

# COUNSELOR-IN-TRAINING PROGRAM

Camp Wonder is looking for "wonder"ful rising 8th-12th graders who are kind, compassionate, hardworking, patient, fun and LOVE to work with kids! We are a summer day camp for kids going into TK - 3rd grade and we offer a wide range of activities from arts and crafts to outdoor games to math and literacy activities to help avoid the "summer slide." We offer top-notch activity instruction from professional educators in a supportive and warm environment dedicated to inclusion and belonging ... all with a healthy dose of summer fun and enthusiasm!

Camp Wonder carefully selects CITs who exhibit the qualities that we believe enhance our program. We are looking for young people with a desire to learn leadership skills who are warm, enthusiastic, patient, flexible, calm, courageous, independent, confident, and have a strong work ethic.

All CIT applicants should be interested in working with children and possess maturity, flexibility, the ability to have fun, and an open-mind to learning new things!

If this opportunity sounds interesting to you, we encourage you to fill out an interest form now at:

CAMP WONDER SUMMER 2024 CIT INTEREST FORM

## **GENERAL DESCRIPTION**

Our Camp Wonder CIT program is an educational program designed to develop pre-teens and teens into effective camp counselors and leaders. While CITs are technically campers, they are bound by specific rules and restrictions different from Counselors. CITs are not paid, but they do pay a reduced camp fee to participate in this hands-on training program.

CIT programs are an awesome opportunity to learn management and leadership skills as well as basic training in such skills as time management, organization, and professionalism. Being part of a CIT program can lead to leadership opportunities at school, in extracurricular activities, and at future jobs. Our ultimate hope is that after being a CIT at Camp Wonder, you will join our team as a Counselor after you graduate from high school. Those who have participated in our CIT program will have priority when we are hiring counselors.

CITs are going into 8th - 12th grade and are specifically selected for this leadership development opportunity.

8th & 9th graders - pay a reduced camp rate

10th graders - no camp fee; eligible for volunteer hours

11th & 12th graders - receive a stipend

Our goal is that CITs will remain in the CIT program for 2-3 years in preparation to become camp counselors after they graduate from high school.

#### SELECTION PROCESS

Being a CIT at Camp Wonder is an exciting growth opportunity! The skills learned as a CIT can only be acquired through hands-on experience and experienced guidance. We are looking for highly committed individuals who believe in the principles of our program and want to become leaders in the community. That is why we limit the number of CITs we have and are very selective in our admittance process, including an interview that can take place in person or via zoom.

It is crucial that CIT candidates show initiative and reach out about this opportunity on their own. They should then carefully and thoroughly complete the CIT Interest Form and submit it by the designated due date.

# PROGRAM OUTLINE

- CITs are required to attend training leading up to the start of camp.
- Training will consist of planning, playing games, positive behavior management, execution of camp logistics such as drop-off, pick-up, activity implementation, and equipment set up and take down.
- CITs will work with senior staff members to organize and conduct classes and prepare lessons and lead activities
- At times they will also help with welcoming campers, participating in planning and implementation of activities such as water play days, bounce houses, scavenger hunts, celebrations, etc.

## **CIT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Under the supervision of a senior staff member,

- Make camp a fun place to be, helping to devise and plan games and activities
- Help provide a safe and supportive environment for campers
- Supervise cleaning and snack & lunch time
- Help campers resolve conflicts
- Work with staff to develop and co-lead games and activities
- Participate in informal and formal activities with campers