

The Laurel Foundation

Empowering At-risk
Children, Youth & Families

2023

YEARBOOK

2023 YEAR IN REVIEW





2023 Programs

CAMP LAUREL
CAMP MULBERRY
WINTER FAMILY CAMP
LIFE SKILLS RETREAT
FAMILY AQUARIUM DAY
DANCE MARATHON
BACKPACK GIVE AWAY
CLUB LEAF
VOICE OVER WORKSHOP
HOLIDAY PARTY



CAMP



As we embark on our 32nd year of supporting children, youth, and families affected by HIV/AIDS, our commitment to fostering community and empowering the younger generation remains unwavering. Through year-round mental health and social support initiatives, along with engaging camps and educational programs, we aim to strengthen our community.

We take pride in the growth and achievements of our community, especially as we welcome campers who represent the second generation of their families. In 2023, all our programs transitioned to in-person formats, persistently advancing our mission to provide cost-free year-round offerings. These include summer camps, family camps, day programs, and after-school homework tutoring, all tailored to benefit those impacted by HIV/AIDS.



“

Having gone from a camper when I was age 7 to a parent of a now 8-year-old who had attended camp events for the last 2 years, Camp Laurel has been a major part of my life. I was very happy to pass on my summer tradition. I trust The Laurel Foundation to always provide my daughter with a safe and fun place to be a kid. Lynnea (she/her)

- past camper now parent of camper

”



In 2023, Camp Mulberry witnessed the continued growth and flourishing of transgender and gender-diverse youth through our programs! Throughout the year, we provided both day and resident camp sessions, all aimed at empowering these young individuals to embrace their true selves, forge connections within a supportive community, and acquire valuable life skills.

Our summer camp session offered these remarkable youths a space to enjoy classic summer activities, foster new friendships, and rekindle existing ones. Within this inclusive community, they could authentically express themselves and find common ground with others on similar journeys, guided by caring volunteer mentors from across the gender spectrum.

As we reflect on the success of 2023, we eagerly anticipate expanding our programs for transgender and gender-diverse youth and their families in 2024.



Camp Mulberry has allowed my kiddo the freedom for at least one week out of the year to not feel "othered". He feels at home with other trans and enby kids and can participate in everything without fear or judgment.

Holiday Party







JOY!





Thank you
CampJawel



I'll miss
you
Nae'lyn.

THANK
YOU!!!

I will miss
YOU GUYS *



FAMILY *Winter Camp*



family






Camp Laurel
is amazing, I hope
to come back



THANK YOU Camp Laurel
for everything you
guys do your changing
lives of kids and adults
and kids are everything
the special humans
you guys are awesome
we had so much fun

Seba



Dear:

Camp Laurel.

Familia Pérez les agradece la paciencia y atención; fue gracioso esta primera. y muy gratificante saber que podemos compartir con personas iguales sin sentir diferenciación o equivocación, poder participar con los demás y aceptar las diferencias.

Gracias.

Familia Pérez

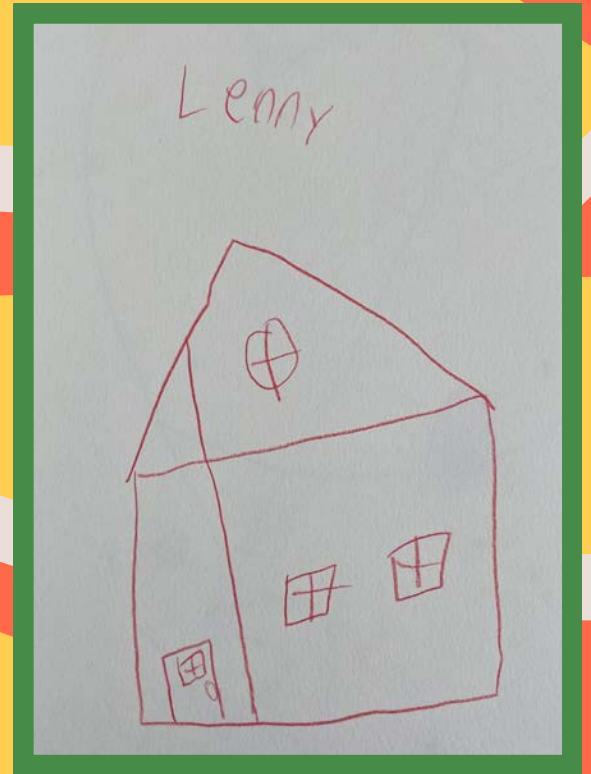




“Many years ago The Laurel Foundation helped me to be stronger and learn more about life. Thanks to Camp Laurel.”
Maira

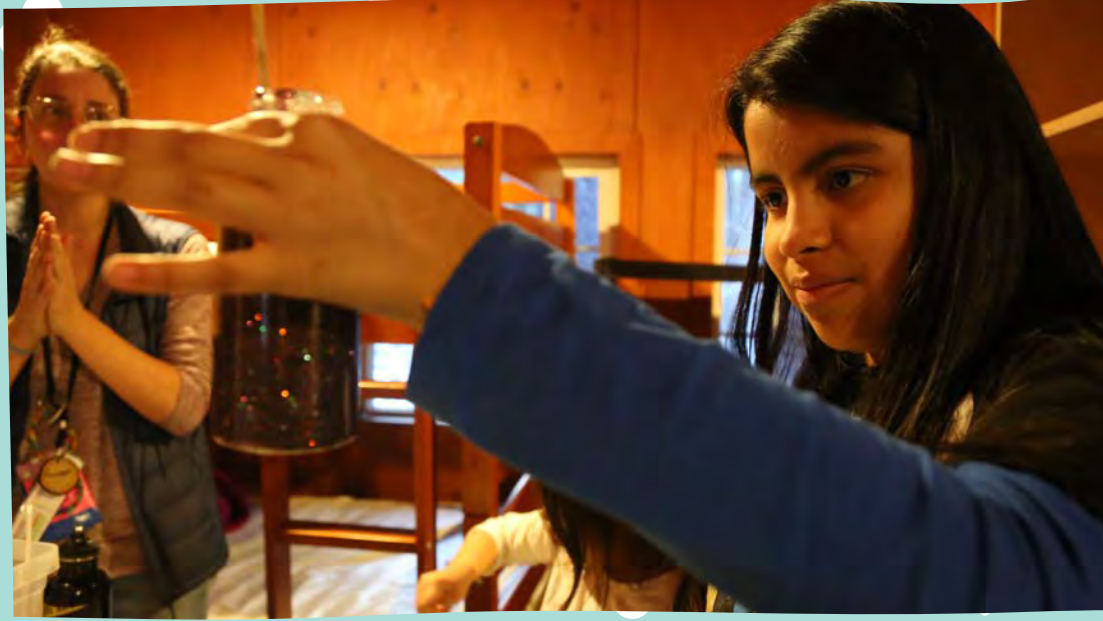
“ Best time of my life!”
P. Santos - Camper 12

“I love The Laurel Foundation because they offer a safe space for people to come together and be themselves” Alex - CIT



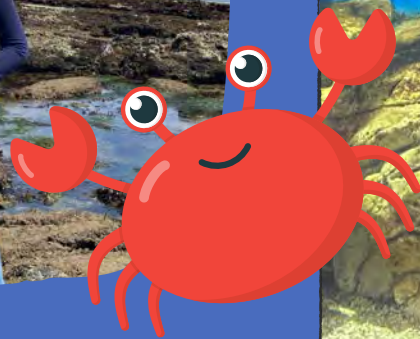


WINTER



Family Day

Aquarium Day





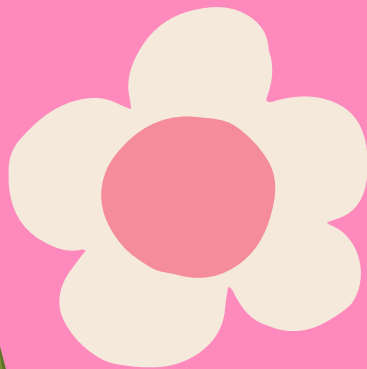
LIFE SKILLS RETREAT





SUMMER CAMP

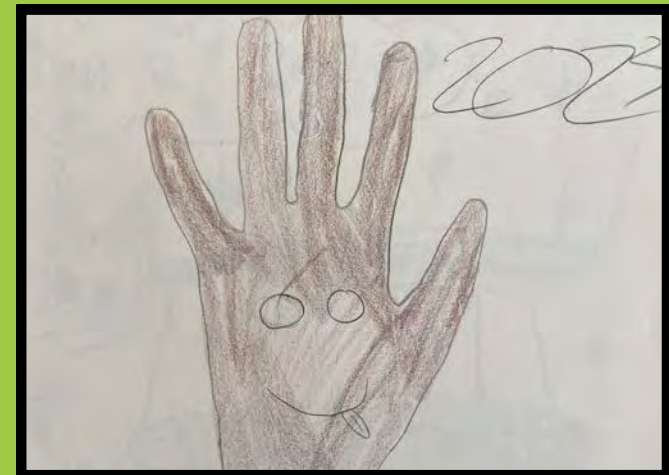
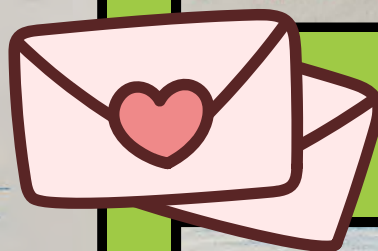
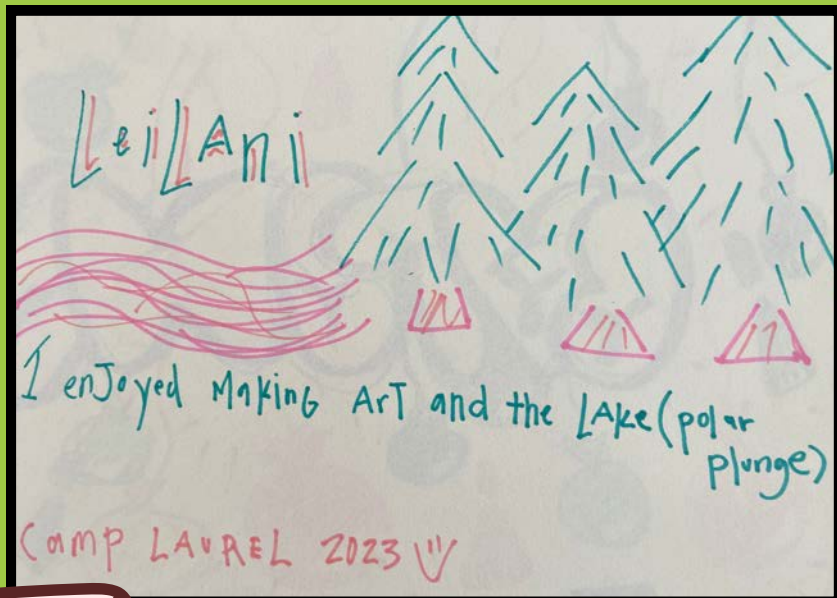






**FUN
DAY**





I Hope next camp is fun as this camp if someone is reading this I hope it's the best camp and I hope I see u next camp.
-Alejandro B.

I love you all I will see you next year
+ thank you humnans, Willy cat, gamed, Kermit and Kewi.

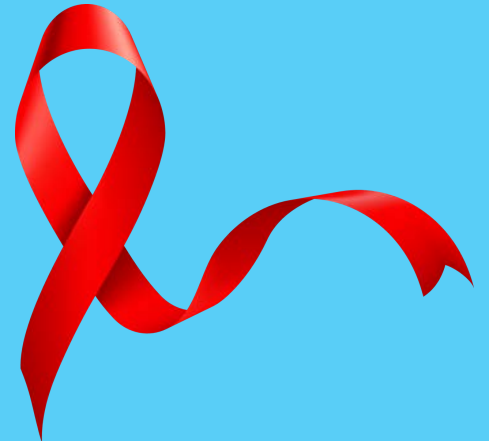


FUN





LOVE





SUMMER
CAMP



FRIENDS

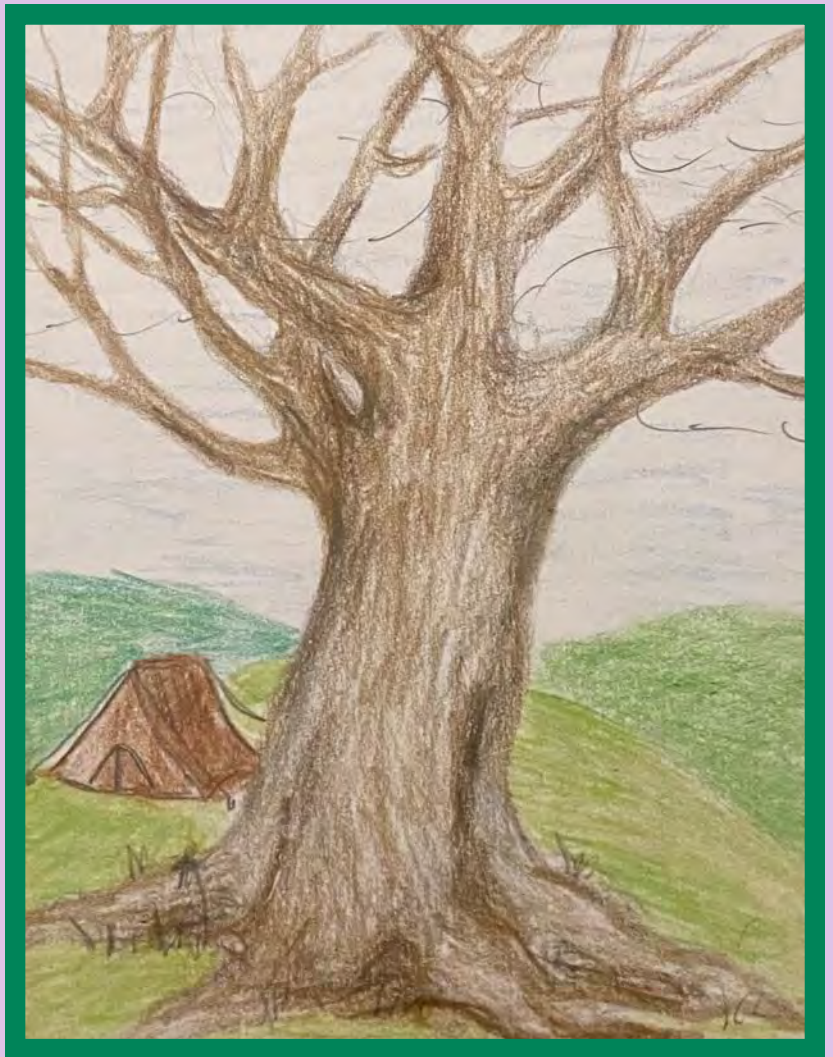








CAMP
ART
MULBERRY



“

“Thank you for making
our safe space
possible.”

Miles K.

”



I am a fly
Lost on the back of an ~~elephant~~
elephant
A tiny river stone
tumbling
tumbling
Never heavy enough to sink
to the bottom.
Seen but never seen
fake laughs and plastic
smiles
will I never find the end
of the elephant's back?

a poem by Entity
Cabin QUILTBAG

“

“Camp Mulberry made me feel very safe and accepted. It was nice to feel like I belonged somewhere and I made several great friends there.”

Astrophil (they/he)

”







UCLA
Financial Aid



DANCE MARATHON 2023





Thank you!

To our 2023 volunteers and staff who made our camp and programs possible.

Astro Bunny
 Bebop
 Big Pine
 Blue
 Blue Jay
 Bones
 Bronco
 Butterfly
 Calico
 Clemantine
 Coruscant
 Cricket
 Cuppa Joe
 Dandelion
 Daydream
 Denise
 Disco
 DJ C.
 Dr. Katz
 Dragon
 Fabuloso
 Gadget
 Gamer
 Gator

Gemini
 Giggles
 Grom
 Gummy Worm
 H2O
 Infinity
 Isopod
 Jeasy
 Jorik
 Kermit
 Kidney Bean
 KPop
 Kiwi
 Laika
 Leaf
 Lily Cat
 Little Foot
 Lizard
 Love Bug
 Luna
 Mako
 Marshmallow
 Maverick
 Merlin
 MilkDud
 Mojave

Mr. Mermazing
 Nick Jagger
 NomNoms
 Oden
 Paddle
 Papillion
 Peaches
 Pumpkin
 Ranger
 Renegade
 River
 Rooster
 Rubix
 Selki
 Seven
 Shout Out
 Shrimp
 Snail
 Spicy
 Sunset
 Sunshine
 Tenshi
 Toucan
 Troy
 Zardalu





Thank You



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