

2022 Camp Schedule

78th Season

STAFF TRAINING

June 6 - June 18

2 WEEK SESSIONS

Session A June 19 - July 2

Session B July 3 - July 16

Session C July 17 - July 30

Session D July 31 - Aug 13

2023 PRIORITY ENROLLMENT

September 1 - October 15

2023 OPEN ENROLLMENT

November 1, 2022

Winter 2022

Skylake Ripples

the Skylake
Yosemite Camp
Newsletter

Enrollment 2022

The impact of Covid on summer camps has been staggering. Skylake, along with most camps, cancelled their entire 2020 seasons. Skylake bounced back strong in 2021. We opened a new one week session in an attempt to accommodate the demand. We truly felt like we were a part of the recovery effort to get life back to normal.

Enrollment for 2022 was *and is* very challenging. The priority enrollment period is provided to guarantee a returning camper the same space they had the previous summer. It does not guarantee a change of sessions or the addition of sessions. In addition, we had campers that wanted to enroll for 2022 that had never gotten off the wait list from 2021. We also had many campers with younger siblings now wanting to enroll and campers that came for two weeks in '21 wanting to come for four weeks in 2022.

Skylake normally accommodates approximately 650 campers during a summer. This year, by the official date to start enrolling new campers Jessica was dealing with over 700 camper applications and many requests from our existing campers to add or change sessions.

It is really hard to imagine that on Nov 1st we were already over enrolled for the summer. We act like an airline at this time of the year, we overbook a little in anticipation of cancellations and we work to squeeze in our wait listed campers whenever possible.

There is no way of accurately predicting how many cancellations we will receive. It is even more difficult to predict what ages or what sessions we will receive those cancellations from. Families that are currently on wait list (or hoping to add or change sessions) need to be patient as we work through these issues. Riley is managing these details closely and working with Jessica to make as many families happy as possible.



The Key to a Successful Summer-Staff Training

Each summer we have the challenge of training about 75 college students on our traditions, policies, and the necessary counseling skills to be a great summer camp counselor. Two weeks of camp time are dedicated to this task after a full winter of planning.

The first week of training is focused on specialty training. All staff that is scheduled to work the ropes course or are on the "trip staff" require significant program training. This week is also the week all of our staff (that do not yet have their lifeguard certifications) arrive in camp for onsite training. All of the summer administrators also arrive this first week. It is critical to get off to a great start in building our team for the summer.

The second week of training is intense. There are over 25 major training workshops, 4 small group workshops, rotating team building activities, time set aside for activity, cabin and camper preparation, staff swim tests and of course lots of FUN too! Staff training is something we think about year-round and something we take great pride on as we know it sets the tone for the entire summer. Our workshops range from "Parent's Expectations" to "Conflict Management" to "Fostering Friendships." We spend time talking about health and wellness, inclusivity, homesickness, and the list keeps going!

Our full complement of kitchen staff are also in camp for these two weeks. Mary Christopher, Johnny Christopher, Lyle Plantz and all of the kitchen assistants are in camp getting ready for a summer of great food.

Each year we look to establish a theme, something that we think will help set the tone for the week and then something we can touch on throughout the summer. We often put a slogan on the back of the staff shirt as reminders to staff on our "why." This year we are looking to put a strong focus on staff and camper "wellbeing," with the importance of focusing on the moment, on this summer, these campers, this staff group, summer 2022!

We are basing this year's theme for training from a new book by Kris Carter called, *Permission to Glow, A Spiritual Guide to Epic Leadership*. In reviewing the book, Susan Piver wrote; "Permission to Glow shows you how to bring forth your true gifts, not by hacking or crushing it, but by allowing your natural brilliance to express itself."

Another review stated: "This book outlines a simple, powerful path to being an impactful leader and a valued contributor. It takes coaching a huge step forward by daring all of us to show up fully-permission by permission, practice by practice."

Our goal with staff training is not just to get our staff to understand our rules, policies, and reason for being, but also to empower them to be their best selves so they can then be fully present for campers and help campers feel empowered to do the same.

A lot of what happens at camp, what we call "Skylake Magic," happens organically. Children and staff bring much of this magic on their own. But when we start with a strong focus and spend time connecting with each other and supporting each other, everyone wins.



Quick Look at 2022 Enrollments

The impact of Covid on geographical enrollment patterns remains relatively insignificant. We have always been and remain predominantly a California Camp. The pattern of approximately 45% of our campers coming equally from either northern California or southern California remains fairly consistent. Our current enrollment reflects 90% of our campers are from the Golden state.

Our California campers come from over 250 different schools. There are approximately 10 schools that send between 7 to 14 campers to Skylake annually. Larchmont Charter School now seems to lead the charge with the most number of campers, although Larchmont has four campuses so it may not be a fair comparison.

As can be expected, with Covid concerns and restrictions, our International Camper count is down significantly. Currently we have only 6 international campers representing Spain and France. Historically we have served approximately 20-30 international campers each summer.

Skylake will host over 50 campers this summer from out-of-state. Prior to Covid, many campers had been from Texas. It appears we will have approximately 10 campers from Texas, with similar numbers coming from Nevada, Utah, and Colorado. We are excited to also have campers from Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Maine, New Jersey, Oregon, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin.

Skylake and Covid-Predictions for 2022

camp in 2020. Wrong! We were fearful 2021 was going to be a nightmare. Wrong! We thought the Delta variant was the end of the virus. Wrong! The Omicron variant is busy running its course and we are hopeful that the end is in sight, but we just don't know.

We are comfortable in saying that if no new variants arrive before next summer, that camp will be like 2021. That means we will still have to be careful. We will need to run a smart and safe camp, but camp should be returning closer to what we call normal.

What does that mean? Our 2021 plan of running more buses, staggered 30 minutes apart, allowed us to keep crowd sizes small and lower the number of campers per bus, but it was a logistical nightmare. No final decisions yet, but look to see a more traditional bus structure in 2022.

Opening and closing days are normally filled with energy and are very exciting. **It is our expectation to return to our normal great closing day ceremonies and brunches in 2022.** Our goal for 2022 is to have one last chance for campers to get up on stage and sing, the presentation of some well earned acknowledgements, and give the time for parents, campers and staff to share their good byes. Our closing brunch (with a great Cobb Salad and fresh homemade strawberry ice cream) will also share a triumphant return.

Care Packages?! This one is hard. We have to admit that not having to sort 50-75 packages a day made life a lot simpler. But, Skylake has been very proud of the fact we are possibly the last camp to still permit *(and even encourage!)* care packages from home. It is our belief this tradition is as popular today as it has been in the past. We believe the limitations we have placed on the size and numbers of care packages **will allow us to re-instate this tradition in 2022!**

Seniors and CILTS should be able to return to the joy of a trip to Millers.

In addition, the air conditioning units we purchased for the dining room in 2020 will now get a chance to be used as we will be doing more indoor activities.

One remaining change from summer of 2021 is the elimination of off-site visits during our changeover weekends. Families with campers staying for four weeks will be permitted for a camp visit on our closing days, but will no longer be permitted to take their campers out of camp.

The updated Parent's Handbook will be sent to all families in March. All of these policies and procedures will be clearly outlined. Please don't hesitate to call us with any question or concerns.



Recap of 2021

It is impossible to recall the amount of time and energy that went into trying to get camp open in 2020. The number of emergency plans and Covid procedures that were drafted and redrafted was an endless process, and sadly we still couldn't open that summer. And although challenging, we prepared with optimism for the 2021 season.

A hopeful sign was the availability of vaccines (for those over 18) in early 2021. This meant our staff could be vaccinated. We immediately made the determination that to be hired, you had to be fully vaccinated. Although some declined, the rest of the staff was happy to get vaccinated. Requiring our staff to be vaccinated gave us the flexibility to allow them to leave camp on their days off. Camps choosing not to require vaccines dealt with free-time restrictions and suffered a huge decline in overall staff moral. Whereas our staff was able to enjoy their summer!

When the vaccine became available for campers 12 and over in the spring, we encouraged it but did not make it a requirement for this age group. However, a very high percentage of our campers did choose to get vaccinated, as we collected the documentation leading up to the summer. The testing system we implemented required all campers to obtain a negative PCR test within 72hrs of arrival and then another PCR test upon arrival. We really appreciate the support we received from all parents. In camp, we had our own PCR equipment and a RN to assist in testing the kids as they stepped off the bus. The system established for the mail in tests was almost flawless in its execution with reporting of all results available to us prior to campers arrival in camp. Having the additional on site PCR testing system which produced results on 210 campers within the first 4 hours of each opening day gave us an incredible sigh of relief at the start to each session.

In camp we adapted procedures to be Covid compliant. A painful, but necessary change, was having to eliminate our opening and closing day opportunities for campers' families. We also switched to 100% outdoor eating with the addition of 24 new picnic tables and umbrellas. We added showers, more handwashing stations, and had a soft enforcement of masks while indoors and in the first several hours on opening days until all PCR test results were received. The high-tech temperature scanning machine we purchased wasn't reliable, but regular health screenings from nursing staff was in place and we managed to stay 100% Covid free all summer. We did our job as best we could, but luck was also on our side.

There was chatter among many camp directors of how difficult the 2021 summer was. They attributed this mostly to the impacts of long term social isolation for campers and staff leading up to camp. The complaints mostly were that the kids needed a lot of extra TLC and more time than usual to adapt and staff had higher needs as well. To be honest, Skylake didn't experience such a dramatic increase of these challenges. We had our normal range of issues (that sometimes are more challenging than others), but in looking back at our summer, it felt like a "normal summer."

To the parents, to the campers, to the staff, we thank everyone for your patience and working with us through these continued challenging times.

BASS LAKE

Bass Lake was created in 1896 with the building of the Crane Valley Dam. The dam was enlarged in 1910 to its current height. The dam was earthquake retrofitted over a five year period beginning in 2005.

Water from Bass Lake is used for irrigation in the San Joaquin Valley along with generating power through the Crane Valley Powerhouse. The lake is drawn down to 50% capacity by September 15th of each year and down to 60% capacity by November 1st. This allows for flood control for the areas below Bass Lake.

It currently appears that Bass Lake will be in great shape for 2022. Rainfall in the area averages around 30 inches per year. 2021 was our worst year for rain in the last 20 years when Bass Lake only received 16.79 inches. This year we have already had 20 inches and with the storms projected for the next month we are sure to have a full lake.

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the latest news and
events!





The COMPANION Mobile App

The launch of the Companion app for the 2021 season was a tremendous success!

We heard from many parents how much they enjoyed seeing the daily photos from camp right on their phone. We want to help families get more out of the app this year, so we want to make sure everyone downloads the app, and is signed-in well before camp. A new feature we are activating within the app this year is with Camper Forms to help make it easier to submit before camp! We will announce all the required Health and Travel forms in the spring and these forms can be submitted through the app on your phone or through your existing Camp in Touch online account, whichever is most convenient.

For our families that are new to camp this summer, Companion is the mobile app developed to work with our enrollment software provided by CampMinder. Each parent on the camper account has access to download the app to their phone and easily scroll through the photos that we post each day during camp. Parents can also receive push notifications when your camper appears in a photo with the help of face finder technology.

Photos can be downloaded to your phone for free.

Companion is an enhancement and addition to how we have been posting photos each summer in Camp in Touch. Photo albums show up in Camp in Touch when accessed by a computer, and those same albums will also show up on your Companion app for easy downloading and sharing via your phone. Please know that CampMinder has developed this mobile friendly option to work with mobile phones only at this time, and currently the system is not compatible with iPads and other tablets. We recommend getting set up now with the app now so that you'll be all set when we release Forms to fill out in the spring.

To get started with Companion, follow these three simple steps:

- 1. Download the Companion app to your phone**, available on the iPhone iOS App Store and the Android Play Store.
- Once downloaded, find the app on your phone and **log in using your Camper Account login email and password** (*the same one you use for Camp in Touch*). Each parent should download the app and use their own email to log in. We do not recommend sharing the same log in. If one parent ever changes a password after forgetting it for example, it would then lock the other parent out from logging in, so we really advise each parent log in as themselves. The app is free for each parent in both the primary and alternate household.

- **For parents who have not used Camp In Touch** (*i.e. you are not the parent filling out the forms and application each year*) and don't know what your password is, we can email you a password reset link to set up a password with the log in email we have on account for you. If you receive emails from us, we have a log in email for you, and you just need to set up a password.

Give us a call or email us at registration@skylake.com if that's the case and we can get that email right off to you.

- 3. IMPORTANT** - Once the app is downloaded on your phone, you will be prompted to Upload a reference photo of your child. You must take this reference photo before they leave for camp to have the "tagged photo notifications" work. Once one parent takes the camper reference photo, it is set up on all parent devices.

This information will all be provided again to you in the mailed 2022 Parent Handbook for all enrolled families this spring.

If you have any questions at all, please give us a call and we would be happy to assist!

BUSY OFF SEASON

We are busy all winter maintaining and improving camp. Many of our projects go under the radar while others are quickly visible.

The infirmary received an upgrade with a complete remodel of the bathroom with new floor, shower, toilet and vanity. The front room received new paint, floor and cabinets. Two cabins had their foundations rebuilt, one cabin was torn down and completely rebuilt, and new stairs are being constructed for many of our cabins.

Continual work of stripping and staining the cabins will go on all winter. This is a project that always improves the appearance of camp. After 25 years, our floors are showing their age. So the big project this off-season is the installation of a new floor in the dining room and recreation room!

In a continued fire prevention effort, we are removing trees that were cut and left a few years back. All of these trees were killed by the drought and cut down by PG&E and Forest services, but then most were just left there. These downed trees act as fuel on the forest floor so we are helping to thin the forest, remove these trees and protect our camp structures.

Latest Enrolled Campers for Summer 2022



10 YEARS! Carly Goldblatt Makayla Thoits	4 YEARS Pearl Abrahams Vivian Abrahams Emmy Appelbaum-Schwartz Logan Ashby Julian Barnes Elizabeth Baskins Isabella Baskins Layla Blumenthal Skye Caroe Grace Castaneda Luke Chanawatr Asher Collar Cameron Cox Zoe Cox Audrey Czerniewski Ben Ellis Taliah Ellis Ashley Fannon Josie Fonarow Blake Friedman Maude Giroux Sarah Giroux Ellie Goldsmith Fletcher Graham Anyah Harron Asher Harron Cooper Hatch Quinn Hathaway Ryan Heslin Josie Hicks Carson Jordan Connor Jordan Summer Jordan Shai Ann Kanow Ari Kaufman Nola Kilar Skylar Kimmel David Kossar Graham Kroonen Reed Kushner Cameron Lasman Sebastian Lema Levi Loewenstein Carl Lunkewitz Paul Lunkewitz Mackenzie Marlborough Jasper McClary Brian McWhorter III Abby Morrison Carlos Munoz-Koster Olivia Munoz-Koster Finn Nash Jace Needleman Tess Oreck Anabel Orozco Paulina Paredes Marin Pollock Vivian Porter Will Portnoy Sara Rice Charlie Robinette Brett Rosenblatt Haley Simon Lily Sjogreen Sydney Solash Tillie Solomon Anna Viane Owen Wagner Summer Weiner Ava Westberg Lana Westberg Cassidy Williams Ella Zaragoza-Aaron Eleanor Ziperovich Matias Ziperovich	Miles Durgin Zoe Dusig David Edelman Judah Feldman Diego Fallon Harper Finn Finn Fox Jaya Fox Shane Fox Sadie Franklin Teddy Gardner-Berg Chase Gensler Chloe Gensler Madison Gensler Gryffin Glowacki Adriana Goldberg Alex Goldsmith Brody Goslin Zack Goslin Troy Gould Milo Goyer Harper Green Charlie Haas Amelia Hann Liv Hann Josie Hanson Kinley Haskins Alex Hatch Hilary Hogan Isabella Hogan Zahara Jules Taj Kaylani Zane Kaylani Jake Kazerani Ryder Koblick Joseph Lavezzo Josie LeBlanc Aidan Maron Ava Maron Kellan Mazur Makenna Mazur Sadie McCulloch Lane McGinn Catalina Mendivil Cooper Menick Olivia Mooney Grace Moran Daniel Morrison Kai Orozco Lucas Pasewark Reagan Patterson Felix Pipski Juniper Pipski Madeline Quill Ryley Quiroz Zoe Quiroz Sarah Rhodes Sadie Robin Quentin Roemer Bryn Rogoff Connor Ross Emily Ross Zachary Ross Louis Rotgin Gemma Schaeffer Rafi Schaeffer Wyatt Shada Zac Shada Jack Shea Lucas Shelton Caroline Sherman Charlie Sjogreen Lucien Skinner Zoe Skinner Liev Sklar Willie Smolins Wheeler Snyder Lily Tyler Elsa Wallin Isabelle Waxman Lucas Waxman Flynn Weaver Presley Whitemans	Cal Cameron Emmett Carlton Mateo Castillo Fiona Chafen Nathan Christiano Leo Cole Amias Collins Elliot Collins Elliott Collins Spencer Collins Campbell Colosi Falyynn Cox Gabriella Cupps Garrett Cupps Marie Deeken Dyan DeLuca Desi Derrick McGlynn Ella Devlin Giovanni DiMarcello Stela DiMatteo Maxwell Dolan Jack Henry Douglas Alice Dunlevy Clark Dunlevy Hal Dunlevy Breck Eagle Benjamin Edelman Andrew Escola Sophia Espinoza James Ethington Hudson Eyler Paolo Fallon Baden Faulkner Julia Ferraro Henry Forgarg Willa Forgarg Wyatt Foster Kaylin Franklin Aidan Frase Liam Frase Gus Ganger Ellie Garoutte Aaron Goldberg Amelia Goldberg Charlie Goldberg Carson Gould Charlie Graham Quinn Green William Green Manu Greenberg Felix Greenberg Hunter Greenfield Elise Gruenstein Claire Gunning Kathryn Gunning Ian Hadzibegovic Avery Handy Hailey Handy Olivia Hanks Finn Harrington Karlitia Harris Molly Hastings Brooklyn Hatch Seamus Hayden Beckett Heathcote Poppy Heathcote Clara Heffernan Rose Helm Marlowe Henning Bryce Heslin Riley Hess Ryan Hess Coco Hobel Hank Hogan Anderson Hopkins Walker Hutto Samuel Ickovics Mosley Jacob Tova Jaffe Carlos Johns Mateo Johns Owen Johnson Emma Johnston Eleanor Jones Emmett Jones Bella Jones Claire Jordan Angelina Kassner Riley Keston Jiya Kidambi Roxie Kimmel Beau Koblick Judah Kornblith Lucy Kramer Emma Krovblit Korey Latham-Grayson Oliver LeBlanc Tyler Lenz Lucie Levasseur Shay Levy Sloane Levy Archer Lisenby River Lisenby Morgan Litt	Evie Lohonen Tom Lowe Ainsley Lyon Angus MacFadyen Jack Maley Harper Malone Sabina Malone Mali Manning Tessa McCormack Annie Meehan Avery Menzel Siena Michelson William Monaco William Mooney Hunter Moore Pierce Moore Pierre Morast Neala Morris Jacobo Munoz-Koster Ellie Murphy Aya Murray Maya Narayanan Eli Neandross Cole Needleman Levi Nieto Danas Nurre Millie Oelman Hannah O'Hara Freddie Oman Ryan Pasewark Naiya Patel Charlotte Perry George Perry Alice Philbin Caroline Philbin Meredith Philbin Jack Pomeroy Cecilia Porembski Evelyn Porembski Kiran Porembski Grayson Porter Makenzie Porter Rowan Porter Phoebe Quill Quincy Reynolds Scarlet Ricci Eva Rico Frankie Rivinus Clifford Roark Lucille Roark Olivia Roberts Mabel Robin Sage Ruzek Sonya Savitch-Kleiner Cleo Schaeffer Caroline Schinto Shaylor Schmitt Jude Segal Jackson Seitz Lucas Sharff Leo Sharkey Hugh Shepard Abby Sherman Carson Shinn Hutton Shumow Caroline Sieck Benjamin Silverman Harry Silverman Celia Singer Charlie Singer Arya Singla Siya Singla Gabe Smith Jemma Smith Ivy Smolins Cora Solash Josephine Solash Morgan Sonka Sam Stefan George Terpening Nathaniel Thompson Jake Tomlinson Isia Tracy Rapha Trigub Paxton Trollope Penelope Trollope Grant Trujillo Sienna Trujillo Isabel Tully Lucas Tully Femenia Olivia Vandebrak Jonah Vandevelde Rose Vandevelde Sam Wagner Jay Weiner Sophia Weiss Hazel Welch Ella Werlin Alexis Westling Karoline Witt Walker Yaeger Elise Yee Kate Zaragoza-Aaron Samantha Zarcufsky	Carlos Zubeldia-Lippman	1ST YEAR Isabel Acevedo Ryder Alaniz Tosh Alaniz Gene Asnes Henry Asnes Taj Avalos Andrew Bailey Christopher Bailey Gavin Barclay Nora Barclay Olivia Block Miles Beerman Thomas Benoit Cody Berry Dez Bettor Sam Bettor Ace Blassingame Max Blenner Charlie Bloch Agatha Blumenthal Adrian Bogan Ryan Bokser Jonah Bordon Talyn Bordon Ysa Braden Hudson Brand Luke Brand Ford Braun Tyler Bray Theo Brod Naomi Brown Parker Cappicille Alexander Caspi Breanna Castro Emma Chaudhry Jack Chaudhry Lily Chaudhry Fiona Chesney Max Christo Sam Christo Charlie Cole-Kelly Jasmine Conning Teddy Conroy Addy Covey Olivia Covey Emmie Dean Teegan DeCinces Madeleine Delaroque Taya Derrick McGlynn Tristan Douillet Jane Doyle Genevieve Elson Oliver Elson Hunter Esposito-Doi Tavio Esposito-Portillo Everett Esterky Cash Evans-Reber Conrad First Reilly First William Forn Ellie Foxworthy Aaron Friedman Sloane Friedman Sophia Friedman Kate Fujimori Luke Fujimori Jonny Galvez Curren Gately Oliver Gilmore Mason Goldberg Alexei Goldman Sebastian Gonzales Oscar Goodridge Crosby Goyer Gabe Griffin Adelaide Griffin-Matlow Max Groban Casey Handy Lena Handzo Charlotte Hanks Calvin Harris Lane Harris Cooper Harris-Jacobsen Theo Harrison Isia Hatch Jonah Heidt Izzy Henning Charles Hermanns James Hess Alyssa Hong Owen Howard Beckett Howell Cleo Howell Arlo HucKin Kip Hutto Ava Johnston Veer Kidambi Daniel Kishi	David Kishi Alex Klein Alix Kosinski Kaj Kosinski Caleb Kremen Miles Krepelka Zach Kuperberg Abby Lai-Wang Elsie Lai-Wang Bryan Lande Lucas Lande Jude Lehrer Juliette Levasseur Lila Levy Revelle Lopez-Leschin Nick Lowe Natalya Maley Amara Mann Athena Marco Eloise Marlborough Lachlan Marlborough Jackson Marshall Claudia Meehan Sloane Menzel Lillian Merrill Izzy Michael Max Moore Jack Moran Miko Morast Abby Morse Connor Morse Mack Murphy Harley Nichols Juliet Nichols Cal Nishimori Isabella North Thomas North Francesca Nortman Lauro Paredes Viveka Patel Jenner Piro Rylan Piro Savannah Plant Graham Pollock Alex Portnoy Zach Quiroz Mackenzie Reiling Justin Reinman Nico Ricci Layla Riley Skylar Robins Joseph Robinson Zach Rogoff Oliver Rosen Jonah Rosenberg Eli Ruxin Elodie Ruxin Maya Ruxin Noah Sachs Josie Samson Sydney Samson Owen Saturn Anna Savenkova Reya Schimek Sam Seitz Crosby Shada Talia Sharfin Ellia Sharafi Parson Sharafi Dylan Sharff Milo Shute Jack Silva Sarah Skaggs Charlie Spahr Poppy Spahr Luca Spangler Noah Spangler Stella Spangler Zander Spencer Milo Stein Eliana Studley Sydney Summers Taylor Summers Carly Townend Julian Trujillo Axel Trussler Michael Tseng Mae Vandevelde Zoe Viane Leo Waxman Anna Weatherman William Weatherman Banks Weir Elise Weir Olivia Weiss Alyson Welch Hayley Welch Darby Welch Erik Witt Dan Yakubik Sadie Zalewski Nora Zauner
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