THE SHOW MUST GO ON

Campers in our Virtual Drama Programs, Imagination Online and Take Three, often start their class with a game called “Rose, Thorn, and Bud”. In this activity, they are challenged to think of something that they’re grateful for (their rose), something that is bothering them (their thorn), and something that they’re looking forward to (their bud). As you would expect, we hear lots of exciting answers for each question, but there are, of course, common themes.

“My rose”, said one camper, “is being in camp with you all”. Another shared that this was her first camp experience. Another shared that they were happy to get to see their friends, even if it was online. Unsurprisingly, a common thread when identifying their thorn was COVID-19 and not being able to see their friends, and some of the lost opportunities.

And, in the past few weeks, we’ve slowly built a massive list of “buds” that our campers are looking forward to with everything from getting a haircut, to getting back to school, and of course - a few looking forward to Summer 2021. My favorite, by far, was the camper who was looking forward to “saving the world and helping people.”

I suppose that it might be easy to lose sight of the emotional connections that our children make during a busy year at school, sports, and camp. But all you have to do is take a few moments to ask, and you can rest assured that they are ready and excited to build their network and be part of their communities. Although it is different online, it still happens! It’s been a real treat to see the hard work our Virtual Campers have put in this Summer. Not only have they accomplished great things in their classes, they’ve also been awesome members of our community.

Next week, we celebrate “Camp Kindness Day”. It’s a tradition that we’ve been participating in for a few years, one that celebrates the “intentional acts of kindness that happen every day at camp”. In the past we’ve celebrated through food drives, letters of appreciation to our friends and community, through skits, and memory boards. This year’s will be a little different but we’re still hosting our food drive. Check out the last page of this edition for more information on the food drive!

Steve Cusick
Director of Day Camps.
Virtual Notes
from
Virtual Programs

Virtual Artists
We continued our study of Modern Art this week. Our Virtual Artists studied pop-inspired art by drawing logos of some of their favorite brands, and then imagining their own. Other projects included crafting their own mobiles. We ended the week by exploring cubism and created our own cubism-inspired creations.

Music and Movement
This week we explored the intersection of visual art and music. We started the week by studying songwriting, and continued our exploration of rhythm and pitch. We listened to excerpts from "Pictures at an Exhibition" and took time to draw what the pictures that inspired the music might look like. Our young musicians had lots of good ideas! We ended the week with a game of musical trivia!

Imagination Online
Congratulations to our Imagination Online performers for a wonderful performance! Our performers worked brilliantly this week, adding the finishing touches to their original skits. It's not easy to perform over the internet, but our stars did just that!

Take Three!
Congratulations to our Take Three performers for a wonderful performance! Everyone enjoyed spending a few weeks together learning some new drama games, and crafting our very own skits! Time for our Finale! Take Three has been wonderful these past 3 weeks. As we worked on our very own skits with our friends as our characters, Take Three's creative crew worked diligently to get our final performance ready for the end of our session. Improv games and constructive criticism helped our actors and actresses make great improvements to their presence on "stage". We had an amazing time at our show on Friday!

Virtual Builders
Our week of Builders sure has been a productive one! Our skilled designers started the week by utilizing Google Sketch Up to discover new ways of designing houses and blueprints. As the week progressed, we took to making these blueprints physically, and then translating them into physical structures with a variety of household materials. Combining all these skills resulted in our final project: The toothpick bridge. A challenging but incredibly rewarding project, the aim was to create the sturdiest bridge possible, while also being resource efficient. It was no easy task, but our Builders proved they had what it took as their bridges stood up to almost every stress test! It was a quick week, but we had a blast designing and building anything we could think of!

Scavenger Hunts
Our Campers are TALENTED! Even our nature themed scavenger hunt was no match for their speed and determination. It's not too late to join Monday's Scavenger Hunt - just email summercamp@friendsbalt.org.

Summer Camp Trivia
Week four of our Trivia Challenge was a blast! Congratulations to Dean for winning with 9 out of 10 points!

MORE VIRTUAL PROGRAMS
We've added a variety of programs for Virtual Weeks 5 - 8, including additional sections of Virtual Artist, Senior Soiree, Music, Animation and Tech Tapas, and new programs including Photography Online, Virtual MakersCamp, and Writing with Friends plus two new math programs. We hope that you’ll join us!
Virtual Camp Kindness Day 2020

Each July, camps across the country celebrate Camp Kindness Day. Camp Kindness Day highlights the intentional acts of kindness that happen every day at camp. Although we can’t celebrate in person this year, we still want to celebrate the many acts of kindness, compassion, generosity, and care that we see everyday (even online) in our camp community.

On Tuesday, July 14, we will be collecting items for our annual

**Camp Kindness Day Food Drive.**
The Food Drive benefits the CARES Food Pantry in Govans.

*This will be a contactless drop-off!*

Items can be dropped off outside the Camp Office on Tuesday July 14 from 9 am to 11 am and from 3 pm to 5 pm. Collection boxes will be set along the main driveway. A handful of Camp Staff Members will be on site to direct you, wave and say THANK YOU!

Any non-perishable food item will be accepted, however CARES is particularly in need of: peanut butter and personal care items such as toilet paper, toothpaste, tooth brushes, deodorant, soap, shampoo, razors, shaving cream, etc.

**Camp Kindness Day Virtual Share**
You are invited to share acts of kindness you have seen at Camp or within our Camp Community!
Send these acts of kindness to campdesk@friendsbalt.org.
Highlights will be shared to our Facebook page!