

Out at Camp

Alicia Skovera, Director, Camp ABC and Off Season Programs

This open and confidential forum allows LGBT staff and administrators to share stories, discuss concerns, and seek advice from others about being or not being "out" at camp.

Youth with HIV/AIDS: Considerations for Camps

Ann Gillard PhD, Assistant Professor of Youth Development, Springfield College

What issues are faced by youth with HIV/AIDS? How can camp support their positive development? In this session, you will learn about a case study of a camp for youth with HIV/AIDS, and discuss ways to create successful camp experiences.

Camp 2 Grow: A Cutting Edge Leadership Program for Camps

Barry Garst PhD, Director of Program Development & Research Application, American Camp Association

Camp 2 Grow is a leadership and environmental stewardship program developed by the American Camp Association through funding from the Lilly Endowment. Camp 2 Grow teaches fundamental leadership knowledge/skills to youth, and challenges them to apply what they learned to address environmental issues in their camps, homes, and communities. Participants will review sample lessons and activities from the curriculum and learn how to join this exciting program.

Master Wellness Series: Director Stress Management

Chris Thurber PhD, Child Psychologist, Philips Exeter Academy

Two entrepreneurial shoemakers took a trip to a remote land in search of new market. But none of the people they discovered in this new land even wore shoes! Come find out why one of these shoemakers got an ulcer and the other became elated. This hands-on workshop promises to reshape the way to conceptualize and cope with stress in all facets of your life, both personal and professional. Participants will learn a variety of stress-management techniques and share camp-specific wellness strategies with each other. Make this coming season your healthiest and most relaxed ever!

Training Your Staff in Behavior Management:

Ethan Schafer PhD, Child Psychologist, Spectrum Psychological Associates

Give your counselors the tools to deal with a range of kids effectively: positive re-enforcement, an appropriate use of consequences, etc. This transportable training module will allow you to leave the workshop ready to train your staff to help your campers.

Dancing in Lines, Squares and Circles

Jim Cain, Speaker/Author, Teamwork & Teampay

Learn how to use music and dance to create a powerful community-building evening program for your camp.

YES, IT'S FUN—BUT IT'S A REAL JOB: Solid Solutions to Increase Staff Professionalism and Responsibility

Michael Brandwein / speaker, educator, author

These are practical and powerful techniques to get staff to take this fun job seriously and act professionally at the same time. It discloses the one surprising secret that often unconsciously undermines our own efforts to create a professional camp culture. It includes identifying and communicating what professional behavior actually is and has a special focus on how to use staff training to build and enforce the best expectations even before campers arrive. Take home specific strategies and training tools that really work.

Fundraising in Times of Stress: Tips to Calm You Down

Rick Swartz, Presenter/Consultant, StraightTalk

Fundraising is fundraising, in times of stress and not. We'll discuss the essential types of donors and what motivates them, in good times and bad. We'll discuss prioritizing the "basics" when money is tight. And we'll ask which, if any, messages change for camps when the economy does.

Deciding What to Choose When Choosing is a Choice: Campers' Choices & Control

Scott Arizala, CEO, The Camp Counselor

At camp, we have an opportunity to give campers control and to develop their skills in decision making and good judgment. There is a delicate balance between too many choices and too few. Learn how to create that balance in your camp program and through all the important interactions between staff and campers. Through developing campers' opportunities for control, you will fulfill your mission and the promise to parents, by actually *doing* the values and characters that we put on our brochures and websites. From behavior management to program development, this session is about taking your camp experience from great to phenomenal.

Leaf Art: Combining Nature and Art

Susan Caplan, Teacher/Naturalist, Mass Audubon Moose Hill Wildlife Sanctuary

Whether or not you are teaching tree or leaf identification, leaves are a great starting point for dozens of craft projects. In this hands-on class, you'll try a variety of art and craft techniques that incorporate leaves and inexpensive art supplies. Learn how to create nature-inspired mobiles, masks, wall art, photo frames, clothing decorations, and more.

Family Camp

Roundtable

Learn about setting up and operating a family camp program from current family camp directors that operate camp programs specifically for family camping. Discuss how family camping is different from youth camping and what the benefits for your camp could be.