

Submission Deadline: March 31, 2024

<u>NOTE for 2024</u>: our goal is to run the LIT Program at both the June and July sessions of camp. Our ability to do so is reliant on a number of factors (staffing, camper interest, housing availability, etc.). If we are unable to run this program in the traditional way, we will make every effort to do something special for those campers that expressed interest.

### **Applicant Requirements and Eligibility:**

- Must be 16 or 17 years old at the time of the camp session; preference will be given to 17 year olds as they are in their last year of eligibility for camp.
- Exhibit an eagerness to explore what being a leader and contributor looks and feels like.
  - o Though LITs take on leadership roles, they remain campers and not staff.
- Willingness to take on extra responsibilities and duties at camp.
- The CAMPER is to complete the application for themselves, not a parent or guardian!

#### **Application Components & Process:**

- Application Pages
  - Camper completes all portions of the application and secures a letter of reference.
  - Return pages 3–9 by the March 31 deadline.
    - Email a PDF to tanya@thegoodtimesproject.org
      - <u>Ideally, you use a free scanning app like Adobe Scan or Genius Scan on your phone to capture application pages 3–9 into a single PDF and then send via email.</u>
    - If you need to send a hard copy, please contact me and I will provide an address. Please do not send it to the Camp Goodtimes office.
  - o Look for a communication about acceptance decisions by early June 2024, if not sooner.
    - Applicants not chosen to participate in this selective program, or if we're
      unable to run this program, remain welcome to attend this year's June or July
      camp session as part of the oldest female/male cabins.
- Reference Form/Letter
  - One Reference Form is required with every LIT application.
  - The form is included in this application and should be passed along to your reference for them to complete. In addition to the form, we will also accept reference letters on an organization's official letterhead.

### **Conditions for Program Acceptance:**

- We require that all LITs commit to being present the entire camp session. LITs should arrive at the same time as the rest of the campers on check-in day unless told otherwise.
- LIT positions are competitive and can be demanding; there is a level of independence and maturity that is required for this program. We ask that before you apply, please consider your readiness to be an LIT. An application does not guarantee program acceptance.
- Participating in the LIT program does not guarantee a future volunteer staff position at camp.

#### **Questions:**

All questions regarding the LIT application process should be directed to the Camp Director; Tanya "Cooper" Krohn, tanya@thegoodtimesproject.org, 206.255.3800.

## LIT Program Description

The mission of the Leader in Training program at Camp Goodtimes is to provide campers with an opportunity to participate in an age-specific program which helps to enhance their leadership, teamwork, communication, and decision-making skills.

The vision is to provide LITs with the opportunity to build valuable leadership and independence skills by participating in workshops, mentor relationships, and hands-on camp counseling experiences, all within the Camp Goodtimes community—which is built on the foundation of safety, love, respect, and empowerment. It is the intention that the skills developed through the LIT program extend beyond camp and become integrated throughout participants' lives as they become strong leaders and contributors in their communities.

#### What does the LIT application process entail?

To apply to become a LIT, campers are required to fill out and submit a LIT application in addition to the general Camp Goodtimes registration online. The application includes school and volunteer/work history, personal statement questions, a reference from a teacher, coach, or community member, a kayak permission form, and a creative questionnaire. Once an application has been received, the Camp Director will review all applications. It is our hope to be able to invite as many LIT applicants as possible to participate in the program, but this may be limited due to the number of applications received, limited housing options, and the number of available spots in this competitive program each summer.

### What does the LIT program look like?

Throughout this weeklong program, LITs will take part in experiences specifically designed to teach leadership, communication, trust, and teamwork skills, while encouraging participants to discover their personal strengths as leaders and contributors—all while having fun and making memories at camp. Additionally, LITs will be given the opportunity to engage in a hands-on leadership experience. Guided by the LIT Counselors, LITs will take on new responsibilities, step into leadership roles, and become role-models for other Camp Goodtimes campers.

### Experiences and leadership curriculum may include:

- Components of a role-model: who do you look up to and why?
- Child behavior support workshops
- Team-building exercises and group projects
- Communication: how do we communicate, and why is it important?
- Decision-making skills workshops
- "I am a strong leader because..." (empowerment and self-confidence building workshop)

#### What does LIT housing/accommodation look like at camp?

Typical housing for LITs consists of co-ed/mixed-gender accommodation in a single cabin with two LIT counselors (who also may be mixed gender). If this is not possible, LITs may sleep in the oldest camper cabins (based on gender) with non-LIT campers and reconnect in the mornings with their LIT group.

## **2024 LIT Application Form**

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Which LIT session are you applying for? ☐ June (June 23–29, 2024)	□ July (July 14–20, 2024)					
Will you be 16 or 17 years old by the start of the LIT program session yo	ou're applying for? □ 16 □ 17					
Name:						
Your Phone (to receive texts):						
Your Email:						
How many years have you attended Camp Goodtimes?						
Parent/Guardian Name:						
Parent/Guardian Phone (to receive texts):						
Parent/Guardian Email:						
Do you have any limitations or restrictions that may limit your participa						
If Yes, describe:						
Education: Name	Grade in 2023/2024					
School						
School School Activities, Sports, or Clubs (Attach additional sheets as needed)						
SchoolSchoolSchool Activities, Sports, or Clubs (Attach additional sheets as needed)  Activity:	Your Role:					
School School Activities, Sports, or Clubs (Attach additional sheets as needed)	Your Role:					
SchoolSchoolSchool Activities, Sports, or Clubs (Attach additional sheets as needed)  Activity:	Your Role:					
School Activities, Sports, or Clubs (Attach additional sheets as needed)  Activity:  Description of Role:	Your Role:					
School Activities, Sports, or Clubs (Attach additional sheets as needed)  Activity:  Description of Role:  Description of Role:	Your Role: Your Role:					
School Activities, Sports, or Clubs (Attach additional sheets as needed)  Activity:  Description of Role:	Your Role:Your Role:					

Employment, Volunteer, & Community Involvement Experience (Attach additional sheets, including resume, as needed)

Organization:	City/State:
Your Position:	Time Period:
Responsibilities:	
Organization:	City/State:
Your Position:	Time Period:
Responsibilities:	
Organization:	City/State:
Your Position:	Time Period:
Responsibilities:	
	ur application. Your reference should be someone who knows you well, like a it references from family or friends. Have your reference fill out the Reference
Name:	Email:
Occupation:	Phone:
How they know you:	
Why you chose them as your reference: _	

**Personal Statements** (If you need more room for any question, continue your answer on a separate sheet of paper)

1.	a. Strengths/what you're good at:				
		h. Araas valu want ta improva an			
		b. Areas you want to improve on:			
2.	Wha	at role do you typically play in small groups	(like	projects at school) or teams?	
3.	Who	o has been a role model for you at camp (st	aff m	nember or fellow camper) and why?	
4.				camp as an LIT? What roles, experiences, or opportunities	
5.				npers/camp (while at camp), what ideas or suggestions	
6.		ess your abilities by marking the box that b Not a strength 2= OK 3= Great at it		represents your current skill level: e truthful, we're not judging, just want to know where you're at)	
	•	Teamwork □ 1 □ 2 □ 3	•	Independence ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3	
	•	Empathy □ 1 □ 2 □ 3	•	Curiosity/inquisitiveness ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3	
	•	Communication ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3	•	Leading a group or activity $\Box$ 1 $\Box$ 2 $\Box$ 3	
	•	Decision making ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3	•	Taking initiative □ 1 □ 2 □ 3	

## Important Guidelines & Responsibilities for Camp Goodtimes LITs

LITs remain campers and are not staff members.

The LIT Program allows participants to experience camp as a camper by joining in fun all-camp activities, but LITs have added levels of expectations attached to the role. In addition, LITs follow their own schedule, get assigned camp jobs, and interact with younger campers as role models and assistants to cabin counselors when asked to do so.

## Being Successful

Being a LIT is a privilege not a right and LITs are expected to act with good character and in service to camp. Successful LITs ask how they can help, they share ideas to improve the camp experience, they take initiative (don't need to be asked/told to do something), they welcome and incorporate feedback from counselors and other staff, they show enthusiasm, and they help/support other campers experience the joy of camp.

Camp responsibilities can be demanding and require:

- Long hours
- Curfews
- Confidence
- Independence
- Ability to ask questions
- Working well with others
- Limited time off
- Limited privacy
- Goal of helping others

The following are strictly prohibited on camp property:

- Smoking and vaping (tobacco or cannabis of any kind)
- Alcoholic beverages
- Mind-altering drugs (legal or illegal)

No one is permitted on camp under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Are you willing to take on these responsibilities? □ Yes □ No (please explain)	
Both applicant & parent/guardian are aware LITs reside in co-ed/mixed-gender housing.	☐ Yes, we are aware
LIT Applicant Signature:	Date:
Parent/Guardian Signature:	_ Date:
Relationship to LIT Applicant	_

## **Kayaking Experience and Authorization**

As a part of the LIT program, participants <u>typically</u> go offsite one day during the camp week to participate in a 2–3 hour long kayaking experience donated by Vashon Adventures. The experience is meant to be a team-building exercise, as well as an opportunity to try something new.

If circumstances allow for a kayak experience:

- o **Parents/guardians are asked to complete an online waiver form** from the kayak outfitter that will allow their LIT to participate in the activity.
- Complete the online form at any time between application submission and June 1.
- If parent/guardian does not approve this offsite activity, please send an email to the camp director stating this; ensure you include the camper's name.

### **Instructions for completing the online Minor Paddler Waiver Form:**

- 1. Visit the Vashon Adventures website link: https://waiver.smartwaiver.com/w/5a00cf7047168/web/
- 2. Review the content and scroll to the bottom and click on the Minors button.
- 3. Follow the prompts.
- 4. Ensure you hit the "Agree to this Document" button to submit.

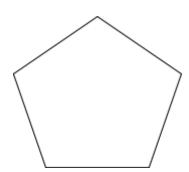
## The Creative Questionnaire

On this page, you will notice two objects. What are they? How are they related/connected? What picture comes to mind? Use this space to be as creative as you like and, using the objects, draw what you envision. Just have fun being creative because that's the point.

Remember, everyone is creative in different ways—and that is what makes camp work!

We promise not to judge your artistic abilities and welcome your uniqueness.

This is not meant to be stressful. Just have fun and express yourself.



## **Confidential Reference Form**

Applicant Instructions: Provide your reference with the following questionnaire. Submit it with your application. **Referee Instructions:** Fill out this form and return to applicant for submission. \_\_ authorize \_\_ to provide (LIT Applicant's Name) relevant information that will be used to arrive at a decision regarding my LIT acceptance with Camp Goodtimes. TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REFEREE: What is your relationship to the applicant? □ Employer □ Teacher/Professor □ Other \_\_\_\_\_ How well do you know the applicant? ☐ Very Well ☐ Well □ Casually How long have you known the applicant? Years Months Please rate the applicant to the best of your ability with regard to the following: Least Qualified Most Qualified Average Dedication Creativity Use of good judgment Maturity Responsibility Stress management Patience Teamwork Leadership Dependability Initiative Please use the reverse side of this form to answer the following questions: 1. Have you ever seen the applicant in a leadership role? Yes / No What did you observe? 2. Keeping in mind that working in the camp environment can be very demanding—requiring work with younger children and/or adult camp staff, dedication, and emotional maturity—how would you assess this applicant's suitability for a LIT position? 3. Is there anything else that you would like to share with us about the applicant? 4. Is there any reason why this candidate should NOT be considered for this position? Yes / No If yes, explain. Referee's Signature Print Name Date

Phone

Title

Company/Organization