

Dear Camper,

Following is an application for the Counselor-In-Training (CIT) program for the 2009 summer season. The session dates for the CIT program will be from June 28<sup>th</sup> through July 31<sup>st</sup> for the Resident Camps and June 29<sup>th</sup> through July 31<sup>st</sup> for Day Camp.

We welcome all returning and new campers to apply to the CIT program, however in order to be considered for this program you must meet the following requirements by **June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009**:

- Resident Camp: 16 years old and completed 10<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Day Camp: 15 years old and completed 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

The CIT program is designed to give participants the opportunity to experience the role of working with children. It also helps develop leadership, communication and self awareness skills through fun and appropriate social activities. This program is very selective. We are looking for candidates who are serious about broadening their leadership skills, who are interested in working with children and who aren't afraid of hard work.

Attached you will find all the information needed to complete the CIT application process. You will need to send us your application, registration form with deposit, and three references. References can include teachers, employers, guidance counselors, principals, and extended family members (aunts, uncles, grandparents) who are able to speak of your character and leadership abilities. We will contact you to set up an interview once we have received your completed application packet.

***Please note, in order for your application to be considered complete, you must have submitted your application, registration form with deposit, and three references.***

**Completed applications must be received no later than January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009.**

We will receive more applications than we have space for in the program. We believe that a smaller, more intimate program has proven to be most beneficial for the participants. By accepting a larger number of CITs, we feel that we would be compromising the integrity of the program. It is important to us that applicants and parents understand how difficult it is for us to make these decisions. We try to accept candidates who we feel will benefit most from the program and will contribute most to our summer camp community. We have tremendous respect for every person who applies to this program and it is not our intention to hurt anyone's feelings. **Please understand the importance of getting your application in on time.**

**Any applications received after January 7<sup>th</sup> will not be considered if the program is already full.**

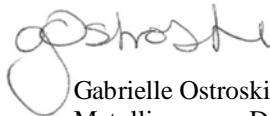
The application process is dependent upon you. We will discuss information about the application process with the applicant. We will be happy to answer any questions from parents or guardians, but we would like the applicant to take on the responsibility of applying for this program.

If you have any questions, please contact us at 609-654-8225 and we will be happy to help you in any way possible. We look forward to hearing from you and best wishes for a successful school year.

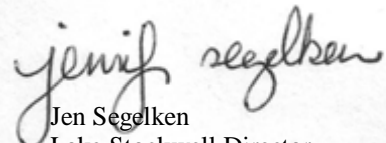
Sincerely



Brent Birchler  
Ockanickon Director



Gabrielle Ostroski  
Matollionequay Director



Jen Segelken  
Lake Stockwell Director

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We would like to inform you that we sent your child an application for the Counselor-In-Training (CIT) program for the 2009 summer season. The session dates for the CIT program will be from June 28<sup>th</sup> through July 31<sup>st</sup> for the Resident Camps and June 29<sup>th</sup> through July 31<sup>st</sup> for Day Camp.

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Attached on this webpage, he/she will find all the information needed to complete the CIT application process. Your child will need to send us his/her application, registration form with deposit, and three references. References can include teachers, employers, guidance counselors, principals, and extended family members (aunts, uncles, grandparents) who are able to speak of their character and leadership abilities. We will contact your child to set up an interview once we have received his/her completed application packet. ***Please note, in order for your child's application to be considered complete, he/she must have submitted the application, registration form with deposit, and three references.***

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We will most likely receive more applications than we have space for in the program. We believe that a smaller, more intimate program has proven to be most beneficial for the participants. By accepting a larger number of CITs, we feel that we would be compromising the integrity of the program. It is important to us that applicants and parents understand how difficult it is for us to make these decisions. We try to accept candidates who we feel will benefit most from the program and will contribute most to our summer camp community. We have tremendous respect for every person who applies to this program and it is not our intention to hurt anyone's feelings.

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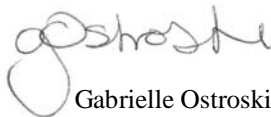
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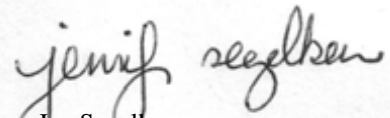
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# **CIT Summer Camp Program Overview**

## ***Purpose of the program***

Our focus for the CIT program is on developing leadership skills that you can use throughout your life to help yourself and others to identify and achieve goals. You will also learn how to effectively lead children, both at camp and in many other settings. Our focus is also to incorporate the YMCA Four Core Values of Caring, Honesty, Respect, and Responsibility in everything that we do.

## ***Skills you will learn***

The leadership skills include communication; teamwork; setting goals and making plans to achieve them; making decisions; developing strong relationships with others; developing increased confidence; organization; creativity; handling conflicts and solving problems.

The skills for leading children include communicating with children, with a special emphasis on listening and teaching positive behavior and values; handling undesired behavior and conflicts in positive ways; leading games and activities; teaching skills in program areas; presenting in front of small and large groups; and earning respect from others. You will also learn about how camp operates, the roles and duties of camp administrators and staff, and how camps serve the community.

## ***How and where you can use these skills***

The leadership skills that will be learned can be used in all parts of life, including home, school, sports, youth groups, work, and in the community.

The skills for leading children can be used in any work that you ever do with children, in any part-time, full-time or volunteer work throughout your life, including: camps, education, mentoring, recreation, psychology, social work, child care, and youth groups.

## ***How these skills will be taught***

Camp is about learning by doing, so you will learn these skills in a safe environment through a variety of fun and challenging activities, workshops, and discussions. You will have opportunities to work directly with campers under the mentorship of knowledgeable camp staff. You will get practice in leading groups and teaching games and skills. You will also get to create, plan and present your own special events and programs for other campers and staff. You will receive frequent feedback and evaluations, do self-evaluations and keep a 'Leadership Log' (journal) to help you get the most from your experiences.

## ***This program is not for everyone***

This program is for young people who are highly motivated, ready to work and play hard, and who demonstrate additional responsibility in accepting the challenges of leadership. It would not be productive to include young people who will disrupt the program and make it very difficult for others to enjoy and learn from the experience. Not all programs fit everyone all of the time. Unfortunately, we have a limited number of spaces in our program, and not all who apply are accepted.

# YMCA Camps Application For LIT & CIT Programs

\_\_\_ Ockanickon For Boys    \_\_\_ Matollionequay For Girls    \_\_\_ Lake Stockwell Day Camp

\_\_\_ LIT    \_\_\_ CIT

\_\_\_ T-Shirt Size

Camper First Name	Camper Last Name	Phone	School
Address		Date of Birth	Gender Male ___ Female ___
		Age on June 1, 2009	Previous Camper Yes ___ No ___
Email:			

How did you hear about camp?	Grade Enrolled 2008/2009

Camper lives with: \_\_\_ Both Parents    \_\_\_ Mother    \_\_\_ Father    \_\_\_ Guardian    \_\_\_ Other

Mother / Guardian Name:	Employer	Work Phone

Father / Guardian Name:	Employer	Work Phone

Why do you want to be part of this program?

In what extracurricular activities do you participate? (sports, clubs, community organizations, etc.)

List all certifications you currently hold. Include sponsoring organizations and dates of expiration.  
(First Aid, CPR, Peer Counselor, etc.)

**(OVER)**

How would your teachers describe you?

How would your friends describe you?

How do you think being a CIT is different from being a regular camper?

If you were a previous camper at this camp or another, comment on your experience so far as a camper?

***NOTE: It is your responsibility to follow up on references to ensure that they are turned in before the deadline.***

**CIT/LIT Reference Form**  
**Camp Ockanickon, Camp Matollionequay & Lake Stockwell Day Camp**

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle One:    Boys' Camp Ockanickon    Girls' Camp Matollionequay    Lake Stockwell Day Camp

Please take a moment to assess the candidate's abilities in the following areas. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated. Please circle the number that best represents the candidates abilities.

	Always	Usually	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
Sense of humor	1	2	3	4	5
Self-Starter	1	2	3	4	5
Motivated	1	2	3	4	5
Punctual	1	2	3	4	5
Friendly to everyone	1	2	3	4	5
Part of a clique	1	2	3	4	5
Follows as well as leads	1	2	3	4	5
Flexible	1	2	3	4	5
Enthusiastic	1	2	3	4	5
Positive	1	2	3	4	5
Physically active	1	2	3	4	5
Works well with peers	1	2	3	4	5
Communicates well	1	2	3	4	5
Teamwork	1	2	3	4	5

Would you be happy with this person working with your child? Explain:

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The YMCA provides programs to a variety of people of varying ages. Camping programs with youth are the core of our mission. Can you tell me how (the candidate) interacts or relates to children.

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(OVER)



**CIT/LIT Reference Form**  
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(OVER)

Does the applicant deal well with responsibilities and problems day to day? Explain:

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Teamwork is important to YMCA staff. Can you characterize (the candidate's) ability to work with others as part of a team?

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Please list two areas that you feel this young person needs to develop.

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Relationship to applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of years know: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of person filling out form: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for taking the time to assist this young adult in our application process. Your insights are valuable to us and will be strongly considered.