



Rainbow Connection

MARCH 2024



IN THIS ISSUE

Announcements

2

My Kamaji Memories

3

Enrollment

5

A Note From Kat

8

2024 Staff

9

Kamaji Kaptured

10

Kamaji Day Pics

11

Songbook Spotlight

12

Birthdays

13

Climbing Trip

14

The Canadian

15



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ANNOUNCEMENTS!



Is your porch pal enrolled for this summer? If not, send her a note/e-mail/text/call to remind her to enroll soon!

contact info can be found in CampInTouch!

WASHINGTON DC!!

Kat is headed your way MARCH 8TH to lead an info session for potential Kamaji campers and their families. Know someone who might like to learn more? Reach out to kat@kamaji.com for details!

HEY, ST. LOUIS!

The Jernagans are hosting Kat and an info session for families who want to learn more about Kamaji for summer 2024 or 2025 on Monday, March 4th at 6pm. Contact kat@kamaji.com if you know of anyone who wants to join and learn about, "Why Kamaji?"

Attention all

KAMAJI BIG SISTERS!

Go ahead and reach out to your Lil Sis today! And psst...keep an eye on those mailboxes- more soon!

thank you

To Carolyn & Tolula Mastio for hosting a Kamaji info session in Wichita!

AND

Laney McGuire for hosting in Oklahoma City!

Attention New Campers!

Kamaji Big Sisters have received contact information for their "little sisters". They have your home address, your email address (if we have it), your parents' cell phone number and parents' emails. If you haven't heard from your Big Sis in the next 2 weeks- please let me know.

When you DO hear from her, make sure you respond and keep the "convo" going!

my kama ji memories

by: Maggie Sund (Reeds)

Oh where do I even begin to talk about my experience and how much I LOVE camp? My mom and aunts grew up coming to Kamaji, so naturally when I was 9 I headed to Wolf Lake myself. It didn't take long until I started to consider camp my home away from home, a safe place where I could be who I wanted to be and grow in so many ways.

Camp was a place where I could go and learn new skills (skiing and sailing were my favorites) but also learn what it really meant to let my guard down and build deep and meaningful friendships. My camp friends knew me better than any of my friends, and boy oh boy did we laugh a lot. The best times of my life took place at camp, it really is the happiest place on earth (sorry Disney).

It wasn't just an amazing experience during the summer but helped me through the tough times of middle school and high school as well. I remember anytime I had a bad day I'd hunker down in my closet (that I considered my "hang out" with my little TV that had a VCR connected to it) and watch camp videos until I felt better. Even in that closet camp was a safe place for me, a place I called home.

My camp friends are the best friends I've ever had. I traveled to Chicago more times than I can count, attended a handful of bat mitzvahs, walked the streets of Rodeo Drive, giggled on the set of a TV show, conquered a week in Canada (twice), capsized a sailboat, ate a dairy queen dipped cone for the first time, lots of footlong hot dogs and watermelon, sang and danced in front of everyone without any cares, had my first job and got my first paycheck and so much more; all with my camp friends!

When Kat and Jason decided to ask alumni to come back as trippers, I didn't even hesitate. How can I make this work? I know! Send my oldest to camp (Camp Lincoln where my dad, uncles and cousins went) and my husband can handle the younger 2 at home.



The moment I stepped into the Minneapolis airport all these memories flooded me, and the memories didn't stop for the next 2 weeks. Being back at camp truly felt like coming home, like I never left. I again, 26 years after my very first summer as a small 9-year-old, felt safe and welcomed in my home away from home. As a parent of 3 small children, it's not very often that I feel fully relaxed and stress free, it was a very welcomed retreat from the real world just like I felt as a kid. Things at camp might be a little different, but the feeling is the same.

I got to take out the Birch Lake trip, which is the trip the 2nd oldest campers go on (Cabin 5) and I had so much fun. Do I go camping constantly at home? No, but everything I learned as a camper and counselor came back to me and was so much fun. Paddling in pouring rain, eating chocolate chip pancakes, setting up tents, getting eaten by mosquitos, singing songs to pass the time while paddling, and the joy at the end of the trip knowing you accomplished something hard filled my cup overwhelmingly.

In one of Ben Rector's songs, he sings "You can't make old friends" and it is so true! There is nothing like getting a big hug, catching up with, and spending time with old friends. This is true of spending time at your childhood favorite place. Seeing Kat, Shannon, and Boim again was the highlight, and making new camp friends brought me so much joy as well. If you are considering being an alumni tripper, don't pass it up! It is a blast and I can't wait to be back in my home again this summer.

Maggie Sund (Reeds)



CAMPER ENROLLMENT

Enrolled for Summer 2024!

FIRST SESSION

NAME	GRADE	HOMETOWN
Annie Alcorn	9th	Washington, DC
Avery Bargfeldt	4th	Franklin, TN
Reese Barnett	9th	Glencoe, IL
Aria Basford	6th	Magnolia, TX
Emery Beffa	4th	Brookfield, IL
JUMPER BUSSEN	2ND	LAKE BLUFF, IL
Gabby Campuzano	5th	Park Ridge, IL
Reilly Carter	8th	Layton, UT
LUCINDA CHORNEY	7TH	MINNEAPOLIS, MN
Addie Cronk-Gebbia	5th	El Cajon, CA
Arlyn Cronk-Gebbia	3rd	El Cajon, CA
Mira Dale	9th	Glencoe, IL
Sona Deshmukh	7th	Jacksonville, FL
ELODIE FREDMAN	4TH	BAMMOCKBURN, IL
JOSIE FREDMAN	3RD	BAMMOCKBURN, IL
Alicia Gibson	8th	Memphis, TN
BRYNN GOLDSTEIN	4TH	CHICAGO, IL
Chandler Goodman	5th	Deerfield, IL
Alice Grant	5th	San Clemente, CA
Lexie Gress	8th	St. Louis, MO
MADELIME HAMMES	2ND	LAKE FOREST, IL
Ava Harden	3rd	Brook Park, OH
Noa Jacoby	5th	Chicago, IL
Hope Jernagan	7th	Saint Louis, MO
Maude Jernagan	5th	Saint Louis, MO
Eleni Kwatra	9th	Scottsdale, AZ
ELIAMA LARAGH	5TH	CHICAGO, IL
JULIA LARAGH	3RD	CHICAGO, IL
Akari Lema	6th	Tokyo, Japan
Lauren McIntire	8th	Newbury Park, CA
Addison Novak	9th	Naples, FL

NAME	GRADE	HOMETOWN
El Pearl	9th	Encinitas, CA
Lilah Pearl	7th	Encinitas, CA
Amelia Rabb	4th	Rockford, MI
Hannah Rabb	2nd	Rockford, MI
ABBY REIMKE	7TH	OFALLON, MO
MONROE RHODEN	2ND	EASTBOROUGH, KS
Emma Rivers	5th	Springfield, VA
MADDIE RODDY	4TH	CLEVELAND, OH
Sarina Rontal	9th	Birmingham, MI
Katelyn Rosen	9th	Highland Park, IL
Jojo Rouspil	5th	Des Moines, IA
Rowan Sadoff	5th	Fox Point, WI
ELLA SANDERS	4TH	DEERFIELD, IL
ADDIE SCHAFFNER	7TH	HIGHLAND PARK, IL
TAYLOR SCHAFFNER	4TH	HIGHLAND PARK, IL
Julia Showalter	5th	Tulsa, OK
IZZY STAPLES	4TH	LAKE FOREST, IL
Sara Steinberg	8th	Evanston, IL
Ade Stern	9th	Minneapolis, MN
Anastasia Taylor	8th	Menifee, CA
Oakley Thiesen	7th	Brainerd, MN
Bibi Tobias	9th	Denver, CO
Piper Vasey	5th	Chicago, IL
Brooke Willhite	6th	Albuquerque, NM
GRACIE WOOD	5TH	CORVALLIS, OR
KATIE WOOD	3RD	CORVALLIS, OR
GENEVIEVE WORLEY	2ND	CHICAGO, IL
Lorelei Worley	5th	Chicago, IL
CHARLOTTE WYFFELS	4TH	EDINA, MN

NEW TO CAMP KAMAJI
FOR SUMMER 2024!

SECOND SESSION

NAME	GRADE	HOMETOWN	NAME	GRADE	HOMETOWN
			LAYLA GREENWOOD	2ND	GLENCOE, IL
			MABEL HALL	2ND	PALOS VERDES ESTATES, CA
Abbie Anderson	7th	Lake Forest, IL	Ruby Hall	6th	Palos Verdes Estates, CA
Ella Arnold	8th	Corte Madera, CA	CAROLINE HIRSH	4TH	GLENCOE, IL
ELOISE BAKER	2ND	WASHINGTON, DC	Mollie Hirsh	6th	Glencoe, IL
Cami Bales	7th	Manhattan Beach, CA	Allegra Hurtgen	6th	Wilmette, IL
Clio Bandle	8th	Winterthur, Switzerland	Eve Jackson	6th	Kansas City, MO
Iris Barringer-Mills	10th	Ixelles, Belgium	Millie Jackson	6th	Kansas City, MO
Evie Bass	5th	Lake Forest, IL	MIA JIMENEZ	6TH	RIVERWOODS, IL
Fiona Belmonti	7th	Chicago, IL	VALENTINA JIMENEZ	8TH	RIVERWOODS, IL
Julia Bizhko	6th	Bethesda, MD	OLIVIA KANSUPADA	2ND	CHICAGO, IL
Eliana Brown	6th	Shaker Heights, OH	Audrey Kaplan	7th	Mokena, IL
Zoey Caine	7th	St. Louis, MO	Eliza Kettenring	9th	Stamping Ground, KY
LUCRE CANTU	4TH	MEXICO CITY, MEXICO	Molly Latimer	9th	Glencoe, IL
Roberta Cantu	6th	Mexico City, Mexico	Kassi Leonard	8th	St Louis, MO
VICTORIA CANTU	2ND	MEXICO CITY, MEXICO	Willa Limbert	5th	Berkeley, CA
Cate Cassidy	9th	Evanston, IL	Madeline Margol	5th	Lake Forest, IL
Eleanor Cassidy	6th	Evanston, IL	Evelyn Mason	5th	Deerfield, IL
Eva Cytron	9th	Deerfield, IL	Shea McCormack	5th	Westminster, CO
LUMA DAVILA	6TH	BROOKLYN, NY	Evie McWilliams	6th	Ann Arbor, MI
Rosie DeWein	5th	Rolling Hills Estates, CA	GRACIE MIERVIS	4TH	ARLINGTON, VA
Zoe DeWein	6th	Rolling Hills Estates, CA	SERENA MEYERS-BAER	2ND	BROOKLYN, NY
Dylan Ditto	4th	Chicago, IL	Lucy Mijangos Guzzardo	7th	México City, DF
VAL DOBRIC	5TH	LAKE FOREST, IL	Carys Moynihan	7th	Chicago, IL
JESSE DORNAM	5TH	DENVER, CO	Willa Nash	6th	Chicago, IL
Blake Eldridge	4th	Highland Park, IL	MADDIE PAIMI	3RD	KENILWORTH, IL
Dylan Eldridge	8th	Highland Park, IL	Katrina Powell	7th	Kansas City, MO
Esme Erntson	9th	St Michael, MN	ABBY REYZIM	3RD	GLENCOE, IL
Lia Fleischer	6th	Chevy Chase, MD	Kai Richards	3rd	St. Louis, MO
Kinley Garfield	7th	New York, NY	Kennedy Richards	6th	St. Louis, MO
Orly Garfield	3rd	New York, NY	Rosie Rissman	7th	Berkeley, CA
Lily Genser	4th	Highland Park, IL	Scarlett Rissman	4th	Highland Park, IL
Sydney Genser	7th	Highland Park, IL	Violet Rissman	5th	Berkeley, CA
Alex Ghassan	6th	Brooklyn, NY	Ella Rubenstein	7th	Glencoe, IL
Lucy Ghassan	6th	Brooklyn, NY	Olivia Rubenstein	4th	Glencoe, IL
Gigi Gimbel	5th	Oakland, CA	Eva Saddleton	6th	River Forest, IL
Zoe Goshko	9th	Ottawa, CN	Emma Sagett	7th	Highland Park, IL

NEW TO CAMP KAMAJI FOR SUMMER 2024!

SECOND SESSION

continued

2024 DATES

8 WEEKS June 17-August 10

FIRST SESSION June 17-July 13

SECOND SESSION July 15-August 10

NAME	GRADE	HOMETOWN
HENRI SAPE	2ND	ST. LOUIS, MO
Serenity Sanchez	5th	Deerfield, IL
BROOKE SCHIEBER	4TH	HMSDALE, IL
Mae Severn	5th	Washington, DC
Mary Elizabeth Stewart	6th	Austin, TX
Sadie Storino	6th	Wilmette, IL
SLOANE STORINO	3RD	WILMETTE, IL
Sophia Storino	7th	Wilmette, IL
KAYLA THOMAS	5TH	MAYWOOD, IL
KIRA THOMAS	3RD	MAYWOOD, IL
KIERA THORPE	5TH	HMSDALE, IL
LYLA THORPE	6TH	HMSDALE, IL
Mirabelle Threadgold	9th	Brooklyn, NY
Juliet Trueger	5th	Chicago, IL
Rosie Vaglio	5th	Leawood, KS
Zoey Vaglio	7th	Leawood, KS
Opal Vandelloo	7th	Oakland, CA
Ava Verdun	6th	Chevy Chase, MD
ELLIE VOLLER	4TH	SAM DIEGO, CA
Lillian Wall	6th	Oklahoma City, OK
Reese Warticovschi	6th	St. Louis, MO
Zoe Warticovschi	9th	St. Louis, MO
Nora Williams	6th	Ann Arbor, MI
Claire Windom	6th	Washington, DC
Colleen Windom	5th	Washington, DC
Mae Yawitz	6th	St. Louis, MO
Lexi Young	6th	Deerfield, IL



NEW TO CAMP KAMAJI
FOR SUMMER 2024!



A note from Kat...



Families often ask me, "At what age do campers start going 8 weeks?" I always have to choke back a chuckle. It is so different for everyone! Look at Celeste Belmonti! My pal turns 9 in a month, and she's already signed on for her second summer as an 8-week camper!

Truth is, there is no "right age" to think about 8 weeks. Here are some things you can ask yourself when you are wondering whether you are ready to come for 8 weeks:

- Do I love camp? (If answer is "yes", please continue on...)
- I've learned to waterski while at camp, and now I want to learn to slalom, I wonder if I had more time at camp if I could do that?
- The 8 weekers always seem like leaders amongst the campers, would I be a great leader?
- I wonder what it is like to explore Bemidji with some of my favorite counselors?
- I've heard they're bringing back a Flick and Float- what's that about?
- I love my camp friends; I wonder how many other potential besties are attending the other session and I don't even know them yet?!
- I have fun with my home friends, but I spend A LOT of time with them during the school year; wouldn't it be cool just to try something different?
- My parents are telling me that I'm on my phone too much, but it is hard to keep up with things if I'm not on it. Is it weird that I don't actually miss my phone when I'm at camp?
- When I'm at home during the summer, I do have some fun times, but aren't I always wondering what's happening at camp?
- That fireworks display looks amazing and what is a glow party like on the waterfront??
- I feel like I'm my best self at camp, shouldn't I want more of that?
- When I'm packing up at the end of a session, don't I always wish I could stay just a liiiiiiittle bit longer?
- I know I'm already really curious and very brave, how can I challenge myself even further?
- More rainbow burgers. No question, sign me up.

If you have thought about any of the above, you should consider 8 weeks. It feels really special to be part of the "8 Week Club". It is a great way to spend your time doing things you love, meeting new people who "get" you, having more opportunities to pass into levels you aspire to, different Evening Programs and more time with your best self.

Join the Club and sign up for 4 more weeks of camp!!

SUMMER 2024

8

WEEK CLUB



NAME	GRADE	HOMETOWN	NAME	GRADE	HOMETOWN
Celeste Belmonti	3rd	Chicago, IL	Maddie Hernandez	6th	Northbrook, IL
Cait Brown	6th	Englewood, CO	Betsy Kesselman	6th	Northbrook, IL
Hadley Bussen	4th	Lake Bluff, IL	Avery Lipschultz	6th	Denver, CO
Yamaris Cabrera	8th	north chicago, IL	Flo Lloyd	6th	Washington, DC
Sylvia Coulter Bistrong	5th	Corvallis, OR	Tolula Mastio	4th	Wichita, KS
Kaleesi Greene	4th	Minnetrista, MN	Kendall Richards	6th	St. Louis, MO
Lilly Greene	2nd	Minnetrista, MN	Ivy Swartz	6th	Chicago, IL

2024

staff (so far)

.....

NAME	GRADE
Mohammad Abu Shanab	Wilderness Trip Leader
Denae Allan	Swim
Kenya Baez Alondra	Laundry Assistant
Madison Burrows	Ropes/Wall
Yahaira Cabrera	Art
Jennifer Coulter	Jack/Jill-of-All-Trades
Abi Elson	Swim
Mariana Escudero Rodriguez	Tennis
Meredid Flores Perez	Kitchen Assistant.
Marie Flores Velasco	Assistant Cook
Brenda Gonzalez Cazares	Laundry Assistant
Julie Grant	Health Care Director
Jennifer Hernandez Zacarias	Kitchen Assistant.
Sandra Hernandez Zacarias	Kitchen Assistant.
Maria Isidro Lopez	Special Programs Coordinator
Vasthi Jimenez Mora	Assistant Cook
Maria Juarez Cervantes	Assistant Cook
Amanda Juarez Cid	Housekeeping
Shannon Kettenring	Program Director
Sandra Nayeli Lopez Davila	Day Camp Counselor
Rachael Loughran-Doak	Swim
Laney Maguire	Staff Coach and Development Director
Daniel Mendoza Tejada	Program Specialist
Eduardo Merino Campos	Maintenance Assistant
Linzi Moran	Program Specialist
Eden Morrison	Art
Daniela Munoz Alarcon	Laundry Assistant
Dayana Paredes Melo	Archery
Melissa Pick	Art
Amy Quinn	Tennis
Elena Sosa Reyes	Assistant Cook
Takiyah Spence	Photography
Zoe Talbot	Art
Soni Trujillo Suarez	Assistant Cook
Luis Trujillo Zapotitla	Maintenance Assistant
Luis Vallejo Dominguez	Maintenance Assistant
Jaqueline Vidal	Assistant Cook
Laura Zavala Morales	Kitchen Assistant.
Jessica Zilm	Ropes/Wall

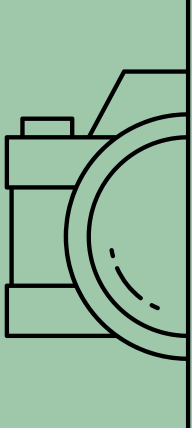


How would YOU like to spend an EPIC summer at Camp Kamaji!?!?

JOIN OUR STAFF FOR 2024!

Contact bri@kamaji.com for all the details!





Kamaji Kaptured



Olivia Kansupada came in **FIRST PLACE** at her gymnastics/trampoline competition!! Wow!



Eva Saddleton is now on pointe as a ballerina! Amazing. (Pic of her at the fitting!)

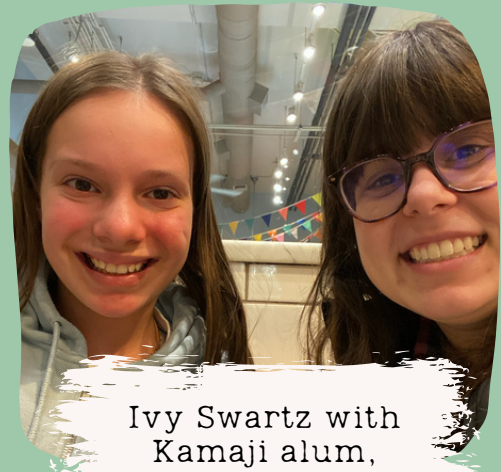


Hadley Bussen visited family and **REALLY** tall cacti in Tucson, AZ

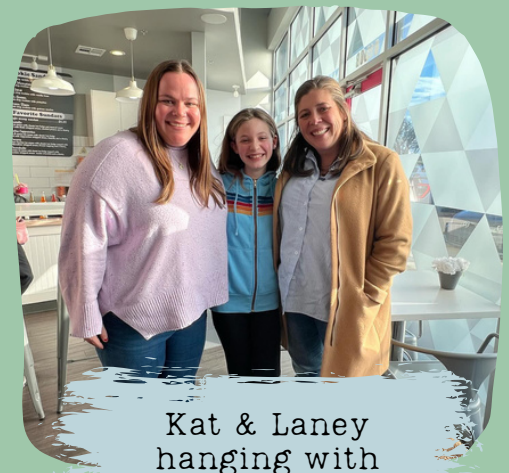
Kamaji's own Eliana Cole in her school's production of The Wizard of Oz! She was a Tree in the Haunted Forest, the Emerald City Guard (her main role), a poppy, a jitterbug, and a munchkin.



Kat & Laney doing the Kamaji thing in CKC!



Ivy Swartz with Kamaji alum, Meagan Mesirow

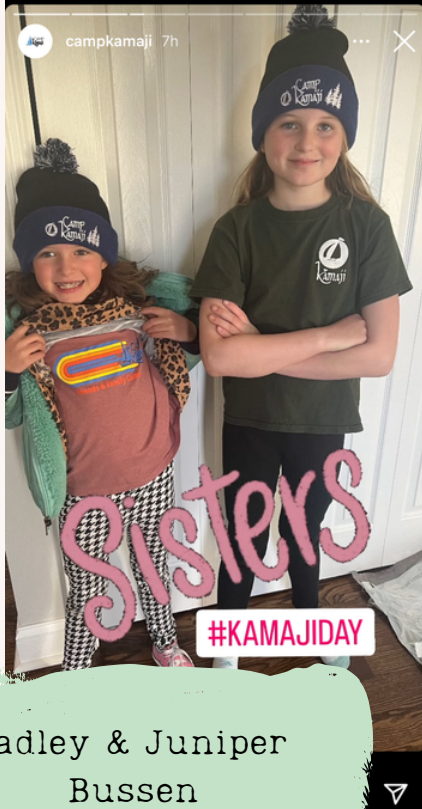


Kat & Laney hanging with Lillian Wall in CKC!

WE LOVE LOVE LOVE SHARING ABOUT KAMAJI CAMPERS DOING THEIR THING! SEND YOUR PICS AND HUMBLE BRAGS TO JEN@KAMAJI.COM



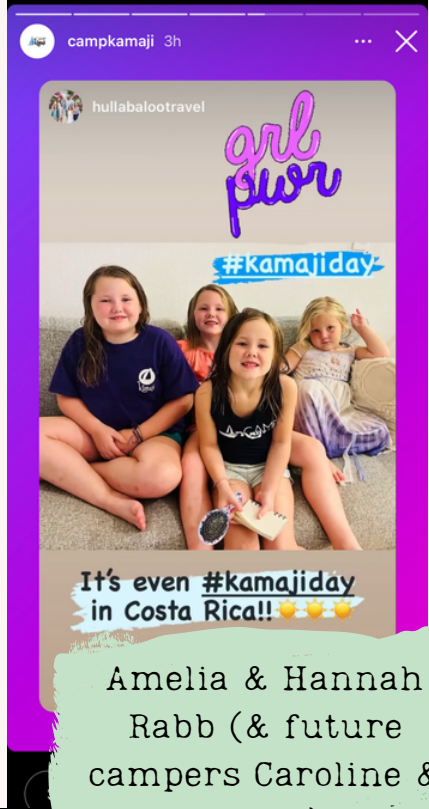
#KAMAJIDAY



Hadley & Juniper Bussen



Kat & Crew...Ethan, Caleb, & Felicity



Amelia & Hannah Rabb (& future campers Caroline & Lucy!)



Serenity Sanchez doin reps and repping Kamaji!



Kami Alum, Gracie Peterman



Serenity Sanchez

Songbook Spotlight

GOOD MORNING KAMAJI GIRLS.

Good morning Kamaji girls
With your smiles
Just as bright as mine.
Good morning Kamaji girls,
You're surely looking fine!
Ashes to ashes and dust to dust;
If the flies don't get you
The skeeters must!
Good morning Kamaji girls
With your smiles just as bright as,
Smiles just as bright as,
Smiles just as bright as mine.





March

staff

JESSICA ZILM	1
GRACE HUNNICUTT	2
CRISTINA DAVILA RUIZ	9
EDUARDO MERINO CAMPOS	10
FREYA BRANDVIK	13
TAI KENNEBREW	14
ELENA SOSA REYES	19
EDEN MORRISON	20
NEELY MORRISON	20
SANDRA LOPEZ DAVILA	20
BAHNO SINGH	23
IZZY CAPUTO	28
KENYA ALONDRA	28

campers

MADELINE HAZAN	1
SARINA RONTAL	2
AMELIA RABB	4
LIZZIE CARLSON	9
FIONA BELMONTI	11
FLO LLOYD	14
NORA WILLIAMS	16
SYLVIA COULTER BISTRONG	17
SOFI MARTINEZ CARRILLO	21
REESE BARNETT	24
JULIE LARAGH	30
KAI RICHARDS	30
ANNIE ALCORN	31
MAE SEVERN	31



Send your friends birthday love! Log into CampInTouch for contact info!

CLIMBING TRIP

summer 2024



.....
*open to campers
of all ages*
.....



Campers will be climbing at various locations along Lake Superior's North Shore. Climbing instruction is overseen by instructors from the University of Minnesota – Duluth.

Required: a great attitude, adventurous-spirit, and sign-up for climbing at camp during summer 2024 to be eligible for the limited spots!

This trip is offered 1st & 2nd session. The trip is 2 nights, 3 days for \$250. Parents must sign the permission form in CampInTouch before the summer.

Contact
jason@kamaji.com
or
218.556.1805

THE CANADIAN summer 2024



Tradition

The Canadian is Camp Kamaji's capstone trip exclusively offered to our PINE MANOR CAMPERS.



Camp, canoe, & portage

Campers travel to the White Otter Wilderness Area, north of Atikokan, Ontario, for a 6 night, 7 day trip. They paddle on lakes and carry canoes and their packs between the lakes on challenging trails, all while enjoying the beautiful Canadian wilderness! Campers will undoubtedly work harder than they ever have on a canoe trip, they will make memories to last a lifetime and walk away with an incredible sense of pride and achievement. Our girls can do hard things.



Look for more info from Jason in early February.
QUESTIONS?

jason@kamaji.com

