

the

# RAINBOW CONNECTION

september 2024



## connect with us!

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[kamaji.com](http://kamaji.com)



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17**

Join us and Camp for All Kids for the annual "Cocktails Around the Campfire" fundraiser at a NEW LOCATION in Downtown Chicago! Details coming soon. Keep updated at [campforallkids.org](http://campforallkids.org)



## 2025 KAMAJI DATES

FULL 8 WEEK SESSION  
June 18 - August 11

1st SESSION  
June 18 - July 14

2nd SESSION  
July 16 - August 11

## SEND US YOUR SONG SUGGESTIONS!

We are working hard on our video scrapbook from summer 2024. Send us your fun song suggestions to be included with the scrapbook!



SEND TO  
[KAT@KAMAJI.COM](mailto:KAT@KAMAJI.COM)

# MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS

## "KAMAJI KAPTURED"

is one of our favorite newsletter features! Please send us photos (in your Kamaji gear, get-togethers with camp friends, small world run-ins, you name it!) humble brags, performance or competition celebrations, essays, poems...we love all of it and love being able to share these things with the Kamaji family.

SEND ANY AND ALL OF THESE GOODIES TO [JEN@KAMAJI.COM](mailto:JEN@KAMAJI.COM)

JULIA SHOWALTER  
AND MAUDE  
JERNAGAN  
HANGING OUT!



LILLY WORTHEN  
AND MADELINE  
HANNES OUT IN  
THE WILD!

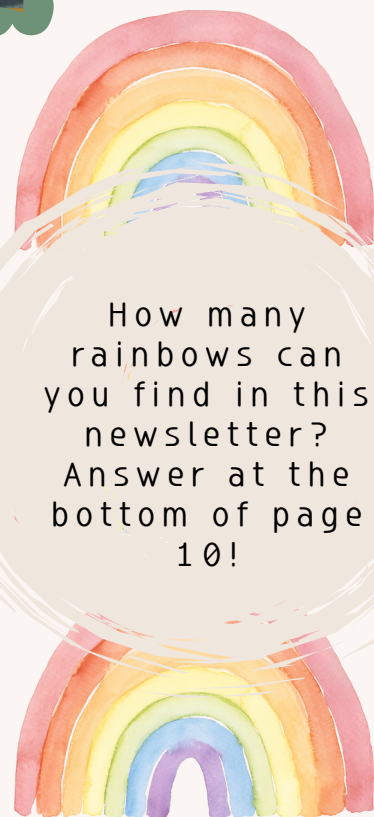


## DID YOU KNOW?

You have your very own CampInTouch account! Use this to access things like pictures from last summer and contact info for all your Kamaji friends!

Log in to  
CampInTouch  
[HERE!](#)

How many rainbows can you find in this newsletter? Answer at the bottom of page 10!



# AND MORE STILL....

## FUN NEWS FROM BETSY KESSELMAN!

*in her own words...*

AS YOU KNOW, NEXT SUMMER WILL BE MY 5TH YEAR AT CAMP KAMAJI FOR GIRLS. FOR MY MITZVAH PROJECT I AM RAISING MONEY FOR THIS AWESOME ORGANIZATION CALLED CAMP FOR ALL KIDS. THROUGH THE MONEY RAISED I WILL BE ABLE TO SHARE CAMP EVERY SUMMER WITH KIDS WHO ORDINARILY WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO HAVE THE PRIVILEGE OF GOING TO OVERNIGHT CAMP. SOME OF MY BEST FRIENDS ARE ABLE TO ATTEND CAMP THROUGH THIS PROGRAM.

PLEASE HELP ME AND DONATE TO THIS GREAT CAUSE.  
LOVE, BETSY



## DONATE HERE!

## LOVE TO TALK ABOUT KAMAJI?

### How to Help Spread the word about Kamaji!

1. Host a small gathering of families at your home! You develop the guest list...
2. ...And Kat will come and present camp to interested families!
3. Reach out to Kat at [kat@kamaji.com](mailto:kat@kamaji.com) and let's get planning!

Oh my gosh  
I love  
Kamaji!

Me too! Let's  
tell everyone  
about it!

# A NOTE FROM KAT...

At the end of each summer, I try to come up with the words to summarize our experience. I find it more and more difficult to describe because I feel like each summer is impactful in such a meaningful way, there are not always the words to perfectly encapsulate the feelings, the camaraderie, the memories, the impact, the challenges, the accomplishments, and the ways in which we have each changed.

So instead of trying to do that myself, I am sharing the words of one of our first year counselors, Zoe Talbot. At the end of each session, I choose a camper and a counselor to present their own "Farewell" to camp during our last night's tradition, Candlelight O'Naug-She-Nodin, where we celebrate friendship and recognize all we have accomplished together during the summer. I chose Zoe to share her words with us 2nd session because she is a counselor who fully embraced the Kamaji experience. Zoe joined us from Tasmania, Australia at 18 years old. She came to a totally new place, knowing no one, worked hard every.single.day. to positively impact her campers and other staff. She left camp making it a better place than it was when she first arrived. And here are the words she shared with us, thank you Zoel!

"Today, we mourn the end of the 2024 camp season and celebrate the time we have spent here. I wanted to take the time to acknowledge a few of the things that make this place so special. Camp Kamaji has had a profound impact on my life, and on many of yours, in ways that I never imagined when taking this job. Camp Kamaji is more than just a summer camp; it's a community where lifelong friendships are forged, learning is nurtured by talented and kind people, and laughter is a constant companion.

I want to start with the friendships that Kamaji fosters. I have seen many campers, who arrived without knowing anyone, form deep and lasting bonds with their peers. For instance, Ellie and Lincoln who have been inseparable since their first day, or Luna and Mia, who have blended so well with their porch that you would never guess this is their first year at camp.

We also heard a number of stories of friendship during paddle speeches last week, from campers who would never have met each other if it wasn't for this special place. Counsellors too have formed close connections, we all watched Lucie and Mia serenade Renee at the staff show; Amber and Romy, who are everyone's favourite duo; Mariana and Meg, a perfectly silly pair and Dima and Sienna who dominate Drama together.

I have also developed friendships in my short time here, with people I didn't even know walked this earth, until nine weeks ago.

During our training week, it felt as though I would never get used to the size, the noise and everything that being a Kamaji counsellor involves, but I can now say confidently that I have had one of the best summers of my life, and that is thanks all my fellow counsellors.



It's an incredible feeling to call some of you my close friends, and I have so much love for each and every counsellor I've worked with over the summer.

Learning is another cornerstone of the Kamaji experience. Camp is not just an escape from the real world; it's a home away from home – surrounded by beautiful nature and our sparkling Wolf Lake – where curiosity is encouraged, and knowledge is shared every day.

Whether you've spent time in the Arts Village with me, Carys, Yaya and Eden; waterskiing with GG, Sarahi, Luke and Jonas; improving your swimming or finding critters with Rachael, Jule, Mar, and Abi; sailing with Molly, Bel, and Marta; or climbing to the treetops with Madi and Jess, it's clear that Kamaji and its counsellors help girls to push themselves, discover new interests, and have fun all the while.

Kamaji is a place that lightens everyone's spirit and builds confidence in every girl who comes here, no matter how many summers. There's never a day without laughter in cabins, at activities, or in the dining hall. From Cabin 4's 'Eggy Beat' —which we all pretend not to know the meaning of—to Cabin 2's famous rendition of 'Yellow Bird,' Kamaji is infused with a sense of fun and light-heartedness that helps to build confidence. Whether it's the bravery of those who sing at O' Naug each week or of those who light the fires at Council Fire or present their dances to the whole camp, Kamaji's sense of humor has created a community in which everyone feels confident in their abilities, and cheers one another on.

Camp Kamaji's impact is profound and far-reaching. Kat and everyone before her have created a space where friendships flourish, learning thrives, humor brightens every moment, and campers leave more confident than when they came. My experience here has given me treasured memories that I will hold with me for the rest of my life. Kamaji has enriched the lives of everyone who has walked its grounds for over a hundred years, and I am deeply grateful to have called it home for the past nine weeks along with all of you. Kami girls are kind, confident and brave and it has been an honour to get to know you all.

From the bottom of my heart, Thank You.



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## SEPTEMBER

### STAFF

JAQUELINE VIDAL	1
DAYANA PAREDES MELO	3
PAOLA JUAREZ CERVANTES	11
JESSICA DIMA	16
KATHERINE MAYA SOLARTE	17
MARTA ALONSO DIES	19
SAVANNAH GAFFORD	19
LINZI MORAN	29

### CAMPERS

EVA CYTRON	3
ZOE WARTICOVSCHI	3
MADELINE MARGOL	4
LILY GENSER	6
ZOEY VAGLIO	7
CHARLOTTE WYFFELS	8
GIGI GIMBEL	9
MARY ROSE HENRY	10
DYLAN DITTO	13
ELIANA BROWN	14
KATE MERVIS	14
CARYS MOYNIHAN	16
RYANN PETTIT	18
YAMARIS CABRERA	18
TAYLOR SCHAFFNER	21
RUBY HALL	22
BROOKE WILLHITE	25
MIRABELLE THREADGOLD	26
ALLISON BROOKS	29
IRIS BARRINGER-MILLS	30

WISH YOUR PALS A HAPPY BIRTHDAY!  
LOG IN TO CAMPINTOUCH FOR  
CONTACT INFORMATION! :)

# 2025 CAMPER ENROLLMENT!

## 1st SESSION

ENROLL HERE!!!

NAME	GRADE	HOMETOWN
Avery Bargfeldt	5th	Franklin, TN
Gabby Campuzano	6th	Park Ridge, IL
Lucinda Chorney	8th	Minneapolis, MN
Addie Cronk-Gebbia	6th	El Cajon, CA
Elodie Fredman	5th	Bannockburn, IL
Josie Fredman	4th	Bannockburn, IL
Eliana Garcia	9th	North Chicago, IL
Mylena Garcia	7th	North Chicago, IL
Cate Graziano 🌈	5th	Lake Bluff, IL
Noa Jacoby	6th	Chicago, IL
Hope Jernagan	8th	Saint Louis, MO
Maude Jernagan	6th	Saint Louis, MO
Molly McDonough 🌈	4th	Steamboat Springs, CO
Lauren McIntire	9th	Newbury Park, CA
Felicity Nelson 🌈	1st	Lake Bluff, IL
Lulu Pearl	8th	Encinitas, CA
Amelia Rabb	5th	Rockford, MI
Caroline Rabb 🌈	1st	Rockford, MI
Memphis Ronk	9th	Tulsa, OK
Jo Rouspil	6th	Des Moines, IA
Julia Showalter	6th	Tulsa, OK
Oakley Thiesen	8th	Brainerd, MN
Piper Vasey	6th	Chicago, IL
Layla Wiedmann	6th	Lake Forest, IL
Brooke Willhite	7th	Albuquerque, NM

## 8 WEEKERS

JESSE DORNAN  
6th  
Denver, CO

KALEESI GREENE  
5th  
Minnetrista, MN

LILLY GREENE  
3rd  
Minnetrista, MN

MADDIE HERNANDEZ  
7th  
Northbrook, IL

BETSY KESSELMAN  
7th  
NORTHBROOK, IL

HANNAH RABB  
3rd  
Rockford, MI

IVY SWARTZ  
7th  
Chicago, IL







\*NEW TO CAMP KAMAJI FOR SUMMER 2025!





# 2025 CAMPER ENROLLMENT!

## 2nd SESSION

NAME	GRADE	HOMETOWN	NAME	GRADE	HOMETOWN
Matilda Asarch 	5th	Denver, CO	Kassi Leonard	9th	St Louis, MO
Eloise Baker	3rd	Washington, DC	Willa Limbert	6th	Berkeley, CA
Clio Bandle	9th	Winterthur,	Flo Lloyd	7th	Washington, DC
Celeste Belmonti	4th	Chicago, IL	Eve Mason	6th	Deerfield, IL
Fiona Belmonti	8th	Chicago, IL	Evie McWilliams	7th	Ann Arbor, MI
Eliana Brown	7th	Shaker Heights, OH	Gracie Mervis	5th	Arlington, VA
Zoey Caine	8th	St. Louis, MO	Kate Mervis 	3rd	Arlington, VA
Cate Carrazana	4th	Mission Hills, KS	Serena Meyers-Baer	3rd	Brooklyn, NY
Elle Cassidy	7th	Evanston, IL	Willa Nash	7th	Chicago, IL
Dylan Ditto	5th	Chicago, IL	Abby Reyzin	4th	Glencoe, IL
Blake Eldridge	5th	Highland Park, IL	Rosalie Rissman	8th	Berkeley, CA
Dylan Eldridge	9th	Highland Park, IL	Scarlett Rissman	5th	Highland Park, IL
Chloe Fleischer 	4th	Chevy Chase, MD	Violet Rissman	6th	Berkeley, CA
Lia Fleischer	7th	Chevy Chase, MD	Ella Rubenstein	8th	Glencoe, IL
Orly Garfield	4th	New York, NY	Olivia Rubenstein	5th	Glencoe, IL
Lily Genser	5th	Highland Park, IL	Emma Sagett	8th	Highland Park, IL
Sydney Genser	8th	Highland Park, IL	Henrietta Saipe	3rd	St. Louis, MO
Zali Gouin 	5th	Kirkland, WA	Serenity Sanchez	6th	Deerfield, IL
Layla Greenwood	3rd	Glencoe, IL	Brooke Schieber	5th	Hinsdale, IL
Mabel Hall	3rd	Palos Verdes Estates, CA	Mae Severn	6th	Washington, DC
Ruby Hall	7th	Palos Verdes Estates, CA	Mary Elizabeth Stewart	7th	Austin, TX
Caroline Hirsh	5th	Glencoe, IL	Campbell Trombly	3rd	lake bluff, IL
Molly Hirsh	7th	Glencoe, IL	Juliet Trueger	6th	Chicago, IL
Eve Jackson	7th	Kansas City, MO	Ellie Voller	5th	San Diego, CA
Millie Jackson	7th	Kansas City, MO	Nora Williams	7th	Ann Arbor, MI
Mia Jimenez	7th	Riverwoods, IL	Claire Windom	7th	Washington, DC
Val Jimenez	9th	Riverwoods, IL	Colleen Windom	6th	Washington, DC
Olivia Kansupada	3rd	Chicago, IL	Lexi Young	7th	Deerfield, IL
Evelyn Kras	4th	Kenilworth, IL			
Akari Lema	7th	Tokyo, Japan			



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SUMMER 2025!

# JOKES WITH JASON



What is a tree's  
least favorite  
month of the  
year?

SEP-TIMBERRRRRRR!

Who won the  
neck decorating  
contest?

NO ONE. IT WAS A TIE.

Did you hear  
about the  
famous pickle?

HE'S A REALLY BIG DILL!

Let's have a  
space party.

You planet.

I made a song  
about tortillas  
once.

Now it's more  
like a wrap.

How many apples  
grow on an  
apple tree?

ALL OF THEM.