

YMCA CAMP CHEROKEE

Job Title: Lead BOLD & GOLD Wilderness Instructor

Classification: Nonexempt (Seasonal)

Reports to: Director of Outdoor Leadership Development/Resident Camp Director

Position Purpose:

The BOLD & GOLD program at Camp Cherokee is seeking two highly qualified Lead Instructors – one for Boys Outdoor Leadership Development (BOLD) and one for Girls Outdoor Leadership Development (GOLD).

Camp Cherokee BOLD & GOLD is primarily single gender YMCA programs dedicated to inspiring courage and leadership in diverse groups of adolescent girls and boys through wilderness tripping. Summer of 2018 Camp Cherokee will run 8 weeks of programming – 4 weeks of BOLD and 4 weeks of GOLD. Activities may include backpacking, rock climbing, kayaking, whitewater rafting, fishing, yoga, art, backcountry cooking and having fun. Our goal is to increase confidence, courage, emotional intelligence, wonder, and community awareness in participants. Understanding more about what it means to be a young woman or man in today's society informs how we view the world. We believe these traits are the foundations of leadership and work to inspire participants to develop their own leadership style. We prepare young people (ages 11-18) to be the next generation of leaders through multicultural experiential education in the natural world. Find out more at www.ymcacampcherokee.org. All programs will be based out of Blacksburg, SC.

Primary Responsibilities include:

- Oversee the safe delivery of wilderness courses 7 days in length
- Work with the course instructors and program director to ensure staff have all equipment, tools and knowledge needed to be successful
- Train and mentor staff in how to: build emotionally and physically safe environments with groups of middle and high school participants and how to help students build emotional intelligence and multicultural leadership skills through wilderness experience
- Aid in the logistics of course prep; food preparation and organization, fixing/maintaining gear, etc.
- Be part of a leadership team that oversees the professional development of BOLD and GOLD staff
- Support Traditional Camp staff on a day-to-day basis, including but not limited to: high adventure classes, evening activities, and meals
- Aid in the delivery of wilderness based courses with a focus on multi-cultural leadership

Critical Success Factors and Qualifications

- A relationship focused educator who can build strong rapport with students and staff, foster positive group development, create structure and draw learning from experiential activities
- Experience working with diverse populations
- Energy and enthusiasm for working with all youth
- Extensive facilitation and youth development experience preferred
- Ability to mentor staff in backcountry skills, including: backpacking, cooking, rock climbing, fishing, etc.
- Has excellent interpersonal communication skills and the ability to build strong relationships with youth and adults from a variety of ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds
- Role model compassionate and confident leadership
- Possesses self-awareness and is able to work in a collaborative setting
- Possesses strong organizational skills and flexibility

Minimum Qualifications

- Two or more years' experience working with youth; work with diverse populations preferred
- Two or more years leading wilderness expeditions with youth
- Bachelor's degree, or in the process of obtaining one
- Current Wilderness Medical Certification (WFR, W-EMT) and CPR by start date
- Excellent facilitation skills appropriate for working with youth and adults from different backgrounds
- Previous experience in Course Directing or program management is a plus
- Clear criminal background check; safe driving record
- Ability to pass a drug test
- Instructors must be available for training in late May/early June
- 21 years of age by time of employment

Dates of Employment: May 27st– August 4th, 2018.

Opportunities exist for additional work based on interest and availability continuing into the fall.

Compensation: \$250-\$500/week. Lead BOLD & GOLD Instructor will have two pay rates: a higher rate for when on course with a BOLD & GOLD group, and another while at base camp.

Benefits include access to equipment, pro-deals, and professional development opportunities.

To apply: Please Submit Your Resume and Cover Letter to Nell Pears at Nellicapears@upymca.org.

Application Closing Date: Until filled.