



MountainCAMP 2000



The Mountain Retreat & Learning Center, Inc.

*"It's hard to say what I enjoy most about MountainCamp ... the morning circles, cabin counselors, workshops, trips. Most importantly, there are the campers. Friends who return to **The Mountain** every year and have the time of their lives."*

Dan McCready, Senior High Camper

Get geared up for MountainCamp 2000 — one of the most valuable and fun experiences a young person can have! Memories that last a lifetime. MountainCamp fosters belonging and acceptance in a truly safe environment. We are committed to providing meaningful, quality experiences for all youth. A variety of programs are offered, whether you are looking for two weeks of adventure or a summer-long experience in leadership training. Find your niche at The Mountain.



*Adventuresome souls on our NEW high ropes course.
Photo by Hagen Hill.*



*One of the wonderful mountain scenes from the top of
The Mountain.*

MountainCamp Setting

Nestled in western North Carolina's Blue Ridge, The Mountain Retreat and Learning Center sits atop Little Scaly Mountain, 4,200 feet in elevation. This is the land of clear mountain streams, hardwood forests, waterfalls and high mountain balds. Our location provides a natural playground with endless outdoor adventure opportunities. Our 84 acres of mountain woodland borders National Forest land and offers a variety of hiking trails, lake swimming, canoeing and kayaking, open fields for play, and a low/high challenge course.

Creating Your Day

The Mountain promotes individual choice and responsibility. Campers determine their own schedule based on the activities offered and what appeals to them. All activities reflect careful planning of developmental and thematic content. This allows us to offer support and to challenge campers at their level of development.

Following morning circle each day, groups will depart for off-site adventures, like rafting the Nantahala, exploring the nooks and crannies of Granite City, or hiking Siler Bald. On-site activities offer a variety of favorite workshops, like tie-dyeing or learning to juggle, playing Dead Ant on the field, lake fun with the new canoes and playaks, and the thrill of the challenge course. Everyone will show off their talents and participate in entertaining evening programs, friendship, community, and experience wonderful Mountain meals.

"I was nervous about how long it would take me to get to know my peers and counselors. But my worries were soon appeased because on the first night everybody was extremely friendly and I had several campers and counselors introduce themselves to me and offer to take us on tours of the camp."

Jonathan Hiatt, Junior High Camper

Appalachian Music
with Lee Knight



Tie Dye



Coffeehouse



Campfire

Canoeing



Staff



We believe staff is the key to a successful and positive summer for all our campers. Many counselors are experienced MountainCampers themselves and know what a valuable experience camp provides. All counselors go through an extensive training process providing a responsible, safe, and caring environment. Our counselor-to-camper ratio is 1 to 4 ensuring that youth receive the attention needed to promote community and well being. We are very proud of our MountainCamp Counselors, and many show their dedication by returning year after year.



**Junior High
MountainCamp**
June 18 - July 1, 2000
Rising 7th through 9th Grade

\$825

Calling all energetic and adventure-seeking young people! Join us for a lively two weeks of fun, community building and exploring our beliefs. Lake and river rafting, overnight camping, and the low/high ropes course are just a few examples of the adventures awaiting you. Energizing workshops, held daily, encourage creativity, learning new skills and exploring the unknown. Young people will develop friendships and create memories to last a lifetime. Enrollment is limited to 90.



Beginning MountainCamp
July 2 - July 8, 2000

\$387

(Note: New Date)
Rising 1st through 3rd Grade

We invite youngsters to join us for six days of exploration and outdoor activities. This is a chance to expose our youngest campers to the natural wonders through experiential education, as they study some of their favorite subjects: animals, plants, earth, rocks, and water. The hands-on activities, trips to the nature center and fish hatchery, hiking, rock sliding, and arts and crafts and music are all part of the program and keep beginning campers focused and busy. Campers will be introduced to a safe and caring environment with the opportunity to explore and grow. Enrollment is limited to 15.



Elementary MountainCamp

July 2 - July 15, 2000 **\$805**
Rising 3rd through 6th Grade

We believe in developing skills through experience and offer campers the opportunity to take hikes and play games in the forest, test their limits on our bouldering wall, go rock sliding, and even spend the night camping out. Young people will learn about themselves and their peers as they participate in creating camp programs such as Worship service and evening family councils. Elementary MountainCamp establishes the enthusiasm in campers that leads them back to The Mountain for years to come. Enrollment is limited to 45.



Work and Adventure

\$745 July 2 - July 15, 2000
Rising 8th through 12th Grade

This is a program for the adventurous spirit! Spend two weeks challenging yourself, experiencing nature, and giving back to the community in this quest for challenging environment adventure. "Grunge" takes on new meaning as modern conveniences are left behind; campers will not take showers, wear make-up, or even deodorant, whew! These



adventurers sleep out under the stars every night. During week one, campers will learn the value of community service and give back through work projects. The focus will be on group building and commitment with low and high challenge course activities, rock climbing, and preparing for week two. White-water rafting, four days of backpacking, and exploring the glory of our domain fill the second week of new challenges. Campers will experience the natural world, explore their relationship with each other and, most importantly, learn about themselves. Enrollment is limited to 18.

\$825**Senior High
MountainCamp****July 16 - July 29, 2000***Rising 10th through 2000 Graduates*

Join us for Senior High MountainCamp — an opportunity to develop a cooperative and supportive community and have life-changing experiences. Explore your spiritual side by planning Vespers and Worship, or push your physical limits by hiking, white-water rafting, and the 24-HOUR EXPERIENCE! Try the low and high ropes challenge course and discover the difference positive emotional support makes. "Workday" allows the group to give back to the community and leave a positive gift for other Mountain guests. Everyone will enjoy Theme Day and evening programs designed by the "Spirits," a group of Senior High Camp Leaders selected during MountainCamp '99. Participate in this special camp and open doors to your exciting future. Enrollment is limited to 90.

Is limited to



**Please refer to the back of this brochure
for registration instructions.**

Summer Long Programs

ASCENDER MountainCamp

All Summer Campers Exploring Nature's Delights
& Experiencing Re-Creation
June 11 - July 15, 2000
Rising 11th through 12th Grades

\$719

Ever wonder what it would be like to work at The Mountain? ASCENDER MountainCamp is a 5-week program for young people interested in building skills through hands-on work experience while undergoing team building and personal growth. Nine ASCENDERs will live as a group with two mentors and gain work experience by rotating through various Mountain departments as "apprentices" to qualified staff members. Through time in the kitchen, the main office, youth camp and program implementation, housekeeping and maintenance, ASCENDERs learn new skills, take on greater responsibility and independence. ASCENDERs do much more than work 5 days a week. They also spend 2 days each week focusing on group building and adventure activities, including hikes, white-water rafting, rock climbing, or various other mountain programs. Most past ASCENDERs have stayed on through July and attended Senior High MountainCamp (see discounts).



Counselor-in-Training (CIT)

June 14 - July 29, 2000

Rising 12th through 2000 Graduates

\$853



Interested in working with Youth? Want to become a camp counselor or develop leadership skills? Be a CIT for the summer! CITs will learn the skills it takes to become a camp counselor and responsible leader. Eight CITs will be selected to live as a group with two mentors during the 7-week program. The first two weeks will be spent in training with their group and with counselors during day trips and workshops. While camp is in session, CITs will be responsible for cabin activities, planning field day, and leading an evening program. CITs have 1 day off each week, as well as 1 trip-training day which focuses on building solid adventure skills. Serving as a CIT is a rewarding and challenging opportunity that requires patience, compassion, empathy, and a commitment to working with youth. Get your application in soon!

Application Information

- An application and 3 references are required to apply for the ASCENDER or CIT program. Please contact Mike Stein, Youth Programs Director at (828) 526-5838, Ext. 234, or e-mail mjstein_uga@yahoo.com.
- Allow plenty of time to complete your application so that it is a quality expression of yourself. Applications may be handwritten, typed, or tape recorded. Selection is based on the application and references, not prior Mountain experience. Please make sure all your information is received on time. Closing date is February 15, 2000!
- ASCENDER applicants who also wish to attend Senior High MountainCamp must register separately. CIT applicants who are not accepted into the CIT program will have a space held for them in Senior High Camp. However, they forfeit that space if it is not accepted within one week following CIT selections.
- If you are accepted into the ASCENDER or CIT program, the \$150 deposit is due within one week of acceptance.

Milestone Learning Center's Leadership School for Social Justice

July 29 - August 4, 2000
Rising 10th through 2000 Graduates

\$388

Leadership School for Social Justice is an opportunity for rising 10th graders through 2000 graduates to explore their potential as leaders in their communities. Youth and young adults have an important role to play in social change – whether it's in your school, your town or church. Leadership School is for lots of different types of people – those who are already deeply involved in community service or activist work and those who want to begin to understand what social action is all about. The common thread among all of us is that we envision a better world and we want to sharpen our skills to help make it happen.

Leadership School is a way for you to define what issues you really care about and to learn ways for your voice to be heard. The program will incorporate workshops on leadership and social action, a service project, opportunities to hear from various people about their community involvement, and plenty of time to get to know one another and have fun being together.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Leadership School is intended to serve diverse youth of many different religious and cultural backgrounds.
- Each one, bring one ... or two ... or three! For every participant who signs up based on your recommendation, you will receive a \$25 discount! (Limit of \$75 off.)
- Your youth group(s) can have a Leadership School any time during the year. Call Sarah Walls at Ext. 241 for details.
- Scholarship requests for this program should be addressed to Milestone Learning Center, Inc. (Attn: Sarah Walls). Simply write a letter describing your need for financial assistance. It is the goal of Milestone to offer financially accessible programs.

Please feel free to call Sarah Walls at (828) 526-5838, Ext. 241 if you have questions or need more information. Enroll early – Leadership School is limited to 35 participants.

\$\$ The Price of Camp Has Gone Up! \$\$

Why? Thanks for asking! This increase is necessary to support current standards and increase services. So that you understand the need, here's what the new rates will do:

- Maintain the 4-campers-to-1-counselor ratio.
- Add a full-time Wellness Center medical resource.
- Allow us to significantly increase counselor wages. Our current wages are not competitive, and so we cannot attract enough young adults who need and deserve reasonable compensation. This is not just a practical decision, it is an ethical commitment to acknowledge the people who care for our campers!

Thank you, parents, for making MountainCamp part of your children's journey!

Instructions for Registration for ALL 2000 CAMPS

- Fill out a registration form (1 copy enclosed) for each camper for each camp s/he will attend. For example, if your camper is attending both Junior High Camp and Work & Adventure, make a copy and fill out one registration form for Junior High Camp and one for Work & Adventure.
- Enclose your nonrefundable deposit of \$150 per camp with your registration forms. WE CANNOT PROCESS YOUR REGISTRATION WITHOUT A DEPOSIT.
- After we receive your registration and deposit, we will send you a confirmation packet in early February 2000. Please fill out and return all pre-arrival forms by May 1, 2000.
- Full payment for camp is due on May 1, 2000, along with your forms. If payment in full is not received by May 1st and we have people on our waitlist for that camp, we will notify you and then cancel your registration. If you cancel after May 1st, after full payment is received, you will receive a 50% refund IF IT IS AT LEAST 4 WEEKS BEFORE THE START DATE OF THAT CAMP SESSION. This policy is the result of a number of last-minute cancellations and "no shows" in past summers, resulting in some campers being turned away because camps were apparently full. Our hope is that this policy will enable us to be clear about our enrollment numbers and pass on space openings earlier to campers who want to attend camp.
- Youth Camps are often filled by February 1. PLEASE REGISTER EARLY! If we receive your registration after a camp session is full, we will contact you immediately, and you can place your name on the waitlist and hold your deposit. If you choose to remain on the waitlist, you will be informed if a space becomes available. If a space opens and you do not take it, your deposit is subject to the regular deposit refund policy. If no space becomes available,

you will be refunded your full deposit. You can remove your name from the waitlist at anytime before a space becomes available, and receive a refund of your full deposit. We encourage you to place your child's name on the waitlist because spaces do frequently open.

- If you are in need of financial assistance in paying for camp, please request a Campership Application. You can apply before or after you register for camp, however, a registration and FULL deposit are required to reserve a space in camp. The deadline for receipt of completed Campership Applications is March 1, 2000. In case of additional financial need, please contact us about a payment plan.
- The following discounts apply in 2000.
 1. \$50 off basic fees if your child attends 2 or more MountainCamps (excluding 1-week camps).
 2. \$10 discount for each additional child that attends a MountainCamp.
 3. \$50 discount if we receive payment in full by December 31, 1999.
 4. \$20 discount per child per camp if you are a Life Member of The Mountain.
- If your child is attending more than one camp session, our supervised stay-over program is available free of charge. However, you need to register for this service. You will receive a "Camp Stay-Over Registration" form with your confirmation packet. Please return this form by May 1, 2000, along with your other pre-arrival forms if you would like your child to stay in our care in-between sessions.
- If you are planning to stay overnight at The Mountain when dropping off or picking up your child, please be sure to call at least 6 weeks in advance to make reservations. Space is limited.

REGISTRATION FORM

Use separate form (photocopy) for each child and each camp.



MountainCamp

P.O. Box 1299

Highlands, NC 28741-1299

(828) 526-5838 • Fax (828) 526-2511

Name of Camp Session _____

Dates _____ Price _____

Camper's Full Name _____

Birthdate _____ Age as of May 1, 2000 _____ Grade 9/00 _____ Gender M F

Home Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone (____) _____

Who lives with Camper at above address? Father ☐ Mother ☐ Guardian ☐

Names of Father _____ Day Phone (____) _____

Parents/Guardians: _____

Mother _____ Day Phone (____) _____

Siblings' Names _____ Gender M F

_____ Gender M F

_____ Gender M F

Check T-Shirt size needed: Child — S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ Adult — S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ XXL ☐ L ☐

If camper has divorced/separated parents or another situation resulting in a second home, please fill out the alternate parent information below. Otherwise, skip this section.

Alternate Parent's Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Evening Phone (____) _____

Who is responsible for fees?

Name _____ Phone (____) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

NO REGISTRATION / RESERVATION WITHOUT DEPOSIT

A \$150 deposit for each camper is required to hold space for each camp.

Your check is preferred. VISA and MasterCard can also be used by carefully printing card number and expiration date and signing below. The deposit will be deducted from the total amount due.

DEPOSIT IS NON-REFUNDABLE

VISA or MasterCard only: Signature of Cardholder _____

Printed Name of Cardholder _____

Credit Card # _____ Expiration Date _____ Amount \$ _____

Received \$

Date Rec'd

Date Entered:

Confirmation mailed:

REGISTER EARLY!

**Youth Camps are
often filled by
February 1!
ed by
1!**

The Mountain relies on people like you – people who believe in what we do – to support our efforts to improve both our facilities and programs. How can you show your support? If you would like to make a donation or obtain information about membership in The Mountain, please contact Larry Wheeler, (828) 526-5838, Ext. 230.



The Mountain Retreat and Learning Center, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer / provider.

THE MOUNTAIN
RETREAT & LEARNING CENTER, INC.
P.O. Box 1299, Highlands, NC 28741



Presorted
Non-Profit
US Postage
PAID
Highlands, NC
Permit No. 46