
Art Camp FAQs (Updated 2023)

Will my child be with other kids of the same age? Can I make a special friend request?

Campers will spend each week in small groups (no more than 12 children) of the same age. Groups will enjoy age-appropriate projects and activities. We are happy to honor friend requests if possible - if your child would like to be grouped with ONE friend or sibling, please inform us via the [Camp Form](#) or at least two weeks before the camp week begins.

- **Please note:** *We are not able to accommodate friend requests made **less than two weeks** before camp begins!*

What forms and paperwork do I need to submit?

Please use the list of Required Camp Forms located on the [Policies & Forms](#) page. You will find our [Emergency Contact and Medical Forms](#). In addition, we require a copy of your child's most recent immunization record.

What should I bring?

Please note, in addition to the items listed in the sections below, ACA requires that students attending our 2023 Feb/April and summer camps arrive each day with the following:

- **A backpack or bag** with the student's name clearly labelled on the front. All other personal items should be placed in the camper's bag/backpack.
- **An extra set of clothing**, in case their original clothing gets torn, dirty or soiled. This applies to children of all ages.

Lunch, Snack & Water Bottle

- **** For full-day programs, please bring a nut-free lunch and TWO snacks each day for full-day programs. ****
- We have a **no-nut policy** due to the prevalence of allergies. Please do not pack items with peanuts or tree nuts including almonds, cashews, hazelnuts, nutella or peanut butter candy.
- Bring a water bottle with your child's name on it every day. Please be sure to fill the water bottle each morning before arriving to camp.
- We do not have refrigerators or microwaves available for camper lunches
- We are not able to provide food for campers! In the event that your child forgot his/her lunch or snack, we will contact you.

Clothing

- Make sure your child is wearing clothes that you don't mind getting messy.
- Please pack an extra set of clothes, just in case of spills, weather or other accidents.

- No flip-flops, please.
- We will go outside every day, weather permitting. Please dress accordingly.

What NOT to bring:

- Electronic devices must be left in the campers' backpacks
- Collectable cards
- Personal sports equipment
- Flammables, knives or weapons of any kind (including toy weapons)
- Tobacco or drugs of any kind
- Peanuts or tree nuts – we are a nut free camp!

Do the kids get outdoors and have physical activity during the day?

Our full-day campers enjoy a good amount of physical activity and outdoor time- *weather permitting*. Please dress your child in weather appropriate clothing.

How will I know what my child is doing in camp each week?

Before the start of each weekly session, you will receive a detailed email from our Education & Programs Manager or Camp Director, outlining group placement and procedures for the week. On Friday of each week, you will receive our camp newsletter with a description of our activities and photos. We will also send a survey at the end of each week, where you can share you and your child's experience of the week. We'd love to get your feedback, and value your input!

How does ACA create a safe, inclusive environment for my camper?

Safety is our number one priority at our camp programs. Our administration and front office staff go through annual first aid/CPR/Narcan training. Additionally, all of ACA's camp staff participate in an annual concussion training, as well as an annual camp orientation. Camp orientation training includes first aid skills like anaphylaxis and heat exhaustion protocol, but also includes social-skills training in nonviolent communication, cultural humility, gender inclusivity, as well as antiracist frameworks and applications. As part of our organization's mission of "transforming lives and building community through the arts," ACA understands our role to actively support our continued education and growth so that we can grow collectively. We understand that our campers and their families are their best advocates. Therefore, we strive to empower our campers and their families to share their feelings and needs to help us better understand how we can provide the best experience possible.

- **Please note:** When filling out your child's [First Aid & Emergency Contact](#) forms, please consider providing detailed information about how our staff can best support your child, and their needs, while at camp (e.g. information including your child's interests, behavioral strategies which have worked best for your child, etc.). Providing information about your child in advance of the camp week will help our staff prepare to best support and meet their particular needs during their time with us at camp.

How do I sign up for Extended Day?

ACA will **not** be offering Extended Day services for February and April 2023 Camps.

Late Pickup Policy

Parents/guardians will be charged an additional \$20 for every 10 minutes they are late to pick up their camper (after 4:15pm for regular pick-up / 5:30pm for extended day). This will be to compensate the wages of our employees covering that time for your camper. If this occurs, ACA will submit an invoice to that camper's family at the end of the week.

I forgot/was unable to pick up my child's artwork on Friday. Can I still pick up their work?

Due to the volume of campers we serve each week, we are unable to retain any artwork past the Friday of each camp week, EXCEPT for Ceramics work. Parents should contact the ACA office at (781)-648-6220 to schedule a time to pick up their camper's artwork for ceramics only.

How do I sign up?

- Register [online](#)
- To register by phone: call (781) 648-6220

Is Scholarship Assistance Available?

Limited Scholarships are available, based on financial need. Complete scholarship information and application are available [here](#). Scholarship assistance is supported in part by the Ali family and Cambridge Savings Bank, and by individual contributions. Please consider donating to ACA's scholarship fund!

What is your camp Refund Policy?

A \$50 fee applies to all cancellations

- Four weeks or more before camp week begins: **full refund less cancellation fee**
- Two weeks or more before camp week begins: **50% refund less cancellation fee**
- Less than two weeks before camp week begins: **no refund**

Please note: ACA will offer a program transfer (as availability allows) or a prorated credit for the amount of missed camp programming for any child who has tested positive for COVID-19 (note: the positive test must have been taken within 5 days of the start of the camp program). Please contact us at info@acarts.org if this is the case so that our staff can assist you.

Other Questions?

If you don't see the answer to your question, please email us anytime at info@acarts.org, or call (781) 648-6220 during office hours, 9am-5pm.