



6pointscreativearts.org

2024 FAMILY HANDBOOK

Camp office: 410-609-9870

Web Address: 6PointsCreativeArts.org

General Camp Email Address: creativearts@urj.org

Emergency Camp Phone: 267-961-8599

6 Points Creative Arts Academy Staff

Camp Director ~ Jay Rapoport, RJE ~ Jrapoport@urj.org

Senior Assistant Director ~ Samantha Eichert ~ seichert@urj.org

6 Points Business Manager ~ Lisa Rodney ~ Irodney@urj.org

6 Points Director of Development ~ Shaina Sugar ~ ssugar@urj.org

6 Points Executive Director ~ Rachel Handloff ~ rbhandloff@urj.org

Summer address (June 13 – August 5):

6 Points Creative Arts Academy

C/O Westtown School

975 Westtown Road

West Chester, PA 19382

Summer 2024 Sessions and dates:

Session 1: June 25 - July 7

Session 2: July 9 – July 21

Session 3: July 23 – August 4

ABOUT URJ 6 POINTS CREATIVE ARTS ACADEMY

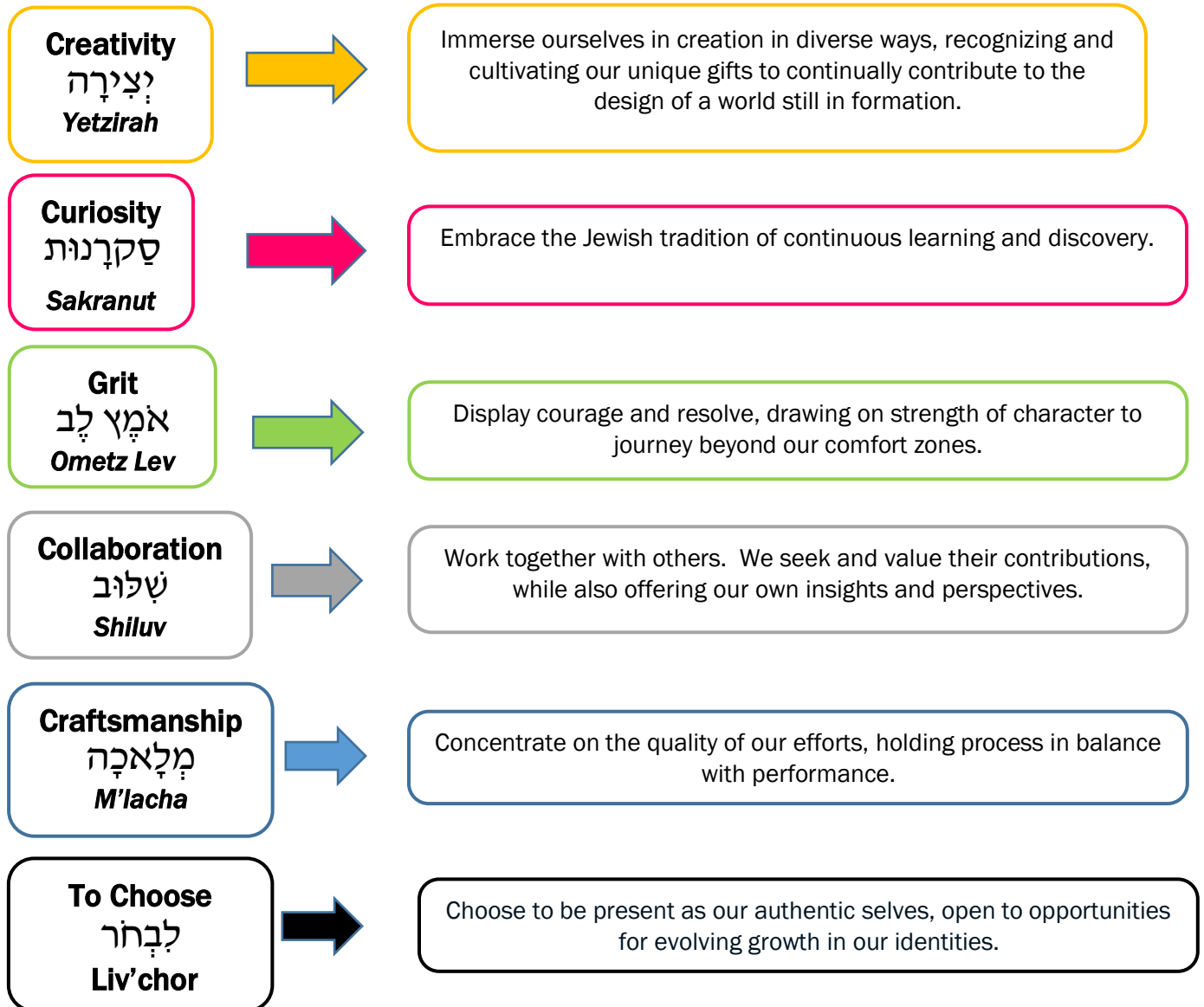
A summer camp of the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ), our program focuses on the whole child, fostering

personal advancement and resilience while creating an aspirational arc of growth and possibilities. At 6 Points Creative Arts, the program staff, campers, and site work together to provide a holistic, meaningful experience for artists in a living laboratory for learning, creating and performing. 6 Points Creative Arts uses Creative Arts and traditional summer camp activities as vehicles to provide both formal and informal Jewish education to accomplish our mission.

Our Mission: We forge connections between the Arts and Judaism, building a sacred space to inspire personal growth and artistic development.

Our Vision: A creative and inclusive Jewish community where one connects to their people, artistic voice, and authentic self.

Our Core Values reflect Judaism’s wisdom and wonder as a foundation for innovation, expression and resilience, we are creative artists who:



Staff & Faculty

Our staff is carefully selected by our year-round camp team. Before campers arrive, all staff members participate in an intensive, weeklong orientation program. This on-site training includes workshops led by

our camp leadership team, outside professionals, and industry experts. When Opening Day arrives, our entire staff is confident, energized, excited, and ready to meet your children.

Our dorm counselors are college-aged students and graduates who bring warmth and energy to the 6 Points Creative Arts community. Many of them have grown up in the Reform Jewish camping movement and many have not; all of them have passion and experience in working with children and in one of our art disciplines. They have all been waiting for a Jewish Arts camp! Our staff come from all over the world to share their expertise and experience with campers.

Each session, a new group of dynamic rabbis, cantors, formal and informal educators from around North America come to camp to interact, teach, worship, and have fun with our campers. Our faculty is an essential part of the Reform Jewish community at camp. Their participation and enthusiasm at camp reflects the importance of summer camp in the life and growth of Jewish children and teens.

6 Points Creative Arts Academy is proud of our open, supportive and inclusive environment. The makeup of our program is as diverse as our population; therefore, our community represents the vibrant and colorful fabric that makes up the Reform Jewish population. We hope that our campers and staff strengthen their self-esteem, Jewish identity, and connection to the Jewish community through the supportive nature of our people, staff, and programs.

Transportation

Arrival and Departure information are communicated via the online Transportation Form in your CampInTouch account. This includes baggage information.

Prior to the start of each session, you will be emailed a travel plan confirmation (with contact information as necessary for Unaccompanied Minors).

If you have not yet completed your travel arrangements and need assistance, please contact our director of Summer Operations team at caalogistics@urj.org.

Westtown

Our summer site is a beautiful boarding school located in West Chester, Pennsylvania, on the 600-acre home of the Westtown School. The site features state-of-the-art arts facilities, air-conditioned dorms and dining hall, a lake and indoor pool, space for communal worship, recreation and much more.

The entire camp community is responsible for keeping up and maintaining our space. All campers and counselors are responsible for the cleanliness and general safety conditions of the dorm. Everyone participates in a general cleanup of the camp. Anyone damaging or defacing camp property is liable for such damage and will be charged accordingly.

Housing

Campers live in air-conditioned dorm rooms that house up to 3 people. Dorms are furnished three different ways:

1. Two ground level beds
2. Two ground level beds, one sky bed
3. One ground level bed, two sky beds

Each room includes twin beds and a variation of desks, dressers and closets. Each floor is equipped with modern restrooms and shower facilities which are professionally cleaned five days a week. Counselor rooms are interspersed among the camper rooms and additional staff, including our Community Care team, live on dorm as well. Dorm assignments are gender-identity based and divided by grade and/or chronological age. We also take into account the social and emotional maturity of each camper. See *also Roommate Requests on page 15*.

Security at Westtown

The Westtown School is invested in the campus security infrastructure and security operations. The safety of our campers and the entire 6 Points Creative Arts Academy community that live and work on campus is our greatest concern. Security operations are managed 24/7/365 days a year. The in-house security team is experienced and knowledgeable in both military and police tactics.

There are rotating security guards roaming campus, and additional security guards watching campus security cameras that are stationed throughout buildings and outdoor areas. Dormitories and programming spaces are card-access only. Every access card is coded for the adult individual to whom it belongs. Campus security, in partnership with the Creative Arts year-round team, limits what areas staff and campers can access during certain hours of the day. Campers will not be given access cards. Emergency exits (side doors) are also secured with alarms to prevent unauthorized entry or exit from the building.

The entire 6 Points Creative Arts Academy staff undergoes rigorous safety and security training during the orientation period prior to campers' arrival. Creative Arts staff work closely with Westtown and the URJ to design the best possible training for our staff.

FORMS

Camper forms can be found by logging in to your **CampInTouch (CIT)** account under the “Forms & Documents” tab at urjarts.campintouch.com. Suggested browsers are Chrome or Firefox.

Camper forms were due May 1, 2024.* Your diligence in completing this critical paperwork is appreciated. Please email Subie Banaszynski at sbanaszynski@urj.org with any questions about your camper’s forms.

Required Paper Forms (print out and upload into CIT):

Scan to your CIT account

- Immunization History 2024
- URJ Youth Medical Examination Form – to be completed by your child’s doctor
- URJ Youth Insurance Cards & Authorization Form signed by parent/guardian

Required Online Forms (CIT):

- Health History Form
- Camper Information Form
- Commitment to Community
- Transportation Form, including baggage information
- Vaccine Policy Form
- Westtown School Parental Authorization Liability Waiver and Release Form
- Upload a recent photo of your child

Optional Forms:

- Financial Aid Request Form
- Housing Form
- *B’nei Mitzvah* Request Form - paper form - if camper will become *Bar/Bat/B* Mitzvah* within 6 months of camp ending - signed by Rabbi, Cantor, or Educator. We may be unable to accommodate late forms.
- Grandparent connection form
- Release of Information form
- JDrug Prescription Order form

*Campers registered after May 1st must have all paperwork completed prior to the opening day of the camper’s session.

Financial Information

All camp fees, including scholarships, must be paid prior to the start of camp as agreed to in the camper application. Contact our Business Manager, Lisa Rodney, lrodney@urj.org with information about expected scholarships and billing questions. A valid payment method must be on file to cover incidental expenses (prescriptions, equipment, airline fees, etc.) incurred during camp. Camp accepts most major credit cards and e-checks.

CAMP POLICIES

Camp policies are created to make 6 Points Creative Arts Academy a wonderful experience for your child. In a community living experience such as camp, cooperation is essential. We find that campers are most comfortable when they know what is expected of them and the reason behind the expectation. We look at the relationship between camp staff, parents and campers as a partnership, one in which all

stakeholders need to do their part.

Electronic Devices

The Policy: We are in alignment with most summer youth programs in eliminating camper cell phone use in camp. Additionally, any device that can access the internet, download information using data, make or receive a phone call or e-mail is not permitted at camp. If a camper is travelling to camp with their phone or other device, the items will be secured in locked storage at the start of each session and returned to campers, fully charged, upon departure. Older Gameboys, e-readers, mp3s and iPods without video are permitted, and their use is limited to rest time/bedtime in the dormitories and in art majors where applicable. Disposable or inexpensive digital cameras are a good way to capture camp memories. Campers receiving therapeutic services or creative writing majors are permitted to bring laptops for designated times in the schedule, and they will be secured in our camp safe when not in use. Campers bring any of these items at their own risk as camp does not take responsibility for their electronics unless they are secured in our safe. Campers found with devices not permitted will immediately have their devices confiscated until their time at CAA closes, and we will notify guardians of the policy breach. Continued misuse of devices may result in termination of their time at CAA.

The Why: At camp we are invested in being present with the people and experiences around us. We believe it is important to power down and take a much-needed break from social media and the internet. Part of the beauty of the camp environment is the way it supports young people in making new friends, taking responsibility for themselves, problem-solving in new ways, and gaining maturity. Unplugging from electronic devices allows campers the opportunity for this growth, with adult guidance, yet independent of their parents.

Campers hiding a phone or tablet put roommates in an uncomfortable position, damage the trusting relationships we are trying to build, and may result in a camper's time with us being cut short. We appreciate parents and guardians partnering with us on the goals we've shared and not facilitating or condoning deceptive behavior when it comes to electronics at camp. We encourage you to talk with your camper about the electronics policy as they prepare to come to our program. If you'd like to discuss steps that can be taken for weaning from electronics as camp approaches, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Gratuities

The Policy: There is **no tipping** at 6 Points Creative Arts Academy. Contributions to the 6 Points Creative Arts Academy Scholarship Fund in honor of a staff member are greatly appreciated; the staff member will be notified of your generosity. 6pointscreativearts.org/give/ You may also opt to create a Thank You ad in our session's [Showcase Playbill to be on display at Showcase for all to see.](#)

The Why: Our staff are hired and paid to do a job. The expectation is that they do this job well. If a staff member has a special impact on your camper or leaves a great impression, **tell them** and/or donate to the Creative Arts scholarship fund in their honor!

Packages

The Policy: Packages for campers will not be accepted at camp.

The Why: If packed appropriately, families can provide everything a camper should need during their stay at camp. If a child has a necessity or they run out of something (e.g. toothpaste, shampoo, etc.) camp will purchase the item and bill the family.

Leaving camp

The Policy: With a short session program like ours, Campers are expected to remain with us for the entire

session for which they are registered. Please discuss any concerns with the Camp Director before camp begins.

The Why: It is disruptive for a child, the peer group, and the program when a camper leaves camp early or in the middle of a session for even a short period of time.

Money and valuables

The Policy: We encourage all valuables to stay at home. Please DO NOT send campers with cash. During intersession, we may go on trips. If you would like your camper to be able to purchase souvenirs and treats during these outings, we will purchase prepaid gift cards with the amount you designate and bill your CampInTouch account. Please look for the form to complete when the trips get close. **URJ 6 Points Creative Arts Academy cannot be responsible for damaged, lost, or misplaced items.**

The Why: There is no need for expensive jewelry nor shuk/canteen/space for spending money at camp. Between parents and staff, everything campers will need during their time at camp is provided. To limit any potential for theft or misplacement, please keep all valuables at home.

Tobacco/Alcohol/Vapes/Drug

The Policy: 6 Points Creative Arts Academy takes a clear position on the use of tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs. It must be understood unequivocally by campers and parents:

The use of these substances is illegal for campers, and in some cases staff, and therefore has no place at camp. In addition, Westtown has a zero-tolerance policy for allowing drugs or alcohol on property. Campers who use or possess these items will be immediately sent home at the parents' expense. In addition, fees will not be returned if a child is sent home for this reason and scholarships may be revoked. Although we do not anticipate a problem, it is vital that everyone connected with 6 Points Creative Arts Academy understands this policy clearly. **There are no exceptions.**

Visiting camp

The Policy: Visitors are not allowed in camp without prior clearance from the Camp Director. Please do not spontaneously visit camp. We do allow families to attend each session's showcase and will send out registration details throughout the summer. Families unable to attend in-person will receive a link to tune into our livestream.

The Why: Unscheduled visits from friends or relatives interfere with a child's participation in the camp program and program itself and are unfair to other campers and their parents. Containing the camp community also maintains the fullest security possible for our campers and staff, both in terms of their safety and health.

Entering Another Camper's Room

The Policy: The only campers to enter their living space (dorm room), are those who live in that space. Staff may enter the room as necessary for assistance and with announcing the presence before entering the room.

The Why: Our resident spaces are a space for sleeping and changing, not social experiences. Some roommates may not be comfortable asking for guests to leave the room and having others in the room puts them in an uncomfortable position. We have many social spaces both on the dorm floors and around camp for hang-out settings. We are invested in maintaining rooms to be a quiet, restful space. Additionally, even with doors open, it is impossible for supervisory staff to see into all the rooms to guarantee safety and wellness. Keeping campers in the line of sight of staff at all times unless sleeping is an important part of our supervision.

Health and Well-Being

The health and well-being of your child is of the utmost importance at camp. Upon arrival, campers are screened by Health Center staff for temperature and nits/lice before unpacking. 6 Points Creative Arts Academy includes a fully equipped Health Center staffed by medical professionals with additional support locally, on-call. The hospital is 7 minutes away, and pharmacies and other medical and dental professionals are easily accessible. To provide complete and proper care for your children, it is crucial that all the required forms be completed in full and on time, well in advance of their arrival at camp.

In addition to our Health Center, we have a Community Care Director and team who works with our Residential Life team to support the emotional and mental health and safety of our participants. Our staff are happy to speak with you about any concerns.

See “Communication” on p. 12 for more information and how to get in touch with the Community Care Director.

Prescription Medications

All individual camper prescription medications and vitamins must be kept with the health professionals at camp. 6 Points Creative Arts has partnered with J Drugs, a prescription supply company. All campers who take prescription medication must fill out the appropriate form for J Drugs. J Drugs will fill, package, and send the prescription to Westtown where our on-site nurses will administer as indicated on the prescription. The URJ Camping system requires that parents fully disclose all medications that their child has been taking within the last six months on the camper medication form. The medication form must be completed and sent to J Drugs by **May 1**.*

Per state law, campers may not keep medications in their dorms. The only exceptions to these limits on medications allowed to be kept in dorms are inhalers and EpiPens.

Working with a pharmacy to pre-package medication greatly reduces the risk of human error in the dispensing process. It saves countless hours for the Health Center team, who can then focus on our camp community. Unless pre-authorization has been received from our staff, we ask for your compliance with this free service.

Over the Counter (OTC) Medications

Our Health Center stocks Advil, Tylenol, and other OTC medications. You may specify your medication preferences on the Health History form in your CIT account. If your camper takes a daily OTC medication, please submit a J Drugs form and the medication will be sent directly to camp.

URJ Immunization Policy

Vaccination has a Jewish context and is a shared responsibility and an expectation for all members of our URJ community. URJ policy is aligned with the childhood, adolescent, and adult immunization schedules published by the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Canadian Paediatric Society, and the US Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC). These schedules are widely recognized as the standards of care across North America. Among our most cherished Jewish values is the imperative for preserving life and maintaining health. We embrace this value specifically by taking these and other preventive measures to protect the public health of our URJ communities. Parents entrust the URJ and have high expectations for their children’s experiences in our camps and programs. All the fun, friendship building, Jewish identity affirmation and character development can only happen if we are confident that individual safety and public health remain at the center of our decision-making. Reducing the risk of vaccine-preventable illnesses from entering any of our camps or programs is simply the single most effective strategy to protect public health.

Any camper or staff member lacking proper immunizations cannot be admitted to camp. If you have a question about your camper’s immunization records, please contact the camp office immediately. Creativearts@urj.org.

Health Insurance

Campers are required to carry health insurance. If your child requires a prescription, it will be obtained through J Drugs with the camper's insurance and overnighted to camp. Parents are responsible for co-pays and any other charges related to prescription medications as well as medical or dental needs that must be addressed outside of camp. Camp has developed relationships with local providers (orthodontists, orthopedists, etc.) to be accessed as needed.

Clothing and Packing for Camp

SUMMER PACKING LIST & CAMP STORE: <https://6pointscreativearts.org/registered-families/>

Each camper receives a 6 Points Creative Arts Academy T-shirt upon arrival and before leaving camp. We do not sell clothing or other items at camp.

Packing tips

- We recommend using 1-2 large duffel bags with wheels. Luggage storage is available in dorms.
- Camp dress is casual and modest. Do not feel you need to buy new clothing for your camper. Laundry service will be provided once/session with additional laundry time in intersession.
- All clothing and personal belongings must be clearly marked with your child's first and last name in indelible ink, woven name tapes, or specially designed stickers. **Initials do not suffice!**
- Please use the packing list as a guide. Do not send valuable or sentimental clothing which your child would be very upset about losing or ruining.
- Linens: send a blanket, pillow, two sets of sheets including pillowcases, and towels. The beds require **regular twin size** linens. Sleeping bags may not be used in lieu of sheets; they may be opened for use as a blanket.
- We recommend a wrap-around towel or robe for shower-time. All campers and staff will use a hall-style bathroom and must enter the shower stall in a towel, robed, or clothed. They must exit the shower stall in a similar fashion.
- Our community wears tie-dye on Fridays ("FriDye") during the day and changes for Shabbat (Friday evening) into white tops or dresses and any color bottoms that are clean, and free of tears or holes.
- Please leave all spiked jewelry at home.

Campers should not bring valuable watches, jewelry, or cash to camp. Please read the valuables and electronics policy on page 7. These and any other items deemed inappropriate for camp will be collected, stored and returned at the end of the session. Camp is not responsible for any damage or loss of such items. We reserve the right to search camper belongings.

Dress Guidelines

Clothing should reflect the positive nature of camp and our community. Campers and staff may not wear clothing with inappropriate pictures or offensive sayings. Shorts must be long enough to provide full coverage even when bent over; cut-off shorts must be long enough to cover front pockets. All clothing including bathing suits should be functional and without risk of wardrobe malfunction. Please see our *Brit Kehillah*, Commitment to Community, for more details. On Shabbat (Friday evening), campers are asked to wear a white shirt or blouse, along with untorn jeans, shorts or khakis or a white, casual dress or skirt.

Laundry Service

Campers' laundry will be washed and dried once per session by a professional laundry service. Intersession campers will have an additional opportunity to do laundry. While we strive to provide excellent laundry service, we cannot tend to items that require special care. Campers must bring a laundry bag with

their name clearly marked on it, which is also laundered. We make every effort to send campers home with all their own belongings. Camp is not responsible for lost items. **The Whitmore Mesh Laundry Bag is the preferred laundry bag by our partnered service. [Purchase yours here!](#)**

Communications

Telephone calls

Camp office hours are:

Sunday-Thursday	9am-8pm
Friday	9am-4pm
Saturday	Noon-8pm

After office hours, please feel free to leave a message.

The camp telephone number is **410-609-9870**.

Members of our Leadership Team and Medical Staff will be happy to speak with parents as needed. The Camp staff strives to return every phone call within 3 hours of receiving it. Campers may not make or receive telephone calls, unless it is their birthday, Intersession, or they are in the Health Center. In case of emergency, please call the camp office.

In case of true emergency after hours, please call 267-961-8599 to reach the professional staff on call. This number should only be used for immediate access after business hours.

Please Note:

You will receive daily communication except on Shabbat (Saturday) from camp in the form of:

- Photos on CamplnTouch
- Social Media Posts
 - Facebook: @Urj6pointsarts
 - Instagram: @urj6pointsarts

We will send a weekly email, From the Director's Chair, on Friday afternoons. You will receive an email within the first 48 hours of camp confirming your child's majors, elective selection and counselors.

During the camp season, you may communicate with our team via email. See page 1. Emails may also specifically be sent to the following:

Communicating with the Community Care Director

The Community Care Director can be contacted for specific concerns about your child's mental, social or emotional well-being. If you need to leave a message, please be specific in voicing your concern so that the Community Care Coordinator can investigate the issue before calling you back. Be sure to leave a phone number where you can be reached. The Community Care Director can also be reached at CAAcares@urj.org.

Communicating with the Health Care Team

Camp Nurses can be contacted for any medical questions. Generally, a message will be sent to the health care team member and your call will be returned. Please be sure to leave a phone number where you can be reached. The medical staff can be contacted at CAAHealth@urj.org. While nurses are on staff 24/7, please be aware that they are very busy caring for campers throughout the day.

Communicating with the Logistics/Transportation Team

If you have specific questions about transportation for opening and/or closing day, you may contact the Director of Summer Operations by phone or at CAALogistics@urj.org. Please be sure to leave a phone number where you can be reached.

All parents with a camper flying as an unaccompanied minor can expect a call 24-48 hours prior to your child's flight with information as to the staff member picking up on Opening Day and dropping off on Closing Day. At time of purchase, please list **Jay Rapoport** as the contact for your child flying unaccompanied.

Mail and E-Letters

It is essential that your child receives mail within the first two days of arrival. WE HIGHLY ENCOURAGE THE USE OF E-LETTERS THROUGH YOUR CAMPINTOUCH (CIT) ACCOUNT.

6 Points Creative Arts Academy offers a two-way email service option through your CampInTouch account. Emails from parents are printed and delivered once per day with the exception of Shabbat (Saturday), and campers can respond using eLetter replies *if* designated by the parents or printed in advance. Parents must check the box indicated they wish to receive a response e-letter. *Campers must write in **black ink on the designated eLetter paper.*** Detailed instructions about using the system will be sent shortly. Camp provides the first four eLetters at no charge.

If you choose to send mail through the US Postal service, which we do not recommend, please provide enough stationery, envelopes, stamps, and a pen for your child to write home. Younger campers find fold-over notes particularly easy, *but they must be instructed in their use.* Additionally, using return address labels or pre-addressing envelopes makes writing home even easier for your child. *Otherwise, be sure your child knows how to address and stamp an envelope.* Many children do not know how to address a letter or use stamps correctly! PLEASE NOTE: Due to the short nature of CAA sessions, you may not receive letters sent through the US Postal Service until after your camper has returned home.

In order set Shabbat apart from the rest of the week, like most URJ camps, mail will be distributed to campers Sunday-Friday.

Letters should be addressed to:

Camper's Name
6 Points Creative Arts Academy
975 Westtown Road
West Chester, PA 19382

Some letters you receive may be filled with love and joy, while others might be quite the opposite. Children's letters are generally subject to oversimplification as well as exaggeration, often based on their experience in just the previous few minutes before writing to you. Please do not make a snap judgement when trying to interpret the meaning behind the letter. Letters sent during the first days of camp may be negative due to natural adjustment for campers gaining independence. If you are concerned, please contact our Community Care Director.

Please do not send mail through the US Postal Service after the last Wednesday your child is at camp. Mail sent after that day will probably not reach your child before Sunday morning's departure. **Reminder: we would prefer you utilize the e-letter system to communicate with your camper in your CampInTouch account.**

Remember: ***no news is good news!*** Campers' main opportunity to write is during rest time, but as active and busy as camp is, they often really do need to rest! Parents, however, should write frequently. Please keep your notes upbeat and focused on camp. We discourage writing about your family's adventures that campers are missing during camp. Your child may also be writing to others - grandparents, siblings, friends - and may not write as often as you do, but please keep writing.

Social Media

We encourage all parents to follow 6 Points Creative Arts on our various social media accounts.



@urj6pointsarts



@urj6pointsarts

We will post updates about camp events, special reminders for opening/closing days, blogs, and photos frequently. Camp social media gives you a glimpse at all the wonderful things your camper will be doing this summer! We also livestream our Friday night services on Facebook and invite you to tune in!

As part of the camper application, the option to allow photos of your camper to be used in promotional materials was given. If you would prefer your child not to be featured in future promotional materials or posted on social media (different from CampMinder), please let us know.

Photos

Camp photographers and videographers are charged with the task of capturing a wide variety of daily and special camp activities. Photos will be posted once daily Sunday-Friday.

We will do our best to capture each camper every day. The photos posted are representative of the camp experience and not necessarily your child's personal camp experience. We ask that you try to view photos from an objective point of view. If you have concerns about a photo you see, please contact the camp office. You can view, mark favorites, buy, and share photos through CampInTouch. Parents can also create "guest accounts" in CampInTouch to allow family members to view photos and send e-letters to campers.

Videos

In addition to photos, our media team captures the camp experience through video as well. Campers will see a short session summary video during Showcase.

Roommate Requests

Most campers have two roommates and preferences can be indicated on the Camper Housing Request Form in your CampInTouch account. If you decide not to make a roommate request for your child (many families do not), matches will be made with the utmost thought and concern for compatibility.

We try to our best honor reciprocal roommate requests if submitted on time, but we cannot guarantee this as grade differences, space and enrollment numbers may be factors. Additionally, it is the responsibility of the families to coordinate reciprocal requests. Camp will not intervene on behalf of a camper in situations where both families do not signify agreement, in writing, on the Housing Request Form. To facilitate a smooth rooming process, we recommend that you discuss your camper's requests with the other camper's family in advance.

There are times when, in the best interest of your child, other children, and/or the camp community, requests cannot be honored, or roommates are switched during the session. In these few cases we will communicate with you and hope that you will trust our professional judgment. Final rooming decisions always remain with the Camp Director.

B-Mitzvah Approaching?

We wish you **מזל טוב!** (*mazal tov!*) 6 Points Creative Arts Academy faculty work with campers who will become a *Bar/Bat/B** *Mitzvah* by January following camp. Study materials can be sent directly to camp or brought with the camper. Be sure to have your child's clergy or educator complete the appropriate form, available in CIT, and return it to your CampInTouch account. Upon completing the form, our Jewish Life Director may be in touch to facilitate lessons at camp. Our goal in *B-Mitzvah* tutoring is to keep your camper's studies fresh and in the front of their brains. We do not move them forward in their progress.

A TYPICAL DAY AT 6 POINTS CREATIVE ARTS ACADEMY

Campers follow a daily schedule most days. Friday evenings and Saturdays will look different as we celebrate Shabbat. All schedules can be found on our website here:

<https://6pointscreativearts.org/daily-schedule/>

Wake-Up

Dorm counselors wake their campers each morning so that campers have enough time to get dressed, shower if they choose, brush their teeth, comb their hair, and get to our morning session on time.

Mo Moments - Morning Intention Setting

Start the day with enthusiasm and intentionality! Staff and faculty lead a morning framing to get us thinking and focused on the day ahead.

Nikayon - Clean Up

Each day there is much needed time for cleaning the dormitories. During this time, campers make their beds, organize their dressers and closets and fill their laundry bags. Campers may be given some responsibilities for cleaning the communal areas of the dorm.

Art Majors

Campers will learn from Arts Mentors and counselors in their chosen art major(s):

<i>Bonim</i> (Builders) 4th-6th gr	<i>Shoreshim</i> (Roots) 7th-8th gr	<i>Olim</i> (Next Level) 9th-11th gr	<i>Gesher</i> (Bridge) 12th gr
Creative Writing	Creative Writing	Classical Theatre Session 2	Classical Theatre Session 2
Dance Sessions 1 & 3	Dance Sessions 1 & 3	Contemporary Theatre Sessions 1 & 3	Contemporary Theatre Sessions 1 & 3
Musical Theatre	Instrumental Music Ensemble Sessions 2 & 3	Creative Writing	Creative Writing
Photography Session 2	Musical Theatre	Dance Sessions 1 & 3	Dance Sessions 1 & 3
Theatre	Photography Session 2	Instrumental Music Ensemble Sessions 2 & 3	Instrumental Music Ensemble Sessions 2 & 3
Visual Arts	Songleading Session 1	Musical Theatre	Musical Theatre
Vocal Music Ensemble Session 2	Theatre	Photography Session 2	Photography Session 2
	Visual Arts	Songleading Session 1	Songleading Session 1
	Vocal Music Ensemble Session 2	Visual Arts	Visual Arts
		Vocal Music Ensemble Session 2	Vocal Music Ensemble Session 2

Chugim - Electives

Campers will select electives 2-3 times per session at camp. Electives are an opportunity to engage with an art of their choosing for the love of it. Campers have the opportunity to weigh in on the electives they hope to see. Electives are led by counselors, faculty, and support staff. Some examples of previous electives include: Drawing and Sketching, Bracelet Making, Knitting, Israeli Dancing, Improv Games,

Dungeons and Dragons, Nature Walks

Chofesh – Free Choice

Each day, campers have the opportunity to choose between several options during this free choice period: quiet time in our beautiful two-story library, social space in our games lounge, a walk outside, or a jam session.

Kinesthetic Arts

Get moving! This is our sports hour and a time for our artists to be active. The goal is for active and healthy living, not competition. We offer many different options for all campers: options may be kickball, soccer, tennis, yoga, Zumba, swimming, or jogging.

Menucha - Rest Time

After an activity-packed morning, campers need to take a break. Campers receive mail upon returning to their dorms after lunch. During this period, campers stay quietly in their dorms. Some sleep, or shower, others read or play quiet games with roommates. This is a time that campers can write letters home to family and friends.

Tochnit Erev - Evening Program

Evening programs are mostly planned by our Programming Director in collaboration with counselors and unit heads. Evening programs may be with all of camp, by unit, or by bunk. Faculty may be asked to participate or help lead the program, depending on what is needed for the evening. Programs are diverse in content as some are purely camp fun while others ask campers to answer BIG questions and think deeply – many are both!

Siyyum - Day's End

The camp day ends with the community gathering together briefly in joyful song and prayer to reflect on our day's work.

Laila Tov - Good Night

After a day full of activity and fun at 6 Points Creative Arts Academy, it is time for a shower, snack, and bed. Counselors will lead a reflection of the day before quiet time to finish writing a letter or reading a book. Lights out time varies for age groups.

Gesher - Bridge

Our Staff-in-Training unit, for rising 12th graders, will have designated time each day for leadership development and training. These campers will also participate in Arts Majors, camp-wide activities, and shadow CAA staff.

Celebrations

Birthdays – Celebrating a birthday at camp is special! Campers will be recognized on their birthday in the dining hall with singing and camp's unique traditions, including our very own Birthday Banana. Campers can also make a brief call home.

Shabbat at CAA is unique. We begin preparing for *Shabbat* on Thursday evening, with campers in multiple program areas, planning and rehearsing for Friday night services. Extra time is given on Fridays to finalize prep, shower and dress. We encourage campers and staff to wear white shirts to create an extra special atmosphere. The entire camp gathers together and *Shabbat* dinner is filled with many traditions, from candle lighting, blessing over the wine (grape juice) and challah, and the blessing of the children. Campers and staff alike eagerly await the delicious *Shabbat* dinner.

Dinner is followed by services offered by the campers and staff to the community through a variety of artistic expressions. With so many young voices rising together in prayer, the sound and visual experience

is like no other. After services, we continue the evening with a song session and an opportunity to recognize those in our community who have exemplified camp's core values in the preceding week. Friday night Shabbat services are livestreamed on our Facebook page. Please join us as we celebrate together!

On *Shabbat* morning, we all sleep a bit later, then enjoy fresh bagels and lox for breakfast. Those who have celebrated becoming *B* Mitzvah* prior to camp are given the opportunity to read *Torah* for the community. After a meaningful morning, complete with grape juice and challah, campers enjoy "*Shabbat* Sha-lectives."

Shabbat Sha-lectives offer campers a variety of activity options including swimming, lawn activities, arts and crafts, jam session, and more. After lunch, it's back to the dorms for rest time and more Sha-lectives in the afternoon. Campers reconvene with their counselors and bunk in the late afternoon for evening activity.

After dinner, we have a camp-wide program and beautiful *Havdallah* service marking the end of *Shabbat*.

On the second *Shabbat* afternoon of the session, campers prepare for closing day, rehearse, and perform in camper showcase. This gives all our young artists the chance to share their growth and skill development.

Showcase - All campers participate during Showcase on the last night of each session. We are thrilled to welcome parents, family members, and community members to join us for Showcase to support their camper(s) and the camp community both virtually and in person.

An RSVP form will be sent closer to camp for those wishing to join us. Local hotel options can be found here: <https://6pointscreativearts.org/westtown/>

All three showcases are professionally livestreamed with generous support from the Jonah Maccabee Foundation. Information about viewing will be sent closer to the showcase date.

Please Note: If you are attending showcase to support your camper, camp still ends on Sunday morning. Families should expect that campers will remain with the camp community through Saturday night and be prepared for pick-up on Sunday.

Summer Learning Theme

Each summer we select a theme from Jewish text to inform our arts majors, as our arts mentors and faculty collaborate to use it as a framing lens for our creative summer explorations.

2024 will be the seventh summer for URJ 6 Points Creative Arts Academy! For this year's theme, we are thinking about the significance of the number seven in Jewish tradition, and its connection to creativity, which takes us back to the very beginning - the creation of the entire world over six days, followed by *Shabbat*, in the first chapter of *Torah*.

The opening lines of Genesis tell us that when God began to create heaven and earth, the world was unformed and chaotic. *Ruach elohim* (the spirit of god) came forth, saying "Let there be light"; and there was light!

נִאֲמַר אֱלֹהִים יְהִי אוֹר וַיְהִי־אוֹר:
Vayomer elohim yehi or, vayahi or

Our CAA 2024 Summer Learning Theme is "Vayahi or" - "And there was light!" (Genesis 1:3)

It evokes the rhythm of creation in our arts majors six days a week, before taking a break for Shabbat rest and relaxation.

And just like CAA, our 2024 theme is connected to Judaism, to art, and to camp:

- Judaism: With everything going on in the world and in Israel, it's been a tough year to be Jewish. Now more than ever, we want camp to be a bright spot in these challenging times, and we are excited to revel in the joy of our summer community and bring it back home and into the larger world where inspiration is so desperately needed.
- Art: When we begin our artistic creations, the metaphorical blank page can be daunting, and our ideas can feel as unformed and chaotic as the universe once was. But at some point, we decide to be brave, put our creative offerings into the world, announce that we are sharing our interpretations, and let them take shape!
- Camp: CAA is seven years old, making this a kind of Shmita year - a year of pause and resetting in Jewish tradition after six years of work. Summer 2024 will grant us opportunities to step back after six days, as well as six years of creation - to take a break, step back and admire our work. We see this kind of reflection in our new CAA mission and vision language.

This summer at CAA, we will gather together from our scattered places around the country and around the world, bringing our holy sparks of light to shine on each other through our creative process, and share outward when we journey home.

Questions? Please contact JRapoport@urj.org or SEichert@urj.org.