

One Big Circle: Everybody In It



Camp Interlaken is proud of our open, supportive, and inclusive environment. We are committed to building a vibrant community rooted in Jewish values and bringing the transformative power of Jewish summer camp to every child and family that comes through our gates.

We are firmly committed to promoting diversity, equity, inclusion, racial justice, anti-racism, and belonging. We take a firm stance against racism, sexism, and all acts of discrimination. We know the importance of speaking out and not standing by when we see injustice. We say “Never Again” so that we never forget the horror that the Jewish people have faced; we extend that same promise to all who struggle to gain respect, empathy, and understanding. Our Jewish values inspire us to stand up against persecution in all forms, and we are moved to act in support of our entire camp community - campers, their families, and camp staff - to ensure camp is a safe space. At camp, all campers, staff, and families have the right to feel a sense of belonging, safety, and love.

Camp Interlaken promises to spend our summers helping children grow, make memories, and build lifelong friendships. We believe that change begins through education, being a part of a community where these values are passed down from generation to generation, *l'dor v'dor*, with an everlasting goal of creating a more just and equitable community and society.

Camp is a place of wonder, exploring, newfound friendships, and gaining independence and confidence. We are a community of kindness and inclusion; we want everyone to feel safe and know that they belong at Camp. This includes campers and staff from groups who have historically faced oppression and trauma: Black people, Indigenous people, LGBTQIA+ individuals, people with neurodiversity, and all others.

Children are our future, and camp has a part in shaping the lives of our future leaders. We believe that committing to a stance of anti-racism, anti-discrimination, and acceptance will send a ripple effect from each camper back to their homes where they will help their communities develop a greater sense of purpose, identity, and human responsibility.

We welcome children and adults to engage in a process of learning. As a community, we remain committed to educating ourselves, empathizing with people whose circumstances and identities are different from our own, and doing better to improve the lives of all. We hope to help facilitate courageous conversations that raise up the values of our community and denounce all forms of discrimination at camp and beyond. Camp Interlaken is a uniquely transformative opportunity for young people to take risks and grow, and our job at Camp Interlaken is to nurture that growth.