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SHAW JCC NEWS

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Campers explore, create, learn, help and have fun at Shaw JCC

This summer at the Shaw JCC day camps many things filled the days: exploration, excitement, artistry, community service, friendship and more. But always present was FUN!

Over 330 children actively participated in four nationally recognized grant programs.

Through the TAG Initiative, which is a Jewish value-based camp curriculum, campers learned from the teachings of the weekly parshat in an interactive and entertaining ways. The Coca-Cola Days of Caring and Sharing was a nine-week community service program for campers.

Campers developed an understanding of kashrut through the program Keeping it Cool, Keeping it Kosher. They participated in activities that create pathways to kashrut. An Ethical Start®, the value-based curriculum used in the Shaw JCC preschool, also had a presence at camp. Based on the mishnayot of Pirke Avot, the program imparted these values to campers.

Campers baked and shared challah, prepared their own healthy camp lunches, wrote a cookbook, crafted a camp tile project, swam, canoed and explored the culture of Israel with emissaries Maya and Lior and special visitors from Israel: Doron, Avihu and Esti.

The performance side of summer fun was not overlooked, either. With the help of Weathervane staff, campers dazzled the audience in a terrific Shaw JCC version of Charlotte's Web. Our gymnasts shared their summer skills in two amazing gymnastics shows. Synchronized swimming campers wowed us with a routine to Disney medley—performed in the water, of course. Dancers hip-hopped and tapped their way to fitness while all campers took a turn performing for the community at our first annual Camp Songfest.

The sports-minded camper had myriad opportunities to play and develop skills in NFL Youth Football, baseball with Dave Barrett, basketball with Keith Dambrot & associates, MLS Soccer and tennis with Andrea Minster—not to mention bowling, volleyball, floor hockey and camp pickup games of kickball and tetherball.

If all of those great opportunities weren't enough, specialty camps offered fun for the serious-minded camper, who likes to challenge him/herself. Mad Science turned campers into super sleuths while the Write Stuff gave them the chance to be journalists. Fashion Camp, Photography Camp, Crafty Kids, Cooking Camp and Outdoor Education gave participants the time to develop their creative sides. And truly adventurous spirits were drawn to the excitement of Camp Adventure and Horseback Riding Camp.

The Shaw JCC Summer Camp Program is committed to the idea that there is a place for every child and every child has an important place in our community. We hope to see everyone next summer.

Shalom and Le heet ra'ote (till we meet again),
Lori Bernstein, Katie Shubat and the dedicated staff of the ECE and School Age Summer Camp Programs

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