

2025 Camper Family Answerbook!

a resource for students and families

bluelake.org/camperfamilyanswerbook

The Answerbook provides practical information relating to camp preparations, packing, check-in, and what to expect during camp. It outlines Blue Lake's policies on uniform, health, safety, communication, and student behavioral expectations. It also provides unique information for specific majors and minors. Take time to review these materials with your student, and contact Blue Lake with any concerns or questions. See you soon!

blue lake
fine arts camp

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Preparing for Camp

Helpful Contacts

Administrative Offices: 231-894-1966 or 800-221-3796

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| Admissions | admissions@bluelake.org | Ext. 209 |
| Scholarships | scholarships@bluelake.org | Ext. 202 |
| Business Office | businessoffice@bluelake.org | Ext. 314 |
| Health Services | healthservices@bluelake.org | Ext. 288 |
| Camp Store | thehappycamper@bluelake.org | Ext. 219 |
| Student Placements | placements@bluelake.org | Ext. 267 |
| International Office | international@bluelake.org | Ext. 315 |

Checklist: Due 30 Days Prior to Arrival

The following items are due 30 days prior to arrival. Complete items through your [account](#):

Session I: May 25

Session II: June 9

Session III: June 23

Session IV: July 7

- ☐ Students: prepare your artistic placement criteria, if required for your major. Visit [Student Placements](#) for all information. Do not procrastinate! Prepare now, then submit after April 1.
- ☐ Complete camper health record, and upload health insurance and immunization records
- ☐ Upload or update your student's school photo (If you do not have a school photo, use a front-facing head-shot against a plain wall).
- ☐ Pay remaining balance
- ☐ Complete your Pre-Order (uniforms, store account, and other items):
 - Log in to your [account](#)
 - Select My Reservations, then your camper's session
 - Select *Edit or Add Order* on the right
 - Select *Next* to pass through items you have already selected until you reach the pre-order page
- ☐ Review this Camper-Family Answerbook with your student, especially the Camper Pledge, expectations for citizenship, and cell phone policy
- ☐ If you have a need for early arrival, transportation, or late departure, log in to your [account](#), select "Make a Reservation or Pre-Order," then complete the necessary information at "Early Arrival, Transportation, and Late Departure."

Checklist: Other Items

- ☐ Review the [packing list](#). Get dark blue shorts, slacks, jeans, capris, skirts, and other uniform items ready for camp. Bring enough underclothes and socks for 2 weeks. A few unique items are required for some majors (see [Unique Items](#))
- ☐ Label all personal belongings and clothes with camper name or initials
- ☐ Does your camper have any medication (prescription or non-prescription) coming to camp? Refer to [Camper Health Information](#) for helpful tips
- ☐ Make sure your student's musical instrument is in good working order. If it belongs to your school, ask your teacher for help
- ☐ Make sure your personal insurance is current, covering instrument and/or valuable items coming to camp
- ☐ Participants are expected to evaluate their personal health before arrival and contact Health Services at 800-221-3796 x288 for further guidance if there are symptoms of contagious illness. See [Camper Health Information](#) for more information

Good to Know Policies

Camper Citizenship & Camper Pledge

Campers should arrive eager to learn, make new friends, and have a great time. Campers are expected to focus on their art by engaging and working during classes and rehearsals. Students are further expected to positively contribute to a welcoming camp environment by being kind, considerate, and respectful toward others, including campers, staff, and faculty. Take a moment to review our [non-discrimination policy](#). As a part of check-in, students will review and endorse the citizenship pledge (below) that addresses behavior standards and expectations. Campers are expected to follow all rules. Those who violate camp rules may be expelled. Please review the following pledge with your student before arrival:

"As a camper of Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp, I agree to abide by camp regulations and to cooperate with camp authorities in furthering its ideals. I agree not to use or possess tobacco, vaping products, alcoholic beverages or unauthorized drugs, not to deface camp property, not to participate in bullying, hazing, threats, or violence, not to endanger the safety of myself or others, nor to go out of bounds without permission. I understand that if I violate any camp regulations, I jeopardize my good standing with Blue Lake, my parents will be notified, and I may be expelled immediately from camp."

Attendance at all scheduled events, including the Final Sunday performance or exhibit, is required of all campers. Unexcused absences will not be tolerated: parents/guardians will be contacted immediately, and intentional absence from class is grounds for dismissal from camp. Destruction or defacement of camp property or equipment, including any graffiti, is considered sufficient cause to dismiss a camper from camp. Campers are not permitted under any circumstances to have a car while at Blue Lake, or to drive themselves to camp.

Cell Phones

Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp does not permit campers to have or use cell phones while on camp. Your acknowledgement on your camper's application has indicated to us that as a parent/guardian, you are able to fully support this camp policy. Please review this policy with your student and make sure they leave their cell phone with you. For more information on phone calls, visit [Phone Communication](#).

Visiting Campers & Who Can Sign Out

Visiting Campers

Because part of the camp experience is learning independence, we strongly discourage visits during the session. While at Blue Lake, campers will spend their time in various scheduled and supervised activities. Participating fully in these activities, whether instructional classes, recreational activities, evening events, time with friends, or meals with cabin mates, is what makes the camp experience complete. In a camp setting such as Blue Lake, students have the opportunity to learn and grow as individuals, and time away from family fosters independence and individuality in a structured, educational setting. Because of these reasons, the majority of families and parents choose not to visit during the camp session. However, if family circumstances dictate that visiting is absolutely necessary, we require that it be limited to the middle Sunday, in conjunction with our camp schedule. A camper may be signed out from their unit from 4:00pm – 5:00pm, and must return by 9:00pm. The middle Sunday schedule consists of a regular instructional day full of classes, meals, recreational activities, and an evening event. Visitors are limited to parents/guardians and others indicated as Authorized Pick-Ups in your account.

Blue Lake creates a closed campus environment through employee monitoring and supervision, participant identification, signage, and standard practices for identifying and triaging guests and visitors. Photo I.D.s will always be requested by staff during the sign-out process.

Who Can Sign Out or Visit Campers?

Custodial parents or legal guardians may give Blue Lake permission for a camper to leave camp or visit with another person who is 21 or older. This permission may be granted by adding an individual as an Authorized Pick-Up through your account. All authorized pick-ups will be confirmed by staff on opening day. Staff will check photo I.D. at sign-out, and Blue Lake will not release campers from the premises with other individuals without a custodial guardian's valid permission. Instructions for adding an Authorized Pick-Up to your account is available here: [What is an Authorized Pick-Up for my child, and where do I add these contacts?](#)

Leaving Camp Temporarily or Early Withdrawal

If special circumstances require that a camper leaves camp temporarily, they must be signed out at the Unit Director's cabin by a custodial parent, legal guardian, or authorized pick-up. Individuals signing out campers must have a valid photo ID, which will be verified at the point of pick-up.

If circumstances require that a camper leave camp permanently (early withdrawal), they must be signed out at the Unit Director's cabin by a parent, legal guardian, or authorized pick-up. Parents are requested to phone the Unit prior to arrival so that staff can make arrangements for the student's departure. Individuals signing out campers must have a valid photo ID, which will be verified at the point of pick-up.

Personal Property and Insurance

Campers are responsible for their own property. Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp is not responsible for lost or stolen items and strongly discourages campers from bringing valuable items to camp (smart watches, wearable technology, expensive cameras, sunglasses, electronic devices, etc.) The camp does not insure individual musical instruments or personal property. As an extra precaution, we recommend that a personal property insurance rider be taken out in connection with your family's policy. If you are borrowing an instrument from a school music program, verify the instrument's coverage with the appropriate school official.

Lost and Found

Please make sure that all belongings are clearly marked with your camper's name. If an item is discovered missing while the camper is still at camp, they can consult with staff for assistance. If an item is discovered missing after camp, visit [Lost It](#) to file a missing item report. We will make every attempt to locate your belongings and return them to you. Limited-value Lost and Found items (perishables, toiletries, undergarments, etc) will be discarded at the conclusion of each session. Other items will be held at the administration building for 30 days. Unclaimed items will be donated to local charities after that time.

Possible Incidental Fees

In addition to being responsible for their own property, campers are also responsible for their Blue Lake badge, music folder, and any other camp items issued to them during their stay. Campers will be charged \$2 to replace a lost badge or piece of music, \$15 for a full music folder, and \$12 if a minor instrument repair is necessary. Fees will be automatically deducted from the camper's store account. See [Your Camper's Store Account](#) for details.

Refunds

Refunds are processed by the business office within 45 days of written notice to the Admissions Registrar at admissions@bluelake.org. To review the Blue Lake refund policy, visit [Tuition, Fees, and Policies](#). For questions, contact the Business Office at businessoffice@bluelake.org or 800-221-3796 ext. 314.

Action Item: Student Artistic Group Placements

In order to ensure that campers are assigned to the appropriate ensemble, group, and schedule for their personal artistic development, the Blue Lake faculty evaluates student placement information prior to arrival. Specific requirements vary by major. Placement videos and surveys are due **30 days prior** to the start of your session. Failure to submit your materials by the deadline or include all required criteria will affect your placement. Visit [Student Placements](#) for all resources. **Prepare now; submit after April 1.** For questions, contact placements@bluelake.org.

If this is your Major, no placement materials are required:

- Art
- Dance
- Creative Writing
- Camerata Members
- Advanced Percussion Ensemble
- Masterworks Winds & Percussion Members

If this is your Major, a video is required:

- Central Camp Band and Orchestra (Camp Bernstein, Camerata, Advanced Percussion Ensemble, and Masterworks Winds & Percussion majors do not submit a video)
- Jazz
- Choir
- Theater
- Piano

If this is your Major, a survey is required:

- Camp Bernstein Band and Orchestra
- Harp
- Piano (in addition to video)

Camper Health Information

Action Item: Your Camper's Health Record Due 30 Days Prior to Arrival

All campers must have a health record on file with Blue Lake prior to arrival. Log in to your [account](#), select your camper, and select "My Forms" to complete or update the Camper Health Record. Visit the Document Center to complete the record to upload your health insurance and immunization records at least 30 days prior to your camp session. Campers will not be permitted to check in without a completed Camper Health Record.

We recommend that campers are up-to-date with all recommended pediatric and seasonal vaccinations. All vaccination or immunization records should be uploaded to the Document Center in your camper's [account](#) prior to camp and will be retained along with the camper's health records.

Action Item: Update Your Camper's Medication Information Prior to Arrival

To update your camper's medication information, look for the Medications section in your [account](#) and select "Manage Medication" to add or update information. Confirm its accuracy prior to arrival to expedite your check-in.

Action Item: Pre-Arrival Health Check Just Prior to Arrival

Participants are expected to evaluate their personal health before arrival. If your camper is experiencing any symptoms of contagious illness or has been recently diagnosed with a contagious illness, contact Health Services at 800-221-3796 x288 for further guidance. If your child is symptomatic, we also recommend that you complete an at-home influenza and/or COVID test one to two days before camp to ensure your child is virus/COVID free.

Opening Day Health Screening & Medication Check-In

To ensure a healthy start to camp, staff will review a health screening with students at check-in. (We will email you the link to the screening just prior to Opening Day). Upon arrival, you will be directed to your camper's housing unit where a staff member will request your camper's check-in screening confirmation. Please complete the online screening prior to arrival. Do not come to camp with any symptoms of contagious illness. If your camper displays contagious symptoms, we recommend you complete an at-home influenza and/or COVID-19 test, then contact Health Services at 800-221-3796.

Medication Check-In

The State of Michigan requires that children's camps review, store, dispense, log, and otherwise manage all campers' prescription and nonprescription medications. All medications (prescription and over-the-counter) will be checked in with health staff on opening day. In order to prepare for a faster check-in, please have all necessary medications accessible upon arrival, and enter everything in your camper's [account](#) under "Manage Medications." Medication must be in the original containers and matching the dosage/frequency information submitted with the camper's health record. Make sure that medications do not expire during camp and that there is enough medication to last the entire session. Note: Blue Lake cannot accept any medications (including prescriptions, over-the-counter medications, vitamins, and supplements) that are not in original containers, are expired, or do not match information submitted on the health record. Medications may not be split between siblings.

Basic First-Aid Items

Blue Lake stocks many basic first-aid items and over-the-counter medications for students, such as cough drops, Tylenol, Advil, bandages, Neosporin, Benadryl, etc. The basics are listed on the Camper Health form. Because we are required by law to check in *all* medications brought to camp, including over-the-counter items, it will save you time during your check-in process if you do not bring these items.

Medication Storage at Camp

All medications (with the exception of certain emergency rescue medications) will be kept in Blue Lake's locked medical facility or first-aid stations. Daily medications are stored and dispensed from the centrally located Health Lodge. In rare cases, medications may be stored and dispensed from the camper's unit. Staff will provide detailed information upon arrival. If you have questions prior to arrival, contact Health

Services at (231) 894-1966 ext. 288 or healthservices@bluelake.org after June 1. Information about medication storage is also included on the camper health form.

Keeping Camp Healthy

Camp Health Services

Blue Lake Health Services provides basic illness and first-aid care, support for off-site care, and emergency care on a 24/7 schedule to those within our camp community. Our staff members work to keep our campus healthy by adhering to standard practices under the supervision of our consulting physicians, our on-site medical professionals, and our Director of Health Services.

Our staff consists of registered nurses, first responders, camp health officers, and other trained personnel who work closely with a physician and medical centers located minutes away. Ambulance and hospital care are available 15 minutes from the camp. Blue Lake is not responsible for costs associated with medical services provided outside of camp, such as emergency room or urgent-care visits, medical clinics, or prescriptions. Any medical expenses incurred while at camp will be billed directly from the provider.

Participants are expected to do their part in keeping our community healthy by practicing healthy habits such as maintaining good hygiene, staying hydrated and making balanced nutritional choices, monitoring personal health, seeking treatment if needed, and following the expectations outlined below.

Expectations for Participants

Blue Lake aims to minimize contagious illness by taking appropriate measures for our unique community living environment. Following are expectations and protocols:

- Participants are encouraged to be up-to-date with all routine vaccinations, including seasonal vaccinations.
- Participants will be required to complete an online health screening before arrival at camp. Participants are expected to evaluate their personal health before arrival and contact Health Services at 800-221-3796 x288 for further guidance if there are any symptoms of contagious illness.
- Student participants will be expected to complete a brief health questionnaire as part of their daily routine.
- Participants are expected to wash and/or sanitize hands frequently, and to practice good hygiene by showering regularly. Do not share personal supplies (toiletries, make-up, hair brushes, etc).
- Participants who show symptoms of contagious illness will be expected to follow Blue Lake's current treatment guidelines, which may include testing, off-site care, and/or isolation from others for a period of time. Blue Lake may require clearance by a medical professional before returning to participation.
- Individuals who show signs of respiratory illness may be asked to wear a mask in some settings.

Daily Health Questionnaire

Counseling Staff will complete an individual symptom and temperature check with each camper daily. Any symptoms of illness or temperature over 100°F will be reported to Health Services, and the camper will be seen at the Health Lodge to determine the next steps based on our health service policy.

Health Concerns and Accommodations

Blue Lake works to accommodate students with a variety of needs, such as medical conditions, dietary restrictions, and social/emotional concerns. All campers should be able to manage their personal care and live cooperatively in a cabin setting. Arrangements for enrolling children with significant physical limitations, medical/mental health concerns, recent hospitalization, or cognitive or behavior disabilities must be made prior to submitting the camp application. This includes but is not limited to diabetes, life-threatening allergies, injectable medications, mobility concerns, mood disorders, and autism spectrum disorders. For further information, contact the Director of Health Services at healthservices@bluelake.org or 800-221-3796 x239.

Dietary Restrictions

While Blue Lake accommodates a wide variety of food allergies and dietary restrictions, there is not a separate gluten-, dairy-, peanut/tree nut-, or otherwise allergen-free menu. If your child is not able to consume menu items due to a significant health restriction, such as a life-threatening allergy or serious gastrointestinal disorder, you may supplement our menu with personal food or beverage. Some limitations apply. For further details and menu information, contact the Director of Health Services at healthservices@bluelake.org or 800-221-3796 x239.

The Blue Lake Uniform

Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp is a uniformed camp. Campers, faculty, and staff members wear the camp uniform with great pride during their time at Blue Lake! The uniform shirts and pullovers are available only through Blue Lake and must be ordered in advance. Two shirts and one pullover are required, three shirts are recommended. The remainder of the uniform is provided by the camper, and must meet the requirements below. All campers are responsible for bringing the proper uniform items with them to camp.

To place a pre-order, including uniforms:

- Log in to your family's [account](#)
- Click on My Reservations, then your camper's session
- Click the *Edit or Add Order* button on the right
- Click *Next* to pass through items you have already selected until you reach the pre-order page

Uniform Policy

Badges

Badges are a uniform requirement for all students, faculty, and staff, and are provided at check-in. They are to be worn on the upper left chest (over your heart!) at all times to help learn names, check out recreation equipment, and for identification at the health lodge, housing unit, dining hall, and waterfront area. Badges are also used to confirm purchases at the camp store. Don't let it out of your sight!

Daily Uniform

Blue Lake polo shirt (tucked in) with badge; dark blue pants, jeans, shorts; or skirts, skorts, or capris; solid white socks (no show socks are ok); substantial athletic shoes (shoes must enclose the foot -- closed toe and heel). ***Short/skirt/skort length must be no shorter than 6" above the knee (roughly a 4" or greater inseam).***

Formal Concert Attendance or Other Designated Events

Blue Lake polo shirt (tucked in) with badge; solid navy blue slacks; or skirt or skort with natural nylons or navy blue knee socks; Blue Lake pullover. (No denim, capris, shorts, sweat pants, or sweatshirts when wearing the Formal uniform). ***Short/skirt/skort length must be no shorter than 6" above the knee (roughly a 4" or greater inseam).***

Cold Days and Inclement Weather

- Add a solid white short- or long-sleeved shirt under the polo
- Add your Blue Lake v-neck pullover, or a Blue Lake sweatshirt over your polo
- Add a rain jacket or windbreaker for blustery days
- Non-uniform sweatshirts, souvenir clothing, or other non-uniform clothing may not be worn as a part of the uniform

Blue Lake Uniform Dos

- Always wear your badge
- Shirts are to be tucked in with the bottom button buttoned
- Hair bands and other hair accessories should be subtle
- Short- or long-sleeved undershirts must be solid white
- Formal bottoms (for concert attendance or other events) should be a dark, navy blue
- Denim jeans may be faded, but should be darker than the polo shirt
- Non-uniform clothing is permitted within the boundary of your Housing Unit only
- Bring substantial and comfortable athletic shoes that are closed toe/closed heel. If you choose to bring dress shoes for your Formal uniform, they must have closed toe and closed heel and be practical for walking long distances. Flip-flops, sandals, and slides are permitted within your Housing Unit only

Blue Lake Uniform Don'ts

Staff members will ask you to change if your attire does not meet these standards.

- Cut-off shorts; ripped, frayed, bleached, super-faded, embroidered, striped, or torn bottoms
- Shorts/skirts/skort that do not meet the length requirement listed above (*Short/skirt/skort length must be roughly a 4" + inseam*)
- Bib-overalls, suspenders, neck ties, neck scarves
- Dark blue bottoms with logos, emblems, or text larger than 3"; stripes on bottoms
- Open-toe/heel shoes (sandals, slides, and flip-flops are ok within the housing area, and to/from shower)
- Non-uniform clothing is not permitted outside of the Housing area or recreational activities, unless specified by staff
- Royal blue, aqua, or turquoise bottoms
- Wallet chains, excessive jewelry, or other items that may disrupt a quiet setting
- Colored undershirts (any color other than white)
- Sunglasses are not permitted within classes, rehearsals, and performances
- Non-uniform clothing or souvenir clothing sold at the camp store may not be worn as camp uniform
- Hats, bandanas, scarves, or any head coverings*

*Headwear is not permitted unless necessary due to religious, medical, or hygienic reasons. Please indicate any specific needs in your health information

Camp Store Basics

The Happy Camper, Blue Lake's camp store, sells official uniform items, navy blue knee socks, sweatshirts, sweatpants, shorts, jackets, and t-shirts. Also available: camp supplies, personal items, musical and instrument repair items, souvenirs, photos, stamps and postcards, and a whole bunch of other stuff essential for having great fun at camp! The Happy Camper also offers a complete snack bar, serving refreshments, drinks, snacks, hearty and warm options (pizza, hot dogs, etc), ice cream, cookies, popcorn, and a variety of candy. Campers will be able to visit the Happy Camper at least once daily.

Action Item: Pre-Orders, Uniforms, and Store Account

For a smooth start to the session, pre-order uniforms and deposit money in your store account prior to arrival. Pre-ordered uniforms will be waiting for you at your camper's cabin, and your camper's store account will be ready to go on opening day.

To place a Pre-Order, including uniforms, store account, and other items:

- Log in to your family's [account](#)
- Click on My Reservations, then your camper's session
- Click the *Edit or Add Order* button on the right
- Click *Next* to pass through items you have already selected until you reach the pre-order page

Your Camper's Store Account

Campers may purchase items from the camp store with money in their store account. You can deposit money to your student's [account](#) when you complete your "pre-orders." Additional funds may be added at any time by selecting "Camp Store" and "Store Deposits" from the navigation menu. You can view your camper's transaction history at any time by selecting Purchase History. The funds you provide to your camper is a personal decision, but we suggest budgeting \$5+ daily to cover basic snacks and incidentals, plus additional money for any camp supplies, souvenirs, clothing, or other needs. For questions, contact businessoffice@bluelake.org or 800-221-3796 ext. 314.

Possible Incidental Fees

If your student needs a replacement badge, replacement music, or instrument repair while at camp, the corresponding fee (ranging from \$2 - \$15) will be automatically deducted from your student's store account. If there are not enough funds in your student's store account, the Business Office will charge the payment method associated with your registration account.

Your student's store account will be closed automatically at the conclusion of the session. Remaining balances of \$15 or more will be refunded to your account's payment method after camp season. Remaining balances less than \$15 will be considered a donation to Blue Lake's scholarship fund.

Email and Care Package Services

Happy Camper care packages (shareable sweet and salty snacks, water bottle, and other items) are available through pre-orders, and will be delivered to your camper's cabin within the first several days of camp.

Our Email Service is a great way to get a quick message to your camper. Emails are printed and delivered daily! *Only emails sent through this portal will be delivered to campers.* Emails are one-way. Log in to your [account](#), select "Message Center" in the navigation menu, then select "Email a Camper" to purchase email credits.

Happy Camper Online

Visit Blue Lake's online camp store anytime for the latest in Blue Lake swag. And when your camper is in residence at Blue Lake, you can order items online at [The Happy Camper](#) for rush delivery directly to their Housing unit! More information is available at: <https://shop.bluelake.org/pages/preparing-for-camp>.

Camp Life

The Cabin, Unit, and Staff

The Blue Lake community consists of camper cabins divided into units. There is one counselor assigned to each cabin, and each group of cabins forms a unit. Each unit is led by an experienced unit director. Staff members supervise campers throughout meals, recreation, evening activities, and free time. Additionally, staff members serve as class assistants throughout the instructional day, providing support to faculty and students within the class setting. The counseling staff strives to create a welcoming and engaging environment where campers feel at home. They are consistently available to answer questions, assist with concerns, and make a camper's stay safe and enjoyable.

Our counseling staff are carefully selected through a rigorous hiring process that includes recommendations, interviews, and criminal background checks. Blue Lake camp counselors are college students and young professionals primarily involved in arts and education. They complete training covering the basics of camp operations, health and safety, emergency procedures, CPR and first aid, youth development, positive behavior support, homesickness, bullying prevention, conflict resolution, camp fun, and more!

Staying Clean!

Personal Hygiene

Living in the woods, trekking to/from classes, running around during recreation activities, living in a cabin with others – one can get pretty dirty while camping! Rest room and shower facilities are located within a camper's housing area and are a short walk from the cabin. Campers are encouraged to shower regularly (in the morning, before bed, or during breaks and free time) to stay healthy and clean. Nevertheless, part of camping is being a little dusty now and then, and students should be prepared to manage their cleanliness and hygiene on a daily basis. Expectations for hygiene and cleanliness will be shared with campers during orientation.

Laundry

Each cabin counselor will machine wash and dry campers' uniform items (tops and bottoms) every other day (about 5 times a session). This includes a dancer's leotard/tights. However, the counselor is not responsible for washing underwear and socks. Bring enough underwear and socks to last two weeks. In order to avoid lost items, mark all clothes, including uniform items, with your camper's name or initials!

Campus Cleanliness

As a part of the long-standing camping tradition at Blue Lake, all campers are expected to help with cabin clean-up, rest room clean-up, dining hall clean-up, and grounds clean-up. Camper cabins and restrooms are inspected daily for cleanliness. Camp dining facilities, instructional facilities, shared equipment, and restrooms are cleaned daily by Blue Lake's support staff team.

The Outdoor Environment

Walking Distances

Many first-time campers and families are surprised at the size and scope of Blue Lake’s campus. Blue Lake owns approximately 1,600 acres of forest wilderness, with about 400 acres serving as the actual campus with facilities. It is not uncommon for a camper to walk **a mile or more each day** as they go to/from meals, classes, and events. As such, it is important that campers eat well, stay hydrated, and bring comfortable footwear. Those with larger instruments are strongly encouraged to bring a wheeled luggage cart.

The Climate

The weather can vary wildly: evening lows can range from 40-65 while daytime highs can range from 65 – 95. Check the forecast before you arrive to make sure you’re prepared!

Critters & Bugs

The environment at Blue Lake is rustic. We are surrounded by beautiful trees, a small lake, foot trails through the woods, and very simple buildings and shelters. There is wilderness in every direction, so we share the forest with a variety of bugs and critters. During the summer months, most wildlife stays far away from the hustle and bustle of daily camp activities. However, campers should be mindful to follow guidelines for storing snack foods in sealable plastic containers to keep unwanted guests from entering the cabin. Make sure to use insect repellent daily while at camp to avoid bites from mosquitoes, ticks, spiders, flies, bees, and other creepy-crawlies.

Typical Daily Schedule

| Central Camp Sample | Camp Bernstein Sample |
|--|---|
| Following introductory meetings on the opening day of the session, each camper will be provided a schedule based upon their placement. While schedules vary as a result of a student’s major, placement within groups, minor, and class locations, all central camp students experience the same approximate framework for the daily schedule. | Regardless of ensemble (band or orchestra), Camp Bernstein students follow the same daily schedule. |
| 7:15 – 7:50 Breakfast | 7:15 – 7:50 Breakfast |
| 8:00 – 12:00 Morning classes, rehearsals, sectionals, or technique courses | 8:30 – 9:30 Rehearsal |
| Specific class schedules vary depending on major and placement. | 9:40 – 10:20 Minor Classes |
| 12:15 – 12:50 Lunch | 10:30 – 11:10 Sectionals |
| 1:07 – 2:00 Minor Classes, or structured unit activities | 11:20 – 12:00 Rest & Cabin Announcements |
| 2:10 – 3:40 Afternoon classes or rehearsals | 12:15 – 12:50 Lunch |
| 3:50 – 5:00 Recreation, Pool, or unit down time. Camp store open daily. | 1:07 – 1:50 Rehearsal |
| 5:15 – 5:50 Dinner | 2:00 – 2:20 Cabin Clean-Up |
| 6:00 – 7:00 In-Unit down time | 2:30 – 3:40 Rotation: Recreation, Pool, or Practice. Camp store open daily. |
| 7:30 Evening Event | 3:50 – 4:40 Rehearsal |
| | 5:15 – 5:50 Dinner |
| | 6:00 – 7:00 In-Unit or early event |
| | 7:30 Evening Event |

Meals at Marek Hall

Campers enjoy meals with their cabin mates and share in clean-up duties. Dining consists of well-balanced cafeteria-style meals served three times daily, all served by a professional food service staff. In addition to hot entrees and side dishes (regular and vegetarian options available), fresh salads, proteins, fruits, and breads are offered at each meal. Beverage offerings include milk, juice, punch, water, tea, and coffee. See [camper health information](#) for more on managing dietary restrictions at camp.

Recreation and Free Time

Blue Lake provides a highly structured instructional day for students. However, during daily recreation and free time, students are welcome to participate in recreational offerings, hang out with friends in Central Park, visit the camper pools, rest in their cabin, visit the Museum, or practice. A complete recreational program is offered, including activities such as: basketball, soccer, volleyball, ga-ga ball, ping-pong, ultimate frisbee, corn-hole, swimming, water games, dance parties, unit activities, cabin games, song fests, and other camp fun.

Performances & Evening Events

All Blue Lake performances and events are open to campers free of charge and include activities such as recitals, master classes, workshops, concerts by faculty, staff, and visiting artists, and camper social and recreational events. Camper-focused events are closed to visitors, but some performances are open to the public as a part of Blue Lake's Summer Arts Festival. Parents will be given a calendar of the session's events during check-in.

Interfaith Chapel Service

On the Middle Sunday of each session, Blue Lake offers an optional, inter-faith reflective service for the camp community. The 40-minute service is universal in nature, featuring inspirational readings, music, and time for personal prayer or reflection. Parents who wish for their campers to attend a specific type of service off-camp are responsible for making their own transportation arrangements. Blue Lake cannot transport campers to off-camp worship services.

Blue Lake International Exchange Program

Central Camp campers wishing to gain membership in the Blue Lake International Exchange Program will have an opportunity to learn more about the program and complete an application while at camp (Camp Bernstein campers are not eligible for this program). Students are accepted throughout the summer and fall months for tours taking place the following summer. More information is available at bluelake.org/international or by calling the International Office at (231) 894-1966 ext. 201.

Phone Calls and Snail Mail

Phone Communication

A part of Blue Lake's philosophy centers on allowing a camper to focus – without outside distraction – on their own growth and self-improvement, whether artistic or personal. In fact, this is a long-standing tradition within many American residential youth camps. Therefore, Blue Lake does not permit students to use land lines or personal cell phones while at camp. Campers should plan to leave their phones with parents/guardians, and parents/guardians are expected to fully support this camp policy. We know this may be a particularly difficult transition for some students and recommend having your child prepare for this by intentionally spending increasing amounts of time without their phone or other devices in the weeks leading up to camp.

Part of a child's personal growth is learning to trust other caring adults and solve some of their own challenges, and summer camp is a perfect environment to learn these skills. In our 60 years of experience, we have recognized that phone calls home are most often disruptive to your camper's experience and do more to foster homesickness than independence. When your camper contacts you by phone call or text message, it prevents our staff from assisting them with problems and addressing their concerns promptly. As you prepare your camper for camp, please let them know that you trust Blue Lake and trust your camper to use their resources at camp by communicating openly with the camp staff to work through problems.

Of course, the camp staff will contact parents with questions or concerns as necessary, and parents are welcome to call the camp's main number (231) 894-1966 to communicate with administration, staff, health lodge, and/or the camper as needed. Please note that phone calls often cause disruption in a camper's day i.e. your camper may be in a class or at a meal when you call, and staff may suggest better times within the schedule for calls to limit disruption.

Mail and Packages

We encourage family and friends to send mail or packages to campers. Receiving mail while at camp is a great morale booster! Blue Lake recommends that you allow at least five working days for mail to reach your camper, just to be on the safe side. Mail that arrives after a camper has departed will be returned to sender. Mail is delivered to Blue Lake Monday – Saturday. Mail that arrives by 5:00pm is distributed to campers on the same day. Items arriving after 5pm are distributed the next day. Blue Lake cannot be responsible for mail and packages that are not addressed correctly.

Address your camper's mail to...

Central Camp Campers:

[First Name, Last Name]
Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp
[Housing Unit] – [Cabin Name]
300 East Crystal Lake Road
Twin Lake, MI 49457

Camp Bernstein Campers:

[First Name, Last Name]
Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp
Camp Bernstein – [Cabin Name]
300 East Crystal Lake Road
Twin Lake, MI 49457

Check-In and Opening Day

Traveling to Blue Lake

See [how to get here](#) for directions to camp. Allow plenty of time for travel and summer road construction.

Navigation users: As crazy as it sounds, some navigation software gives incorrect directions to Blue Lake! Our only entrance is at 300 E. Crystal Lake Road, which is off of Russell Road, just north of White Lake Drive and just south of Holton-Whitehall Road. If you are on a dirt road at any point, or within the village of Twin Lake itself, you are not in the right place. If you have questions, please call 800-221-3796.

Families with RVs or Camping Trailers: Please avoid bringing RVs and camping trailers within the small dirt roads of our campus. Contact us for parking instructions at 800-221-3796. Blue Lake's campus is not designed to accommodate large recreational vehicles or camping trailers, especially on opening and closing days when we are managing lots of traffic and parking. It is not possible to park RVs near student housing units.

Arrival at Camp

Plan to arrive at Blue Lake during the time specified in your personal camper information (sent just prior to camp) and proceed directly to your assigned housing unit. All campers will be assigned a one-hour block between 10am – 3pm. Allow a minimum of 60-90 minutes for check-in. You'll find a step-by-step checklist below. Pre-ordered uniforms will be provided to the campers as they settle in the cabin. Parents are requested to depart camp shortly after the check-in process, and after your camper is settled in.

Meals on Opening Day

Blue Lake's food service offers a full lunch option (sandwiches, salad bar, sides, beverages, and desserts) for families in the Marek North Dining Hall for a small charge. The Happy Camper is also open throughout the day and offers concessions, beverages, souvenirs, and camp supplies. Camp Bernstein students will be provided lunch and dinner on opening day. Central Camp students will be provided a mid-day snack and dinner.

Checklist: Opening Day

- ☐ Complete online health screening. The link will be sent just prior to arrival.
- ☐ Arrive during your specific assigned check-in time. All campers will check in during a 1-hour block between 10:00am - 3:00pm. Your specific check-in window will be provided prior to arrival.
- ☐ Turn in any prescription or non-prescription medications to the health staff (staff will direct you – have your medication handy)
- ☐ Proceed to your camper's assigned housing unit and cabin. The staff will verify your online health screening, lead you through check-in, answer questions, and help your student move in.
- ☐ Parents receive the following items from Blue Lake staff:
 - o Calendar of events
 - o Final Sunday Presentation Schedule
 - o Camp Contact Information
- ☐ Campers receive the following items from their cabin counselor:
 - o Badge
 - o Camp Map
 - o Pre-ordered uniform items (try items **BEFORE** you label them. Labeled items are not eligible for exchange)
 - o Summer Arts Festival Program booklet
 - o Canterbury Lane – our camp theme song!
- ☐ A family lunch is available in the Marek North dining hall for a small charge between 11:00am and 1:00pm. The Happy Camper store is open throughout the day and sells snacks, ice cream, concessions, uniforms, camp supplies, and souvenirs. Stop by for a visit!
- ☐ Make sure all personal belongings, instrument, clothes, and uniforms are labeled with camper name or initials!

- ☐ Will your camper be signed out by anyone other than a parent/guardian during or at the conclusion of the camp session? Your cabin counselor will confirm any authorized pick-ups for your student. You can add authorized adults to your account if necessary.
- ☐ Have all concerns and questions been addressed with staff?
- ☐ Are Final Sunday travel arrangements clear with camper & staff?
- ☐ Have a safe trip home. See you at the end of the session!

Early Arrival, Late Departure, Transportation, and Multiple Sessions

To register for early arrival, late departure, camper transportation, or multiple sessions, log in to your [account](#), select Make a Reservation, then complete the necessary registration at “Early Arrival, Late Departure, and Transportation.”

Early Arrival or Late Departure

Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp strongly discourages campers from arriving early for their camp session. If deemed necessary due to unavoidable circumstances, **students may not arrive earlier than 5:00pm Tuesday before Session 1, or 9:00am Tuesday before sessions 2, 3, and 4.** The camp store and other services will not be available until Opening Wednesday. All early arrival and late departure campers must pay a fee of \$100 per day (or any portion of a day) for meals, supervision, activities, and accommodations. Specific instructions will be sent prior to your arrival day.

Camper Transportation

Blue Lake can provide transportation for students to and from commercial transportation depots within a one hour radius of the campus. This includes Grand Rapids Air, Train, and Bus; and Muskegon Air, Bus, and Ferry. Fees vary depending on location and other factors. Be careful to not book flights that conflict with your camper’s final presentation. Visit: [Transportation Assistance](#) for more information, and contact transportation@bluelake.org or 800-221-3796 x206 for assistance.

Campers Enrolled in Multiple Sessions

Blue Lake provides a tuition discount of \$700 for students enrolling in a second session. To register for an additional session, visit your [account](#). All campers staying on camp between enrolled sessions are subject to a fee of \$180 for meals, supervision, activities, and accommodations.

Check-Out & Final Sunday

Camper Check-Out

All camper check-outs are scheduled between 9:00am - 1:00pm. The specific check-out time is based upon your student’s final presentation time, and you will receive an email reminder one week prior. See estimated “parent check-out” times listed below in the sample final Sunday schedule. Families will meet campers at the cabin – the same location where you checked them in.

After you have picked up your camper, take a few moments to check for all belongings before you leave our campus. If you are missing an item, file a report at [Lost It!](#) Any forgotten items will be stored at the administration building lost-and-found area for 30 days after the conclusion of your session.

Performances, Demonstrations, and Exhibits

A camper’s stay at Blue Lake culminates with their participation in a final performance, exhibit, or demonstration. This participation is an essential part of the camper’s experience and something many students and families look forward to with great anticipation. Parents, family members, extended family, and friends are welcome to attend! All campers are *required* to participate—every member is an essential part of the group. Parents will be provided a list of all final camper presentation times upon check-in on opening day. See below for a draft of Final Sunday events. You will receive the confirmed Final Sunday schedule during check-in on Opening Day.

Camper-Family Final Sunday Lunch

An optional lunch is available for purchase for campers, families, and guests in Marek Hall North from 11:00am – 2:00pm. (Your camper will receive breakfast as a final meal that morning). The menu includes grilled burgers, sandwiches, chips, full salad bar, an assortment of cookies, and several beverage options. To purchase the Camper-Family Final Sunday lunch, log in to your [account](#) and visit Pre-Orders prior to your session. Concessions are also available at the Happy Camper.

Checklist: Final Sunday

- ☐ Meet your camper at their housing unit at your specified time. You will be asked to present photo I.D.
- ☐ Retrieve medications from staff in unit. Refrigerated medications can be picked up at the Health Lodge.
- ☐ Check for all personal belongings! If you are missing something, file a report at [Lost It!](#)
- ☐ Did you order a unit or group photo? Photos will be delivered directly to campers at their cabin prior to Final Sunday. Contact the Camp Store if you have questions: 231-894-1966 x219 or thehappycamper@bluelake.org
- ☐ Reminder: Your student's store account will be closed automatically at the conclusion of the session. See [Your Camper's Store Account](#) for details.
- ☐ Attend your camper's final presentation! Participation is required for all campers.
- ☐ Hugs! Smiles! Congratulations!
- ☐ Have a safe trip home!

Tentative Final Sunday Schedule

Presentation schedules are *tentative* and will adjust prior to your final Sunday. These samples are provided to give you a general idea of the day's events. A final schedule will be provided on opening day and also emailed prior to the conclusion of each session. ****Camerata students** also perform with the Festival Orchestra in a live broadcast at Stewart Shell on previous Saturday at 7:30pm.

Sessions 1 and 2:

| Artistic Group | Parent Check-Out | Presentation Time | Presentation Venue |
|--|------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Bernstein Band & Orchestra | 7:45 - 8:30a | 9:15a | Stewart Shell |
| Creative Writing | 8:00 - 8:30a | 9:30a | Marek South |
| Harp | 8:00 - 8:30a | 9:30a | Blodgett Recital Hall |
| Orchestra Winds & Percussion Chamber Recital | | 10:15a | Blodgett Recital Hall |
| Dance Demonstration | 8:00 - 9:00a | 10:30a | Dance Studio |
| Vander Linde Band | 8:30 - 9:30a | 11:00a | Stewart Shell |
| Birdland Jazz Band | 8:30 - 9:30a | 11:00a | Bartlett Shell |
| Theater | 8:30 - 9:30a | 11:00a | Miller & Rose Theaters |
| Camerata Orchestra** | 9:00 - 10:00a | 11:15a | Blodgett Recital Hall |
| Belgian Band | 9:30 - 10:30a | 11:40a | Stewart Shell |
| Blue Note Jazz Band | 9:30 - 10:30a | 11:45a | Bartlett Shell |
| Piano Group B | 9:30 - 10:30a | 12:00p | Blodgett Recital Hall |
| Art Exhibit | 10:00 - 11:00a | 10:30a-1:00p; (Awards at 12:30p) | Marek South |
| Symphony Band | 10:00 - 11:00a | 12:20p | Stewart Shell |
| Jazz Combo | 10:00 - 11:00a | 12:30p | |
| Vanguard Jazz Band | 10:30 - 11:30a | 1:15p | Bartlett Shell |
| Wind Ensemble | 10:30 - 11:30a | 1:00p | Stewart Shell |
| Piano Group A | 11:00 - 12:00p | 1:30p | Blodgett Recital Hall |
| Masterworks Orchestra | 11:30a - 12:30p | 1:50p | Stewart Shell |
| Choirs | 11:30a - 12:30p | 2:00p | Miller |
| Symphony Orchestra | 12:30 - 1:30p | 2:50p | Stewart Shell |
| Concert Orchestra | 1:00 - 2:00p | 3:30p | Stewart Shell |

Sessions 3 and 4:

| Artistic Group | Parent Check-Out | Presentation Time | Presentation Venue |
|----------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Bernstein Band & Orchestra | 7:45 - 8:30a | 9:15a | Stewart Shell |
| Creative Writing | 8:00 - 8:30a | 9:30a | Marek South |
| Harp | 8:00 - 8:30a | 9:30a | Blodgett Recital Hall |
| Dance Demonstration | 8:00 - 9:00a | 10:30a | Dance Studio |
| Theater | 8:30 - 9:30a | 11:00a | Miller & Rose Theaters |
| Vander Linde Band | 8:30 - 9:30a | 10:45a | Stewart Shell |
| Piano Group B | 8:30 - 9:30a | 11:00a | Blodgett Recital Hall |
| Begian Band | 9:00 - 10:00a | 11:25a | Stewart Shell |
| Birdland Jazz Band | 9:30 - 10:30a | 11:45a | Bartlett Shell |
| Concert Band | 9:30 – 10:30a | 12:00p | Stewart Shell |
| Piano Group A | 10:00 - 11:00a | 12:30p | Blodgett Recital Hall |
| Art Exhibit | 10:00 - 11:00a | 10:30a-1:00p; (Awards at 12:30p) | Marek South |
| Blue Note Jazz Band | 10:00 - 11:00a | 12:30p | Bartlett Shell |
| Symphony Band | 10:30 - 11:30p | 12:40p | Stewart Shell |
| Symphony Orchestra | 11:00 - 12:00p | 1:30p | Stewart Shell |
| Choirs | 11:30a- 12:30p | 2:00p | Miller |
| Concert Orchestra | 12:00 - 1:00p | 2:15p | Stewart Shell |
| Marek String Orchestra | 12:30 – 1:30p | 2:50p | Stewart Shell |
| Bartlett String Orchestra | 1:00 – 2:00p | 3:25p | Stewart Shell |

Camper Packing List

Checklist: What to Bring

When packing for camp, consider the environment in which you'll be living for two weeks. Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp is located in a forest, filled with beautiful trees...and bugs, critters, dust, dirt, and lots and lots of sand! You'll be living in a very rustic cabin filled with new friends...and all of their stuff, too! Below is a guide to help you pack. Items marked with an asterisk are also available at the camp store if you forget! *Make sure that you label all personal items with your full name or initials prior to arrival. Leave valuables at home.*

Items marked with an asterisk (*) are also available at The Happy Camper

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping Bag, and a set of cot-sized or twin sheets | <input type="checkbox"/> Your Instrument, and/or other items needed for your Major or Minor (see below) | <input type="checkbox"/> Clothes (all uniform items, and other items) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pillow & Case | <input type="checkbox"/> Current Lesson Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Navy blue slacks, skirt, or skort for formal camp events (review the uniform list) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extra Blanket * | <input type="checkbox"/> Portable Music Stand * (for instrumentalists) | <input type="checkbox"/> Underclothes (pack enough for 2 weeks) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> White socks or no-show socks (pack enough for 2 weeks) | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 pair of silly socks for Fun Sock Friday (optional of course, but hey) | <input type="checkbox"/> Shoes (comfy ones, good for walking, closed toe-closed heel) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Towel(s) & Washcloth (and a beach towel if you plan to visit the pools) * | <input type="checkbox"/> Costumes, Equipment, Props, or Music (if desired, for talent night) | <input type="checkbox"/> Jammies! Comfy Clothes! Something to wear to/from the restroom building |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toiletry Items * | <input type="checkbox"/> Shower Caddy (to transport your toiletries to/from the restroom) | <input type="checkbox"/> Rain Jacket and Umbrella * |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swim Suit (if you plan to use the pool) | <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight * | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-uniform Shirt * |

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A little Laundry Soap (optional, only for hand-washing socks and underwear if you don't bring enough for 2 wks) | <input type="checkbox"/> Bug Repellent & Sunscreen* | <input type="checkbox"/> Activities (Stationery, book to read, stuff to do during free time) * |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic bin with lid (for snack storage) | <input type="checkbox"/> Simple Watch (no smart watches)* | <input type="checkbox"/> Bottled Water (of course we have water, but bottled water is handy at camp!) * |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disposable or Digital Camera (<u>no</u> phones!)* | | <input type="checkbox"/> Refillable Water Bottle for daily use (also available at the camp store) * |

Do Not Bring These Items!

- ⊗ Cell phones, smart watches, air pods, wearable technology, laptops, chromebooks, ipads, tablets, etc.
- ⊗ Dust-sensitive electronic equipment, expensive cameras or recording devices, hand-held gaming devices, etc
- ⊗ Expensive sunglasses, or other expensive items that are easy to lose
- ⊗ Roller blades, skateboards, rip sticks, bikes, scooters, etc.
- ⊗ Pocket or camping knives; any form of weapon
- ⊗ Battery operated toys, toys that resemble any type of weapon, walkie-talkies
- ⊗ Fireworks, sparklers, fire crackers, etc.
- ⊗ The Fire Marshall prohibits the use of extension cords and electrical appliances in the cabins
- ⊗ Any item that disrupts camper events, creates a nuisance, or is considered potentially harmful to other individuals will be placed in the custody of the Unit Director until Final Sunday.
- ⊗ Remember that the camp provides basic over-the-counter first aid items for campers, so there is no need to pack things such as band-aids, Tylenol, cough drops, etc.

Additional Packing List for Some Majors and Minors

All Instrumental Music Students: Additional Items

- ☐ Instrument in a case
- ☐ Folding music stand
- ☐ Pencils! All musicians need pencils! ☺
- ☐ A few clothespins (to prevent music from flying away in outside performance conditions)
- ☐ Any solo music and etudes presently being studied
- ☐ String players should bring an extra bow and strings, if possible
- ☐ Brass players should bring slide grease and valve oil
- ☐ Woodwind players should bring cork grease, a swab, and extra reeds
- ☐ Students who play larger instruments such as tuba, baritone, bari sax, bass clarinet: We strongly encourage you to bring a portable luggage cart for transporting your instrument to daily rehearsals. Campers are responsible for moving their own instruments multiple times a day, and an easily maneuverable cart is recommended for longer distances.

Musical Instrument Care and Repair

To avoid unnecessary problems, make sure your student's instrument is in good working order before coming to camp! Those borrowing instruments from a school music program should *also* check the condition prior to camp – ask your teacher for help. Instruments should *never ever* be transported around Blue Lake without a case. A professional instrument repair service is available on site for minor repairs and adjustments. Temporary loaner instruments are available to campers if necessary. Campers requiring instrument repair will be charged a small fee of \$12, deducted from their account. See [Your Camper's Store Account](#) for details.

Band and Orchestra Percussion Majors: Additional Items

Percussion majors have the opportunity to study a variety of percussion instruments including snare drum, xylophone, timpani, and accessory percussion instruments (bass drum, cymbals, tambourine, etc.). Bring the following items to ensure you can participate fully. If you do not already own these items, contact your band director or teacher for advice on specific brands and models appropriate for your level of study.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snare drum (you will not be able to use a practice pad in place of a snare) | <input type="checkbox"/> Xylophone/bell mallets (1 pair w/ hard plastic heads) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snare drum stand | <input type="checkbox"/> Marimba/suspended cymbal mallets (1 pair with medium hard yarn covering) <i>*optional for Camp Bernstein</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snare drum case | <input type="checkbox"/> Timpani mallets (1 pair with felt heads) <i>*optional for Camp Bernstein</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snare drum sticks (1 pair) | <input type="checkbox"/> Protective bag or case for sticks and mallets, labeled with your name |

Theater Majors and Minors: Additional Items

Theater campers are expected to have the standard formal Blue Lake uniform attire. However, please make sure that your clothing and shoes *allow for movement* in presentations. Avoid short skirts, heels, denim, and tight slacks.

Art Majors: Additional Items

Blue Lake's art department will provide all necessary equipment and materials for assigned projects and creations. Although not necessary, you are welcome to bring your own sketch books, utensils, and other basic supplies. You will be responsible for your own belongings.

Jazz Rhythm Section Majors and Minors: Additional Items

The Jazz Bassist's Packing List

Jazz bassists are expected to bring a bass and amplification equipment. You may bring an electric bass or an upright string bass. However, if you bring an upright string bass, you must also bring an electronic pick-up to connect to an amp. If you do not currently own a pick-up and amplifier for your bass, contact your teacher or local music store for advice on specific brands and models. Bring to camp:

- ☐ Bass (electric or upright with pick-up)
- ☐ Bass amplifier and electronic patch cords (necessary for either the electric bass or the upright string bass)
- ☐ Cases or protective coverings for your bass and amplification equipment
- ☐ Tuner (optional)

Plan to drop off your equipment at the Jazz Department on opening day. Equipment will be kept in locked storage. Items should be clearly marked with your name. If you have questions, contact Program Coordinator at 1-800-221-3796, ext. 267 after June 1.

The Jazz Keyboardist's Packing List

As a jazz keyboardist, you will be rehearsing on an acoustic piano provided by Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp. However, you do have the option of bringing your own electronic keyboard and amplifier. If you choose to bring your own equipment, please pack the following:

- ☐ Electronic keyboard (optional)
- ☐ Electronic keyboard amplifier and all necessary electronic patch cords (if keyboard brought from home)
- ☐ Cases or protective coverings for keyboard and amps (if brought from home)

Plan to drop off your equipment at the Jazz Department on opening day. Equipment will be kept in locked storage. Items should be clearly marked with your name. If you have questions, contact Program Coordinator at 1-800-221-3796, ext. 267 after June 1.

The Jazz Percussionist's Packing List

Majors: As a jazz percussionist, you will concentrate your studies on drum-set and other jazz auxiliary percussion instruments (congas, guiro, etc.). Here is a list of the percussion-related items you will need to bring to camp. **Note:** Blue Lake will supply drum-sets (bass drum, 3 toms, 2 cymbal stands, hi-hat stand, seat, and bass drum pedal). Please **do not** bring your own drum-set.

Required:

- ☐ Snare drum sticks (1 pair)
- ☐ Brushes (1 pair)
- ☐ Protective bag for sticks and brushes

Optional:

- ☐ Snare drum and stand
- ☐ 1 ride cymbal and 1 crash cymbal
- ☐ 1 pair hi-hat cymbals
- ☐ Protective bags or cases for cymbals and snare drums

If you choose to bring any of the optional items, drop it off at the Jazz Department on opening day. Larger equipment will be kept in locked storage, but plan to carry your cymbals, sticks, and brushes to and from class. Items should be clearly marked with your name. If you have questions, contact Program Coordinator at 1-800-221-3796, ext. 267 after June 1.

Minors: As a jazz percussion *minor*, you will concentrate your minor hour time on drum-set and other jazz auxiliary percussion instruments (congas, guiro, etc.). Here is a list of the percussion-related items you will need to bring to camp. **Note:** Blue Lake will supply drum-sets (bass drum, 3 toms, 2 cymbal stands, hi-hat stand, seat, bass drum pedal, and all needed cymbals and cymbal stands). Please **do not** bring your own drum-set and cymbals.

- ☐ Snare drum sticks (1 pair)
- ☐ Brushes (1 pair)

- ☐ Protective bag or case for sticks and brushes

Piano Majors: Additional Items

- ☐ Simple Watch (no cell phones, no smart watches)
- ☐ Metronome (labeled with your name, no cell phones)
- ☐ Pencils
- ☐ Pad of Manuscript Paper (8.5 x 11)
- ☐ Nail Clippers
- ☐ Music (see below)*

*Most of your lesson and practice time will be spent on new material that your instructor will assign. However, please also bring a solo that is memorized and performance ready for an optional department-wide performance at the beginning of the session, as well as all current music, etudes, and technique books. You may also bring a piece or two you that you would like to begin working on. Bring all items to the first piano meeting at camp.

Harp Majors: Additional Items

- ☐ Chromatic tuner (labeled with name; no cell phones)
- ☐ Metronome (labeled with name; no cell phones)
- ☐ Pencils
- ☐ Music to showcase your current level of playing*

*You will be asked to play a current piece of music for the harp instructor on the first evening at camp. This is not an audition, but rather an opportunity for the instructor to get to know your level of playing.

Dance Majors and Minors: Additional Items

Majors:

Male

- ☐ Black tights (footed or convertible style for ballet class; footless or convertible for modern technique)
- ☐ Plenty of white t-shirts (form fitting)
- ☐ Skin-toned dance belts
- ☐ Black ballet shoes
- ☐ Waist elastics as needed to help keep tights up
- ☐ White socks (ankle length and mid-calf length)
- ☐ Navy blue sweatpants for chilly mornings on camp (available for purchase at the camp store)
- ☐ Water bottle and sweat towel
- ☐ Spiral note book; writing utensil
- ☐ Gym bag or backpack for storing items

Female

- ☐ Black leotards
- ☐ Pink or skin-toned tights
- ☐ Pink or skin-toned ballet slippers
- ☐ One solid black leotard camisole or tank style
- ☐ Black chiffon ballet skirt
- ☐ Pointe shoes (if working on pointe)
- ☐ Black tights/leggings acceptable for modern class
- ☐ Black fitted dance shorts for modern class
- ☐ Navy blue sweatpants for chilly mornings on camp (available for purchase at the camp store)
- ☐ Water bottle and sweat towel
- ☐ Spiral note book; writing utensil
- ☐ Gym bag or backpack for storing items
- ☐ Hair styling supplies for keeping hair in tidy bun

Minors:

Male

- ☐ Form fitting t-shirts
- ☐ Gym shorts or pants (avoid super large, baggy styles)
- ☐ Bare feet

Female

- ☐ Solid color leotard or tank top
- ☐ Tights, leggings, shorts, or yoga style pants
- ☐ Bare feet

Blue Lake Account: FAQ and How-To

Through your account, you can...

- Make a payment or set up a payment plan
- Complete your child's health record, upload immunization records, and enter medication information
- Add money for your child's spending account
- Upload your child's photo for use as verification at the camp store
- Pre-order camp uniforms, care packages, final Sunday family lunch, souvenir audio recordings, and photos
- Purchase email credits
- Review and download the Camper Family Answerbook

Blue Lake Account: Communication, Contacts, and Student Information

How can I ensure I will receive communications and contacts from the camp?

- **Blue Lake recommends that spouses, partners, or joint care-givers are listed as the Primary and Secondary contacts.**
- Make sure your account is not set up using your child's contact information (child's cell or email).
- Make sure that your email provider has @bluelake.org and @ultracamp.com indicated as safe senders in your "whitelist". This may need to be adjusted in your email settings. Use your favorite search engine to look for instructions on how to use your whitelist with your email provider.
- Make sure you have fully completed both Primary and Secondary contact fields, including multiple phone and email contacts
- Both Primary and Secondary contacts may be selected for email notifications.
- *Contact our office with any questions!*

My spouse isn't getting camp emails. How can I fix this?

If your spouse is listed as a secondary on the Account Dashboard, you may have selected a default of using the primary email only. To change this:

- Log into your account
- At the Account Dashboard, select the "secondary contact" name
- Select the "Edit my bio information" button
- Scroll to the Email address and select "CC on all correspondence"
- Click the "Save" button

How do I upload my child's school picture? And why do you need it, anyway?

Blue Lake uses your child's photo as ID verification at the Camp Store. This allows the store staff to confirm a student before initiating a transaction.

- Log into your family's account
- Select your camper's name
- Select Edit My Bio Information
- Scroll toward the bottom of the screen. You can upload a picture under Additional Information

What is an *Alternate Contact* for my child, and where do I add these contacts?

An alternate contact is an individual Blue Lake will contact in the event that the Primary or Secondary contacts are unreachable during an urgent matter. Blue Lake will always attempt to reach the Primary or Secondary contacts first, before proceeding to an alternate contact.

- Log into your account
- At the Account Dashboard, scroll to the bottom and select Alternate Contacts then "add a contact"

What is an *Authorized Pick-Up* for my child, and where do I add these contacts?

An authorized Pick-Up is an adult (21+) who is permitted to sign-out and transport your child off of camp. Your authorized pick-up representatives do not need to be alternate contacts. However, some families reference the same support individuals in both places.

- Log into your account.
- At the Account Dashboard, scroll to the bottom and select Pickup Authorization, then "Edit Authorizations."

- To add someone who is on the account, click “Edit Authorizations.” *The Secondary contact is not automatically granted pickup authorization.* You can select any of your contacts with the “Edit Authorizations” button.
- To add someone who is not on the account, click “Add Non-Account Member.”

Blue Lake Account: Health Form and Medications

How do I complete the Health Form? (for first-time campers)

- Log into your account
- Select your camper’s name or the Document Center
- Look for a big red bar alerting you to complete the health form and any other outstanding forms

How do I edit/update the health form (or any other form) I have already completed?

- Log into your account
- Select your camper’s name
- Select My Forms
- Select the form name. Update necessary fields. You will be asked to verify and submit at the end of the form

How do I enter, change, or update medications?

- Log into your account
- Select your camper’s name
- Select Medications
- Select Manage Medications
- Select +New Medication or Manage Medication
- Find the medication you want to edit, then select Edit
- Don’t forget to verify and submit at the bottom of the page

Where do I upload my child’s vaccination record and health insurance information?

- Log into your account
- Select Document center
- Under Sumer Camp (gr 5-12), select Immunization Record or Health Insurance

Blue Lake Account: Pre-Orders, Uniforms, and Other Transactions

How do I make a payment or set up a payment plan?

- Log into your family’s account
- Select the menu on the upper left (3 dashes)
- Select *Make a Payment*
- Follow the prompts to make a payment or schedule future payments

How do I see my payment history and my scheduled payments? How do I print a statement or manage my payment accounts on file?

- Log into your family’s account
- Select the menu on the upper left (3 dashes)
- Click on *My Account*
- Click on *Finances*
- Select from the options provided
- Follow the prompts

How do I start my pre-order?

- Log into your family’s account
- Click on My Reservations, then your camper’s session

- Click the *Edit or Add Order* button on the right
- Click *Next* to pass through items you have already selected until you reach the pre-order page

What is the deadline for completing my pre-order?

The pre-order form closes at midnight of the Friday prior to the start of your session. If you miss the pre-order window, you can purchase uniforms at the Camp Store on opening day, between 10am – 4pm. Care packages can be purchased at [The Happy Camper](#) as early as the opening day of the camp session. Camper Family Lunches can be purchased onsite at Marek North on your camper's Final Sunday. You can purchase souvenir audio recordings and pictures online at [The Happy Camper](#) after the conclusion of your camper's session.

How do I add uniforms to my pre-order?

- Log into your family's account
- Click on My Reservations, then your camper's session
- Click the *Edit or Add Order* button on the right
- Click *Next* to pass through items you have already selected until you reach the pre-order page

How do I add money for my child's store account?

- Log into your account
- Select the menu in the upper left (3 dashes)
- Select Camp Store
- Camper Bank, follow the prompts
- You can return to this section to view your camper's spending habits by selecting Purchase History

How do I purchase email credits?

- Log into your account
- Select the menu in the upper left (3 dashes)
- Select Message Center
- Select "E-mail a Camper" button
- Select the "purchase email credits"
- NOTE: please be aware that ONE block is TEN emails
- Follow the prompts

How does a family member purchase email credits?

- Log into your account
- Select the menu in the upper left (3 dashes)
- Select Message Center
- Click on the "Friend Accounts" button
- Follow the prompts to send a link invitation

We didn't order a photo or recording when we submitted our pre-order, but now we would like to get one. Can we add that?

You are able to add to your pre-order up until midnight of the Friday before your camp session starts. If ordering after that date, please visit us online at [The Happy Camper](#) at the close of your camper's session.

- Select the Menu at The Happy Camper
- Scroll to Photos and/or Audio Recordings
- Photos will be mailed from the vendor
- Allow at least 2-3 weeks for audio recordings

What happens to a credit balance on my account at the end of the summer?

Any amount of \$15 or more left on an account will be refunded at the end of Camp Season. Please check your account for the incoming refund before contacting the business office. See [Your Camper's Store Account](#) for details.

Blue Lake Account: Multiple Sessions, Early Arrival, Transportation

We want to add a Second session, how do we do that?

- Log into your account
- Find your camper's name and select Register to the right
- Under Application area, select "Add a Second Session"
- Complete the same steps as you did for the first registration

We need to bring our child to camp early (or depart late). How do we register for an early arrival or late departure?

- Log into your account
- Select the Early Arrival, Late Departure, and Transportation to complete registration

My child is flying to camp, how do we request transportation?

- Log into your account
- Select the Early Arrival, Late Departure, and Transportation to complete registration
