

SUMMER  
CAMP  
WELCOME  
PACKET



HIDDEN  
EST 1924



VILLA



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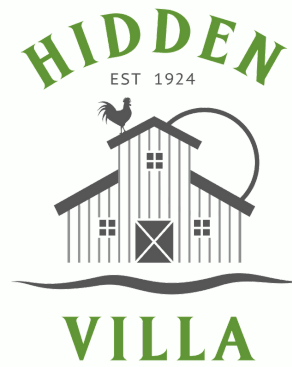
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## Camp is for Making New Friends

Camp is a fantastic place to make new friends! Hidden Villa Summer Camp brings youth together from different backgrounds to learn and have fun together! In keeping with our mission and to help create an inclusive atmosphere for all, **we do not take requests to place a camper in the same group as a buddy, including relatives.** Each day, campers spend time in assigned groups, have opportunities to choose activities (with new and old friends) and enjoy time in a large group setting.

If you have any questions, feel free to email [camp@hiddenvilla.org](mailto:camp@hiddenvilla.org) or call the camp office at 650-949-8641.



In 1945, Josephine Duveneck started the first multi-racial residential summer camp in the United States here at Hidden Villa in response to widespread prejudice that she and her husband, Frank, were witnessing during World War II. Today, rooted in the Duveneck family legacy of social justice and environmental stewardship, we carry on that legacy by bringing together a diverse and inclusive group of campers and staff, unplugged from everyday life, and giving them the unique opportunity to build a better community through shared experience.

**Summer Camp Program Mission**

We develop young leaders committed to social and environmental justice and equipped with a sense of awe for natural and human beauty, tools for non-violent multicultural community building, and the confidence to make positive change in our families, communities, and the world.

Our programs promote an eagerness for learning about ourselves and others through a framework built on the respect of differences and our responsibility to uphold camp's mission. Life on the farm provides campers with the opportunity to enjoy a wide variety of enriching activities. Whether in kinder or 12th grade, youth explore our wilderness, investigate our garden, and participate in our social justice curriculum all through challenge by choice. These following topics will be addressed in ways that are relevant and age-appropriate to each program:

**Environmental Stewardship**

**Race & Class**

**Farm & Food**

**LGBTQ+**

**Duveneck Family Legacy**



**Two weeks before your session starts - Camp Payments & Forms are Due**

**June 1st:** For Session 1 Participants

**June 14th:** For Session 2 Participants

**July 1st:** For Session 3 Participants

**July 14th:** For Session 4 Participants

Please pay online by credit card or mail a check to the camp office.

All forms should be completed under Incomplete Forms/Tasks in our online registration system. We can potentially unenroll your camper from their program if incomplete by this deadline.



Please complete in our online registration system under Incomplete Tasks/Forms.

Forms for Camper to Complete

Behavior Expectations Contract  
Info Form

Forms for Parents to Complete

Health Form  
Parent Consent Form  
Behavior Expectations Contract  
Info Form  
COVID-19 Health Form (Coming soon)  
Pre-Camp Screening (Print and Bring to Check-In)



**\*If Your Camper is Bringing Medication\***

Enter all medication information in our online registration system; to access in online account, click on your child's name and then click on Medications.

**Bring all medication in the original packaging. (Note Hidden Villa cannot administer medication that is not in its original container, labeled by the pharmacy with the child's name, address, dosage and frequency; this includes vitamins, creams, pills, drops, sprays, etc.)** Place Medication Form and medication in clear ziplock bag with camper's name on the bag. Give directly to camp staff during camp check-in.

IMPORTANT DATES

REQUIRED FORMS

**IMPORTANT**



All Hidden Villa Summer Programs emphasize environmental and multicultural understanding as well as group living skills. We encourage campers to make decisions for themselves and to understand the consequences of their decisions and actions. We believe that everyone is valuable to the larger group and believe that working together on chores and projects is a source of satisfaction. We believe in creative and non-aggressive problem solving and encourage all campers to learn more about themselves and each other.

**BEFORE CAMP BEGINS**

**PAYMENTS/FORMS:**

All forms that require a signature are DUE two weeks before the session start date. Final payment is DUE BY May 14th, unless prior arrangements are made with the Programs Administrator. Payments can be made online or by mailed check. If you need to cancel your registration, you may cancel through our online registration system until May 15th at 11:59pm. After that time, you must notify us by email to cancel your camp reservation. Once registered, session or program changes are possible only as space allows and do incur additional fees.

**REFUND POLICY:** The \$125 deposit is non-refundable and non-transferable once your child has registered. Camp fees (minus deposit) are refundable only until May 15th. You must notify us before this date if you need to cancel your registration and wish to receive a refund. While Hidden Villa retains the right to keep the entirety of tuition after May 15th in all cases, the following exception may be considered. If a cancellation is made at least 7 days prior to the start of a session and a replacement can be easily found, a partial refund (tuition minus a 25% cancellation fee) may be issued.

See 'Pick Up' and 'Behavior Expectations Contract' below for additional information on refunds. Should the Camp Director decide to send my child home for ill health, or any other reason, I am obliged to pick my child up immediately with no refund given. Should the Camp Directors and Staff feel it necessary to send my child home for adjustment or behavior difficulties, I am obliged to pick the child up immediately with no refund given.

**MEDICAL FORMS:** The health form must be filled out completely and accurately by a parent/guardian. Food allergies, physical restrictions and medications (all prescription and over the counter drugs) - including asthma medications - must be listed on the medical form.



**NO MONEY AT CAMP:** Campers should not bring any money with them to camp. Hidden Villa t-shirts are included in the registration fees for camp.

**NO TIP POLICY:** In accordance with American Camping Association guidelines, staff may not accept tips. Donations to the Hidden Villa Summer Camp Scholarship fund are gratefully accepted.

**DROP OFF & PICK UP DROP OFF:** I will check-in my child on the first day of camp at the time designated on the Welcome Letter, OR if I send my child to camp with another adult, I understand that this individual will be verifying/editing contact information and the names of those authorized to pick-up my child. For residential campers, the person dropping off will also be verifying my camper's medical information.

**PICK UP:** I will pick up my child on the final day of camp at the time specified on the Welcome Letter. Should the Camp Director decide to send my child home for ill health, or any other reason, I am obliged to pick my child up immediately with no refund given. If I live outside of the Bay Area, or am otherwise unavailable to pick my child up at any point during the camp session, another legal guardian or approved local emergency contact will be available with a reliable mode of transportation to retrieve my child immediately. I understand that myself, the emergency contact and other authorized adults I listed during registration are the only authorized individuals who may pick-up my child. If I need to add additional adults to my child's pick-up list, I will submit a request in the online camp registration system or in writing to the camp office.

**NO PETS:** Due to the high traffic and busy atmosphere at camp, we ask that you leave your dogs at home or in the car when dropping off or picking up your camper. This is for both the safety of all campers and your pets!



## WHILE CAMP IS IN SESSION

**MEDICATIONS:** We have a resident health care professional on duty.

•All medications should be given to the camp staff during check-in. No medication should be packed with the camper's belongings.

•Please only send medication with your child that is absolutely necessary for them to have at camp. Furthermore, please send all necessary medications/medications your child regularly takes at home (campers should not take breaks from their medications while at camp unless directed by their physician).

•Hidden Villa cannot administer medication that is not in its original container, labeled by the pharmacy with the child's name, address, dosage and frequency. At the end of a session, parents/guardians must pick up any medications from the Staff - medications WILL NOT be returned to campers.

•Contacts/Eye Glasses: If your child wears contacts or glasses, please bring a second pair to camp.

•Asthma Medication: If your child has asthma - even if they only rarely have attacks - please bring an inhaler or other asthma medicine to camp. If Hidden Villa has to purchase an asthma inhaler or other asthma medicine for your child, you will be billed.

**SICKNESS/EMERGENCIES:** We contact parents in the event of sickness or an emergency involving their camper. We will call and ask that they be picked up if they acquire a fever or have any COVID-19 symptoms while at camp. If the camper recovers at home quickly, is cleared by a physician to return, and receives a negative COVID-19 test they may be given approval by the Camp Director to return to camp. No refunds will be given if a camper leaves due to illness.

**WAIVER AND RELEASE LIABILITY:** Hidden Villa carries health and accident insurance to cover accidents occurring during camp. As parent or guardian of my child, I agree that I will not hold the Trust for Hidden Villa or its staff liable for any personal injury, property damage, loss or insurance. I agree to release and hold harmless the Trust for Hidden Villa and its staff from all liability incurred as a result of my child's participation in summer camp and that these terms serve as a release for myself and members of my family.

**ABILITY TO ENGAGE IN CAMP ACTIVITIES AND ASSUMPTION OF THE RISK:** Camp activities, including but not limited to swimming, hiking, archery, high & low challenge course elements, and farm chores, can be physically strenuous and involve some risk to participants. The Trust for Hidden Villa takes all possible precautions to reduce risk and provide safe, healthy, and enjoyable experiences. I warrant that my child is fully capable of participation and able to follow directions in any and all activities offered at camp. I acknowledge that risks from participation in camp activities exist and that I have allowed my child to attend camp knowing of these risks and their possible consequences including personal injury.

**BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS CONTRACT:** Should the Camp Directors and Staff feel it necessary to send my child home for adjustment or behavior difficulties, I am obliged to pick the child up immediately with no refund given. (We encourage you to discuss the Behavior Expectation Contract with your child.)

**PROHIBITED:** We believe in caring for ourselves and our environment. The use of drugs, alcohol and cigarettes is strictly prohibited and the use of these substances warrants sending anyone possessing them home immediately without warning.

**PHOTOGRAPHS:** During program, your youth's picture may be taken for use in a variety of publications. Images will NOT be posted to the general public or used in publications while your youth is in session. You will be asked to confirm your photography preferences during the check-in process.





**FRIENDS AT CAMP:** Camp is a fantastic place to make new friends! Hidden Villa Summer Camp brings youth together from different backgrounds to learn and have fun together! In keeping with our mission and to help create an inclusive atmosphere for all, we do not take requests to place a camper in the same group as a buddy – this includes relatives



INFORMATION & POLICIES



## Behavior Expectations

Hidden Villa's rules and agreements are founded on RESPECT. They are laid out here in much the same manner that we discuss them at camp. To help your children to have the best possible time at Hidden Villa **we encourage parents/guardians and campers to discuss these behavior agreements in advance of camp.**



**Respect For Ourselves:** Take good care of yourself. Stay safe. Do your best at whatever you choose to do. If you need help, feel bad, or are sick, please tell a staff person. If you have an idea, please share it. Remember that you are a valuable part of making camp work for everyone.



**Respect For Each Other:** Treat people as you wish to be treated. Every camper may not be your best friend, but we ask you to treat each person well. Listen to each other and to your counselors. No fighting, name calling, or verbal abuse is allowed.



**Respect For Our Cultures:** At Hidden Villa you have the opportunity to make friends with staff and campers from many backgrounds. We do not tolerate insults or poor treatment based on race, social class, language, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, religion, disability or any other difference.



**Respect For Our Environment:** Take good care of the gardens, animals, trails and property that make up Hidden Villa. Do not catch or injure lizards or other wild animals. Try to leave Hidden Villa and its inhabitants in better condition than when you found them. At Hidden Villa we try to maintain a wilderness experience free from the disruptions of mass media and technology - **do not bring the following items with you to camp: cell phones, smart watches (with communication/gaming capabilities; step counting is fine!), iPods, tablets, e-readers, MP3 players, radios or any other hand-held electronic devices.**



## Behavior Expectations Continued

Most youth thrive within Hidden Villa's environment of respect, choice and positive communication. Our discipline program is based in respectful communication. When behavior is inappropriate or unsafe the steps we take are as follows:



1. Discuss the situation, make a verbal agreement defining the desired behavior, and establish any logical consequences as applicable (e.g. sitting out from some pool time for running at the pool).



2. If the problem continues, camper and staff create a written contract. This will be followed by a call home.



3. If the behavior is still unresolved, the parent/guardian will be contacted and the camper will be sent home.

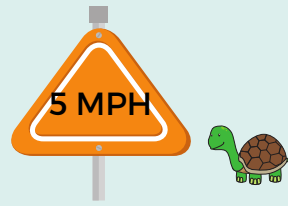
It is important to note that should the Camp Director and Staff feel it is necessary to send a child home for any reason, their parent, guardian, or emergency contact person is obliged to pick the child up immediately, at their own expense and with no refund given. We reserve the right to send a camper home without completing steps 1 and 2, as deemed necessary by the director.

# CHECK IN/OUT

## INFORMATION

Check-in will be a little different this year with added testing and screening for COVID-19. Specific check-in times and information will be provided to you closer to your camper's session start date.

- Please drive within the 5mph speed limit and obey all posted signs to keep our kids safe.



# HOW TO

## CONTACT YOUR CAMPER

**COMMUNICATION WITH CAMPERS:** For overnight campers, we encourage you to write letters or send emails often using our one-way camper email service. Outside of an emergency or pre-arranged special circumstance, we do not permit visits during camp. Please note that campers may not use Hidden Villa telephones or bring personal cell phones, smart watches, or other communication technology to camp. This helps campers integrate into the camp community most efficiently and effectively.

### **One-Way Email**

You can send your camper a one-way email! Log in to our online registration system. In the green header at the top of the page, click Additional Options. Choose Email a Camper. You can send emails and Invite friends/family to do the same Emails will be distributed daily. This is a free service for all residential campers.

### **First Class Mail**

You can send letters and packages to the address below. Please allow one extra day for internal routing. Please do not send food or any items on the Do Not Bring list (below). Mailing label:

<Name of Camper>, <Name of Camp>  
Hidden Villa Summer Camp  
26870 Moody Rd.  
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022-4209



# PACKING LIST

## EQUIPMENT

- 1-liter lightweight water bottle
- 1 sleeping bag (pillow and extra blanket, if desired)
- 1 fitted sheet
- 1 flashlight
- Sunglasses or sunhat
- 1 laundry bag (trash bag works well!)

## FACE MASKS/COVERINGS

- 10-15 Masks that properly fit
- Please label all masks with the camper's name
- Sealed plastic bag for storage of extra masks



## CLOTHING

- 1 heavy sweater or coat
- 1 bathing suit or trunks
- 1 pair of sandals for pool/shower time
- 12-15 pairs of underwear
- 5 pairs of shorts
- 10 cotton shirts (long/short sleeved or tank tops)
- 5 comfortable pairs of long pants (jeans, cords)
- 1-2 pairs of tennis shoes or hard-soled, closed-toe boots for hiking
- 1 bandanna or hat
- 2 towel (bath & beach)
- 1 pair of heavy pajamas or nightgown
- 10-14 pairs of socks
- 2 sweatshirts/light sweaters

## TOILET ARTICLES (put together in a bag/caddy for easy travel to bathrooms)

- comb/brush
- soap (in a container)
- sunscreen (at least 25 SPF) and chap-stick
- shampoo (we encourage low phosphate soaps)
- toothbrush & paste (please mark carrying case)
- deodorant
- feminine hygiene products (if needed)
- personal bottle of hand sanitizer



# PACKING LIST CONTINUED

## OPTIONAL ITEMS

- stationery or notebook
- day pack/backpack
- 2-3 self-addressed, stamped postcards or envelopes
- wind breaker or light weight jacket with waterproof shell
- swim cap and/or goggles
- favorite book, poems, costumes

## Do NOT Bring



- candy or gum
- cigarettes, alcohol or drugs
- fireworks of any kind
- jewelry or other valuables
- money, credit/debit cards, or other valuables
- knives (including pocket) or any other type of weapon
- cell phones, smart watches (with communication/gaming capabilities; step counting is fine!), iPods, tablets, e-readers, MP3 players, radios or any other hand-held electronic devices
- junk food (NO food in sleeping areas)
- anything in an aerosol can
- musical instruments



We encourage you to send OLD CLOTHES that are comfortable and durable. Please label ALL items with your child's name. We are not responsible for lost items. We recommend you check that your child has all their belongings on the last day of camp. Items left behind at camp after the session ends will be held until the Saturday after the final camp session ends, when they are donated to charity. You may come up during any open weekend or the Saturday after camp ends by 4pm to look through the Lost-and-Found bins located next to the camp office.

# EMOTIONAL PREPAREDNESS

## Emotional Preparedness for Summer Camp

We want to acknowledge that it may be a particularly challenging time to be separated from family after being at home for most of the last year with all its worries, uncertainty and associated losses/changes. We are working extra hard to prepare our camp staff with the added emotional challenges we anticipate this summer. We are adding additional mental health related trainings to our pre-camp staff training and working with local youth mental health professionals to prepare our camp staff in order to best support our campers.

We are all so excited to spend time together and get to know each other at camp. We also know that being apart from the people you love during camp can be tough and it takes lots of courage! We put together a few of our favorite resources for you to utilize to best support yourself and your camper(s) before and during camp!

### HELPFUL RESOURCES

We know it can be challenging to be away from your child for an extended period of time and we know the growth and sense of accomplishment the two of you can celebrate upon their return is priceless. For more info see:

From the American Psychological Association:  
<https://www.apa.org/topics/parenting/camp-worries>

Focus on the benefits camp can provide to your child:  
<https://www.acacamps.org/campers-families/because-camp/benefits-camp>

FOR YOU



FOR YOUR CAMPER



Going to camp is a great way for youth to build independence and confidence. We also know it isn't always easy. For more info see:

For first time campers:  
<https://www.acacamps.org/resource-library/parents/coping-first-time-camp-experiences>

Advice from the American Camp Association:  
<https://www.acacamps.org/resource-library/parents/how-help-your-child-have-great-time-camp>



# HIDDEN VILLA FARM MAP



VILLA

26870 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills, CA 94022 • 650-949-8641 • [camp@hiddenvilla.org](mailto:camp@hiddenvilla.org)

[www.hiddenvilla.org](http://www.hiddenvilla.org)