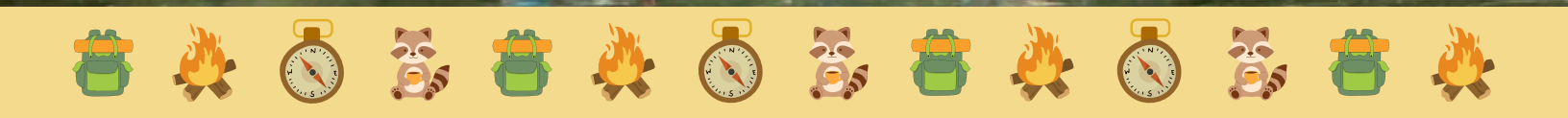
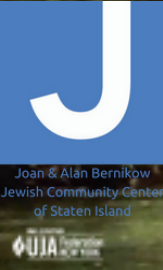


# THE WEEKLY SHMOOZE

Official Newsletter of the JCC Lillian Schwartz Day Camp



## WINTER ISSUE

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# INTRODUCING OUR NEW WEBSITE

## **Meet your ultimate guide to the Best Summer Ever!**

*We are beyond excited to introduce our shiny, brand-new JCC Day Camp website for the upcoming season. Tailored with parents in mind, this user-friendly site is packed with everything you need to make your family's camp experience as smooth and fun as possible.*

***What's waiting for you on the new website?*** Let's dive into the awesome features that'll make planning your summer a breeze:

***Camp Calendars*** – Get a sneak peek at each week's exciting lineup. From activity highlights and special events to field trips, you'll be able to plan every moment of your camper's adventure. **COMING SOON – 2025 Camp Calendars!**

***Easy Online Registration & Payments*** – Signing up for camp has never been easier. Register and pay securely in just a few clicks—whether you're a returning camper or a first-timer, it's quick and hassle-free.

***Camp Program Details*** – Is your child all about sports, arts and crafts, swimming, or outdoor fun? Our site breaks down each program, so you'll know exactly what your camper will be up to this summer.

***Photo Galleries*** – Want to see all the magic happening at camp? We've got you covered with easy access to our vibrant photo galleries on Facebook and Instagram. Relive the best moments of camp life and share in the excitement.

***Camp FAQs*** – Find answers to all your burning questions—whether it's about camp rules, safety, camp rates, or policies, the FAQs section has everything you need to know.

***Contact Info & Support*** – Have questions? Need help? Our friendly team is just a click away, ready to assist with anything from registration to summer support.

*With its sleek design and all the helpful tools, the new website is here to make your summer planning a total breeze. We're all about creating unforgettable memories this summer, and this platform is the first step in making that happen.*

*Ready to explore? Visit [sijccdaycamp.org](http://sijccdaycamp.org) to check out the new site and get your camper signed up today. The **Staten Island JCC Day Camp** isn't just a place—it's where lifelong friendships, fun, learning, and adventure come together.*

***Don't miss out on the best summer ever!***

# CAMPER PROFILES

Meet some of our outstanding campers!



**Amelia R.**  
K'Ton Ton, graduating to Parpar

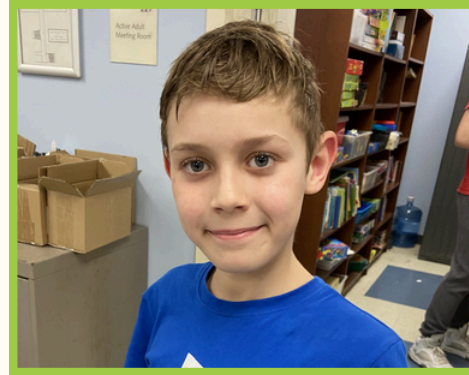
*Favorite Part of Camp:*  
Lunchtime, because I sit with my friends

*What are you looking forward to in Camp 2025?*  
Swimming in the pool

*Number of Years at Camp:* 1

*Favorite Counselor:* Maya

*Favorite Camp Snack:* Ice Cream



**Artem A.**  
Maccabiah, graduating to Machon

*Favorite Part of Camp:*  
Swimming in the BIG pool/deep end when you earn the red wrist band and good snacks

*What are you looking forward to in Camp 2025?*  
New inflatable game center

*Best Show at Camp:*  
Powerhouse Studios Booger Tower

*Best Camp Trip:*  
Urban Air



**Emily F.**  
Parpar, graduating to Nitzan

*Favorite Part of Camp:*  
Swimming

*What are you looking forward to in Camp 2025?*  
Going to the playground

*Number of Years at Camp:* 2

*Favorite Counselor:* Emma

*Favorite Camp Snack:*  
Chocolate Chip Cookies



**Cole M.**  
Nitzan, graduating to Shalom

*Favorite Part of Camp:*  
Playground and going down the slide

*What are you looking forward to in Camp 2025?*  
Playing Gaga

*Number of Years at Camp:* 3

*Favorite Specialist:*  
Jordan Bernstein



**Tyler A.**  
Maccabiah, graduating to Machon

*Favorite Part of Camp:*  
Extended hours because we get to do different activities

*What are you looking forward to in Camp 2025?*  
New inflatable game center

*Best Show at Camp:*  
Powerhouse Studios Booger Tower

*Best Camp Trip:*  
Hershey Park

# COUNSELOR PROFILES

Meet some of our counselors!



**Lance E. Shalom**

*Favorite Part of Camp:*

The campers, counselors and leaders because it's nice to meet new people and experience new things.

*What are you looking forward to in Camp 2025?*

More of the fun!

*Best Show at Camp:*

One where the Shalom Director got pied in the face!



**Nicholas M. Chalutz**

*Favorite Part of Camp:*

Chalutz League ceremony

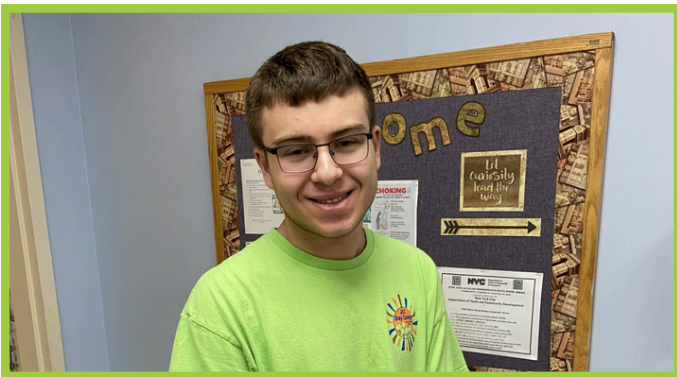
*What are you looking forward to in Camp 2025?*

The new activities and twists that the Chalutz Director is planning for leagues

*Number of Years at Camp:* 3

*Best Show at Camp:* Animal shows

*Best Camp Trip:* Nickelodeon



**Jake P. Shemesh**

*Favorite Part of Camp:*

Cooking and working with campers is rewarding and fun

*What are you looking forward to in Camp 2025?*

New and exciting activities and to see the new camp shirt color

*Number of Years at Camp:*

Attending since 2010 and working since 2022!

*Best Show at Camp:*

Wild and Wacky Challenge getting pied in face



**Sophia G. Maccabiah**

*Favorite Part of Camp:*

Spending the day with everybody and doing fun activities

*What are you looking forward to in Camp 2025?*

Trips

*Number of Years at Camp:*

I attended since I was 3 years old and started working last summer.

*Best Show at Camp:* Wild and Wacky Show

*Best Camp Trip:* Club Getaway overnight

# CAMP KICKOFF

On Sunday, January 5, our campers and counselors celebrated the KICK OFF to camp season 2025! Campers and staff reunited and enjoyed fun activities together such as:

- Inflatables
- Powerhouse Studios Wild and Wacky Challenges
- Ice Cream Sundaes

All who attended received the Coolest SIJCC Day Camp Jibbitz Giveaway!



# BOUNCE INTO FUN: THE ULTIMATE INFLATABLE GAME CENTER IS COMING TO CAMP

Get ready for an epic summer because we're adding a new inflatable game center to our lineup of amazing camp activities! Think hours of non-stop fun, excitement, and plenty of action—all in one awesome space.

Our brand-new inflatable game center will feature a 9-hole miniature golf course, a basketball toss, axe throwing, and football and soccer skills challenges—talk about a game-on experience! There's something for every camper, whether they're into sports, friendly competition, or just trying something totally new and fun.



This inflatable wonderland is the perfect mix of active play, social fun, and challenging games. It's the kind of place where kids can test their athletic skills, hang out with friends, and discover exciting new activities—all in a safe, energetic environment.

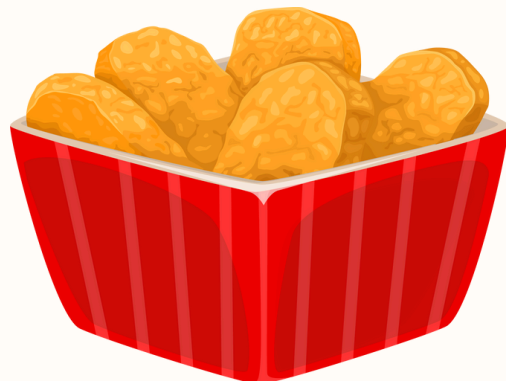
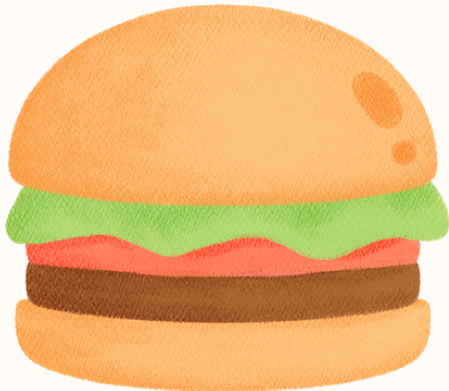
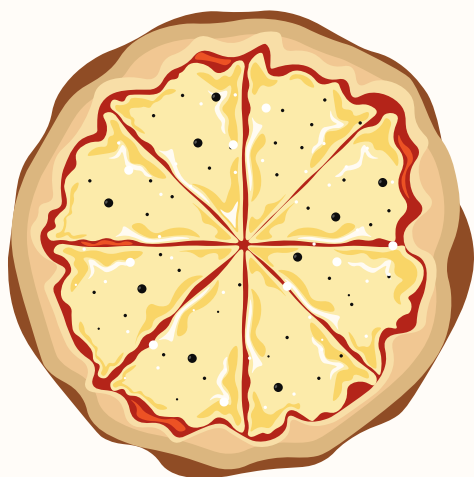
We can't wait to see the kids dive into this inflatable game center and make some unforgettable memories this summer. Get ready to have a blast, stay active, and show off those new skills. This is going to be a camp season highlight like no other.

## HOT LUNCH

Get ready for an exciting new addition to our camp experience: **the hot lunch program!** That's right, your camper will enjoy a delicious, nutritious kosher meal every day (excluding trip days)—**all included in the camp fee.** No extra cost, just pure lunchtime joy.

Each week, we'll be serving up kid-approved favorites like **pizza, chicken nuggets, sandwiches, hamburgers, mac and cheese, baked ziti, veggie lo mein,** and so much more. There's something for everyone, whether your camper's a picky eater or has dietary needs. We're super excited to take lunchtime off your plate (literally) and give the kids a chance to refuel while having fun in the sun. It's the perfect combo of convenience and yummy goodness.

The **new hot lunch program** will officially launch this summer, making our camp experience even more fun and unforgettable for everyone. We can't wait to share this new twist on camp life.



## THE COUNTDOWN BEGINS

Get Ready for the Ultimate Summer Camp Calendars Reveal

Get ready for the BIG reveal of our summer camp calendars. Get a sneak peek at all the amazing adventures ahead, including our summer show line-up, weekly camp themes, Jewish values, exciting special events, action-packed activities, thrilling trip destinations, and so much more. It's going to be a summer full of surprises and memories you won't want to miss. **Stay tuned—adventure awaits!**

# MEET OUR DIRECTOR OF INCLUSION AND STAFF HIRING

Get to know Lucy Kamil, former Director of K'Ton Ton and current Inclusion & Hiring Director!

## Describe you and your family's history at JCC Day Camp and other JCC programs:

We joined the JCC when our oldest son Jason attended Mommy & Me. He then went to Arts & Rhythm followed by Nursery School, Pre-K, sports, and camp. Our younger sons Brandon and Jordan followed Jason and the Kamil family was committed.

Our involvement in the JCC led to a whole new world filled with volunteering and socializing with people that have become lifelong friends for us and our children. As the boys got older they attended camp, Saturday Night Lounge, and teen dances. They played soccer, tee ball, and basketball. We signed Jason up for Bidy Basketball and my husband began coaching in the JCC's Intramural basketball program. This led to all 3 boys playing for the JCC in the Staten Island CYO league.

Since my husband and kids were so involved in the program I was always there. I began volunteering with the Sports & Rec Department doing whatever needed to be done to help make the program better. That led to my first job at the JCC. I worked in Sports & Rec for many years. After that I ended up working with Glenn & Stephanie as the Director of K'Ton Ton for 12 summers and I am now the Inclusion and Hiring Director. I work year round in our Youth Department and Family Programs.

## What is your role now and what do you feel you bring to camp?

My 38 year long career as a Special Education teacher for the DOE led me to Camp. My first 12 summers at camp I spent as the K'Ton Ton Director. I went every day and got to play with the cutest kids in camp. I never thought of camp as work. For 39 days everyone that works at the JCC Day Camp is like a giant family!

For the last 3 summers I've been the inclusion director. I meet with the children that register for camp that might need some extra support to be able to have a successful summer experience. Last summer and this summer I have interviewed every new counselor and specialist working at camp. This has added an extra layer of support to making sure that our staff are competent and appropriately trained to work with our children.

## What are your hobbies?

I enjoy scrapbooking and reading. I love watching reality TV. Dancing With the Stars is my favorite!

## What are you looking forward to most in camp 2025 and why?

Every year, I looked forward to watching the progress that my little K'Ton Ton campers made at the pool. They would come in hesitant about the pool and in 39 days, they would be swimming like they've been doing it for years. I know that this year will be just as successful at our pools.



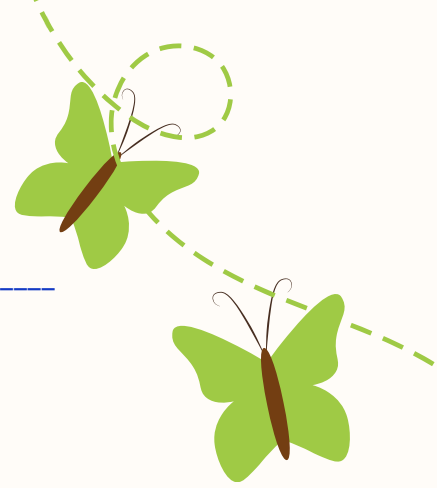
## What's something we don't know about you that we would love to know?

I am retired (from teaching) and loving the freedom to do whatever I want when I want. Working at the JCC gives me the opportunity to still work with children.

I am a grandma to SallyJo who is 2½ and we are expecting another granddaughter in April.



# NAME THAT SPECIALIST GAME



I instruct on how to dribble, shoot and pass... \_\_\_\_\_

You can hold, play and learn about the furry and fun creatures

I bring to camp... \_\_\_\_\_

My materials include crayons, glue, and scissors... \_\_\_\_\_

With me you learn to shoot a target with a

bow and arrow... \_\_\_\_\_

We twist and decorate dough that gets baked... \_\_\_\_\_

I conduct fun experiments with you... \_\_\_\_\_

At my table we sand and hammer while

wearing goggles... \_\_\_\_\_

We learn about the culture, land and Hebrew language... \_\_\_\_\_

Together we roll, bounce, jump and cartwheel... \_\_\_\_\_

Use brushes and mix colors to create beautiful art with me... \_\_\_\_\_

I lead you on hikes as we explore the campgrounds... \_\_\_\_\_

Tummies get filled at my specialty as we prepare

delicious things... \_\_\_\_\_

With me you kick the ball into the goal

without touching it... \_\_\_\_\_

Learn to defend yourself with me as we

punch and kick pads... \_\_\_\_\_

Sing-along and dance with me on top of the hill ... \_\_\_\_\_

I help you learn to score a touchdown... \_\_\_\_\_

Build fidget toys and create art with texture... \_\_\_\_\_

# CAN YOU GUESS THE CAMP 2025 THEME?

## Art Projects

- Statue of Liberty Puppets
- Staten Island Ferry Art
- Brooklyn Aquarium Totes



## STEM Fun

- Create a Botanical Garden
- Make a Central Park Sailboat
- Build a Verrazano Bridge



## Games and Activities

- Subway Scavenger Hunt
- Catch a Taxi Cab
- Citi Field Relays



## Music, Dance and Movement

- Broadway Karaoke
- Bronx Zoo Animal Dance
- High Rock Park Yoga



## Snacks

- Street Vendor Food Order
- Richmond Town Colonial Delights
- Brooklyn Bagel Picnic

