



MAX & MARION CALDWELL Foundation
Making a difference in children's lives by sending kids to camp.

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 11

www.caldwellfoundation.org

Spotlight on Lexi Simon

Lexi's story exemplifies the impact camp so often has on children. She was a Caldwell Foundation campership recipient, went through the Counselor-in-Training program, and worked as a Kennolyn counselor for three summers.

Lexi first came to Kennolyn in 2006, "after years of begging my parents to let me go". In 2009 her parents divorced and couldn't afford to send her, but she received an Aunt Marion Memorial Resident Campership that summer, so she didn't miss out.

She's currently a senior at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, studying Finance, and she says, "I would not be where I am today without Kennolyn. The counselors I had growing up taught me that being weird is cool, being different is fun, and being quiet doesn't mean that you don't have a voice."



Lexi shows her mom what she's learned on the Ropes Course

The counselors I had growing up taught me that being weird is cool, being different is fun, and being quiet doesn't mean that you don't have a voice."

When she was a CILT, she had to leave in the middle of her session because her mother was critically ill, and passed away. Later that summer, she returned to finish the CILT program. "After such a terrible summer, that caused my life to change forever, I still had home under the redwood trees. There is no doubt in my mind that without the support I had from Kennolyn I would not be anywhere as successful as I have become."

Dear Ms. Hannah Wilson + Campership Selection Committee,
I wanted to write to express my gratitude for my campership this year. It is amazing that this opportunity exists, and I had the time of my life. I forgot how much I loved it in the past, and it really is like a second home to me. I love being a camper, and I am also so excited to someday become a counselor as well. I cannot wait to return next year for my last summer as a camper, and I am truly grateful for the work I attended this summer. Thank you so much for everything.
With gratitude,
Sidney

SIDNEY FITZGERALD



"As a senior camper and throughout the training program I became comfortable in my own skin. 'Take Initiative' is grounded in my memory forever, and I hear my CILT counselors' voices in my head whenever a volunteer is needed in class. Before I even realize what's happening, I'm standing in front of a lecture of 500 people helping with something!"

In 2016, she wasn't even supposed to return to camp for her third year on staff because she had a Finance internship in Boston. But the Kennolyn pull was too strong, and she ended up back at camp working as the Ropes Coordinator.



Lexi fulfills her dream of being Ropes Coordinator!

"When I was a camper I used to tell my parents I wanted to be ropes coordinator when I grew up..."

"As a counselor I found my favorite job in the world. There's a magic about Kennolyn that hits everyone at some point, when you realize that everything you do as a counselor has the chance to affect your campers forever. It brings an unstoppable energy!"

Recently Lexi had to write a paper on the most important gift she'd ever been given, and she wrote about Kennolyn. She says she has the Caldwell Foundation to thank for this. "Without the campership that summer I would have missed out on learning that even though I have no artistic ability I am great at making pottery! I would have missed out on being in drama for the first time and kicking stage fright out of my life. I would have missed out on summer under the redwood trees in my favorite place in the world."

Thanks to you, our generous donors, more children every year get the chance to experience the magic that is summer camp.

Meet your 2016 Campership Recipients!

Kennolyn Camps



Kennolyn Resident Camp

Connie Wadsworth Campership

Fatima Garcia

We Run for Chelsea Campership

Reilly Allison

Chelsea Corey Memorial Campership

Jair Garcia

Aunt Marion and Uncle Max Campership

David Banker

Pat and Jack Veatch Family Campership

Keely Fry

Kirkwood Family Campership

Lily Lena

Kennolyn Day Camp

Camper Store Account Campership

Jordan Ruiz

Kailee Correll

Azhedzi Essel

Everett Ruiz

Gamble Kellermyer

Jahmai Douyon

Jayden Packer-Keller

Olivia Garley

Aunt Marion and Uncle Max Campership

Maple Barker

Amy Gray

Noah Flores

College Scholarship Recipient

Madison Love spent 6 years as a camper and has now been on staff for 3 years. She said that Kennolyn has meant the world to her, forming who she is today. She is a quietly caring counselor who campers adore. At camp you can usually find her at Ceramics or up in the trees. She is currently a Junior at UCLA.



Madison at camp and with her past Kennolyn scholarship recipients (Kirsty, Jack and Samantha) at their final banquet.

Camperships for Campers with Disabilities

Sponsored by Kennolyn Camps

Easter Seals Camp Harmon - Tyler Walters, Daphne Buecher, Cameron Buecher

Camp Krem - Jonathan Oriz, Debbie Lee

Sponsored by Gold Arrow Camp

Via West - Alex Mascareno, Kate Medina



Meet your 2016 Campership Recipients!



Manny Vezie Campership

Montana Cota
Grant Cota
Noah Hilles
Eric Larsen
Grace Larsen

Jean N Vezie Campership

Sidney Fitzgerald

Chelsea Corey Campership & We Run for Chelsea

They're BAAAACK...

You might remember that a group of 7 of Chelsea Corey's Kennolyn friends ran the 2016 Belfast Marathon in her memory. They set up a gofundme campaign and raised just under \$10,000 for the foundation!

This year **22 runners are participating in 3 events around the globe: New Zealand, Edinburgh, and Santa Cruz.** These runners were brought together through their Kennolyn experiences, and represent 8 countries on 3 continents! They set a goal of raising \$15,000, and are sure to reach it.

As they say, "Everything about this campaign is fun: it's about togetherness, support, giving back and representing the selflessness that Chelsea so often displayed." We thank them for their continued commitment to giving children an unforgettable camp experience.

You can read about the two campers who attended Kennolyn last summer, thanks to the funds raised in Chelsea's honor. And there's also

now a bench at Kennolyn in her honor. Her dad and a family friend made the bench out of a wine barrel. And last August, a large group of Chelsea's family came to Kennolyn to dedicate the bench at Kennolyn's Equestrian Center, her favorite place at camp! You can see her initials – CLC – in the photo.



It's so clear what an impact Chelsea had on others during her short life, and what an impact Kennolyn made on her. **In 2017, two more children will come to Kennolyn thanks to funds raised in her honor.**

New Endowments

In 2017, the foundation is awarding the first **Jeanette LeFevre 10 for 10 Campership!** Jeanette first came to Kennolyn with her sister Danielle Burkhart in 1995 when she was 9, and in 2004 she was honored as a Ten Year Camper.



Jeanette as a young camper

Jeanette's mother, Valorie Carpenter, knows how special Kennolyn was to the two girls, and she established the campership to give 10 more children the chance to attend Kennolyn's Resident Camp. Thanks to the generous support of the Carpenter/LeFevre family, this campership will be awarded to one child each year for the next 10 years!

Jeanette says "I'm very grateful that my family was able to afford to not only send me and my sister to camp for so many summers, but can also allow other children to attend Kennolyn. It's truly a unique place!"

In 2007, the **Kirkwood Family** donated \$50,000 to the foundation to permanently endow the Kirkwood Family Campership. Since 2006, one child each summer has attended Kennolyn's Resident Camp as the Kirkwood Family Camper. Earlier this year, **Doug Kirkwood**, a longtime foundation board member, **doubled the size of the family's endowed gift!** This means that from 2017 onwards, two campers a year will get to experience camp, thanks to the incredible generosity of Doug and his family. This is how he explains why the family feels so strongly about supporting the foundation:



Doug with his daughter Robyn at Family Camp in 2003

"When I read the letters of gratitude from the kids and their parents, I can't help but be moved by the kind words describing how important and wonderful it was at Kennolyn, or any of the other camps we support. I want to read more letters – I want more kids to go to camp.

"I want more kids to go to camp. " - Doug

The summer camp experience gives kids a chance to explore, make new friends, and learn to be independent. But, sadly, not all kids come from families who can afford it. Every gift counts. Every gift moves us closer to sending another child to camp. We (the Kirkwood family) cannot change the world, but we can change the life of a small child in a big way. So, that is what we do."

If you are interested in establishing a named campership endowment, please email us! We'd love to talk to you.

Our Generous 2016 Donors (Gifts of \$50 or more)

Endowments:

Ken Caldwell Family
Carolyn Caldwell Folmar Family
Pam Caldwell Nootbaar Family
Lindsey Caldwell Johnson Family
Steve Caldwell Family
Kirwood Family
Doug Kirkwood
Jack & Pat Veatch Family
Jeanette LeFevre
Valorie Carpenter

Organizations:

Amazon Smile
GoFundMe - We Run for Chelsea
Gold Arrow Camp
Kennolyn Camps
Santa Cruz Sunrise Rotary

Individual and Family Donors:

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Buckley
Mr. and Mrs. Wald
KD Williamson
Mr. and Mrs. Berkley
Mr. and Mrs. Seiler
Scott Kirkwood
The Semenova Family
Shelley Holcomb

The Werner Family
Dr. Reynolds
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Johnson
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Mr. & Mrs. Richard Kulka
Ms. Suzanne Kounkel
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Heidi Clark
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Katy Kennedy
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Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ryan
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Mr. John Nootbaar
Mr. Mark Cooper
Mr. Norman Higginbotham
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Ms. Brown-May
Ms. Carol Schaaf
Ms. Longchamps
Patricia Kendrick
Shirley Nootbaar
Sue and Skip Hoyt
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The Marinovic Family
The Moss Family
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Elizabeth Thieriot
Joey Tuttle Judge
Laura Macleod
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The Holloman-Kincaid Family
The MacGibbon Family
The Meek Family
The Orion Family
The ORourke Family
The Simmons Family
The Southey Family
The Ware Family
The Watson Family
The Webb Family
The Young Family
Mr. and Mrs. Hampton

If any donors are missing from the above list, or if you would like your name listed differently, please send us an email.

Can you help?

Do you know a child who could benefit from a chance to go to camp? We're always on the lookout for kids who will thrive at camp, and wouldn't have the opportunity without a campership. You can check our website at www.caldwellfoundation.org for details on all the available camperships and how to apply, and you can also email us at foundation@caldwellfoundation.org. We want to keep expanding the number of children and families impacted by campership opportunities, because we know the impact a summer at camp can have on a child.

Please contact us at foundation@caldwellfoundation.org with any questions or for more information on donating.

It's Our Anniversary!!

15 years ago, the Max & Marion Caldwell Foundation was founded, with commitments from Uncle Max & Aunt Marion themselves as well as the rest of the Caldwell family, and a commitment from Kennolyn Camps.

Our original goal was to fund three-year camperships to Kennolyn's Resident and Day Camps, as well as fund a one-year campership to an American Camp Association accredited camp in Northern California and a one-year campership to a camp in Santa Cruz County. We anticipated providing 8 camperships and one counselor scholarship per year. But thanks to the support of our amazing donors and our partner camps, in **2016** we funded **30 camperships to five different California camps!**

In addition, we funded two counselor scholarships.

As we go to press, we've already awarded 21 camperships for 2017, with another 13 in the

works, and we anticipate awarding at least 2 counselor scholarships. Excluding 2017 numbers, the foundation has awarded **nearly 250 camperships since its inception!**

We've also increased the number of endowed Kennolyn camperships from 3 in the first year to 8 today. And since we began our partnership with Gold Arrow Camp in 2008, generous donors from Gold Arrow alumni and camper families have provided 40 camperships to Gold Arrow, plus camperships to Via West, an ACA-accredited camp in Santa Clara County serving children with special needs.

We couldn't do this without you – more than 2,000 donors have helped the Caldwell Foundation raise over \$1,000,000 to give children the opportunity to spend some time at summer camp. We believe it's a life-changing experience, and we know you do too. **THANK YOU!**

MMCF
Board

Risè Berry, President • Doug Kirkwood • Scott Kirkwood • Clare Schneider
Dick Wood • Hannah Wilson Pam Caldwell Nootbaar, Executive Director