

the

# RAINBOW CONNECTION

december 2024



## connect with us!

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS


## YOU ARE AAAAMAZING!

Thanks to our extremely generous Kamaji families at the Chicago reunion, we were able to shower the Gratitude Generation Gift Giving Program with donations this holiday season!



## HUGE THANK YOU!!

To Lauren Baer & Heidi Garfield for coordinating the NYC reunion and to The Carter Family for hosting an info session in Salt Lake City.

We are so grateful for your support of and love for Kamaji! 

Want to tell someone about Kamaji? Just pass along our QR Code! Easy Peasy!



## DID YOU KNOW?

You can schedule a call with Kat right through the Kamaji website! Share this info and the link with your friends and neighbors and cousins and teammates!

**SCHEDULE A CALL  
WITH KAT HERE!**

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- JANUARY 26th - Washington DC  
Reunion at the Fleischer/Kraner Home
- FEBRUARY 2nd - University School of Milwaukee open house (2100 W Fairy Chasm Rd, River Hills, WI 53217)
- MARCH 8th - Windy City Camp Fair at Lake View High School in Chicago (4015 N Ashland Ave, Chicago, IL 60613)



# Holiday Office Hours

Happy Holidays from everyone at Camp Kamaji! Hoping your holidays will be filled with abundant joy and celebration with friends and family!

The Kamaji office will be closed December 25th - January 2nd.

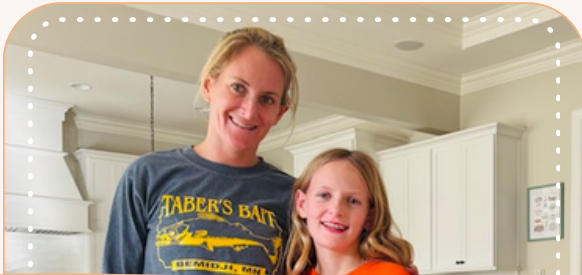
There is still time to order Kamaji gear for the holidays!



Visit the Kamaji online store here!

## THE NEXT GENERATION IS HERE.

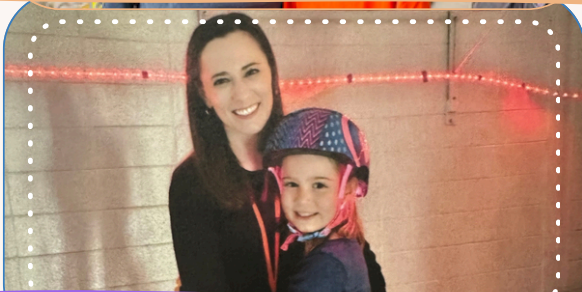
*It's time to share Kamaji with her.*



Jamie Shapiro (Bargfeldt) - Geshig, '96-'01 & '07  
Avery - Waubun, 3rd summer, 5th grader, 1st session



Julie Hess - Geshig, '91-'96  
Henri - Metig, 2nd summer, 3rd grader, 2nd session



Jenna Sachs (Kastner) - Nanahtanga, '95-'00, '04  
Bea - 1st summer, 3rd grader, 1st session



Carolyn Mastio - Mundahmin, '89, '93-'00 & '01  
Tolula - Ishkaday, 3rd summer, 5th grader, 8 weeker!



Caroline Novack (Greenwood) - Ishkaday, '95-'02; '05, '06  
Layla - Geshig, 2nd summer, 3rd grader, 2nd session



Shira Roza - Geshig, '92-'00 & '03  
Naomi - 1st summer, 3rd grader, 1st session



# NYE CANDLE LIGHTING



For years and years, Kamaji campers and staff from all over the world have joined together in relighting their O' Naug-She-Nodin candles during the holiday season. We invite you to take part in this tradition — with us and the rest of Kamaji's summertime family — on New Year's Eve. Relight your O' Naug-She-Nodin candle to celebrate the year and relive the memories of summer 2024. Misplaced your final O' Naug candle? No problem. The importance is in the act, not the candle. You can still participate by lighting a different candle.

WHEN I LIGHT MY CANDLE ON NEW YEAR'S EVE THERE'LL BE MUCH GREATER WARMTH THAN ONE FLAME FOR THE FRIENDSHIPS I MADE AT CAMP KAMAJI WILL BE CLOSE AROUND ME AGAIN.

ALTHOUGH I KNOW THERE'S SO FAR BETWEEN US I NEVER FEEL CUT OFF AT HOME FOR I KNOW THE FRIENDSHIPS THAT WE MADE TOGETHER HELP ME THROUGH THOSE TIMES ALONE.

SO LET YOUR DREAMS BURN AS BRIGHT AS THIS FLAME AND LET YOUR MEMORIES RUN FREE FOR SOON ENOUGH THE SUMMER WILL RETURN AND BACK AT KAMAJI WE CAN BE .



BE SURE TO SHARE YOUR NYE CANDLE LIGHTING PHOTOS WITH US! EMAIL YOUR PHOTOS [JEN@KAMAJI.COM](mailto:JEN@KAMAJI.COM).



# What's up with Kat?

'Tis the Season

I always feel very nostalgic this time of year. It's cold outside, but cozy inside, lots of good family time. One of the things that has been the most fun for me, with camp, is to visit with Kamaji Alum and their campers. This feels especially noteworthy this year as I prepare my own daughter for her first summer at Kamaji. I have mixed feelings about it! I know, I know, controversial. Before I had children and even when Felicity was a baby I said over and over that she would attend another sleepaway camp, not Kamaji, because I really wanted her to experience the true "away" part of sleepaway camp. I want her to benefit from the freedom of being away from her parents, the excitement of being independent and proud of her accomplishments.

And then she started growing. Every time our Earth traveled around that sun, I think about how much I can't wait for Felicity to be a "Kamaji Girl". I know, hypocrite alert. But it is finally happening! She has her trepidations. She definitely feels a pressure to love camp. And it will be hard to be "separated" from her brothers and yet still see them playing together or retiring to our home each night. They have their own traditions affiliated with their Camp Kamaji experience. But I love the idea of her joining the ranks with my Kamaji kids. It is so fun to think about her one day sharing a cabin or being in a tribe with daughters of my own camp friends. It is just so special!! It will be so fun to watch her stand on benches and sing the same songs I sang. I can't wait to look out my office window in the evening and see her skipping to the pump with her cabinmates. I love the idea of her dressed in head to toe in her tribe color- no, I don't know what tribe she'll be in... and looking forward to the day her name is announced in the dining hall after she passes the swim check or when she performs the dance routine. I love that she and I will have this shared experience with one another.

As I think about how lucky and thankful I am to share this experience with Felicity, I also think about how I can help my own children appreciate what a gift camp is, and how lucky we all are. This year, Jason and I are gifting each of our kids an "experience", a play, a Bulls game, you get the idea. We hope the memories stay with them long after the outing does. And that's how I think about camp. It is an incredible gift that we can provide our children. What an amazing way to show our kids just how much we love them. To know that the memories, the lessons, the traditions, the friendships, the skills, the laughter, the sense of belonging will stay with them long, long after this season ends. Talk about a gift that keeps on giving! Wishing you a happy, healthy, memory-filled, warm and cozy holiday season from my little family to our extended Kamaji Family!! xo



Yours truly - Metig, since '93  
Felicity - 1st summer, 1st grader, 1st session

♥ Kart



# HAPPY

december

# BIRTHDAY !!!



## Staff

	DATE
LEXI MARKHAM	2
JASON NELSON	4
LUCIE DAVIS	4
SARAH MACIAS RUBIO	4
TEIGHAN MCCORMACK	9
ZOE TALBOT	14
MADDY TURAIN	21
JENNIFER RABB	23

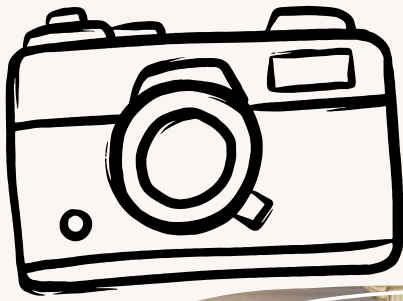
## Camper

	DATE
AUDREY KAPLAN	5
ELIANA GARCIA	5
JAIDA MURRAH	6
ABBY REINKE	8
LUNA DAVILA	8
FELICTY NELSON	14
SHOROUQ IBRAHIM	15
JOSLYNN CAMERON	16
LOUISE ANDERSON	16
LEXI YOUNG	18
CAT CARRAZANA	20
ELOISE BAKER	22
ROSIE VAGLIO	27
ZOE GOSKHO	29
GATE CASSIDY	30
MADDIE RODDY	30
SYDNEY GENSER	31



Wish your pals a happy birthday! Log in to [Campintouch](#) for contact information! :)





# KAMAJI KAPTURED



Lulu Pearl celebrated her Bat Mitzvah with a whole slew of Kamaji friends by her side! L to R are Ella Tadesse, Hope Jernagan, Lulu Pearl, Sailor Mays, Oakley Thiesen, Fiona Belmonti, Mae Overholt, Sona Deshmukh and Margot McPherson.



A great visit to SLC to chat with prospective families about Kamaji! Kat pictured with campers, Elsa and Riley Carter, and their mom, alum camper, Angie (West).



A big congrats is in order for Lillian Wall! She passed her certification test for ASA 101 Keelboat Sailing! Woo hoo! Way to go Lillian!



Another successful Chicago reunion in the books!



It's always a good day to run into Izzy Staples in the wild!!



# 2025 CAMPER ENROLLMENT!

## 2025 Kamaji Dates

FULL 8 WEEK SESSION  
June 18 - August 11

1st SESSION  
June 18 - July 14

2nd SESSION  
July 16 - August 11



CLICK  
HERE TO  
ENROLL!!

# SUMMER 2025

## 8 WEEKERS!!

**JESSE DORNAN**  
6th  
Denver, CO

**BETSY KESSELMAN**  
7TH  
NORTHBROOK, IL

**KALEESI GREENE**  
5TH  
MINNETRISTA, MN

**TOLULA MASTIO**  
5th  
Wichita, KS

**IVY SWARTZ**  
7TH  
CHICAGO, IL

**LILLY GREENE**  
3rd  
Minnetrista, MN

**HANNAH RABB**  
3RD  
LOWELL, MI

**KIRA THOMAS**  
4th  
Chicago, IL

**MADDIE HERNANDEZ**  
7TH  
NORTHBROOK, IL

**KENDALL RICHARDS**  
7th  
St Louis, MO



# 2025 CAMPER ENROLLMENT!

## 1ST SESSION



\*NEW TO CAMP KAMAJI FOR SUMMER 2025!

NAME	GRADE	HOMETOWN	NAME	GRADE	HOMETOWN
Femi Abidemi	4th	Chicago, IL	Adalyn Rumschlag	3rd	Hawthorn Woods, IL
Avery Bargfeldt	5th	Franklin, TN	Julia Showalter	6th	Tulsa, OK
Hadley Bussen	5th	Lake Bluff, IL	Anastasia Taylor	9th	Menifee, CA
Juniper Bussen	3rd	Lake Bluff, IL	Jessica Taylor	2nd	Menifee, CA
Gabby Campuzano	6th	Park Ridge, IL	Oakley Thiesen	8th	Brainerd, MN
Paris Caradine	6th	Chicago, IL	Piper Vasey	6th	CHICAGO, IL
Lucinda Chorney	8th	North Chicago, IL	Layla Wiedmann	6th	Lake Forest, IL
Addie Cronk-Gebbia	6th	North Chicago, IL	Brooke Willhite	7th	Albuquerque, NM
Elodie Fredman	5th	Lake Bluff, IL	Genevieve Worley	3rd	Chicago, IL
Josie Fredman	4th	Bannockburn, IL	Lorelei Worley	6th	Chicago, IL
Eliana Garcia	9th	North Chicago, IL			
Mylena Garcia	7th	North Chicago, IL			
Cate Graziano	5th	Lake bluff, IL			
Madeline Hannes	3rd	Lake Forest, IL			
Ava Harden	4th	Brook Park, OH			
Noa Jacoby	6th	Chicago, IL			
Hope Jernagan	8th	Saint Louis, MO			
Maude Jernagan	6th	Saint Louis, MO			
Lizzie Joyce	3rd	Deerfield, IL			
Bea Kastner	3rd	Fox Point, WI			
Katie McDonough	4th	Steamboat Springs, CO			
Lauren McIntire	9th	Chicago, IL			
Felicity Nelson	1st	Lake Bluff, IL			
Lulu Pearl	8th	Encinitas, CA			
Amelia Rabb	5th	Lowell, MI			
Caroline Rabb	1st	Lowell, MI			
Emma Rivers	6th	Springfield, VA			
Maddie Roddy	5th	Cleveland, OH			
Memphis Ronk	9th	Tulsa, OK			
Jo Rouspil	6th	Des Moines, IA			
Naomi Roza-Broxmeyer	3rd	Ferndale, MI			



# 2025 CAMPER ENROLLMENT!

## 2ND SESSION



\*NEW TO CAMP KAMAJI  
FOR SUMMER 2025!


NAME	GRADE	HOMETOWN	NAME	GRADE	HOMETOWN
Abbie Anderson	8th	Lake Forest, IL	Val Jimenez	9th	Riverwoods, IL
Louise Anderson	3rd	Lake Forest, IL	Olivia Kansupada	3rd	Chicago, IL
Ella Arnold	9th	Corte Madera, CA	Erin King	3rd	Bethesda, MD
Matilda Asarch	5th	Denver, CO	Evelyn Kras	4th	Kenilworth, IL
Eloise Baker	3rd	Washington, DC	Akari Lema	7th	Tokyo, Minato-ku
Clio Bandle	9th	Winterthur,	Kassi Leonard	9th	St Louis, MO
Celeste Belmonti	4th	Chicago, IL	Willa Limbert	6th	Berkeley, CA
Fiona Belmonti	8th	Chicago, IL	Flo Lloyd	7th	Washington, DC
Eliana Brown	7th	Shaker Heights, OH	Eve Mason	6th	Deerfield, IL
Zoey Caine	8th	St. Louis, MO	Evie McWilliams	7th	Ann Arbor, MI
Cat Carrazana	4th	Mission Hills, KS	Gracie Mervis	5th	Arlington, VA
Elle Cassidy	7th	Evanston, IL	Kate Mervis	3rd	Arlington, VA
Dylan Ditto	5th	Chicago, IL	Serena Meyers-Baer	3rd	Brooklyn, NY
Blake Eldridge	5th	Highland Park, IL	Willa Nash	7th	Chicago, IL
Dylan Eldridge	9th	Highland Park, IL	Abby Reyzin	4th	Glencoe, IL
Chloe Fleischer	4th	Chevy Chase, MD	Kai Richards	4th	St. Louis, MO
Lia Fleischer	7th	Chevy Chase, MD	Kennedy Richards	7th	St. Louis, MO
Orly Garfield	4th	New York, NY	Rosie Rissman	8th	Berkeley, CA
Lily Genser	5th	Highland Park, IL	Scarlett Rissman	5th	Highland Park, IL
Sydney Genser	8th	Highland Park, IL	Violet Rissman	6th	Berkeley, CA
Zali Gouin	5th	Kirkland, WA	Ella Rubenstein	8th	Glencoe, IL
Layla Greenwood	3rd	Glencoe, IL	Olivia Rubenstein	5th	Glencoe, IL
Mabel Hall	3rd	Palos Verdes Estates, CA	Emma Sagett	8th	Highland Park, IL
Ruby Hall	7th	Palos Verdes Estates, CA	Henri Saipe	3rd	St. Louis, MO
Caroline Hirsh	5th	Glencoe, IL	Serenity Sanchez	6th	Deerfield, IL
Mollie Hirsh	7th	Glencoe, IL	Brooke Schieber	5th	Hinsdale, IL
Eve Jackson	7th	Kansas City, MO	Mae Severn	6th	Washington, DC
Millie Jackson	7th	Kansas City, MO	Mary Elizabeth Stewart	7th	Austin, TX
Mia Jimenez	7th	Riverwoods, IL	Kayla Thomas	6th	Maywood, IL

# 2025 CAMPER ENROLLMENT!

## 2ND SESSION CONT.



\*NEW TO CAMP KAMAJI FOR SUMMER 2025!

NAME	GRADE	HOMETOWN
Campbell Trombley	3rd	Lake Bluff, IL
Juliet Trueger	6th	Chicago, IL
Opal Vandelloo	8th	Oakland, CA
Ellie Kate VanGilder 	1st	Lake Bluff, IL
Ava Verdun	7th	Chevy Chase, MD
Ellie Voller	5th	San Diego, CA
Nora Williams	7th	Ann Arbor, MI
Claire Windom	7th	Washington, DC
Colleen Windom	6th	Washington, DC
Lexi Young	7th	Deerfield, IL



# RANDY'S RAMBLINGS



Did you know Kamaji has a year-round camp caretaker? Randy knows camp inside and out and is the fixer of all the things and the doer of all the tasks; he's absolutely invaluable to us! 2025 is his 19th summer at Kamaji!

The picture on the front page of the Rainbow Connection each month is taken at the same spot, at the top of the stone steps looking out on Wolf Lake, in real time so you can see the changing seasons at Kamaji!

What a beautiful Fall it has been at Kamaji! I couldn't have asked for nicer weather for September and October. Since the weather has been so nice, I put another coat of waterproofing on cabins 1-3. I also winterized all things that need winterizing such as boats and buildings.

As I am writing this, the weather has started to turn colder and looks like the first snow will be coming tonight and tomorrow. I start by building a fire in the shop's fireplace every morning to keep the chill out of the shop so I will be able to do inside stuff. To do that I had to cut up a bunch of wood to have enough to last all winter. I think I have enough but time will tell. I get wood for the shop by gathering downed trees and dead branches from all over camp. Helps clean the woods and provides heat for the shop, win-win!

I have been doing things in the shop like building picture frames and refinishing centerboards for sailboats. Also, I have redone the sign for the front gate that says Kamaji on it. My Irish setter, Ollie, comes with me everyday and does his thing. What it is, I don't know, but he sure seems happy doing it! Well, that's enough ramblings from me, until next time...

**-RANDY & OLLIE**