



**Camper & Staff**

**Reflections on Session 2 2024**



## ***A Note from the Camp Director Jud Millar:***

Hello Stone Mountain Adventure (SMA) Family! Wow, can you believe it? The summer of 2024 has come and gone in the blink of an eye, and what an incredible season it was! Celebrating our 41<sup>st</sup> summer, SMA has once again delivered an unforgettable experience, and we are absolutely thrilled with how everything unfolded. It feels like just yesterday we were gearing up – dusting off the canoes, tuning up the mountain bikes, and getting ready for another amazing camp season. Now, as we look back, the memories from this summer etched in the history books. Even as August continues, we find ourselves reminiscing and saying things like, “Remember that time in the first session? That was awesome!” We truly had a blast!



**Campers,** We miss you all dearly. It feels so weird to have the cabins empty and camp is just not the same without your energy and enthusiasm. We hope you’ve had a fantastic end to your summer and have had the time to recharge from the whirlwind of camp life.

**Parents,** a heartfelt thank you for entrusting us with your wonderful children. The SMA Summer of 2024 was filled with remarkable individuals who made this summer truly special. We will cherish forever.

On the final full day of camp, we took sometime for reflection and we asked each camper to share their thoughts about their SMA adventure. We’ve compiled their heartfelt reflections along with a brief overview of the activities we enjoyed, all thanks to our outstanding staff. We hope you find joy in this SMA Memory book and the reflections within, just as much as we have.

Wishing you all the best for the school year ahead!

Warmest regards,

Jud, Anne, Wyatt, Molly, Pam, Biff, Comet, Jack, Piggy, the cats, the Horses, the Rabbits, and all the other wonderful farm friends!



## **Camper reflections from SMA Session 2, Summer 2024**

Michaela Park

I thought that this session was awesome and very fun. I enjoyed all the activities and I've made so many friends who were all caring and nice to me! I hope that I come back next year and make even more good relationships. Even though there were some downs, I pushed through and had a great time this session. Of course, all the counsellors were nice and fun and I'm happy that I got to make relationships with them. All the people were amazing and the activities I liked the most were white-water rafting and kickball! I will miss everyone, and I will try to keep my relationships with everyone. See you next year!

Paige Emmanuel

I had an amazing time this session. I met so many new people and it was really cool because so many people are from all over the world. I also got to see my friends from last year which was very nice. I had so much fun white-water rafting, knee boarding, rock climbing, swimming in the lakes and so many other activities. I'm so excited to come back next year!



Natalie Dahl

At first I was a little skeptical about session 2 and was afraid it wouldn't be as fun as session 1. As the days went past I got to know the people in and out of my cabin much better. Even though I came here with a friend from home, I made many new friends. Doing activities with others brought us closer together. I loved wakeboarding, sup n sail, art studio and canoeing. As it turns out session 2 as a second-year camper was way more fun than I imagined. From now on I will be coming to session 2 so that I can get to know the friends that I made even better. I am really looking forward to coming back next year. I love SMA!

Susannah

Rock climbing was okay. I didn't like how harsh the rocks were but at least belaying was fun. The campfires were cute – I liked the s'mores and s'more tacos. The VIC group were the best along with Olive, Lonnie, Arianne, Mitch, Lilly and many more.

Mikayla

My favorite activity while I was at camp was possibly wake boat fun. New friends were a big part in making camp enjoyable. I made many new friends in Little J, Rothrock and

Mattawana. I also really liked evening meeting activities and the art studio was really fun as well. After being here for two sessions I found this camp overall really enjoyable and I will be looking forward to coming back next year.

Cleo

I stayed here for session one and two and I love it. This is my first year here and in the first session I tried rock climbing but I'm very scared to climb up to the middle. But in session two I ended up going up the wall so I am very happy. My favorite activity is wake boat fun but I'm sad because I didn't try the tube. But I did get to try the wakeboard and that is very fun. I love SMA and everyone is very nice.



Zoey Kastner

This is my first year here and I had something else in mind of what this camp would look like. Life here at SMA is amazing and is life changing for teens. I came to start liking this camp so much that I agreed with my mom to stay another session after I was begging her to take me home because I was homesick. SMA has changed me.

Gillian Sobel

This session had its ups and downs, but I made some new friends and did fun activities whilst at SMA.



Garance Herrmann

I've had lots of fun during this second session. My favorite activity was wakeboarding, and I was so glad to be part of the wake-masters (thank you to my parents). I also loved art studio as it was quite calm and soothing, and I also liked doing laundry as we went to Walmart and bought a bunch of stuff. Moreover, I had a great time as I made amazing friends. The 'Frenchies' were so nice and the person I was closest to was Ariane as we were always laughing. I also got close to Alex the Frenchie which was nice. I feel good here because Americans have a different way of thinking and there not judgmental. Even though I was far away from home and had lots of ups and downs, I've had an amazing time and I'll never forget this summer.

Lily O'Such

My time at camp has been good. It was my first time going into session 2 and it was an ok experience as I was able to make new friends. People like me here at camp and I'm able to talk to a lot more new people (I even have a nickname which I find funny). The kids in my cabin (Little J) are so sweet and nice and I'm really excited for session 3.

Olivia Tucci

This year I was a bit nervous even though it is my second year, but as soon as I was in the van on the way to camp it was like a switch flipped and nothing excited me more than arriving back at my home away from home and seeing all my friends from last year, and also making new friends along the way. Even though there were ups and downs during this session, we always turned up better in the end. There were many memories made that will last a lifetime.

Caroline  
Benshoof

Two weeks went by so fast, most of it was a blur. I managed to make friends with Mich, Olivia and Lily. The amount of times I got hurt was no surprising. I did two overnights and ate some good food, the pizza I managed



to make was so small but good. Rock climbing was hard for me but I have a lot of funny memories such as my cabins skit. For invention convention there was a lot of interesting inventions which was fun to watch. The time spent at camp was both challenging and fun.

Stella Stobart

SMA is an outstanding camp. I love how all the councilors are so supportive and kind. All my bunk mates were incredibly kind and generous to me. They would always be there for me. My favorite activity so far in session two is mountain biking which was really fun and my excellent counselors Mason and Max taught me everything I needed to know like how to do neutral peddles and on my first try I was able to do the pump track – so cool right? Another activity I really loved this session was white water rafting. It was so fun because I was in the very front of my boat and I got splashed with water the most and I didn't fall out. However, the next day after I had jumped into the lake out of the raft, I got sick because the water was so cold! I am extremely grateful for all my amazing counselors who took great care of me and Chase and Jud for having me at camp. I will come back next year and for more years then become a counselor. Thank you everyone!



Alex Pradal

This year is my third year and I'm so glad I came back, I've met amazing people and had a lot of fun doing Mattawana traditions. I can't wait for next session so I can discover more things with new people. Having to organize the dance and do paper plates was amazing! I'll probably just keep coming until I'm too old!

Zefora/Lonnie Rapaport

I love SMA. My favorite things have been wakeboarding and being on the boat with all my friends. I also loved the wake overnight as going out on the water is the best and I love doing



tricks on the wakeboard. I've been coming here for five years now, and I love every part of this camp. I'm sad to be leaving this year though as it is my last year. I can say that anyone who comes here will enjoy it and I can't wait to come back as an AOP or a counsellor in the years to come. I will forever call this place home.

Olive Davie

This is my third year at SMA. This has been my fifth session AND my favorite. This session I focused on wakeboarding and trying to improve as best as I can. There have been many ups and downs, but I still had an amazing time. The people, the activities, and environment have been

wonderful. As much as I am looking forward to next session, I am going to miss this one. The talent show was so fun, and many people had amazing talents which brought many emotions to the stage. Thank you to everyone who made this session so enjoyable. Much love, Olive <3



Lucia

My favorite activity was wakeboard fun. I made a lot of new friends and I also got to see my last year friends. I made some very good memories with my friends.

Ariane

It was my second year here. I preferred my first year just because it was my first time but this year was still different because I could try other activities like canoeing. Also I liked the overnight and the mountain pies. I'm very happy because I got better at wake but I'm sad I didn't get to try the tube. I liked the talent show because the person who played music was very good. I think my favorite activity was rafting because I was in Jud's boat. It was a good session.

Ian Goldberg

This session was so special and memorable. This was my first time being a wake master and I hope to do it again next year. I met so many people and tried many new things. From the people I met to the things I've done, this will be favored.

Griffin

My favorite memory is the wake overnight. I've never been wakeboarding and it was super fun. I even did a jump and it was super cool. I made so many friends, I made friends in every cabin! I could name like every boy in camp. It is also really cool that I get to meet people from different countries. It is so cool that everyone is so nice and the counselors are so nice.

Alex B

I really enjoyed this session. As my first time at a sleepaway and SMA, I can tell this is just the start of an amazing summer. It was really fun and I got to try a ton of new and fun things. I've now made it my mission to capture all the bunnies and put them back in their cage. I've tried to catch them for over a week and I really want to succeed. I think the talent show was REALLY fun (I think Sam and I had the best act). Also, white water rafting was challenging but fun and I'm glad I can do everything two more times!



Maks Roma-Shtylla

This was my first time ever going to sleepaway camp and I really enjoyed it. I had a lot of fun making new friends and trying new activities. My favorite activity was definitely going on the wake boat and trying knee boarding. I also had fun white water rafting and being in mountain biking masters.

Benji Miller



Being on wake-masters is what helps me to stay happy and I had so much fun on the all-day wake-masters activity. I always get the activities I want to do even when the shoe has to be thrown which is awesome. We got to go tubing on the boat and I went flying! After tubing we went to the BBQ and I got to grill! This was a fun session in total!

Marco Quishpe

I had a great time at SMA. I did many activities as SMA had a lot to offer. I had a great time trying things I've never done before such as rock-climbing and being on a wakeboard. I also had a great time hanging with friends in my Tussey cabin. Also, every night was always very fun with various evening activities such as getting ice cream, bowling, Jud games and camping overnights. In general, I was having a great time every second here at SMA.

Lorenzo Maciel

This session my favorite activity was the rock-masters program. My cabin experience in Tussey was awesome (despite the mess we made) and I also really enjoyed disco bowling this session as it was super fun. I also enjoyed the evening meetings and activities here at camp, and overall this session was the best one so far in the time that I've been here.

Declan Curley

My favorite activity was knee-boarding because I could hit jumps and I had a lot of fun. My favorite overnight was rock-climbing because we got to go caving.

Gaston Le Bertre

My favorite activities during this camp were the wake-boat fun and sup n sail because we could just chill together. I made some good new friends, and the counsellors were very nice and fun. The talent show was very good too! I like this camp.



Carter Williams

At SMA summer camp I had a lot of fun, I made a dozen of friends and more. My favorite place that we went to was the rock-climbing gym and I also liked playing football.

Sam Berman

At SMA I made lots of new friends and had fun doing activities such as mountain biking, the overnights and knee boarding. I also got to experience sleeping in a hammock on the overnight which was fun!

Mylen Sutton

This was my first year at SMA and overall I had an amazing time. I had time to enjoy everything even the things that I didn't do normally like arts and crafts. My stay started on June 22<sup>nd</sup> during Session 1. I was shy at first and had to force myself to be social. In the end I made lots of friends that I will miss. My favorite things that I did were rock climbing and wake boarding. Both of these activities tested me physically and mentally. Since I needed strength and balance to be able to hold myself and intelligence to be able to know my next move or understand what I can and cannot do. In the end both sessions were very fun and I hope I can come back next year to have another great time.



Gaspard Estager

I loved this summer camp so much with all my new friends that I have met these past two weeks. I enjoyed the two overnights a lot and the s'mores and all the things we ate. I also liked the activities that I did especially Rock masters. I discovered new activities like wake boarding and kick ball. The counselors were so nice and funny. I enjoyed the nights in Crow' Nest. I would like to come back next year. It was so funny and never annoying. I liked the music in the van during the drives. The evening meetings were really funny, especially the way to choose activities.



Will Prigge

This year was my first year at SMA and overall it was pretty decent. I liked the white water rafting and the capture the flag a lot (French revolution). The wake and knee boarding was also really fun. The counselors were also fun. Secret friends was also funny. For example, Carter's secret friend Spiffy gave him a small bottle of motor oil. (I miss my dog)

Bruno Lambert

This was my first session here. My favorite activity was wake boarding and I was in wakemasters. I discover this other culture is very chill and a met lot of people (Ed, GuiGui, Sam, Ian). My best memories were when we went to Walmart and Sup and Sail. Talent show too. Crow's Nest was a wonderful experience with all the boys. Activities were fun and the canoeing overnight was amazing with friends and s'mores. The night games were fun to do and I did a lot of sports. I learned how to throw a football ball. I played guitar, piano, and drums. I progressed in English and grew up mentally. Crew wasn't good but we always did it with music so it's not horrible. Rafting day was so fun with Jud. Soccer was fun and I had a lot of fun with Americans. SMA was a wonderful experience and I think I'm going to return next year!



Spenser Vinjamuri

To start off my third summer at SMA I had a great time during Session 2. I had a lot of fun and made a lot of friends new and old. I enjoyed some of the activities such as the talent show, the masters programs, and white water rafting. This year I also saw familiar faces and

made life long friends. In all I think this is a fantastic camp and everyone should give it a chance.

### Zeke

This was my second year at SMA and it was definitely better than the first one. The people this session were really nice and funny. Crows Nest was really fun and I made a lot of new friends and acquaintances. This session convinced me to come for two sessions next summer. My favorite part was definitely wake masters where I stood up on a wakeboard for the first time. I cant wait for next summer!



### Edouard

This is my third year as a camper. Like last year and the year before, I had a lot of fun. I did because even though it was the same camp and activities, it was with different people. I indeed made a lot of new friends from last year by doing activities together or in the bunk or on crews. The activities were very cool and different from each other like activities during the day, Jud's games or even over nights. But we also had a lot of freedom with power hour or in the morning when we could do almost anything we wanted. We could play a lot of games with balls like four square that I discovered. About the food – it was very good. In the morning, we had a lot of possibilities of cereals. At power hour, canteen was sometimes open to get good snacks. Finally, the counselors were very nice and funny but also knew how to be serious. In conclusion, this camp was great and I hope I will come back for a fourth year.



Guilhem

It was my second year and the camp is always very cool. My favorite activities are canoeing and wake boat fun, I don't know which one of the both. I met a lot of people and made a lot of new friends like Bruno, Sam, Will and Carter. My favorite night activity is disco bowling as it was very fun with Griffin but I liked too, the night when we went to eat ice cream because it is very good. I had a crew who was funny during the dishes. My best memories are during the canoeing overnight when we talked about nothing and just chilled, laughed and after ate some marshmallows. I prefer this year because it was funnier than the last year. I think it is because I'm older and I'm now in Crow's Nest. So thanks a lot again for this year.

Salvatore Maciel

The talent show was a very fun part of the session, making new friends and playing as a band was really cool! I can't wait to come back as a super camper!

Robbie Judd

This session was hard watching everyone leave from session one and I was sad and felt that nobody would be able to live up to the kids that left. But soon I realized how wrong I was. New people came from all over the world! France, Vietnam, Belgium, Japan, Spain etc. and they all brought fun. If last session was 100% energy the entire time then session two was 100% chill the entire time. There was much more people but everyone was so laid back and relaxing to be around. The talent show had so much talent and fun, the activities were so fun and I got up on



the wakeboard on my second try. Nate got up on the very last day and everyone was so proud and happy for him which was nice. I made many new friends; Kipp, Mike, Alex, Ian, Luca etc. Overall, this session was a blast and went by too quick.

Kipp Jenkins

All times were fun with Furnace – Mike, Chris, Robbie, Nate, Jacob, and Simon. The funny times with Tussey and Crow's Nest and all the times in the activities especially the car rides going to and from activities. I am glad other campers were there to make funny memories for all of us.

Jacob Ross

I had a really great time at camp this session. The Furnace cabin was awesome and every day exciting. One of my highlights was canoeing. We found a massive rope swing and it was so much fun sending it. Another highlight was my fifth time on the lower Yough. We had a great raft, didn't flip and even won the race. Overall I really enjoyed this session and am so excited to come back next year.

Mike Yamamoto

My first year at camp was fun. Doing all sorts and activities and making friends from many different places I had fun trying and learning new things. I learned and participated in lots of new fun traditions.



Simon Engerman

The Yough was definitely the best day of camp. Even though it was hard to get up at 6am, I slept well on the bus. Once we got on the water it was non-stop paddling, splashing other boats and just having fun coasting down the rapids. At the end, I was so tired and hungry that the fast food tasted like a gourmet meal.

Chris Addison

It's my third and final year as a camper here at SMA. It was great to meet all the people in the Furnace cabin this year. I had a lot of fun on the activities and one highlight from this year was playing 'Crazy Train' on the drums with Jacob and Spiffy.



Nathan Costa

I really enjoyed SMA session 2 2024! Since I was already here for session 1, I already knew some people going into session 2, especially the counsellors. I think what I enjoyed most about session 2 was continuing to bond with both the campers and counsellors. I'm going to miss the people here, and spending a whole month together allowed me to make some special friendships. Activities wise, once again, the white-water rafting trip was lots of fun. This session however, I also did wake masters, and whilst I spent most of it knee-boarding, on the very last day I overcame the challenge and stood up on the wakeboard which was extremely rewarding. All in all, session 2 at SMA was lots of fun!



Alice

Hi, I'm Alice – one of the members of Vietnam VIC group and today is the last day in SMA camp. In my whole trip, I've gained so many new experiences which I haven't tried in my country before such as rock climbing, biking and canoeing but the one I remembered the most is the sup n sail overnight. It was really memorable for me to sleep in a tent all night, it cant be expected! Moreover, I also met new friends from different nations in the world (I broke my limit). SMA's staff are so helpful, especially Chase, Josie, Nate and Mason. I'm grateful for their support and willingness to help us in so many ways! Last but not least, I want to send many thanks to Jud – the coolest and happiest man. Thanks for always supporting us in many aspects (like accommodation). I wish SMA will develop day by day, thanks for leading.

Chloe

I am Chloe and this is the first time I have come here. I'm very excited to join with foreign friends. I met more people, made more friends such as Mitch, Susannah and Arianne from different countries such as America and France. I can see how people in America live and act, quite different from my culture so at first I did not really get it. But after that I gradually started to get it. Most people here are so nice. I enjoyed the moments I spent at SMA camp. And there were so many outdoor activities which I have never played in Vietnam like rock climbing and paddling. The staff are very supportive, especially Josie, Alex, Nate, Chase and Laura. They are all very nice.



Jack

Firstly, I've never travelled this far to a place like America and to be honest I was kind of nervous at the start but when I experienced SMA with my cool new friends, I loved every moment of it! It is just so amazing to meet and communicate with people that come from different countries all in one summer camp together. I got some tiny injuries during the journey but I don't really mind since I have much better things to think of. My favorite activity? It's got to be SUP N SAIL because I love sailing a lot. Also there's less lakes or rivers in Vietnam where I'm from. On the rafting day, my group included Minh, Laura, Will, Amy and myself. We were sailing normally until Chase drowned Laura then we helped her to get up and continue. As our raft approached Chase's raft, I decided to throw a little water on them but then he drowned me just like he did to Laura. I got the most water on me that day than I have in most of my life. Lastly, I just want to thank SMA for providing VIC group the best conditions so we could have a great summer here. If I have another chance to be here, I would gladly do it because SMA is such a welcoming place for teenagers like me.



Q

This is my first year at SMA summer camp. I arrived here along with eight other Vietnamese people from the VIC group. Among a lot of activities, my favorite one is probably canoeing down the Little Juniata River and white water rafting. My favorite memories are definitely hiking up to the wood cabin with Josie, going to Sheetz with Spiffy, Mason and Trey. The drive to Ohiopyle was fun and going to Mcdonalds was hilarious. Throughout my eleven days at camp, I've met so many cool people and made so many friends and I'll definitely miss Mason, Josie, Connor, Chase, Spiffy, Mylen, Will, Benji, Ed, Bruno, Gaspard, Griffin, the boys from Tussey and Furnace and of course Trey



Tina

First of all, this is my first time I have been travelling without my parents for a long time and I really missed them. The reason why I chose this summer camp is because I want to experience the American lifestyle and try to make friends with lots of people from other countries to prepare for my plan to study abroad in the USA. When I came here this was a great time even more than I expected. I tried a lot of activities I never got to try in Vietnam such as softball, rock climbing and hiking. In Vietnam I just lie down on my bed – kinda lazy. The first time I tried hiking the 1000 step hike I was shocked by the level of it and even though I tried to make it to the top my stamina wouldn't let me. Despite that, Josie and Alex cheered me up so thanks. Nate also took care of our group and helped me a lot. I tried white water rafting and this is the most dangerous activity I have done in my life and it was really worth it to try. I found it difficult sometimes making friends as we all have different

lifestyles and cultures and habits but I have made lots of memories and new friends. This may be the greatest summer in my whole life and thanks to Jud for welcoming us to this camp!

Paul

First off, this is my first year at SMA therefore everything to me is completely new. At first I wasn't even really excited for the camp but now everything has been super fun and memorable for me! My favorite activity was soccer because it was personally exciting and I competed with Trey, Robbie and Mason so it was nice. When we did rail trail biking and it started to rain that was one of my best memories. We thought it would be a boring activity but our counselors Trey and Mason made it fun but the rain didn't stop so we ended up going to Goodwill and Sheetz. I did canoeing with Jacob and we ended up flipping over five times! (I'm sorry Jacob). We did white water rafting and I was exhausted and thirsty after but also me and my teammates had a lot of fun. Our captain Max created his own song to cheer us up when we sailed through rapid parts of the river. Thank you SMA camp for bringing us some of the best memories and I wish I could return here in the future!



Minh

This is my first time at SMA and there are lots of activities that are fun and never really appear in Vietnam. The ones I like the most are sup n sail, soccer and swim and canoeing. I made new friends with Spiffy and some staff like Mason, Cillian and Josie are really fun. If someone asked me my best memory at camp it would be rail trail biking because when we went, it rained heavily so we chose to go to Sheetz and Trey treated us to a nice drink. At one evening meeting Jud got some recycled things and said to make an invention and my team's invention was a mind changing device and we acted like the device changed our minds and spoke in the language the other person talks.



## Counselor Reflections Session 2

Max Oettl

I had a great time in session two. My favorite activity was definitely mountain biking. It was fun to ride down the Allegrippis trails. My favorite evening activity was the talent show. There were so many characters with different qualities and talents. I loved to go white water rafting. This session taught me how important it is to improve yourself, evolve and make the best out of every situation. Life is short and we should use every minute we have.

Laura Cloward

Session two was really interesting. Having the VIC group with us and sharing with them the magic of SMA was really great. I took them to the second ever sup n sail overnight and it was great! When it came to the kids, I was so happy to see so many returners from last year and spend time with them. Some of the new kids were amazing surprises and I enjoy so much meeting new kids, teaching them new things on the boat and sharing a love of books. Saying goodbye is always hard but I'm excited for next session and to give and teach more.



Nine Pradal

I can't believe that session two is already over. It went past so much quicker than the first one and summer is already halfway over. It makes me realize that I really need to be in the present and remember as much as I can. I had a chance to spend a lot of time in the biat teaching wakeboarding and having fun with the tube. Nothing makes me prouder than when campers get up on the wakeboard for the first time. I got to be a camp doctor for the



kids and it really comforted me on my decision to go through medical school. I really love taking care of others. For the first time ever I got to captain my boat on the Yough! I feel like I did a pretty good job. Then Mike got to captain and he was so much better than me! I went on two overnights and my first rock climbing one. It came with its struggles, but I really enjoyed caving for the first time. I can't wait to start next session, meet new kids and keep having so much fun.

Connor Fry

Today is the last day of session two but the first day of the rest of my life. Gee-wizz what a session! My first time back as a counselor after 7-years has been action packed. On one hand it feels as though nothing's changed. SMA has remained in its time bubble, separate from the constant change outside. But at the same time, everything has changed. Modified buildings, tweaked activity schedules and of course the ever-changing faces of campers. Perhaps I've generalized. Nothing's the same. Young campers are suddenly energetic leaders giving me direction. Old pets have passed on and new faces greet campers in the morning. The one real constant – true as the day I first set foot at SMA – is this; SMA is and continues to be absolutely awesome. Sports, canoes, the lake, wakeboards, bikes, rocks and party washes can all come and go but it's the leadership, counselors and campers that never change... because no matter what, they all continue to be awesome.



Zoey Plew-Smeehuyzen

Session two was a blast and it was great getting to know a new bunch of kids. It was a big session and having the VIC group added a fun aspect to this session. This session I worked



hard with camper Nate to solve a rubix cube. He was a great teacher and I feel so accomplished that I can now solve it. It will be hard saying goodbye to the kids but I look forward to continuing this adventure.

Mollie Bruce

This session has flown by even faster than the first one which I didn't think would be possible. I feel so much more used to the routines of camp and have loved getting to redo some amazing activities. The bonds I've made with other counselors in such a short period of time is quite insane and I'm loving spending time with them all. I've definitely found myself a lot more tired this session and had to really push myself some days to find energy but again, I've had a great team for motivation. My favorite things have been of course the talent show which is always a blast and also making my first cool friendship bracelet after I finally learnt how to understand reading patterns. Being bunk captain for Little J has been a lot of fun because they were a great group of girls and I'm really happy some of them are staying for session three. I'm officially half way through my summer at SMA and I never want it to end.



Chase Cloward

Session 2 started out with a bang. So many new and old faces again and old camp relationships to start up again. Going to Bilgers Rocks for the rock climbing overnight was a blast. Having the VIC Vietnam group here was a change of pace and it brought even more diversity to camp.

Amy Roebuck

Session two has been a blast! It was a big jump from session one as we had more campers, however more campers just means more friends to have fun with and I've definitely had fun on activities this session, especially on art studio and archery. I can't believe how quickly summer is going and I need to make sure I cherish every moment with the campers and other staff members as it will soon be time to go back home to boring, normal life. I feel like I'm growing more as a person each day and I'm excited to see what session three brings!



Jordan Thorne

Session two started out with a bang. There were a bunch of ups and downs, talks, laughter and heartfelt goodbyes at the end. During the session, campers visibly matured, counselors learned and grew as well while attempting to maintain the magical spirit of SMA. Hopefully, the spirit was kept and first years from session two would come back to maintain the spirit for another year.

Mason Craig

My SMA session two was amazing – so much happened in what feels like so little time. This was my first year working here as a team member and I loved it so much. It's hard for me to call it work when I wake up every morning with a smile on my face, excited to start a new day. The change from going from camper to counselor was so cool to feel from a different perspective. As a camper you're more focused on yourself and your friends having fun together but as a counselor you make sure everyone is having fun, whether you join a game of spike ball or ask a kid who's reading a book by themselves what the story is about. It is



truly a magical feeling to build a relationship with every camper/team member. Stone Mountain Adventures is not just a summer camp. It's a family.

Sophia Watson

I feel really proud of myself this session because I pushed myself to do all of the things I was too afraid to do as a camper. I finally tried mountain biking and climbed to the top of Donation Rocks after all these years. I relate a lot to Jud's talent show song 'Summer Days' because SMA has helped me to face my fears, live in the moment and go with the flow. I am really sad to go home tomorrow but I can't wait to hopefully come back next year as a full counselor.

Sophia McCarthy

After learning many valuable lessons on how best to communicate with campers in session one, I came into session two feeling much more confident and prepared. The additions of Connor and Mason to the staff team, in my opinion, greatly added to the functionality of the staff group. This session I pushed myself to be even more excited for activities as I've seen how greatly it affects the kids. I noticed myself forming deeper bonds with the campers this session, especially Lonnie, Olive, Mitch and Zoey which was really nice. I also enjoyed getting to talk about reading with Nate. This session has surpassed my time as a camper as the most fun I've ever had at SMA!

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## 2024 Staff Team!

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