



Thursday, May 21, 2020

Thank you for registering your camper to attend Cognizart by MetroArts Inc. Kids Camp! We hope that you are well.

We are planning to hold camp for three weeks this summer and will be following the guidelines established by the **Governor and the Oregon Health Authority** in their May 15 announcement. We're very grateful to provide this critical outlet for our campers to enjoy immersive visual arts, music, theatre, and dance education while forming new fun memories.

In light of COVID-19, we have had to make the following adaptations that will impact our camper families:

1) **We will be unable to start Kids Camp on July 6 because the Newmark Theatre, and all Portland's facilities, will be closed until October. We will start on what would have been Week 3, July 20-24, at Northwest Academy.**

To best serve camper families, we are offering the following:

- Week 1 (July 6-10) campers will be offered enrollment in Week 4 (July 27-31) at Northwest Academy (maximum of 40 campers)
- Week 2 (July 13-17) campers will be offered enrollment in Week 5 (August 3-7) at Northwest Academy (maximum of 40 campers)
- Week 3 (July 20-24) campers remain as currently enrolled, although camper loads may need to be reduced (see #2)

Other options:

- A waitlist will be offered for a different camper week if the proposed enrollment week (or weeks) does not work for your family.
- If the newly assigned week(s) do not fit your schedule, or you've had a change of plans, a refund in the amount paid for camper week (or weeks) will be offered.

2) Based on OHA guidelines, we regretfully must **limit camper teams to no more than ten (10) campers, or forty (40) maximum campers per week of camp**. Priority will be given to the children of essential workers, returning campers, older campers (10–12), and children who do not require hands-on assistance with reading and writing. If your camper needs more help reading or writing, or will not be entering at least 2nd grade in the fall, we are happy to offer a refund and priority enrollment for Kids Camp 2021.

3) **An additional waiver will be required.** We are preparing a comprehensive document regarding safety protocols that may include wearing masks, keeping groups separated, wellness and temperature checks before drop-off, and maintaining social distance whenever possible. There will also be changes to the pick-up and drop-off procedures to make them as "contactless" as possible and to keep your camper safe.

4) **There will be no Friday Artists or camp-wide performance.** However, individual groups will create, collaborate, and shine, and we will do mini-group performances that will be filmed and shared for families to enjoy.

Please email [shannon@metroartsinc.org](mailto:shannon@metroartsinc.org) ASAP, or **no later than Monday, May 25, 2020, at noon**, to let us know a) if you would like to attend the new week(s) assigned; b) if you would like to be added to the waitlist for a different week (or weeks), and specify which week(s) you would like to be added to; c) if you would like a refund or a credit to attend next year's Kids Camp. This will allow us to provide other camper families with all options

open to them as soon as possible. The sooner we receive your response, the more nimbly we can plan for camp.

Our mantra has always been SAFETY FIRST. While this year is unprecedented, we are adapting to make it as safe as possible while providing campers with a fun, innovative, and exceptional arts educational camp.

We greatly appreciate YOU and your camper!

Warmest regards,  
Shannon

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