson**

**Bio:** Brice lives in Fort Kent, Maine. Some of her hobbies include skiing, running, and reading. She speaks Spanish and is also a lifeguard. Brice has spent one year at MSSM as a student and this will be her first year as a mentor at summer camp. During camp, she anticipates that she will enjoy interacting with the campers and meeting future students.

**Favorite Part:** I am looking forward to meeting all of the campers and having a fun time at camp!



**Jimmy Green**

**Bio:** Jimmy Green is from Etna, Maine and will be a first year mentor at camp this year. Last year, as a camper, he was the MSSM Summer Camp Dance Champion. He plans to bring his dancing skills back to camp to show the campers.

**Favorite Part:** I loved the skits and songs we did as a camp family.



**Burke MacLeay**

**Bio:** Burke lives in Belgrade Lakes Maine, and attends school in Bethel. His hobbies include skiing, biking, frisbee and doing pretty much anything outside. Burke was been a camper for 3 years and this will be his first time as a mentor.

**Favorite Part:** As a camper I always loved the evening activities. I'm excited to help run them now as a mentor!



**Jay Mitchell**

**Bio:** Jordan "Jay" Mitchell is from Pittsfield, Maine and will be a second year mentor at camp this year.

**Favorite Part:** My favorite part is the outdoor activities and seeing all the happy faces.



**Cassie Novak**

**Bio:** Cassie lives in Windham and Gorham, Maine. She goes to school at Cheverus High School in Portland, Maine, where she is part of the softball team and Key Club. During her free time, she spends time with her friends and family. She has gone to camp as a camper for 4 summers.

**Favorite Part:** I really enjoyed meeting new people and I'm looking forward to helping other campers do the same thing.



**Jordan Theriault**

**Bio:** Jordan has been an MSSM student for three years as of this summer, and while he has not worked for the summer camp before, he is enthusiastic to be a part of the team to help with the sport activities and having fun. He lives in Limestone and Fort Fairfield, where he partakes in some of his hobbies, such as listening to music, playing video games, and coding computer programs.

**Favorite Part:** I have not yet worked as part of the camp, but I remember when I attended and both working hard and playing hard. The part I look forward to most is meeting all of wonderful people!



## » Summer Camp Mentors



**Parker Skinner**

**Bio:** Parker Skinner is from Island Falls, Maine and will be a first year mentor at camp this year after having come to camp for 5 years as a camper. This will be his 6th year in Limestone for the summer.

**Favorite Part:** I can't wait to see the other side of camp. Setting up activities and having different camp families each week.



**Sophie Slipp**

**Bio:** Sophie is a 10th grader at Baxter Academy and lives in Gray, Maine. She enjoys drawing, creative writing, math, and learning. She also has studied martial arts called Hapkido for 8 years, nearing a black belt. Sophie has spent two years at camp and will be starting her first year as a mentor. She is looking forward to helping out at the summer camp, a place that she cares a lot about.

**Favorite Part:** My favorite part of camp was making many new friends that I can relate to. I also really enjoyed the food, it was quite good.



**Aida Smith**

**Bio:** Aida lives in Limestone, Maine. Her hobbies include cooking, crocheting, reading, skiing, and anything artistic. She will be a sophomore at Caribou High School and this is her first year mentoring for summer camp after being a camper for 3 years. She is also going to be a lifeguard for camp this year. She loves the cooking and art activities during camp as well as meeting all the new campers.

**Favorite Part:** My favorite part of camp is monster night and all the fun outside activities. I'm so excited to be working at camp this year and can't wait to make some great memories!



**Quinn Pruiksmas**

**Bio:** Quinn is from Lewiston Maine, and she has been a student at MSSM for the past two years. She enjoys reading, painting, and hiking. Quinn has been to the camp as a camper for three years, but this will be her first year working at camp as a mentor.

**Favorite Part:** I'm not quite sure what my favorite part will be yet, but I am looking forward to helping out during activities and meeting new people.

## Theme Days at MSSM Summer Camp

Each day of the camp week, we have a different theme for camp families to dress up if they'd like. It always causes people to talk and comment on outfits and ends up creating new connections. They are voluntary, but encouraged if possible.

### **Monday - Camp Pride Day**

*Campers wear the camp shirt we provide & group photo day*

### **Tuesday - Sports Day**

*If you like a sports team, wear their jersey or hat*

### **Wednesday - Wack Wednesday**

*Things on backwards, weird colors, anything not normal*

### **Thursday - Super Hero Day**

*To counter Monster Night (see page 15)*

**Friday - No official theme, but campers have gone with Formal Friday in the past**

# Packing List

Twin sized sheets  
Blankets OR sleeping bag  
Pillow  
Toiletries for shower  
Towel  
Sneakers  
Shoes that can get wet  
Sweatshirt / Light Jacket  
Jeans / shorts  
socks / underwear  
T-shirts  
Rain gear  
Hat  
Addresses for postcards  
Bathing suit\*  
*(It's optional, but we have a pool  
and super mega waterslide)*  
Books / Stuffed Animal  
Small fan  
Sunglasses  
Talent show equipment\*  
Theme Day attire\*  
Alarm Clock  
Night light if needed

## We Provide:

Camp T-shirt  
Cup  
Water Bottle  
Pen  
Camp string backpack  
Postcards with stamps

There's a laundry facility.  
\$1.25 for a wash load  
\$1.25 for a dry load.  
We have a quarter machine.

Campers will go home  
with a special surprise  
this year...

\* Optional if your camper chooses to participate.



# Social Media

YOU WANT TO SEE PHOTOS OF YOUR CAMPER. WE KNOW THAT. MAKE SURE YOU FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM AND CHECK OUT OUR CAMP BLOG.



<https://www.facebook.com/MSSM.org/>



<https://www.instagram.com/mssmpenguins/>



MSSM on YouTube



[www.mssm.org/summercamp](http://www.mssm.org/summercamp)

blogs & photos & more

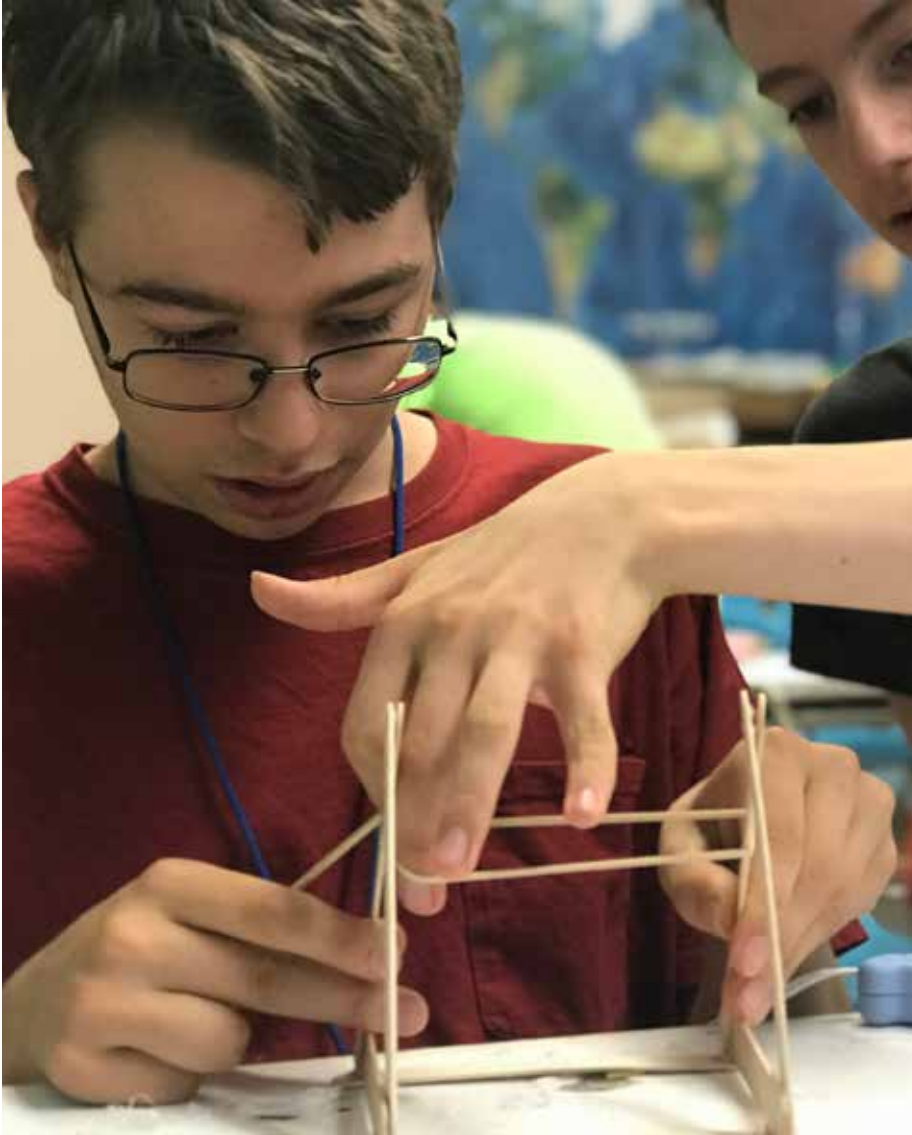
## Why is STEM education

# So Important ??

## STEM education helps to bridge the ethnic and gender gaps

According to the Department of Commerce, STEM occupations are growing at 17%, while other occupations are growing at 9.8%. STEM degree holders have a higher income even in non-STEM careers. Science, technology, engineering and mathematics workers play a key role in the sustained growth and stability of the economy, and are a critical component to helping the United States win in the future. STEM education creates critical thinkers, increases science literacy, and enables the next generation of innovators. Innovation leads to new products and processes that sustain our economy. This innovation and science literacy depends on a solid knowledge base in the STEM areas. It is clear that most jobs of the future will require a basic understanding of math and science. Despite these compelling facts, mathematics and science scores on average among students are lagging behind other developing countries.

STEM education helps to bridge the ethnic and gender gaps sometimes found in math and science fields. Initiatives have been established to increase the roles of women and minorities in STEM-related fields. STEM education breaks the traditional gender roles. In order to compete in a global economy, STEM education and careers must be a national priority. Each and every decision made uses an aspect of STEM to understand the implications.



## Summer Camp is Always Evolving - Three Changes This Year



**Three Longer Classes Plus One** >> Instructors have said they wanted longer classes to get more involved with the topic. We cut one of the classes and made three 75-minute classes. The "plus one" is a new addition called "Instructor's Passion" where they can teach anything that interests them. It could be basic Japanese, 360 Video, Intro to Guitar, Costume Making, etc.

**More Down Time to Just Chill** >> Some breaks are longer and there's an entire hour in the afternoon to unwind after classes before the fun afternoon activities start.

**New Afternoon Activities** >> We built a GaGa Pit last year (sadly after camp ended) and this year we've added a Disc Golf course around the campus. There are two courses and campers will throw a frisbee using golf rules. Maybe the target is a pole or soccer goal.



# Affording Summer Camp

## Refer-a-Friend (RAF) Campaign

- Your child has attended camp at least once any time in the past.
  - You refer a child that has never attended camp in either overnight or day camp.
  - Your child has registered and paid the \$100 Non-Refundable deposit.
  - Your referred child has registered and paid the \$100 Non-Refundable deposit.
  - The deadline to refer a friend is May 1st. Your account will be credited after that.
  - The deadline to register and pay for camp is June 1st.
  - The offer cannot be combined with one-week full gift certificates.
  - The RAF discount is not redeemable for cash.
  - RAF is valid for this camp year only and will not roll over into the next year.
  - One RAF equals one student for one week. If your RAF stays two weeks, there will only be one \$100 credit per student.
- \$100 for each overnight camper referred \$50 for each day camper referred can be used up to 6 times per season



**You are a  
thousand times  
better than any ad  
we could make and  
we want to thank  
you for sharing.**

## For More Information:

This is a clickable link (assuming you are reading this online)

<https://www.mssm.org/summer-programs/summer-camp>

**What's better than attending MSSM Summer Camp?**

**Bringing a friend &  
sharing your experiences.**

## New Tournament & Trophies

Last year we were caught off guard when campers in Boys' Week 2 insisted on having a new tournament for Magic: The Gathering. We jokingly told them they could do their magic card tricks if they wanted. They were not amused. We made a tournament bracket, but were unable to get a trophy in time. This year we have already ordered and received trophies for every tournament game we have and even built in more time for campers to compete. If your camper is into playing Magic

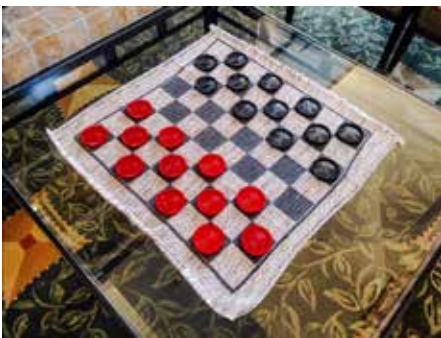


STUDENTS PLAYING MAGIC THE GATHERING. NO ONE SEEMS TO HAVE THE RARE "BLACK LOTUS" CARD. A VERY LIMITED NUMBER HAVE BEEN PRINTED.

(not tricks), have them bring their cards to compete. We have a trophy for each tournament each week, but only one winner.

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## Other Chances to Win a Camp "Best" Trophy



CHECKERS



BILLIARDS



CHESS



PING PONG



DANCE

We've yet to see anyone breakdance, but that could be because the dance competition is outside by the campfire. We do tend to see a large number of Fortnite dances such as the Floss.





# Things to Bring and to NOT Bring to Camp

## X Peanut Products

We always have a few campers with severe peanut allergies and this is the hardest thing to restrict. It's best not to send too many snacks with the campers since we provide them daily during one break and also have a trip down to Mike's Family Market for them to buy stuff. If you do send snacks, please check the label carefully for peanut products. We have to confiscate them at the beginning of camp when we find them for the health and safety of all our campers.

## X Electronics

We are trying to get campers to meet new people and learn new things. Plus there's a chance expensive laptops could break or get misplaced.

**Cell phones aren't prohibited**, but are discouraged. They are prohibited in the academic building during class, unless requested by an instructor.

**We do prohibit any large game system** like PS4 or Xbox. Camp is about meeting people and there simply isn't enough time to sit in front of a TV playing video games.

## X Sugary Food & Money

**Sugary and caffeinated food and drinks:** Kids need a good night's sleep and will have roommates.

**Large Amounts of Money:** There's only one time and place to spend money at camp and that's the trip down to Mike's Market. They only need \$10-\$20 for that. We can hold their money if they need more for snacks on the bus trip back home. We provide a bagged lunch. There is also a stop at McDonald's in Newport for bus riders TO camp.

## O Address for Postcards

We will have some stamped postcards for campers to write home, but in the past they have just written "mom" and we had to delay the sending of them to get the correct address. Type out a list of address you think your camper might want to send a post card to.

## O Clothing for Theme Days

It's not mandatory, but many campers do dress up on the theme days. There are prizes for camp families that have the most participants.

**Monday** - Camp Pride (wear the camp shirt we provide)

**Tuesday** - Sports Day

**Wednesday** - Wacky Wednesday

**Thursday** - Super Hero day to counter Monster Night.

*(The staff give challenges while dressed as monsters.)*

**Friday** - Has been Formal Friday in the past, but not many campers want to dress formally at summer camp.

## O Things for the Room

You can bring a small fan, but a large fan on the bus might be a problem with limited space. Campers can also bring alarm clocks and radios, but remember campers are sharing a room with at least one roommate.

## O "Business Cards"

Obviously, the kids don't have real ones, but any way to easily pass out a card or their contact info. Perhaps I'm old and don't realize they would just touch phones and their life history is transferred in a Snap Chat.

## What Is Monster Night?



On Thursdays, the staff dress as monsters and sit around the dorm. Each station has a challenge and when completed, the camper group gets their sheet signed. There have been some creative stations such as Julia (left) quizzing campers about music and Chris (right) built a puppet named "Audrey II" from Little Shop of Horrors. Kids had to throw food in the plant's mouth when answering questions.

# Tracy Moore Intro & Outro

**IF YOU'VE CALLED OR CONTACTED** the MSSM Summer Camp over the past 2-3 years, chances are at some point you've talked to Tracy Moore. She has been the receptionist and summer camp administrative assistant for a few years. One of her many skills comes from her being the mother of 4 boys. She understands parent concerns and can explain all the parts of the camp in a way that comforts other parents. She also has an extensive background in Human resources and has been invaluable in keeping the paperwork straight.

So far, she has been the point person for summer camp matters especially related to financial aid, forms, scholarships, and any questions. She's not leaving us altogether, but she's moving into a new position as Executive Assistant to the Executive Director and Foundation. She will be here for advice and to help when we need her. She will still be helping this summer as we all work through the transition.



**Tracy Moore**



Tracy and her husband Tom had a reptile show years ago and brought some for the campers to touch if they were willing. Tom Moore hands a snake to camper Siena with Cait watching.



She won't just give "good enough" she is always willing to give "Moore". *Terrible pun, I apologize.*

**Thank You Tracy for all you have done and continue to do for MSSM and especially the Summer Camp.**