



The Mountain Retreat & Learning Center

Program Calendar

1998



Spring & Summer

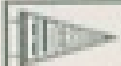


Embracing the diversity of life, creating an environment to energize people to work for positive change...



Programming at The Mountain

Founded in 1979, The Mountain Retreat & Learning Center is a year-round facility with a proud tradition of caring, quality service. Presenting dynamic programming for adults, families and youth, The Mountain is focused on fostering strong, connected and justice-centered communities: embracing differences and recognizing similarities. At the center of all we do is the knowledge that the potential for learning and transformation is enormous when we leave the busy pace of the "common place" and experience the UNcommon beauty and community of The Mountain Retreat & Learning Center. The Mountain is a place to expand your horizons – to explore new ideas, meet new people, connect and re-connect with yourself, your community and the natural world. Each year The Mountain offers a wide variety of programs. Some are designed and implemented by our staff (Mountain Designs) while others are planned by groups utilizing our space and resources (Conference Center Programs). You'll find a current listing of 1998 program offerings in this calendar.



Elderhostel at The Mountain

The Mountain offers a series of week-long programs for people 55 and over (and their 50 and up companions) through Elderhostel. An inexpensive vacation, Elderhostel programs are full of stimulating educational activities and interesting, adventurous and knowledgeable participants and instructors. If you've ever envied your children's and grandchildren's summer camp experiences of learning, fun and community, Elderhostel at The Mountain might be for you! Contact The Mountain office for an Elderhostel brochure.

Milestone Learning Center

Founded in 1997 under the sponsorship of The Mountain Retreat and Learning Center, Milestone's mission is to incite people of all ages to actively pursue ethical behavior in their pursuit of socioeconomic justice in local, community and world-wide endeavors. The primary participants in Milestone programs are youth (Senior High) and young adults (18 - 25). Activities promote experiential learning, expression through the arts and the exploration of techniques for problem solving, critical thinking and community action.



MountainCamp

MountainCamp is our summer camp for youth. All MountainCamps foster belonging and acceptance in a truly safe environment. In keeping with our values, we treat each child with respect, kindness, and consideration, and we celebrate his or her individual gifts. A balance is maintained between establishing structure and boundaries to keep youth safe and creating opportunities for them to "test their wings." See page six for details.

if we are to achieve a richer culture, rich in contrasting values, we must

Program Highlights

Spring and Summer 1998

REFUEL

2 sessions: Spring and Fall 1998

REFUEL (Residential Education For Unique Experiential Learning) is a four month residency program for young adults 18 and older seeking direction in defining goals for their future as they move toward independence. In a structured, supportive and creative environment, participants will develop personal, interpersonal and professional skills. The residency is not a "break" in studies; it is a demanding program intended to stretch limits mentally, physically and spiritually. For more information, contact our REFUEL mentor, Sarah Walls, directly at (704) 526-5838, ext. 241.

Spring Youth CONS: Current CONCerns

Jr High CON February 20 – 22 / Sr High CON March 6 – 8 Cost: \$60

Mountain CONs for UU youth groups! During the spring CONS, we'll be focusing on a variety of "Current CONCerns", including: race relations, sexual identity, religion and environmental issues. Workshops will focus on how these topics affect youth today, encourage participants to speak out and address how you can work at home to address social and political CONCerns. As usual, the weekend will consist of a half day workshop, a half day work project, touch group meetings, evening activities and a Sunday morning worship service. Please register with your youth group; call us if you need to be put in touch with one in your area.

Spring African Drum and Dance Weekend

March 19 – 22 (2 and 3 night options)

Cost: \$152/193

Experience a weekend immersed in the drumming and dancing traditions of West Africa. Under the direction of Chuck Coglianese (of Atlanta's MK Drum Center) and a group of highly talented faculty, you will have the opportunity to learn about African culture and philosophy and participate in a series of drum and dance workshops. Beginning, Intermediate and Advanced classes will be offered and, for the first time, there will be a track just for children 12 and under. Group drum circles bring everyone together and there will be time to hike, read, loaf or drum some more.

recognize the whole gamut of human potentialities, and

IGBTQ Young Adult Conference: Individuals Connecting Communities

March 27 – 29

Cost: \$75

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and questioning young adults, aged 18 to 30 are invited to come together and explore issues that affect them personally and politically. Workshop offerings will include: Empowerment, Mentoring, Sexuality and Religious Issues, and Policy Concerns. Come to the Mountain and enjoy a safe space to develop personal networks for support, information gathering and activism.

Charter Life Members' Weekend

April 10 – 12

Cost: Members will receive a meeting with all the details.

Join Roger Comstock, Mo Wheeler and The Mountain staff as they welcome the first members of The Mountain family back "home". Charter Life Members joined in 1979-80 as The Mountain was just beginning. There'll be lots of memories to share, people you won't have seen in many years and several surprises. If you're a Charter Life Member sign up early – we're sure to be filled!

5th Annual Embracing Our Lesbian Identity Retreat

April 24 – 26

Cost: \$118

Now in its fifth year, Embracing our Lesbian Identity is an annual event at The Mountain. Addressing the reality of change in all of our lives, Dr. Virginia Boyle will be leading a workshop entitled "Life is Goodbye, Life is Hello" (based on the title by Alla Renee Bozarth). Also included in this weekend of fun and sharing will be dancing, arts and crafts, the Annual Lavender Rock Cafe & Talent Show and Sunday worship with Rev. Janet Harvey. Join women of all ages for community in a place you'll feel welcomed and appreciated.

Native American Cultural Weekend

May 1 – 3

Cost: \$142

An annual event, this year's focus will be on hands-on learning of basic earth skills with Mac Maness. Workshops will include hide tanning, atlatl and dart construction, Cherokee blowgun and dart construction and use, fire by friction, containers and natural cordage. We also welcome back Nancy Basket for storytelling and worship.

Mother Daughter Passages

May 8 – 10

Cost: \$121

This year, celebrate Mother's Day a little differently! Mother and Daughter Passages is a chance for daughters aged 11-18 and their moms to spend a weekend celebrating passages into womanhood.

so weave a less arbitrary social fabric, one in which

from child to teen and from teen to adult. Workshop offerings include Stages of Womanhood, Journal Writing, Fair Fighting and Communication Skills, Matrilineal Family Trees and opportunities for adventure with initiatives and rock climbing. Together we'll share a Mother's Day Brunch to celebrate and affirm our commitment to one another in this transitional time.

Mountain Members Memorial Day Celebration and Annual Meeting

May 22 – 25

Cost: Members will receive a meeting with all the details.

Come in Friday and stay through Monday for a weekend of programming exclusively for Annual Donors and Mountain Members. Join us to celebrate the coming of spring to the Mountain! There will be a special recognition for members of the Codicil Club (people who have written The Mountain into their wills). Look for a special mailing to all Donors and Members.

Celebrating Gay Spirit Visions: Spring Retreat

May 29 – 31

NEW!

The Spring Retreat is a smaller, more intimate, incarnation of the annual fall Gay Spirit Visions conference. A weekend for gay men celebrating the never-ending journey of the spirit, exploring personal spiritualities and creating community, the Spring Retreat is still being planned. Please call The Mountain for further details!

Leadership School

June 26 – July 1

Cost: \$515

The Mountain's Leadership School is a unique experience for both new and experienced UU lay leaders, covering topics such as team building, conflict management, understanding UU heritage and values, developing individual credos and understanding and creating worship practices. The faculty is comprised of ministers and lay leaders. Past participants have expressed that this program not only enhances their contributions to their congregations, but literally changes their lives.

FamilyCamp '98

July 5 – 10

Cost: \$348

In our opinion, camp is way too much fun to leave just to the kids, so...FamilyCamp '98...a camp experience for the entire family. All activities are intergenerational – that means grandparents, parents and kids play together this week. Activities include hiking, tubing, campfires, folk dancing and storytelling with Lee Knight, arts and crafts and all the other stuff that makes camp fun. What a vacation! And if you or your children have never been to The Mountain, this week is a great way to discover the fun and community of Mountain programs.

each diverse human gift will find a fitting place. ~ Margaret Mead

Religious Education Week

July 10 – 16

Cost: \$332

This week of training and fun is designed for DRE's, teachers and others involved in children's religious education. Jacqui James, Education & Resource Director of the Faith in Action department at the UUA and co-author of "Weaving the Fabric of Diversity: An Anti-bias Program for Adults", will lead the new Multicultural Renaissance Module for both new and experienced RE workers.

Summer African Drum and Dance

August 25 – 30 (2, 3, 4 and 5 night options)

Cost: \$152–345

To meet the many demands of our summer African Drum and Dance participants, we have designed a week long program for all ages to enjoy. Chuck Cogliandro returns with his talented faculty to lead drumming and dancing workshops, but there will be "camp" activities as well. Enjoy hiking, arts and crafts, swimming, and campfires, as well as lots of time to drum and dance. We're offering a variety of options to suit varying schedules, to choose which is best for you.

MountainCamp 1998

Located in the Southern Appalachian mountains, The Mountain offers a wide variety of outdoor adventure activities including hiking, rock climbing, lake and whitewater rafting and rock sliding. Outdoor activities are emphasized but are not the only focus. Arts and crafts and workshops on topics from drama and drumming to social issues and wilderness skills round out the schedule. Interpersonal skills are strengthened through cabin meetings, practicing conflict resolution techniques and developing worship services. For a more detailed MountainCamp brochure and registration materials, please contact The Mountain office (704-526-5838).

Open Registration

Junior High Camp	Rising 7th through 9th grades	June 21-July 4	\$729
Elementary Camp	Rising 1st through 6th grades	July 5-July 18	\$709
Work & Adventure	Rising 8th through 12th grades	July 5-July 18	\$659
Senior High Camp	Rising 10th through 12th grade	July 19-August 1	\$729
Beginning Camp	Rising 1st through 3rd grades	August 2-8	\$342
Sr. High Leadership School for Social Justice	Rising 10th through 1998 grade	August 2-8	\$342

WE ARE CURRENTLY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR SUMMER STAFF POSITIONS.
PLEASE CALL FOR JOB LISTINGS AND AN APPLICATION.

Core Values

central to all philosophies and practices of The Mountain Retreat & Learning Center

The Inherent Worth and Dignity of Every Individual

We embrace diversity of ability, age, class, culture, family lifestyle, gender, religious affiliation and sexual orientation and we treat one another as individuals who deserve respect and kindness.

Justice, Equity and Compassion in Human Relations

All philosophies, policies and practices underscore and reflect our commitment to ethical behavior.

Acceptance of One Another and Encouragement to Spiritual Growth

Our constituencies will be multi-faith, multi-generational and multi-cultural.

A Free and Responsible Search for Truth and Meaning

We encourage guests, staff and trustees to engage in new patterns of thinking and to continually learn together in community and as individuals to enhance their personal and professional lives.

The Right of Conscience and the Use of the Democratic Process

We challenge one another (trustees, staff and guests) to "speak our truth calmly" so that we may use our strength in the service of our values and vision; we strive to facilitate both diversity and harmony, recognizing separate paths on a common journey.

The Goal of World Community with Peace, Liberty and Justice for All

In a safe, stimulating environment, we seek to create discomfort with the status quo in order to incite actions that will make a difference — one life, one institution, one community at a time.

Respect for the Interdependent Web of All Existence Which We are a Part

We protect the fragile environment of our site, educating one another and our guests about the uniqueness of this place with the intention of inspiring awareness and initiatives in earth stewardship wherever we live, work and play.



How To Register

The Mountain Office is open daily from 8:30 - 5:00. We're glad to answer any questions, send you more information or take your registration right over the phone.

We publish more detailed brochures on many of our programs. Prices listed in the calendar include all housing, program and meal costs for an adult staying in a Cabin with Private Bath (to stay in the Lodge is a little more, Cabin with Shared Bath a little less).

Call for pricing and youth rates.

THE MOUNTAIN RETREAT & LEARNING CENTER

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e-mail: mountain@dmnet.net

<http://themountain.ausa.org/mountain/>

WE'RE NOT MOVING, BUT OUR AREA CODE IS!

AFTER JUNE 1, 1998 DIAL 828 INSTEAD OF 704.

Non-profit
Organization
Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage Paid
Highlands, NC
Permit No. 46

Highlands, NC 28741

PO Box 1299

RETREAT & LEARNING CENTER, INC

THE MOUNTAIN

