

# YMCA Camp of Maine 2023 Pine Cone Friendship Builds Community



# A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



When people ask me how things were at YCamp of ME this year, my reply is simple – GOOD! And, while “good” can be measured in many ways, my true measure of a summer’s success comes with the stories of successes and learning that I hear about, the number of friends that were made and kept in contact with throughout the year, the positive, strong mentors that helped to shape our campers’ lives, and tales of campers going home liking new foods and finally helping around the house.

The power of YCamp lasts beyond the time spent here. The YCamp Experience helps people with confidence when they get back to school. YCamp teaches people how to be resilient decision makers, how to be perseverant, and how to live in the moment. We achieve this success by going low tech, providing role models, allowing people to choose their activities, and supporting experiential learning.

We continue to do more because of you! Thank you for trusting us with your camper and for helping us to improve and grow. We are looking forward to another great year and seeing you again.

Enjoy this edition of the Pine Cone! Stay tuned for more to come...

See you soon;

Jeff Gleason  
CEO/Director

# LEADERS OF IMPACT

## Board Of Directors

Bradley Sawyer, Chairman - Augusta, ME  
Donald C. Taylor, Vice Chair - Portland, ME  
Patrick Keniston, Secretary - Cape Elizabeth, ME  
Joe Rando, Treasurer - Nashville, TN  
Martin Allen - Winthrop, ME  
James Corgan - Winthrop, ME

Lucy Ditzel - Portland, ME  
Liz Hemdal - Augusta, ME  
Tommy Newhall - Winthrop, ME  
Jaime O'Connor - Auburn, ME  
Paul Benham - Brunswick, ME

## Year Round Staff

Jeff Gleason, CEO/Executive Director  
Jodi O'Keefe, Office Manager  
Kim Gleason, HR Coordinator  
Luke Joines, Program Director  
Lonney Steeves, Winthrop Program Director  
Morgan Dorsey, Communications & Development Director



# WHAT HAPPENED AT



» Boat Launch Erosion Control Project

» New Fence around the Waterfront

» Fresh Woodchips around the Dining Hall

» Major Road Work Improvements

» New Patio in front of Tan TIPS

» New Laundry Service for Counselors

» New Netball Nets

» Replaced Adirondack Chairs



# YCAMP IN 2023?



Began Replacement of South Village Cabin Roofs



More Overnight Camping Trips to Mosquito Island



Axe Throwing Added as a Program Area



We were named as a Maine Marathon beneficiary to support YCamp Experiences



New Sailing Docks



# »» 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

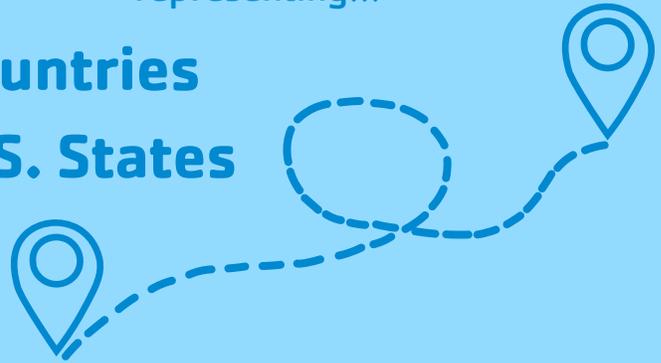
# 276

campers came to YCamp for the first time this summer

YCampers and staff visited from all over the world, representing...

15 Countries

16 U.S. States



# 57%

of eligible 2022 campers returned to YCamp in 2023

## Years as a Camper

1 year:	129	147
2 years:	106	67
3 years:	46	22
4 years:	10	14
5 years:	8	8
6 years:	7	2
	North Village	South Village

& 3  
7-YEAR  
CAMPERS!!

# 339

campers received financial assistance to attend YCamp

## Camper of the Session

Each session, one camper from each village is recognized as "Camper of the Session" by the counselors. These two campers are exceptional in following the four core values of Respect, Responsibility, Honesty, and Caring, as well as showing spirit, leadership, and true grit. The following campers were the recipients of the 2023 honor:

Session 1: Louisa Heekin & Walter Gross  
Session 2: Charlie Godfrey & Fionn Dunber  
Session 3: Sadie Schatz & Patrick Leonard  
Session 4: Ruby Andreasen & Sean Nadeau

## Camper of the Year

The honor of "Camper of the Year" is awarded to one North Village camper and one South Village camper chosen by the counselors, from the recipients of "Camper of the Session."

These two individuals are recognized as embodying the true spirit of YCamp, and for 2023 they are:

**Charlie Godfrey & Patrick Leonard**

Congratulations to these stand-out campers! It is campers like you who make the YCamp Community an exceptional space for all of us to learn, grow, and lead!

# HARTLEY PALLESCHI

## A Commitment to Community

## PINE CONE DEDICATION

For twenty years, Hartley Palleschi would be found driving Ann (40+ year old John Deere tractor) around the YCamp Fields, tinkering about in the Shop, and fixing anything and everything that would break around Camp.

Hartley epitomized the quote: "a jack of all trades and a master of none, but oftentimes better than a master of one." It is rumored that the McGuyver tv character was based on Hartley. Being able to stop leaky pipes with a wrench and some bubble gum, cutting a fallen tree with his pocket knife, and showing up at all hours to make sure things were operating just so.

While Hartley passed away last November, his presence at YCamp will live on in the lasting impact of his stewardship of our buildings and grounds, in the lessons he taught about never leaving a job undone, in his passion for keeping Camp safe for everyone, and in his ability to bring a smile to every face when he shared the twinkle in his eye.

The Annual Pine Cone is published in late Fall to commemorate the season, and it serves as the organization's Annual Report. The Pine Cone can be dedicated with nominations sent to any Board Member or CEO by August 31. The Board will then review nominations and approve the dedication.





# 2023 SUPPORT

The financial support provided by campers, families, alumni, and our community allowed us to pursue new projects, make Camp possible for more campers, and improve the YCamp Experience to better serve the changing needs of our community. **THANK YOU** for helping us serve our mission and provide an unforgettable experience for campers and staff this summer, and in many summers to come! Support from our community helps us stay affordable and continue to serve as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

(Donor List as of 2023 Pine Cone Publication)

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**SUPPORTERS OF THE MILITARY  
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 Rotary Club of Farmington Maine  
 DAV Department of Maine John F Kennedy  
 Chapter 6  
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 Rockland Elks Lodge #1008  
 American Legion Post #216  
 American Legion Post #34  
 American Legion Post #39  
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 Captain Frank Hulett VFW Post 1603

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**COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

Capital Area New Mainers  
 CYC Lake Association  
 Friends of the Cobscook  
 Watershed  
 Portland Boys & Girls Club  
 Sejours Home Abroad  
 Spurwink  
 YMCA of Spain

**THANK  
 YOU!**



# WHAT TO EXPECT IN 2024!

## »» WE ARE SO EXCITED TO BE INTRODUCING FAMILY CAMP!

Next year, you'll be able to make lifelong summer camp memories with the whole family! Stay tuned for more information very soon...

## »» YCAMP WILL BE CELEBRATING 50 YEARS AS A CO-ED CAMP!

YCamp looks a little different today than it did when it was first established 108 years ago. In YCamp's early years, boys were sent to help local farms to cut and put-up hay, pick apples, and tend to livestock during WWII. It wasn't until 1974 that girls began coming to YCamp. New traditions were formed around the heritage that was formed at our beginning. In 2024, we will be celebrating 50 years as a co-ed camp and reflecting on the thousands of youth that have been positively impacted by YCamp in the last 50 years!



## 2024 PROGRAM UPGRADES:

»» New Yurt in North Village for additional Cabin Space

»» New Pottery Kiln and Wheels

»» Continue Lighting Improvements in Auditorium for more Productions

»» Upgraded Outdoor Cooking Area



# 2024 DATES & FEES

## TRADITIONAL CAMP: ONE WEEK

Session 1: June 23 – June 29

Tier 1: \$1059

Tier 2: \$949

Tier 3: \$843

Tier 4: Financial aid based on need

## TRADITIONAL CAMP: TWO WEEKS

Session 2: June 30 – July 13

Session 3: July 14 – July 27

Session 4: July 28 – August 10

Tier 1: \$2097

Tier 2: \$1877

Tier 3: \$1665

Tier 4: Financial aid based on need

## EXPLORER'S CAMP

Explorer's Session 1: June 23 – June 26

Explorer's Session 2: June 30 – July 3

Tier 1: \$530

Tier 2: \$457

Tier 3: \$394

Tier 4: Financial aid based on need

## LEADER IN TRAINING (LIT)

LIT Session 2: June 30 – July 13

LIT Session 3: July 14 – July 27

LIT Session 4: July 30 – August 10

Tier 1: \$2097

Tier 2: \$1877

Tier 3: \$165

Tier 4: Financial aid based on need

RETURNING FAMILIES CAN ENROLL THROUGH THE COMPANION APP!

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Not For Profit  
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