



2019 FAMILY HANDBOOK

Camp office: 410-609-9870

Web Address: 6PointsCreativeArts.org

General Camp Email Address: creativearts@urj.org

Emergency Camp Phone: **484-401-7543**

6 Points Creative Arts Academy Staff

Camp Director ~ Jo-Ellen Unger ~ jeunger@urj.org

Assistant Director ~ Kara E. Hoffman ~ kehoffman@urj.org

Business and Operations Manager ~ Michael D. Derby ~ mderby@urj.org

Business Office (until June 10):

6 Points Creative Arts Academy
C/O Baltimore Hebrew Congregation
7401 Park Heights Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21208

Summer address (June 10 – August 5):

6 Points Creative Arts Academy
C/O Westtown School
975 Westtown Road
West Chester, PA 19382

Summer 2019 Sessions and dates:

Session 1: June 25 - July 7

Session 2: July 9 - July 21

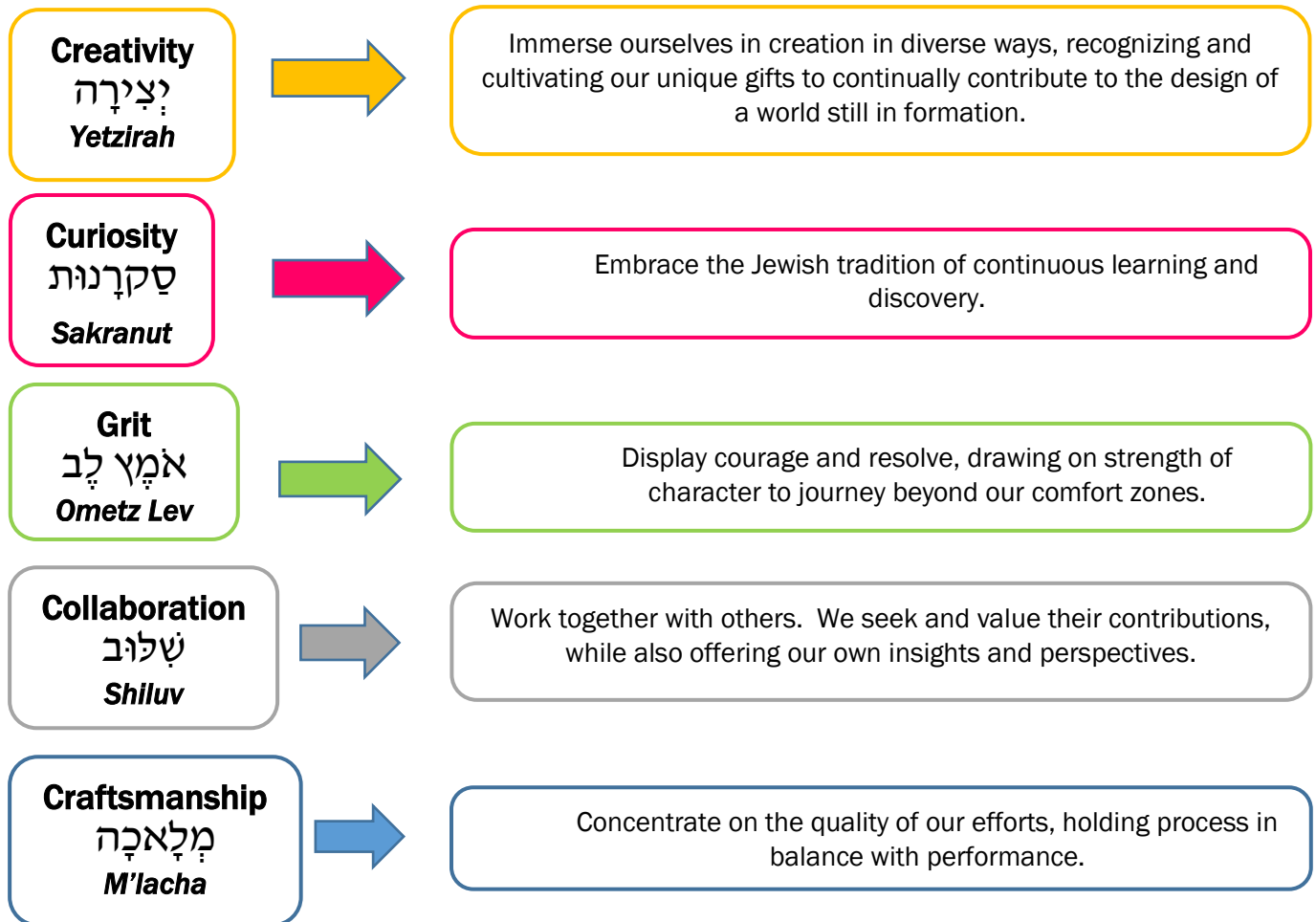
Session 3: July 23 – August 4

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 create a holistic, meaningful experience for artists in a living laboratory for learning 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 is to elevate The Arts and Judaism as interconnecting sparks, inspiring campers, faculty and staff to work toward transformational change in their lives and communities.

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



Who We Are

Our staff is carefully selected by our year-round camp team. Before campers arrive, all staff members participate in an intensive, week-long 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 equipped to feel 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.

We are happy to have the opportunity to welcome Israeli staff this summer as well. They bring a special perspective that will aid our community with Israel-themed programs, share Hebrew words and phrases, and add an Israeli *ta'am* (flavor) that enhances the camp experience.

Each session, a new group of dynamic rabbis, cantors, formal and informal educators from around North America come to camp to interact, teach, worship, play, 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 a Jewish child.

6 Points Creative Arts Academy is proud of our open, supportive and inclusive environment. The make-up 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.

Westtown

Our Summer Home is a beautiful, boarding school setting 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, outdoor and indoor space for communal worship, recreation and much more.

The entire camp community is responsible for keeping up and maintaining it. Therefore, all campers and counselors are responsible for the cleanliness and general safety conditions of the dorm. In addition, everyone participates, at scheduled times, 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 with 2 **regular twin beds**, 1 regular twin sky bed, desks, dressers and closets. Each floor is equipped with modern, restrooms and shower facilities which are professionally cleaned five times a week. Counselor rooms are interspersed among the camper rooms and additional staff live on dorm as well. Dorm assignments are based on grade and/or chronological age, as well as the social and emotional maturity of each camper. All campers and staff members are housed in the space that affirms their gender identity. 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 is a constant rotating security guard 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 individual to whom it belongs. Campus security, in partnership with the Creative Arts year-round team, limits what areas staff 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 a rigorous safety and security training during the seven-day orientation prior to campers' arrival. Creative Arts staff work closely with Westtown and the URJ in designing the best possible training for our staff.

Transportation

Arrival and Departure information are due on the online Transportation Form by **May 1**. 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).

By Car

Arrival day: Drop-off occurs between 10:00 am and 12:00 pm.

If you are driving to camp, please plan to arrive at the Westtown School campus (975 Westtown Road, West Chester, PA 19382) between **10:00am and 12:00 noon** on opening day, and not before. Feel free to enjoy breakfast or a cup of coffee nearby. Parents/Guardians will have the option of a guided tour, and we ask that they leave campus by 12:30 so we can begin getting campers acclimated to the camp program.

As there are two different entrances to the campus, that are not internally connected, we have found that Google Maps provides the most accurate directions to the correct address.

975 Westtown Road, West Chester, PA 19382

Departure day: You may pick up your child between 9:00 am and 10:30 am.

If your child will be leaving camp with someone other than a parent, please indicate this on the Transportation Form (“Departure from Camp”) in your Camp InTouch (CIT) account. Anyone picking up a camper on closing day will be asked to display identification prior to entering the dorm space. Be sure to collect valuables and remaining medications and to check the Lost & Found area before leaving camp.

By Air

Earlier this Spring we made flight recommendations for many cities. In virtually all cases, we recommended non-stop flights for your children. Flights must arrive and depart within the timeframes below to minimize the time spent waiting at the airport. Travel outside of these timeframes presents a challenge and unnecessarily long airport waits for campers. **If you are flying with your child and would like your child to take camp-arranged transportation from PHL to Westtown, please mark your child as a flier. If you are flying with your child and would like to come to camp, please rent a car or use a car service to travel from PHL to Westtown, as we cannot accommodate parents in camp transportation. Therefore, your camper is considered a car rider and should arrive in the car rider parameters outlined above.**

Arrival day: See arrival time windows below

All campers flying to camp will be met at the airport by camp staff wearing 6 Points Creative Arts Academy shirts. Those campers registered with the airline as an Unaccompanied Minor will be met at the gate by camp staff. Initially, **please specify that your child will be met by Jo-Ellen Unger** with the camp phone number; we will contact you shortly before your child’s session begins with the name (as it appears on the ID) and details of the staffer who will meet your child.

Parents will be called as soon as possible after our staff meet campers at the airport; be sure all phone numbers are accurately listed in your CIT account. Remember that we have many campers arriving at one time, so please be patient. Staff members will help campers claim their luggage and then all campers and staff will be transported to camp.

If you are dropping a camper off at the airport, rather than at Westtown, we will be in touch regarding specific location within PHL.

Campers’ flights should arrive on Tuesday according to the following schedule:

Philadelphia International Airport (PHL) - between 9:30 am - 11:30 am

Upon arrival at camp, your child’s documents, passport, cell phone, electronics and other valuables will

be collected by the camp staffer meeting the flight. Please remind your child to give all these items to that staff member for safe keeping until the end of the session. Camp cannot be responsible for any valuables not turned in to camp staff.

Departure day: See *departure time windows below*.

Camp will transport campers from camp to the airport at the end of the session at no additional charge. We bring campers to the airport, assist with the check-in process, including checking in luggage, seat selection, and Unaccompanied Minor paperwork, if applicable. Our staff stays with the campers until they board their flight and remain at the airport until all campers are airborne. *Campers traveling on their own (old enough not to require flying as Unaccompanied Minors) must remain at their own gate while waiting to board.* There is no need to send us boarding passes; our staff will assist your child with checking in at the airport.

If you are picking a camper up at the airport, rather than at Westtown, we will be in touch regarding specific location within PHL.

Campers' flights should depart on Sunday according to the following schedule:

Philadelphia International Airport (PHL) - between 9:00 am - 11:00 am

Luggage

If your child is flying to or from camp, please check with your airline regarding baggage fees and policies. Airline policies vary widely; some do not permit luggage fees to be paid in advance, others allow payment within 24 hours of departure. The best solution is to send a prepaid debit card for your child to pay airline fees on departure day. Most airlines do not accept cash.

Please note that extra fees may apply for overweight luggage even if they did not apply when flying to camp.

Luggage may be shipped if your child is staying for more than one session of camp, and if you deem it necessary. Shipping can be done via UPS or FedEx Ground directly to/from camp. Suitcases and duffel bags do not have to be boxed. Luggage should be shipped and delivered to Westtown the day before your camper's opening day (June 24, July 8, or July 22).

If you plan to ship luggage home at the end of camp, please designate that on the Transportation form and send (via email) **prepaid** labels to the camp office. The family is responsible for scheduling luggage pick-up at the end of the camper's session. Luggage pick-up should be scheduled for the session closing day (July 7, July 21, or August 4) between 2pm and 4pm.

Luggage should be shipped to:

Westtown School
Attn: Camper's name, 6 Points Creative Arts Academy
975 Westtown Road
West Chester, PA 19382

FORMS

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

Camper forms are due May 1, 2019.* Your diligence in completing this critical paperwork is appreciated. Please call Michael Derby with any questions about your camper’s forms.

The web address for CampInTouch is: urjarts.campintouch.com

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

Scan to your CIT account

- Immunization History 2019
- URJ Youth Medical Examination Form – to be completed by your child’s doctor
- URJ Youth Insurance Cards & Authorization Form signed by parent/guardian
- Commitment to Community
- Anti-Bullying Pledge
- Westtown School Parental Authorization Liability Waiver and Release Form

Required Online Forms (CIT):

- Health History Form
- Camper Information Form
- Transportation Form, including baggage information
- Vaccine Policy Form
- Upload a recent photo of your child

Optional Forms:

- Medication Order Form - JDrugsRX for prescription and over-the-counter drugs (due June 1, 2019)
- Financial Aid Request Form
- Bar/Bat Mitzvah Request Form - paper form - if camper will become Bar/Bat Mitzvah between August and December 2019 only - signed by Rabbi, Cantor, or Educator. Late forms may not be accepted.

*Campers registered after May 1st must have all paperwork completed prior to 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 the camp office with information about expected scholarships and billing questions. A valid credit card must be on file to cover incidental expenses (prescriptions, equipment, airline fees, etc.) incurred during camp. Camp accepts MasterCard and Visa.

CAMP POLICIES

Camp Policies are created to make 6 Points Creative Arts Academy as wonderful an experience for your child as possible. 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/bed time in the dormitories and in art majors where applicable. Disposable or inexpensive digital cameras are a good way to capture camp memories. 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.

The Why: At camp we are invested in being present with the people and environment 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 camp is that it supports young people in making new friends, taking responsibility for themselves, problem-solving in new ways, and gaining maturity. Unplugging for the instant gratification of a call or text 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, damages the trusting relationships we are trying to build, and may result in a camper's time with us being cut short. We appreciate parents 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/

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** 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, camp provides everything a camper should need during their stay at camp. If a child has a necessity or they run out of something (ex. Toothpaste, shampoo, etc.) camp will purchase the item and bill the family.

If you've gotten this far, give yourself two points!

Leaving camp

The Policy: With a short session program like ours, we strongly discourage any leave requests. If you think that there will be a need, please discuss it with the Camp Director before camp begins.

The Why: We hope that you understand it is too 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 stay at home. Campers may bring money (\$20-30 recommended, cash only in an envelope with the camper's name clearly marked) to purchase a souvenir if they are staying for more than 1 session of camp and participating in Intersession. This money will be turned in to the camp office upon arrival at Westtown and will be returned to the camper for intersession. Campers may travel with money if they think they will want to buy a snack at the airport or train station. **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/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.

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.

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 Team who work with Head Counselors as a part of our Residential Life team to support the emotional and mental health and safety of our participants.

See “Communication” on p. 13 for more information and how to get in touch with the Community Care Coordinator

Prescriptions Medications

All individual camper prescription medications and Vitamins must be kept with the health professionals at camp. 6 Points Creative Arts has partnered with JDrugsRx, a prescription supply company that is free to use for all families. All campers who take prescription medication must fill out the appropriate form for JDrugs. JDrugs 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 JDrugs by May 1.*.**

Per state law, campers may not keep medications in their dorms. The only exceptions of medications which campers may keep in their 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 are then able to completely focus on our camp community. Unless pre-authorization has been received from our staff, we ask for your compliance with this free service.

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

Over the Counter Medications

The 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, please submit a JDrugs form and the medication will be sent directly to camp.

URJ Immunization Policy

All campers and staff must be fully immunized in accordance with the URJ policy and documented on the Vaccine Policy Statement submitted through your CIT account. 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.

Health Insurance

Campers are required to carry health insurance. If your child requires a prescription, it will be obtained through JDrugs 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.

Give yourself another 1.5 points if you are still with us!

Clothing and Packing for Camp

Packing List: see pp. 18.

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

Packing tips

- We recommend using 1-2 large duffel bags with wheels. Storage for luggage is available in the dormitories.
- Dress at camp is casual and modest. Do not feel you need to buy new clothing for your camper. Laundry service will be provided once per session (plus Intersession as necessary).
- All clothing and personal belongings must be clearly marked with your child's 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 pillow cases, 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 similar fashion.

Campers should not bring valuable watches, jewelry, or cash to camp. Please read the valuables and electronics policy on page 5. 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 the camp 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 the 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, 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 484-401-7543 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 from camp in the form of:

- Photos on Camp InTouch
- 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, minor (chosen at camp), counselors, roommates, and bunk name.

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 your camper's Head Counselor

Your camper's head counselor can be contacted for any concerns about your camper. If you need to leave a message, please be sure to relay the gender identity and age unit of your camper and be specific in voicing your concern so that the correct Head Counselor can investigate the issue before calling you back. Be sure to leave a phone number where you can be reached. The Head Counselors can also be reached at CAAHaifa@urj.org, CAATelAviv@urj.org, or CAATzfata@urj.org. You will receive an email from your camper's Head Counselor 24-48 hours prior to your camper's arrival day with drop-off information, last minute tips, and the email address to use to contact the Head Counselor.

Communicating with the Community Care Coordinator

The Community Care Coordinator 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 Coordinator 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 Logistics Coordinator 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 Jo-Ellen Unger as the contact for your child flying unaccompanied.

Mail and E-Letters

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

6 Points Creative Arts Academy offers a two-way email service option through your Camp InTouch account. Emails from parents are printed and delivered once per day, 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, be sure to provide an adequate quantity of 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: 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.

Give yourself another point if you understand that we HIGHLY RECOMMEND THE USE OF E-LETTERS THROUGH YOUR CAMP INTOUCH ACCOUNT.

Letters should be addressed to:

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

Keep in mind that some letters you receive will 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 that are sent during the first days of camp may be negative due to natural adjustment for campers gaining independence. If you are concerned, please contact your camper's head counselor.

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. **Did you know we would really prefer you utilize the e-letter system to communicate with your camper in your Camp InTouch account?**

Please be aware that ***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. Remember that your child may also be writing to others - grandparents, siblings, friends - and may not write as often as you do, but please keep writing.

AGAIN! WE HIGHLY ENCOURAGE THE USE OF E-LETTERS THROUGH YOUR CAMP INTOUCH ACCOUNT.

Packages

As a reminder, 6 Points Creative Arts has a no package policy.

Social Media

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



@urj6pointsarts



@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!

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

Photos

Camp photographers 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, however, please remember that 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, however, if you have any concerns about a photo you see, please do not hesitate to contact the camp office. You can view, mark favorites buy, and share photos through Camp InTouch. Parents can also create "guest accounts" in Camp InTouch 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. Although campers will see a short session summary video during Showcase, we are unable to share most camp videos publicly, including showcase performances, due to copyright infringement laws.

Roommate Requests

Most campers have two roommates and preferences can be indicated on the Camper Information form in your Camp InTouch account. Be assured that 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 Camper Information 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.

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Approaching?

We wish you **מזל טוב!** *mazal tov!* 6 Points Creative Arts Academy faculty work with campers who will become a Bar or Bat 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 Camp InTouch account.

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.

	Bonim	Olim	Gesher
7:30AM	Wake Up		
8:10AM	Mo Moments		
8:30AM	Breakfast		
9:10AM	Transition	Transition	Transition
9:20AM	Nikayon	Major Block A	
10:20AM	Transition		
10:30AM	Kinesthetic Arts		
11:35AM	Transition	Transition	Transition
11:45AM	Major Block 1	Kinesthetic Arts	Gesher Time
12:50PM	Transition	Transition	Transition
1:00PM	Lunch		
1:45PM	Menucha		Gesher Time
2:30PM	Transition	Transition	Transition
2:35PM	Minors		Menucha
3:35PM	Transition	Transition	Transition
3:40PM	Major Block 2	Nikayon	Gesher Time
4:45PM	Transition	Transition	Transition
4:50PM	Erev Prep	Major Block B	
5:55PM	Transition		
6:00PM	Dinner / Songsession		
7:00PM	Evening Program	Evening Program	Evening Program
8:30PM	Siyyum		
9:00PM	Laila Tov Activity	Laila Tov Activity	Laila Tov Activity
9:30PM	Laila Tov		
10:00PM	Laila Tov		
12:00AM	Staff Curfew		Laila Tov

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 Mindfulness

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. This is also a time for campers to shower if they choose.

Add another 1.5 points!

Art Majors

Campers will learn from Arts Mentors and counselors in their chosen art major(s): Creative Writing, Culinary Arts, Dance, Contemporary Theatre, Musical Theatre, Instrumental Music*, Vocal Music, and Visual Arts

*available for Olim campers as a major only

Art Minors

Campers will select their Art Minor at camp. Minors are an opportunity to further explore or dive deeper into an arts area of the camper's choosing. While some Minors have been featured in showcase,

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.

Gesher - Bridge

Our Staff-in-Training unit, for current 11th 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.

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, others read or play quiet games with friends. This is a time that campers can write letters home to family and friends.

Evening Program

Evening programs are mostly planned by our Program Director in collaboration with Programming Counselors. Evening programs are sometimes all-camp and sometimes by-unit. 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!

Siyum - 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.

Campers also enjoy:

Visiting Artists - Each session we invite artists to join our community and teach a master class. This varies between majors.

Olim Night Out - Each session our oldest unit in camp will enjoy a night out for community bonding and socialization. Campers enjoy spending supervised time off-camp bowling, doing karaoke, going to a local fair, or something similar.

Birthdays – Celebrating a birthday at camp is special! They will be recognized 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 comes 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 is like no other. After services, we continue with songsession and an opportunity to recognize those in our community who have exemplified camp's core values in the preceding week.

On *Shabbat* morning, we all sleep a bit later then enjoy fresh bagels and lox for breakfast. Those who have celebrated becoming B'nei 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 activities including canoeing, swimming, lawn activities, as well as dorm bonding time. 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 a bunk 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. An RSVP form will be sent closer to camp for those wishing to join us. We are happy to share information about local hotel and dining options.

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.

We scattered an opportunity to collect points throughout the handbook. Let us know how you did!

Total Number of Points: _____

Send the next page to camp with your child(ren) to assist with packing day!
 Arts Major specific packing lists will be sent separately.

Suggested packing list – please label ALL items with camper’s first and last name

Quantity	Description	✓ To	✓ From
General Apparel			
1	Sweatshirt		
1	Rain coat or poncho		
1-2	Sweatpants		
2	White tops/polos/dresses for Shabbat		
2	Nice skirts/shorts/pants for Shabbat (no tears)		
8-10	T-shirts		
6-8	Shorts		
2 pairs	Jeans/pants		
1-2 pairs	Sneakers		
1-2 pairs	Other shoes with backs (optional)		
1-2	Swimsuits (for water electives and Intersession campers) – recommended		
1	Goggles (optional)		
1	Hat (not visor)		
14 pairs	Underwear		
14 pairs	Pairs of Socks		
3	Pajamas		
1	Water Bottle		
1	Drawstring or small backpack		
Bed & Bath			
1	Blanket for the dorm or sleeping bag		
2	Sets of twin sheets		
1	Pillow		
1	Flip flops or slides (for shower)		
1	Bathrobe/towel wrap		
3	Bath/beach towels		
1	Shower caddy or toiletry bag		
	Toothbrush/toothpaste, brush or comb, soap, shampoo/conditioner, deodorant, plastic cup (optional), sunscreen , insect repellent		
1	MESH Laundry bag with name – (required) Suggested Laundry Bag		
Miscellaneous Extras – as needed			
10-20	Stationery, stamps with pre-addressed envelopes (Not necessary if you use the RECOMMENDED Camp InTouch e-letter system)		
	Black pens (for eLetters -which are HIGHLY RECOMMENDED)		
10-15	Hangers (optional)		
	Inexpensive camera (optional)		
	Set of extra eyeglasses/contacts/contact solution		
	Sunglasses		
	Old mp3 or iPod pre-loaded with music (no wi-fi capabilities)		
	Books, magazines, non-electronic games, cards		
	<i>Kippah, tallit, etc. (optional)</i>		