

Kaleidoscope

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Kaleidoscope is a week long day camp for local youth ages 6-11 who have special needs or an interest in the arts. The program exposes campers to a wide range of visual and performing arts in a loving Christian environment. Volunteers lead or assist in workshops of fine arts specialties, including (but not limited to!) Painting/Drawing, Dance, Music and Drama. Campers attend various workshops, learning many different art forms.

Through providing hands-on activities, we hope to pique children's interest in new hobbies, which helps to develop well-rounded individuals. Other desired outcomes for Kaleidoscope participants include:

- increased participation in extracurricular activities
- increase in healthy choices
- improved self-expression
- increased self esteem
- increased interest in learning
- increased resilience
- increased overall well being

Each activity in the Kaleidoscope camp week is carefully planned so that we can see evidence of these desired outcomes reflected in our participants at the end of the week. Assistance from adult volunteers is vital to the success of the program, as caregivers and workshop leaders guide participants through the journey.

Workshops

Kaleidoscope campers will attend a series of different workshops. To provide multiple opportunities for children, we ask that adult volunteers either lead a workshop or help other adult volunteers who are leading the workshop. Regardless of role as a workshop leader or assistant, all adult volunteers will be serving as mentors for the youth participants during the camp week.

Workshop Leaders:

We would like to encourage workshop leaders to choose topics that interest them or something that they are knowledgeable about. The possibilities are endless! Jewelry making, drama, sculpture, crafts, dance, etc. You will be contacted periodically throughout the time leading up to the camp week so that Mountain T.O.P. staff can ensure you are ready to plan the best workshop possible. The staff will help as much as they can, but workshop leaders and helpers are asked to bring materials for their workshops or try to get financial contributions to help cover the cost of the workshop materials.

A summer staff person will call you the week prior to your arrival at camp to help with any last minute plans and details. This is a good time to tell the staff person your facility needs, as well as ask any questions about logistics.

Volunteers who are assisting in the workshops are called “caregivers”, and serve in this role for the children during the entire week. The ratio of caregivers and children will be approximately one caregiver to 2-3 children. In this role, the caregiver builds relationships with the children and encourages them in each workshop. They work alongside the children in the workshops, helping them complete tasks and projects. In addition, the caregiver facilitates the moving from place to place and any breaks that are given, as well as serves as hosts for lunch (hosting duties are explained on Sunday at orientation).

Club Time

After lunch, Club Time allows participants to burn off energy and learn practical leadership skills in games and activities that get them moving. The games may have a theme or lesson that adult volunteers can help stress for the youth participants. Since volunteers may be moving around quite a bit, we ask that you bring comfortable walking shoes (preferably closed-toe). You may also wear comfortable shorts as long as they are of a suitable length.

Discovery Time

Discovery Time is a 30 minute block of time to review the theme of the day. Summer Staff may decide to lead this time or instruct adult volunteers to do so. Either way, this is a good time for adult volunteers to mentor youth participants and share their own life experiences. Children will be learning about God and how biblical messages apply to their own lives.

Friday Celebration

The week culminates with Friday Celebration, where campers display, share or perform their newly acquired skills in the visual and performing arts. This event highlights the hard work and learning that has occurred throughout their time here. It is a celebration for everyone, including parents and friends!

Workshops are abbreviated on Friday to allow time for our end-of-week celebration. Family and friends of participants are invited to join and see what their child has learned throughout the week. This is an exciting time for participants and volunteers to be affirmed for all that has been accomplished throughout the week.

Opening, Van Routes, Lunch and Closing

These are times throughout the camp day where adult leadership is appreciated and much needed. These are also valuable opportunities to engage with youth campers!

Opening and Closing Circle: This is the first and last activity of the camp day. The entire camp community- staff, adult volunteers, and youth participants- all gather to go over logistics and set the tone for the day then relay final announcements. Staff members will lead songs or activities as well. Volunteers are welcome to bring songs or activities to be used during Opening Circle.

Van Routes: Adult volunteers and staff will provide transportation for youth to get to and from camp. Vehicle arrangements will be made before the camp week begins. The van routes are a great time for youth and adults to get to know one another and for adults to see where campers live.

Lunch: As we gather to share a meal together, there will be plenty of opportunities for adult volunteers and youth participants to fellowship together. Also, adult leadership is needed to facilitate the lunch process. This includes making sure everyone gets enough to eat, keeping the dining hall clean, and finishing lunch within a timely fashion. There is a serving process we follow in order to make sure we receive free and reduced lunches for the children from the Summer Food Service that summer staff will help explain.

Typical Week at Kaleidoscope

Monday – Thursday

7:00 Group Morning Devotional
7:30 Breakfast
8:00 – 8:20 MPT Meeting
8:30 - 10:00 Van routes to pick up campers, set up workshops
10:00 - 10:25 Opening Circle, Introduce Workshop leaders
10:30 – 11:50 Workshop #1
12:00 – 12:25 Lunch (dining hall)
12:25 – 12:45 Club Time
12:50 – 1:30 Workshop #2
1:30 – 1:50 Discovery Time
1:55 – 2:35 Workshop #3
2:40 – 3:00 Closing Circle, take campers home

Friday – Celebration Day

7:00 Group Morning Devotional
7:30 Breakfast
8:00 – 8:20 MPT Meeting
8:30 - 9:30 Vehicle routes
9:30 - 9:45 Opening Circle
10:00 - 11:30 Rehearsal in workshop groups for celebration
11:30 - 12:00 Discovery Time
12:00 Families arrive
12:30 Lunch
1:15 Kaleidoscope Celebration

After adults get back from van routes, we will have an MPT celebration out in the county together!



Kaleidoscope Workshop Outline

Please submit this outline to Brooke by April 25th

Fax: 931-692-3807

brooke@mountain-top.org

PO Box 128 Altamont, TN 37031

Workshop Leader Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Preferred method of contact: _____ Name of workshop: _____

State the purpose of the workshop: _____

What would you like for the campers to accomplish/experience in this workshop by the end of the week?

Please describe the activities you have planned for each day of the workshop:

Monday: _____

Tuesday: _____

Wednesday: _____

Thursday: _____

Friday (abbreviated time for Celebration day) : _____

How will campers perform or display what they have learned on Celebration Day?

Workshop Logistics:

What resources will you need for your workshop? (i.e. tables, electricity, easels, etc.)

We ask that you partner with your church to bring the specific materials needed for your workshop. This is a part of Mountain T.O.P.'s philosophy to be in partnership with the participants that we work with.

Will you be able to bring these supplies with you to AIM?

- Yes
- No