**Summer Program Class Descriptions (2011-13)**

**Acting** - Explore the fundamentals of acting through scene work, story development, exercises and games. Students discover not only how to express themselves individually, but also how to work as an ensemble. The students will be encouraged to use their imaginations to create and develop an original play which they will showcase in an ensemble performance at the conclusion of camp.

**American Girl®** - A week full of American Girl parties, games and activities.

**Art** - Art comes alive in this hands-on exploration of creative art. Each day the students will be encouraged to express themselves through the creation of art through varied medium.

**Arts & Crafts** - Students will engage in a wide variety of age-stimulating arts and crafts activities and projects.

**Aviation** - Students learn how an airplane flies, how wings work, what makes them turn and loop, and what types of propulsion are used. Students will learn some history behind flight and build their own flying model to demonstrate what they've learned.

**Baking** - Learn the art of baking through instruction and hands-on practice. Students will spend time baking and decorating cakes, baking pies, cookies and pastries among other things. There is a $30/student surcharge for this class to cover materials.

**Baseball** - Learn the fundamentals of baseball. Emphasis will be placed on fielding, hitting, throwing, sliding and running techniques. Campers should bring their mitt and a water bottle daily.

**Basketball -** Get ready for summer by having a fun-week of basketball. This camp will balance teaching skills and fundamentals with games, contests and fun. The basic skills of ball handling, passing, shooting and defense will be taught throughout the week of camp. The camp is designed to help each student improve as a player while providing a fun and encouraging environment.

**Cardboard Architecture** - Study basic elements of architecture and urban design through a variety of hands-on projects. Teams will build their own city by creating digital model buildings using SketchUp v8 and then building them out of cardboard.

**Cartoon Animation** - Using Flip Boom All Start software learn basic cartoon/comic drawing and animation skills.

**Cheerleading** - Age appropriate fundamental cheerleading skills including cheerleading motion technique, dances, jumps, tumbling and stunts will be presented in a safe environment. There will be lots to do including confidence-building activities and, of course, cheering daily.

**Chess** - Chess makes you smart; we make it fun! Join us for a week of chess as we teach novices the basic rules of chess, and help those familiar with the game to improve their openings knowledge, middle-game and endgame skills. The week will conclude with a tournament and prizes.

**Clown College** - Discover the art of physical comedy - walking into walls, slaps and falls, talking in gibberish, and developing a clown character. Learn and practice techniques of juggling, balloon twisting, and improvisational comedy. Our focus will be on basic theater techniques such as stage presentations and sharing focus. Lots of fun and laughter plus everyone gets a nose!

**Combo** - Combo weeks for 4-5 year olds will be themed and will involve arts and crafts, games and activities revolving around that week's theme. Each of the three Combo courses will be unique and different.

**Computer Game Programming**  - Learn to create your own computer games and animation. Start with Scratch MIT to learn computer programming concepts through a drag-and-drop interface. Move onto Kodu from Microsoft Research, which provides visual building blocks to create sophisticated 3D games. Develop games through storyboards, images, logic and program flow.

**Cooking** - Aspiring chefs will learn a variety of cooking skills to use for a lifetime. Become familiar with kitchen utensils, measuring, following recipes, nutrition, and kitchen safety. Then we will put our skills to the test by creating recipes and making our own edible masterpieces.

**Creative Problem Solving** - Keep your mind sharp during summer break with this fun and challenging class! We’ll get lots of practice solving logic puzzles and brainteasers as we learn not “what to think” but “how to think.” Covers the basics of logical thinking, inventive thinking, and problem-solving delivered using a variety of engaging materials in multiple formats using individual, partner, small and large group work. Challenges adjusted to each student’s ability.

**Creative Writing/Poetry** - Participants will enjoy a morning of creative writing fun each day focusing on the theme of the day. They will learn how to write stories in various genre, poems and plays. Students will get to work on their stories and will get time to show their stories to their instructor.

**Dance** - Dance the week away! Learn the basics or improve on your already developed skill in our dance camp. We will instruct in a variety of dance styles from contemporary to classical.

**Digital Photography** - Students will learn digital photography while working at their own individual skill level. Using the digital camera of their choice (BYOC), they will explore lighting, color, texture, composition, and other subject matter to achieve a solid grounding in both technical and creative photographic processes. Students will also learn how to technically edit their photos with computer software.

**Drawing/Sketching** - Always doodling on everything. Put your skills to the test and learn the fundamentals of drawing.

**Duct Tape Fabrication** – Have you ever wanted to just get your hands on lots of colorful duct tape, some cardboard and other odds and ends and just create something? If so, this class is for you! Build free form or follow plans to build things like a Captain America Shield, Thor’s hammer, a backpack, wallet and other cool things!

**Electronics 4 Kids** - Come learn about the basics of electronics through hands-on explorations of static electricity and simple circuits to create some hair-raising and alarming experiments.

**Exploring Nature** - Get ready to explore the natural world and all its wonders! Go on a nature hike and observe birds in their natural habitat, collect specimens and explore the joy and beauty of the natural world right outside your back door. This camp is designed to foster a greater appreciation of our world and help students understand the responsibility we have to care for it.

**Field Hockey** – Learn the fundamental skills of field hockey, from ball control to shooting to defending. Campers will have fun developing a greater understanding of team play and learning the concepts to help make their team better. Gear will be provided for students who don’t have their own field hockey gear.

**Film Making/Editing** - Take a seat this summer in the director's chair and gain hands on experience with writing, shooting film/video, and post production at our film making camp. Get behind the lens of a video camera and learn proper operation and technique. Write, review, and edit a storyline and make a script come alive on film.

**Flag Football** - Our flag football camp teaches the core skills of passing, catching, and de-flagging or defensive positioning while delivering fun and exciting action. Each flag football camp is organized into training environments that are designed to prepare kids to be champions both on and off the field. Our camp will teach good sportsmanship, teamwork, and the importance of fair play, and our local coaches will give children who want to play football the opportunity to learn the game and improve their skills in a positive, secure environment.

**Fun Math** - Math can be fun! We will show you how using games, puzzles, tricks, and brain teasers. No worksheets, no homework, no tests, but watch out because you might learn something anyway!

**Fun with Physics** - Using toys and common household items discover and explore key physics concepts such as inertia, kinetic energy and the laws of motion. Conduct hands-on investigations to examine the types of forces used in motion. Build simple machines such as, levers, pulleys, balances, crank fans, and/or tops to investigate the laws of physics.

**Game Week** – A week filled with different party games and water activities (no pool/swimming involved), some of your favorites and some new ones too… games like water balloon tosses, sprinkler runs and red light/green light among many others.

**Gaming – Civilization III & Portal 2** – Try your hand at strategic gaming. Civilization III is based around building an empire, from the ground up, beginning in prehistoric times and continuing through the modern day. The player's civilization is centered around a core of cities, which provide the resources necessary to grow the player's cities, construct city improvements, wonders, and units, and advance the player's technological development. The player must balance a good infrastructure, resources, diplomatic and trading skills, technological advancement, city and empire management, culture, and military power to succeed. Portal 2 is an exciting and brain-teasing 3D puzzle game.

**Golf** – Our golf camp is open to all skill levels. Instruction will cover every aspect of the game, including putting, chipping, pitching, sand shots, full swing, course management, rules, and etiquette. Clubs will be provided for students without their own clubs.

**Gross & Fun Science** - Science is fun! We’re going to ponder, predict and play our way through slimy hands on experiments designed to encourage curiosity and wonder. We will guide students through this week of discovery by using our senses to conduct experiments with intent to cultivate a lifelong interest in science and the world around us.

**Intro to Sports** - Do you like sports? Then this is the camp for you! This camp will introduce you to different sports such as basketball, soccer, kickball, tag and playing catch with a lightweight ball. Everyone is a star as you learn how your favorite games are played, and then try them out for yourself.

**Jewelry Making** – Express your creativity, while designing and creating rings, pendants, earrings, pins, bracelets, necklaces and rosaries.

**Lacrosse** – Learn the fundamentals of individual, group and team lacrosse skills. The camp will teach players stick skills, position skills and basic offensive and defensive systems through fun lacrosse drills and games. Equipment will be provided for players who don’t have their own equipment.

**Leather working** – Students learn the art of leather working, including punching, stamping, dyeing, stitching and leather design. Students will create projects like key chains, rosary pouches, coin wallets/purses, etc.

**LegoMotion** - Students will build with some of the most fascinating Lego® components ever created, learning how to magnify, diminish, and redirect force to move objects at different speeds and directions. Students will construct vehicles, machines, and other dynamic creations and come to understand the working principles of these inventions. Campers will also have opportunities to construct and play with their own inspired creations.

**Magic** – Everyone can be a magician. Try your hand at palming cards, master the art of illusion, learn to juggle, and perfect your stage presence.Students are provided all the training materials and magic props. Classes use demonstration and hands-on training. On the last day of the camp, students become star performers in a magic show for parents and relatives.

**Minecraft** – If you like Legos, you’ll love *Minecraft*. In *Minecraft* you can freely interact with your randomly generated environment and gather resources needed to create tools, homes, boats, bridges and more. You'll primarily shape your block-like surroundings by digging, chopping and mining. As you progress, you'll encounter water, sand, stone, ore, trees, animals, rocks, lava and even monsters. *Minecraft* has been featured on the cover of PC magazine and is an extremely popular online strategic building game.

**Motor Mania Lego® Camp** - Kids who love to see their creations in motion will love this challenging yet exciting class. Students build with Lego® motors and Lego® Technic parts. Motor Mania accelerates fun into high speed as students learn about how gears translate motion and can make objects move at different speeds. After building their models, the students customize their projects, demonstrate their imagination, and share their creations with their Summer Program friends.

**Music** - Love to sing? Then this class if for you. Work on developing your singing voice and learning how to sing in a quartet, to beatbox, to read music, and to play a recorder.

**Musical Theater** – Do you dream of being on stage? Act in an age appropriate musical play and learn about musical theater, acting, signing, movement and costumes. On the last day, students will perform for family and friends

**Music/Dance/Art** - A week dedicated to the arts. Students spend their mornings honing their music, dance and art skills.

**Paper-making** – Students will learn how to make their own cool looking paper by experimenting with different textures and colors, fibers and pulp mixtures. Students will make their own special greeting cards, stationery, posters and pretty awesome art work.

**Programming with Java** – Unlock the mysterious power of code! Learn the fundamentals of Java—one of the most relevant, in-demand programming languages on the job market today. Java has many applications—from game development to business applications and 3D imaging. It is even the chosen language for the AP® Computer Science A Exam and it runs on more than 850 million personal computers and billions of devices worldwide. Ready to create your own Java applications?

**Puppet Making & Theatre** – Create a theatre and various types of puppets; then write a script and learn how to put on a grand puppet show. Integrate story, music and various puppetry techniques to bring this magical and ancient art form to life.

**Robotics** - This hands-on class will immerse you in the world of Robotics. Using the Lego Robotics system, students learn to design, build, program and control robots while putting them through a series of real-world design challenges. No prior experience in programming is necessary. This class will be different from last summer's class.

**Rocketry** – Students learn the laws of rocket stability, propulsion, recovery systems and aerodynamics as they design, build and launch their own rockets. There is a $20 material surcharge per student for this class.

**Scrapbooking for Kids** – Learn how to start or advance your scrapbooking hobby; everything from choosing the right supplies to effective journaling, designing interesting layouts, and developing an artistic eye and the story-telling aspects of scrapbooking. Bring photos, postcards and other personal items and we’ll teach you how to put together an exciting scrapbook.

**Soccer** - Players will strengthen individual soccer skills through training with direct coaching in small groups. Instruction will focus on creating players with emphasis on: getting open, anticipating opportunities, shooting, and creativity in the attacking third of play. Further emphasis will be placed on defensive coverage in a 1v1 situation.

**Space Camp** - Interested in spaceships, aerodynamics, microgravity, rocket assembly and launching, and weather? Then Space Camp is the place to be this summer! Experience a mixture of excitement and fun, with hands-on experiences. Come and meet new friends and enjoy the adventure of learning about space and space flight – complete with a visit from an astronaut!!

**Stained Glass** – Have you ever looked at a beautiful stained glass window and wondered how it was made? Students will learn how stained glass windows and art are created. They will explore different methods of making stained glass pieces and will combine mediums to create a sun-catcher, picture frame, or jewelry. Students will leave with an exciting one-of-a-kind masterpiece.

**Tae Kwon Do** – Learn the basics of Tae Kwon Do from two Tae Kwon Do black belts. Students will be taught how to punch, block, kick properly, all while learning discipline and ethics. Uniforms will be provided for the week.

**Vacation Bible School (VBS)** - This year our theme for Vacation Bible School will be ‘**Cool Kingdom Party – Mary Leads Me Closer to Jesus'** – a Catholic VBS program by Cat Chat. Activities include age appropriate crafts, music, Bible stories, snacks and games. VBS is open to all children ages 4-11.

**Volleyball** - This camp is designed to teach all the skills of volleyball for all levels and positions.

**Yo-Yo Class** – Learn to Yo-yo or further develop your yo-yo skills. All students will receive a great, long-sleeping, trick, new yo-yo to keep. Learn yo-yo techniques, power throw, custom fitting, maintenance tips, when & how to change the string, and 5 - 10 CLASSIC tricks!