

# YES And...

## COLLAB RATIVE ARTS

2023 Parent Handbook



# YES! And...

## COLLABORATIVE ARTS

Welcome to Yes! And... Collaborative Arts' Summer Camps! We are so excited that you will be joining us this summer! We are committed to creating a program where each child is given an opportunity to succeed and thrive. For us it is more than summer camp, but an opportunity to open kids' minds to the possibilities that lie within themselves and each other through the experience of community and the arts!

This year we have a lot of new and exciting artist educators who are bringing their knowledge and talents to make this one of the best summers yet! We also have many of our incredible returning teaching artists who are stepping into new positions and roles to further emphasize their skills of collaboration and education. We're so fortunate to have such a strong group of educators! We are also always excited to have graduating teen Shadow Company members join us as Travelers as well as current Shadow Company members working as Junior Staff!

I am very excited to introduce our Camp Directors to you for this summer. Along with myself, they will be your main point of contact throughout the summer and are available to help you with any needs that arise. Our directors are committed to continuing the high quality programming that we have offered for 25 years!

Cameron joins us as the Camp Director for Summer Sort of thing after working with the Sort of Thing program as a choreographer and costume designer. She has also worked with us as a movement teacher, inspiring students to push themselves to learn more about movement and its relationship to the world! New staff member Lydia will be the Camp Director for Imagination Camp. As an experienced early childhood and elementary educator, she brings both a love for young children and love for the arts to camp this year! In Shadow Company, Mia & Sabriya will work as the Co-Directors of the 2023 Shadow Show which will be a part of Philly Fringe Festival. Mia works as a teacher/movement artist for various educational institutions around Philly and has worked with Shadow and Yes! And... for many years. We're excited to welcome back Sabriya who taught with us in previous years and is an accomplished teaching artist and educator!

We hope that our programming will help your child recognize the importance of their unique role in a group as well as the value of others' diverse perspectives. Our activities will help create the foundation for effective collaboration as well as building age-appropriate skills in all artistic disciplines. It is going to be an amazing, creative, transformative summer, and we cannot wait to get started!

We can't wait to see you all at camp!

Sharese Salters  
Program Director

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**Each child's safety is the top priority for Yes! And... Collaborative Arts; therefore, policies that have been established are not subject to change unless the Summer Camp Director has made prior arrangements with the parent or guardian of the child.**

## **Camp Specifics**

### **Locations**

**ALL CAMPS:** 21 West Washington Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19144

This year all of our camp programming will take place at our headquarters, at the Germantown Mennonite Church, near the corner of Washington Lane and Germantown Ave!

### **Staff**

Yes! And... Collaborative Arts handpicks an incredible team of artists and educators each summer. Artist teachers prepare classes in acting, movement, visual arts, music and storytelling while Travelers are on hand to guide each tribe of kids throughout the day. High school students from our Shadow Company are also a part of the tribes as Junior Travelers. Staff members hired by Yes! And... Collaborative Arts have trained in our Collaborative Arts model of education and have proper clearances for working with children including: child abuse, criminal record and FBI Fingerprinting background checks. Each location has staff members that are certified in CPR/AED and First Aid. Our staff member to child ratio is 1:5.

### **Sign in/Sign out**

Daily sign-in/sign-out will begin 10 minutes prior to the start and the end of the camp day. Parents must drop their children off at the designated areas and sign their child into camp. To pick your child up, the parent, guardian or authorized person must return to the designated area to sign their child out.. All parents, guardians and authorized person's names must be on the Information form; otherwise the camper may not be released to the individual.

The exception to this is if you have notified the Summer Camp Director that your child will be walking or taking public to and from camp. We do ask that if a child under 14 years old is walking or taking public transportation to or from camp, they can share a cell phone number with the Summer Camp Director to confirm that they have arrived home safely.

If a child arrives after 9:15 am, they must be brought to the office to be signed-in. If the child is to be picked up prior to the end of the camp day, the parent must report to the Summer Camp Director. Parents/guardians should communicate with the Summer Camp Director to arrange early pick up or late drop off.

### **Camp times**

Camp will be held from 9:00am-3:00pm each day. Participants are expected to arrive on time.

### **Extended Care**

All of our programs have the option for extended care. Campers who stay longer are teamed with a staff member for the extended time. They will often help with specific camp related projects that need to be prepared for the next day and other fun games and activities. We start at 8:00 AM with before care and close promptly at 5:00 PM with after care. We do require a day's notice in order to have proper staff coverage. Extended day care can be added by the day or the week, if there is adequate staff to cover the additional children. The costs for this are \$6/hour. Unfortunately, we are unable to offer scholarships to cover extended care as the money goes right to the staff members responsible for the care.

### **Forms**

Every child in our program will be expected to have the following forms on file with us:

- Information Form
- Evaluation Consent Form
- Walking permission slip

You will be asked to complete these forms the first day of your first week of camp with us.

### **Performances**

Every camp culminates in an original performance. We can't tell you what they are, because your child is part of the writing and creating process! We can tell you that these showcases are exciting, celebratory, and always an adventure.

Our Imagination Camps will showcase every Friday at 3:00pm, after their day is done.

3-week Theatre Camps will showcase at 6:00pm at the end of their sessions (the kids stay after camp for rehearsal and pizza!). This year's 3-week Theatre Camp performances are on August 4 and August 25th.

One-week and 3-day Theatre Camp Intensives will showcase at 3:30pm.



## **Daily Camp Needs**

### **What to Wear**

Please have your child wear loose-fitting clothes that might get dirty. Think of what you might wear to a yoga class but not brand-new because we don't want to ruin anything! If we are planning on an especially dirty (think paint) or water-centric (think water balloons) day, we'll let you know in advance! This year we may find ourselves playing with water balloons or sprinklers on any particularly hot day, so when it gets above 90 degrees, it may be good to send them in clothes that can get wet!

### **What to Bring**

This year we will provide your child with lunch and snack every day! Food will be provided through a partnership with Philadelphia Parks & Recreation's Food Program. Your child is still welcome to bring their own lunch if they would prefer, but all children will be offered a lunch and snack.

Please note: If your child does bring their own lunch, we have the ability to keep the lunches cold, but it would be best if they are "ready to eat" and do not need to be heated.

Cold water is provided for them to keep hydrated but they will need to bring their own water bottle. Please have your child eat breakfast before they come to camp—while we do have morning snack time they should always come having eaten already.

### **What NOT to Bring**

Please make sure your child does not bring any personal items to camp including money, jewelry, electronics, etc. Cell phones and portable gaming devices will not be allowed to be used at camp, and we may ask campers to put them in a designated device container during camp activities.

## **Camper Safety**

### **Time Outside**

We will spend time outside every day for lunch and many of our activities. You may send sunscreen to camp with your child; however, staff members are not permitted to apply the sunscreen to your child. If the child is using spray on sunblock, then the staff member may assist the camper with application of the product. However, the staff member will not be held responsible for missed application.

### **Weather and Temperature**

In addition to having many activities outdoors, we will be using the entire building at GMC for programming. We have an air-conditioned downstairs space and a non-air conditioned upstairs space with fans and large windows. Campers can expect to spend time in both spaces. On particularly hot days, we will remind campers to check in with themselves throughout the day, drink lots of water, and communicate with staff about how they are feeling. Campers can always take breaks from upstairs or outdoor activities in the air-conditioned spaces if they are feeling unwell.

### **Medications**

The responsibility for administering medications rests with the camper's parent or legal guardian. No staff member is permitted to administer medication. It is important that all medication be taken at home. No medication is to be sent to camp unless it is a prescription drug for preventive reasons or emergency conditions such as seizures, heart conditions, asthma, or allergy conditions.

These preventative or emergency medications may be sent to camp if the rules listed below are followed:

1. Note from the doctor stating name of medication, how it is to be given, amount, time and diagnosis of illness. The medication must be presented in the original package with a prescription label attached.
2. Note from parent or legal guardian giving approval for the medication to be administered by the camper under Summer Camp Director supervision.

### **Illness**

Please do not bring your child to camp if they have a fever or a communicable disease. If your child develops symptoms while at camp, we will notify you or your emergency contact immediately. Your child will remain in a designated quiet area until they are picked up. This is especially important this year as we continue to work to prevent the spread of COVID-19.



## **Emergencies**

In the case of an emergency or accident involving your child, you will be notified immediately by a Summer Camp Director. Each location has staff members that are trained in CPR/AED and First Aid. We do require you to complete an Emergency form in which we ask for medical conditions that the camp or emergency services personnel may need to know. Please notify us if there are any changes or additions to this information.

If a child puts themselves or others in danger during the camp day, our staff have been instructed to do what is necessary to keep your child safe while someone retrieves the Summer Camp Director. Summer Camp Directors have the ability to restrain a child if they are causing themselves or someone else harm. Parents/Guardians will be notified and will help create a plan for their child to prevent any further incidents. An incident report will be conducted, signed by the parent and kept on file.

## **2023 COVID-19 Policies**

Covid-19 continues to spread throughout the community. We will continue to operate with the following Covid-19 procedures in place.

### **Exposure and Illness**

**If a camper or employee has tested positive for COVID-19, they must remain at home** until all of the following are true:

-At least 5 days since the onset of symptoms, AND

-24 hours fever-free without use of fever reducing medication (Tylenol, Motrin, etc.), AND symptoms are improving.

If/when they return to camp, they will be required to wear a high-quality mask for an additional 5 days from the positive test.

**If your camper is symptomatic, tested, and determined to be COVID-19 negative**, the student will remain home until:

-The camper is fever free, vomiting and diarrhea free for greater than 24 hours without medication

OR

-A clinician has evaluated the child and documented an alternative diagnosis and that the camper may return to camp.

**If a camper or employee is exposed to COVID but remains asymptomatic**, they may continue coming to camp but will need to wear a high-quality mask indoors. We will notify all parents that there has been a secondary exposure at camp but the programming schedule will not change.

**If a camper or employee tests positive for COVID-19 or presents symptoms after having been at camp**, we will notify all camp families that all campers have been directly exposed to COVID-19, but the programming schedule will not change. We will implement a daily symptom screening at sign-in, wear high-quality masks indoors and social distance outdoors during lunch for exposed campers and staff.

### **Communicating with Camp Directors**

You must notify the Camp Director immediately if:

-Your camper tests positive for COVID-19.

-Your camper displays symptoms of COVID-19 during camp or within 5 days of leaving camp programming.

-Your camper is directly exposed to COVID-19.

### **Symptoms of COVID-19 in Children**

If your camper has any of the following symptoms, please notify your Camp Director and keep your camper home if they are sick!

- Fever
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Muscle Aches and Pains
- Cough
- Nasal congestion or or runny nose
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Abdominal pain
- Diarrhea
- Nausea or vomiting
- Poor appetite or poor feeding



### **Cancellation or Suspension of Programming**

If our 1:5 staff to camper ratio is compromised due to the number of quarantined staff members, we will cancel or suspend programming until an appropriate number of staff can return.

### **Summer Sort of Thing Specific Information**

#### **Performances**

Participants will be performing in three outdoor community shows. These performances will be held in Holman Field (behind Yes! And... Headquarters) at 6:00pm on July 26th, 27th, 28th

### **Shadow Fringe Camp Specific Information**

#### **Camp times**

Shadow Fringe Camp will be held from 8:45am-3:15pm each day. Participants are expected to arrive on time.

#### **Lunch**

All youth will be offered a lunch and snack each day. If preferred, they may pack and bring their lunch or walk across the street in a pair to the Sunoco to purchase lunch.

#### **Appropriate Dress**

Participants are expected to dress appropriately for camp. Appropriate dress includes attire that: conceals undergarments, is conducive to free movement, appropriate and contains no offensive images or words.

### **Additional Information**

#### **Refund policy**

Once we have reserved a spot for your child, you will be responsible for payment for the days and weeks that you have chosen, even if your child is absent. If you choose to cancel your registration before May 15, a \$50 per week fee will be withheld for each week registered. There will be no cancellation refunds given after May 15th with the exceptions listed below.

In relation to Covid-19, your tuition will be refunded if:

\*It is recommended and directed by the government that summer camps close due to increased community spread. You MAY also receive a pro-rated refund if camp becomes virtual due to a camp specific exposure or community spread of COVID-19.

\*Your family has to quarantine because of Covid-19 illness or suspected exposure.

\*Weeks are cancelled due to low registration

A more detailed Covid related refund policy is in the Covid Policies Document on our website.

Additional Refund exceptions:

\*If there is a waiting list for the camp and someone is willing to take your spot in the camp, you MAY be eligible for a full refund less the \$50 per week registration fee.

\*A camper who becomes ill (not related to Covid-19) or injured during the week of their camp MAY receive a prorated refund as determined by the Program Director.

\*Refunds will be granted before your scheduled week of camp for reasons of illness, injury (a doctor's certification may be requested) or death in the immediate family.

Please note the following:

\*Refunds will not be granted for scheduling conflicts or no-shows.

\*Refunds will not be granted to campers who leave camp by their own choice.

\*Campers may transfer to an alternate session, if space permits, without penalty.

\*Any refunds will be made to the individual who made the original payment.



## **Contact Information**

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