

Bethel Camp for the Arts

Kaleidoscope

Summer 2009...Adventures Waiting to Happen!

The anticipation of each summer at camp is very exciting. Rick & Candy have been busy planning all year, the counselors have had camp in the back of their minds while busy with school, jobs & adventures; & campers have been excited to return or perhaps a little nervous to come to camp for the first time. Then, of course, there are the parents who are filled with mixed emotions about sending their kids away!

That being said, we're so ready to have a fun & rewarding summer! We all grow & learn at camp, & it's very special to experience this together. There's nothing quite like camp!

If you're a new camper, don't worry if you're a little nervous. We're all ready to welcome you with open arms☺ If you're a returning camper, surely you're excited to see old friends & make new ones. Now, let's see what the old friends have been up to...

Camper News:

Isabella Litwack just graduated 8th grade & will be working backstage for "Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory" at the Indianapolis Civic Theatre. She played the Munchkin Mayor & a flying monkey in the "Wizard of OZ." Spring break, she traveled to Va. Beach with her family & didn't complain once! ☺

Caitlin Doyle went to NYC to see "Wicked" on Broadway (again!) and has been part of her high school's One Act plays this past year.

Amanda & Gillian Castro went on an Alaska cruise last summer, where they had their 1st white water rafting experience, touched icebergs, & had up close views of whales, dolphins & seals. Amanda had the lead in a production of "Mother Holly" & played a part in a traveling show, "The Burning of Norwalk." She's currently volunteering for a younger students' production. Gillian also performed in "Mother Holly" & got to play Amanda's mother! Gillian is playing guitar & taken up drums. Animal care (thanks to the alpacas) has become essential, as they adopted 2 bunnies and a guinea pig!

Lydia Utter loves Bethel and can't wait to return. She has been busy swimming, singing, and acting in her school play.

Raquel and Ben Glassner spent Spring Break at the beautiful "Tanque Verde" Ranch in Tucson, AZ- where they enjoyed their 2nd discovering the Sonoran Desert on horseback. Raquel had an original poem published in a national young writer's review and will be preparing for the exciting move back to Brookline for High School. Ben is producing work for an upcoming exhibit of his fashion drawings at a gallery in Swampscott, MA. Raquel and Ben are very eager to return to Bethel again this summer and look forward to reuniting with their old friends, the marvelous classes and the stupendous staff!

Sonya Rosen has been burning the midnight oil as a happy 8th grader in Marblehead, MA! She just finished a role in "Godspell." Late last summer she also appeared in "As You Like It." Sonya plays a mean bass in her school rock band & is an avid member of the chorus. Currently she's tearing up the field during spring soccer. Most important of all, she can usually be found in her room curled up with a good book. Sonya is looking forward to her upcoming time in Bethel where she will be showing her little sister, Nora, the ropes.

***Truly great friends
are hard to find,
difficult to leave,
& impossible to forget!***

Molly Dee was in her school's production of "Annie Jr.," which the kids enjoyed so much they followed up with a performance of "Seussical," produced by the students. Molly was the graphic designer for the web site & playbill & set designer. Unfortunately she did not get to see the production because she was in Florida with her parents going to Disney, a Red Sox vs Tampa Bay game, & Cirque De Soleil! She's on the soccer & speech teams so she has had a busy year and is looking forward to camp this summer.

Bethel Camp for the Arts Mission Statement:

To provide a non-competitive, nurturing environment in which children can explore and enjoy a balance of fine and performing arts, technology, enrichment activities and individual/lifetime sports as part of a small, inclusive community.

Our approach to the camp experience:

We are a non-traditional camp with no team sports or color war. Campers create their own schedules, choosing from a wide variety of activities. At Bethel Camp for the Arts, we are committed to offering the highest quality program, staff and facility. We welcome all children to join us and celebrate being who they are!

Staff Adventures:

Caitlin Cavanagh has been living in Granada, a beautiful city in Southern Spain, since Jan. She's loved improving her grasp of the Spanish language, taking classes at a foreign university, & of course, making Spanish friends! She's been fortunate enough to travel during time off from school, & has benefited from gaining new perspectives in Southern and Eastern Europe. She's getting excited for her senior year of college, especially to start a research project in criminal psychology & to continue singing and co-directing her a capella group. She can't wait to see all of the returning campers, and to meet new friends this summer!

Shawna bought a house at the end of last summer & has since moved in after doing some quick fix-ups, & getting a "puppy. She says puppy lightly—he's a Standard Terrier & Bearded Collie mixed so he isn't very small! Having moved from 1st grade to 2nd grade for this school year, she's been working with a variety of children from "general" education to "emotionally challenged." Shawna's been granted a contract for next school year & will be headed back to 1st grade. She's taking courses to get her masters degree, just finished her ESOL course load, & is looking forward to getting back into the fun & joy of camp!

Cat has worked on 2 musicals & 2 plays over the past year, & was involved in all aspects from costumes to sets & performing. She increased her volunteer work, spending time in senior homes & living with homeless for a week, fixing up a house to be used as a day center for the needy. As a member of the Nazareth College Enrollment team, she's been giving tours to prospective students & families, & she broadened her dance perspective, studying Improvization & Dance theory.

Andres has been finishing up his senior year & preparing to start student teaching in the fall: High School Spanish 1 & 2. He taught a 1st Year Experience course at the university level for freshman students & also taught Spanish at an elementary & high school as part of his teaching program. He also worked in res-life as a Multicultural Advisor again, & was a program leader for the Public Service Residential Community. The most exciting part of his year was that he traveled to the Dominican Republic during Christmas to work with an orphanage, followed by traveling—

surviving with only 250 dollars to spend. "It was a blast!!!"

Katie Gibson has continued to teach 8th grade Language Arts, enjoying working with the students on their reading & writing skills. Secondly, she's just been accepted into grad school at Kent State University, where she'll be working on receiving her degree to become a School Library/Media Specialist. Third, she's started training for a marathon through a program called "Team In Training." She'll be running the marathon on September 19, 2009. Last, but definitely not least, she got engaged to her college sweetheart and will be getting married in the summer of 2010! Needless to say, she's been really busy, but looks forward to returning for another summer at Bethel! "I can't wait to meet and be reunited with all of the new and returning campers!"

Kate Shults recently returned from traveling throughout Argentina over the past six months. She's preparing to start graduate school in the fall at UCF, where she'll be studying film. Kate's very excited to meet the awesome girls she'll be living with this summer & to make amazing videos with campers!

Sebas has recently been accepted to Nova Southeastern U. where he'll be studying Communications & International Business. At NSU he'll research a new method of teaching robotics that he's been trying to develop. He's really looking forward to camp this year & being able to teach Advanced Robotics using LEGO NXT with some cool new sensors he just got.

Marisa has been in Europe for the past 5 months, & every day has been a dream. She lived & studied in Florence, where she did all sorts of things, but mostly ate delicious food, was overwhelmed & awed by art. & indulged in every gelato flavor possible! She loved climbing to the top of the Eiffel Tower, taking long train rides through the Alps, strolling around Venice wearing a mask for Carnivale, & watching a sunset over the Bay of Naples from Mt. Vesuvius. She also went to London to do a research project at the Imperial War Museum. She looks forward to bringing her experiences to camp!

Ashley Oliver just returned from a vacation in Alaska & is so excited for camp. She's busily finishing up work in her studio for her summer shows, and recently interviewed for a job at an Emilio Reggio art-based preschool

program at Gould Academy. She's crossing her fingers, thinking it's the perfect type of program for her.

Ashley Hensel-Browning's days have been rich with dancing in schools (most recently a math and movement residency in the Berkshires), dancing with folks across generations, and directing opera (Hansel and Gretel). She's enjoying Vermont, spring gardening, and lots of mountain biking, and she can't wait for camp!

Zoë has been on a continuous adventure since camp last summer. She hasn't stayed in one place for longer than two months! Her first stop was Vermont to visit the infamous Ashley Hensel-Browning. Then she drove across the country with her mom to Sonora, CA (her hometown!), followed by a trip to Italy where she went sightseeing & volunteered on organic farms. After returning, she traveled around the US, settling in Sonora to work construction until returning to camp. "I'm looking forward to being back in Bethel this summer and seeing all of you!"

M-J says he's pretty much as boring as last year, sadly. Of course, we all know that's not true☺ He says he has a few new things to report...he's head of Cypress Dojo now, enjoying his 5th grade gifted math & science class (they just dissected a fetal pig...ewww), & he's read a TON of books recently in his new hammock on his porch, which has come in handy since all of the White siblings have moved into the same house together! M-J is hoping to get a teaching position next year.

Brant continues to work as a Post Production Manager in Tallahassee, despite massive budget cuts. Currently, he is gearing up for a move to Los Angeles in the winter in order to officially begin work in the "business." He's also in the middle of writing a feature script in hopes of selling it in LA. "Wish me luck!"

Bethany has had a great year! She has enjoyed a second school year in the K-12 schools in her city; has learned some new yoga games, made some music, and shoveled some snow; and has spent much of the rest of her time with friends and family. As much as she'll miss her other homes, she is psyched to be headed to Bethel in a matter of weeks -- hanging with the ladies of Davidson and saluting the sun in those gorgeous Maine mountains!