

May 20, 2020

Dear Hidden Villa Summer Camp Community,

We hope that you and your families are staying safe and healthy during this time.

Thank you for sticking with us as we looked at all of our options for offering Hidden Villa Summer Camp amidst the current Covid-19 pandemic. We truly appreciate your support in sharing that hope, and reminding us just how important our Camp is to you.

Our Decision

However, it is with a most heavy heart that we have let you know that we have decided to cancel all in-person Summer Camp programs at Hidden Villa for the 2020 season. We know that you were all hoping and wishing for Camp. We were too...

Prioritizing Safety

This decision was made with incredible care and deliberation, after sifting through mountains of guidance from the American Camp Association, the Center for Disease Control, and the Santa Clara County Department of Public Health to realistically assess the possibilities for our Camp this summer. After reviewing all of this information, we have come to the sad conclusion that we just can't confidently guarantee the safe operation of an in-person Camp program this summer.

Share our Video with Your Camper(s)

We know this might be difficult news to share with your children/campers. We hope that you can take a moment to [share this video](#) that we have created for them that features some familiar faces that will be missing them a lot. Please also see our attached "Camp at Home" message that includes a few ways to bring the Hidden Villa Summer Camp spirit into your home (with more to come!) And be on the lookout for other ways to connect with Hidden Villa this summer, including some exciting "at-home Camp connections" that are currently in development!

Refunds and Donations

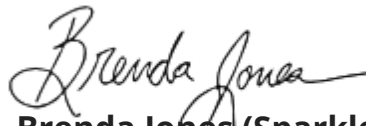
We know that these are challenging financial times for many of you, and so we are providing you with the option to receive a full refund, including the \$75 deposit. However, if you are able, please consider donating all or some of your camp fees to support Hidden Villa. We are facing significant loss in revenue due to program cancellations during these challenging times, and your support, in any amount, is truly valued and appreciated.

Please [login to your account](#) to complete your donation. We will begin issuing refunds as soon as possible. Please know there could be a delay of up to two weeks due to high volume refunds being made by credit card companies at this time; we apologize for any delays as a result of this. If you have questions or need assistance, please feel free to email us at camp@hiddenvilla.org.

Wishing you and your family a safe and healthy summer. We look forward to seeing you next year!

In Camp Spirit,


Chris Overington
Executive Director


Brenda Jones (Sparklefire)
Summer Camp Director

DISCOVERING THE CAMP COUNSELOR IN ALL OF US

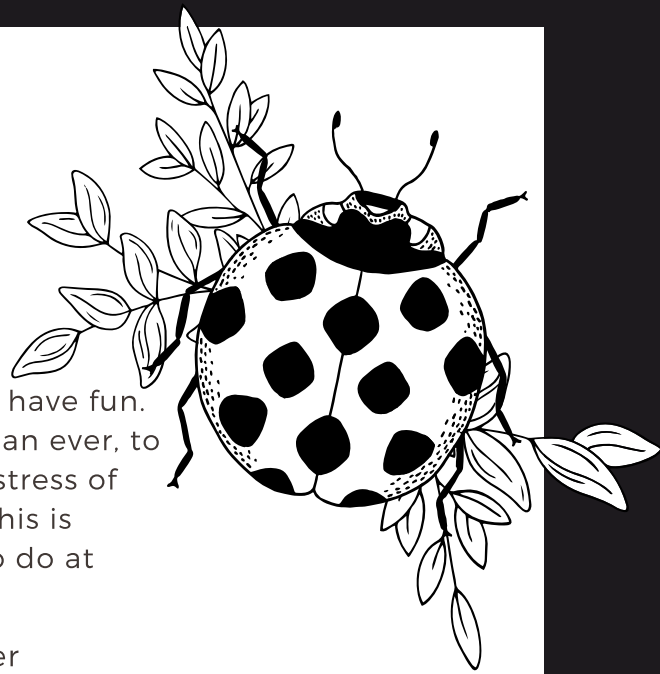
A large group of approximately 20 people, mostly young adults, are posing for a group photo on the wooden steps of a building with dark wood siding. They are dressed in a variety of costumes and outfits. Some are wearing hats like a cowboy hat, a top hat, and a fedora. Others are in more elaborate costumes, including a person in a blue hoodie with a white mask, a person in a red and white striped shirt with a large red pom-pom, and a person in a black and white patterned dress. The group is arranged in several rows, with some people sitting on the steps and others standing behind them. The background shows the building's entrance and some greenery.



At the end of every camp session we ask our campers about their favorite things about Hidden Villa summer camp and the most common response is always “I loved my camp counselors”. We know your kids will be missing our staff this summer so here are a few ways to bring out the camp counselor in all of you and to keep the camp spirit alive at home:



Get Silly



Camp is a place where kids get to play, connect and have fun. They just get to be kids! It is important, now more than ever, to find ways to support your kids to tune-out from the stress of the current climate and tune-in to something silly (this is probably good for all of us)! Our favorite silly thing to do at camp:

A camp “Trashion Show”! What better way to reuse all of the cardboard in your recycling than to turn it into a dress?! Get crafty and turn your hallway or sidewalk into the catwalk!



“

*Tune-out from
stress and
tune-in to
something
silly!*

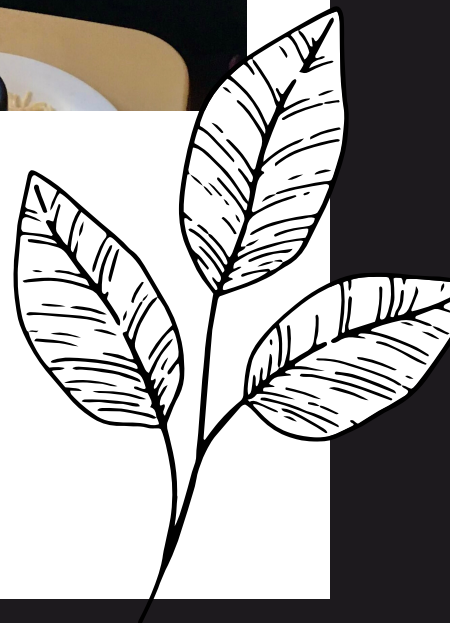
Let Them Lead

Give your campers the space to share their favorite activities from camp and see how they can recreate them at home. I know spaghetti dinner is one of our favorite camp traditions that is easily recreated at home. Forks optional, napkins required.



“

*Forks
optional,
napkins
required...*



Make it Magical



Camp is all about magic. When we're planning our camp activities the final question we always ask ourselves is "how do we add the sparkle?". Our camp counselors know that any normal thing can be taken up a notch. We challenge all of you to think like camp counselors:

Take one of your weeknight meals and add a theme. Have everyone in your household write down a few theme ideas and draw one out of a hat each time you'd like to do a themed meal. Have your kids decorate your table and dining space for the meal. Have them think of meal ideas that go along with the theme. They can even help cook! One of our all-time favorite kid-created dinner themes was "Neon-Disco Pandas".

“



*Camp is
all about
magic*

HIDDEN
VILLA



Camp at Home!

As we move forward in planning ways to connect with Hidden Villa campers at home, we are here to support you! We know that many of you are juggling work and childcare (or a lack of), navigating online schoolwork, and likely lots of boredom. We appreciate everything you are doing to care for our campers during this time and working on ways we can help. We surveyed parents a few weeks ago and we heard your requests for minimal virtual programming and maximum fun. We'll be sharing more ideas like the ones above in our new "Camp at Home" series soon.



**HIDDEN
VILLA**

