

The Hollymont Spirit

www.hollymont.com

February 2006

Why Hollymont?

Why do girls choose Hollymont? Why do families invest their time, energy, and money in setting aside one to four weeks of the summer for this “all girls Christian camp” in Asheville, NC? What brings them back year after year? Is it to improve a back-handspring, win the totem pole, try a new skill, or to break out a sweat shirt in June? All of these are great reasons, but we’ve found that **relationships** are the #1 reason for campers to gather from hundreds of miles away – coming to Hollymont is all about loving God and loving people.

We were designed by God to have a close relationship with Him and with others. Actually, the two kinds of relationships are quite similar. Friends of God and friends of people both desire conversation, thoughtfulness, honesty, trust, and love. Friends learn to care for things that are important to each other. They are truly grateful for their relationship, and they sincerely enjoy the other’s presence. We have the freedom to choose to be a friend of God and to be a friend to others.

Hollymont is designed to create a variety of relationships with girls of all ages. We have everyone from Hummingbirds to Eagles, and from CIT’s to Senior Staff. Opportunities for new friends

constantly present themselves. There are meals in the dining hall, daily skills, and night activities.

The population of Hollymont is large enough to get to know someone new everyday, but small enough to always see a familiar face.

Why are these friendships so valuable in the Hollymont experience? These relationships develop a confidence in who you are and *whose* you are. Yes, our comfy lodge, numerous staff, and organized camp schedule create an immediate sense of wellbeing, as we seek to nurture self-confidence and eternal assurance. We build self-esteem by encouraging girls to try new activities both at camp and at home.



Why Hollymont? One of our counselors-in-training puts it this way. “The people I met are friends I will have for a lifetime. I am so blessed and grateful that I am able to go to such a wonderful place where I can grow in my faith and be surrounded by old friends and make new friends that I will have forever!”

It's all about relationships!

Somebody's Talkin' About...

Counselors-In-Training

Hollymont counselors-in training (CITs) walk the line between being a camper and a staff member as they learn responsibility, patience, and essential leadership skills. It takes a special girl to fill the highly respected role of counselor-in-training. CITs are challenged to take their Hollymont experience up to the next level - continually serving, learning, and having fun! CIT candidates must be rising high school juniors or seniors and sixteen years of age by the end of the 2006 summer. CIT candidates are carefully evaluated in terms of their relationships with Christ, fellow campers, and staff. Hollymont directors reflect on past performance and think carefully about a CIT candidate's future beyond the CIT years. Will this CIT candidate be a great prospect for a Hollymont counselor?



CITs arrive a day or two prior to opening day for preliminary orientation and pre-camp session prep work. On opening day, they rise long before the counselors and help the administrative director set up the porch and Dove's Den for opening day. Thank a CIT for the signs and balloons along the road leading to Laurel Lodge. Daily CITs assist campers and staff in the multitude of tasks necessary to make Hollymont run smoothly (cluster life, skills, night activities). They take the lead in serving meals, sorting mail, running canteen, and worshipping during Sunday vespers.

In all the work they do, CITs have fun! The central staff CIT leader meets with CITs each day for times of staff development and Christian devotion and take them off-campus at least once a session for fun and fellowship. CITs have their own mealtime before the main meal seating, and have access to the staff lounge, Dove's Den, and the front porch when they have free time during the day or evening.

Skills

Arts & Crafts

Camp wouldn't be camp without Arts & Crafts. The moment you step into Hollymont's art room, you know that a creative adventure awaits you. Over the years, participants in this popular skill have literally "had their hands" in everything from clay to textiles, marbling to bookmaking, sculpting to painting, and jewelry making to tie-dye. The girls leave their skill feeling like they have truly created something original. Since we can only accommodate 90 campers in arts & crafts, the best time to sign up is when you send in your application. You may also sign up on the Charges & Options form in the April camper-parent packet. We will begin a waiting list when the skill reaches 90 participants.



WE ARE FAMILY



23 years and counting... Karen Jones has the distinction of being the only staff member affiliated with Hollymont every summer since it began in 1983! Karen Jones directs the Hollymont arts and crafts program during the summer and teaches art at Owen High School (Black Mountain, NC) during the school year. In her spare time she exhibits her own work in the Asheville area.

Karen started out teaching Hollymont arts & crafts by herself. As the skill grew more popular and the classes grew larger, she recruited friends and former art students to assist her. During the winter months Karen enjoys preparing new and exciting camp projects (often with input from her daughters Katherine and Rebecca). In the summer, Karen trains and supervises her arts & crafts team. Today, arts and crafts is one of our most popular skills and it's because of the hard work, inspiration, and dedication that Karen brings to our program.

Karen's daughters, Katherine and Rebecca, began attending Hollymont when they reached Hummingbird age, and now enjoy returning each year to see all the friends they have made at camp. Karen says she most enjoys watching the campers grow up through the years. She has even watched camp director, Missy McKibbens Roper, grow up, as she remembers having Missy in her classes in earlier days!



Where would Hollymont be without our dedicated medical professionals? They do much more than pass out band-aids and dispense medication at mealtimes. They offer a listening ear, give out hugs, and even assist with skills or at watch stations as the need arises. Janet Elozory, camp nurse extraordinaire, recalls a time early in her Hollymont career when she was asked to teach the cooking skill. She quickly volunteered, remembering her Girl Scout leader days. What she didn't think about was her lack of recipes, supplies, or the size of the kitchen where cooking was taught (back then it was in Dove's Den). Although the session was "a blur of phone calls to her mother for recipes, trips to the store for supplies, and flying chocolate chips," Janet says "it was great fun, and I got to know more of the girls than I usually meet in the infirmary!"

Janet has been attending Hollymont since 1995. Her oldest daughter, Ashleigh, who is now in college, was nine that year. Janet's youngest daughter, Allie, began her Hollymont adventure in 1997 at age seven, and is steadily working her way toward CIT (counselor-in-training). Janet's niece, Kayla, joined the fun last summer and can't wait to come again this year. Janet says that some of her favorite memories at camp were made when all four of her children were at camp together - two girls at Hollymont and two boys at Rockmont. She says camp was like a big family trip!

Janet has taken much away from her time at Hollymont that she and her children will cherish forever. Her daughters have made friends from all over, and have had experiences they would not have otherwise had...and Janet has had the opportunity to watch them grow in the years at camp while serving as a nurse.

CALLING ALL...



CIT'S



COUNSELORS



NURSES

<p>Who: Rising High School Juniors or Seniors that will be 16 by the end of the summer 2006!</p> <p>What: Two unforgettable weeks making memories and friendships that will last a lifetime!</p> <p>When: A session (June 9-23) B1 session (June 24-July 7) B2 session (July 8-21)</p>	<p>Who: College students who have completed at least their freshman year.</p> <p>What: A screamin' good time, investing in the lives of girls who will remember you forever!</p> <p>When: June 5-August 5, 2006</p>	<p>Who: Registered Nurses</p> <p>What: A summer to remember filled with fun with girls ages 6-15 as well as other adult staff members.</p> <p>When: A session (June 9-23) B1 session (June 24-July 7) B2 session (July 8-21) C session (July 22-Aug. 4)</p>
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CAMPERS!!! NEED AN APPLICATION? Download one from our website at www.hollymont.com, call our office at 828.686.5343, or email us at camp@hollymont.com.

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