

2024 George Marcus Award for ACA Accreditation Education Service

- Wendy Berliner -

I've known Wendy my entire professional camp career as a colleague and parent to one of our campers. Her professionalism, kindness, and love of camp is contagious. If I could request an accreditation visitor, Wendy would be at the top of my list because she would provide fair, helpful, and forward-thinking feedback. I would love to spend a day sharing our best practices, knowing the conversation would lead to suggestions and insight we could carry forward to enhance our program. **-Dave Schiff, Camp Manitou**

I'm not surprised at all that Wendy received the George Marcus Award. Her dedication, expertise, and passion for camp education and accreditation have always been evident in everything she does. It's a well-deserved recognition for her outstanding contributions to the camp community. **-Beth Johns-Thomas, Nobles Day Camp**

Wendy has been a mentor, leader and friend in the industry since I started in 2013 full time. Her ability to embrace, guide and support all individuals from various style camps and backgrounds is unmatched. She is caring, thoughtful and full of knowledge that helps support so many individuals in Professional Camping as well as throughout the ACA Accreditation process, one that isn't always easy to understand whether you are going through the first time or the tenth. Wendy shines in regards to all of her relationships - from those she helps to support in the camps she has worked at - Camp Matoaka and Camp Lindenmere, the camps professionals she interacts with at camp conferences and hiring fairs and her relationships with professional vendors and clients. Throughout my professional camping career, Wendy has become that shoulder to lean on, ask advice to and she has provided not only guidance but friendship to help me become the best I can be while encouraging me to continue to grow. She is a shining star in all things camp - her talents, work ethic and helpfulness is beyond compare. She makes everyone around her feel special and is always there no matter what is going on in her life, you can count on her when the job needs to be done. It is an honor to call Wendy a mentor, but more importantly a friend. She deserves all the praise, always. **-Sara Fetterhoff, Trails End Camp**

What an amazing honor- However, I have to say that I am immediately not surprised that Wendy would receive this award for many reasons! Most succinctly because, we have nicknamed her "Wendy One-Hundred" for the 100% perfect score our camp received during our ACA accreditation process, led and overseen by Wendy. She did this in an incredibly detailed manner, while also managing all of her responsibilities at Camp Lindenmere as one of our Camp Directors and while simultaneously guiding other camps through this same process. Throughout the entire process, our leadership team was able to learn from Wendy on the importance of each standard as well. And I know that the camps she works with have felt the same.

From the moment we met Wendy, she shared her passion for being a very involved member of ACA, especially in her role in the accreditation process. She is extremely diligent, thorough and hardworking. Wendy's warmth and hands-on leadership, has made her a valuable mentor to every camp that has worked with her over the years. She has shared stories with us from calls and visits where she has been able to guide camps throughout this

process to seamlessly meet their goals and surpass expectations. She is never afraid to fully jump in, and work hand-in-hand with those around her to complete the goal. From knowing Wendy well, her role as a leader in Accreditation Education simply makes sense.

While I could continue writing for pages and pages on how deserving Wendy is for this award, I will keep it short. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or comments! We are proud to have her as a leader at our camp and within the ACA community. **-Hayley Garfinkel, Camp Lindenmere**

I'm not surprised Wendy is receiving this award because of how diligent she is when it comes to ACA guidelines as she is my go to person to help interpret certain standards for my camp. Along with how knowledgeable she is, her desire to share that knowledge with others to help uphold the ACA standards and work through the accreditation process is a big reason why she is recognized with this award. **-Andy Dillon**

I am not surprised that Wendy is receiving ACA New England's George Marcus Award for ACA Accreditation Education Service because she is a kind, thoughtful steward to the accreditation process. She is a consistently enthusiastic leader on the ACANE Standards Committee who listens thoughtfully to fellow members of the committee and to camps that are coming to us with questions, concerns, etc. When I first joined the ACANE Standards Committee, she provided me with the support I needed to get up to speed with the committee. It is fun to work with her because she is a collaborator and brings her natural enthusiasm to our work. She knows the standards and the accreditation process well, and her focus is always on seeing the good in all people. Though she would never say so, she absolutely deserves this recognition! **-Page Rich, Alford lake Camp**

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