



## Transracial Journeys Family Camp 2023

### *"Lift Every Voice and Sing!"*

**Parent Focus: *Community, Consciousness & Tools to Build Capacity***

**Children & Youth Focus: *Community, Confidence & Self-Care***

### **WELCOME TO OUR 11TH ANNUAL TRANSRACIAL JOURNEYS FAMILY CAMP!**

We have three days of educational, recreational, and community building activities planned for the whole family at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio. This letter will cover all the logistical information you need to get ready for camp. We can't wait to see you!

Quick To-Do's:

- [Download an Ohio University Campus Parking Map](#) to orient yourself before arriving.
- Bookmark the [Living Learning Center](#), 111 S Green Dr, Athens, OH 45701 for your arrival.

### **ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE & ACCOMMODATIONS**

**Check-in:** Thursday, August 4, 2023 at the **Living Learning Center (building #76 on the campus map)**. Pull in front to unload. You will be greeted in the lobby by Conference and Event Services Staff.

- New Families — 11:00 am-1:00 pm
- Returning Families — 3:00-5:00 pm
- You will receive your room key, a combination meal/building access card for each member of your family, a visitor parking permit (see details below), and directed to your double/family occupancy room in Carr Hall (#77).
- Each room has a private bathroom, a microfridge, cable and ethernet connection (cables not provided), Wifi, air-conditioning, and toilet tissue. No toiletries are provided.
- You will receive bed linens and a towel set for the duration of camp. The linen packet contains: 2 flat sheets, 1 blanket, 1 pillow, 1 pillow case, 1 body towel, 1 hand towel, and 1 washcloth. If you require laundering during camp, you may use the on-site laundry room. Laundering services are not provided. Additional linen packets are \$15/packet.
- If desired, you may bring your own linens, blankets, pillows, and bath towels. As the rooms can get a bit chilly, you may want to bring an extra blanket. The exterior windows can also be opened and closed. **For swimming, you will need to bring your own pool towel.**
- Your camp schedule, children's t-shirts, and facility/check-out information will be in your room.

**Check-out:** Sunday, August 6, 2023 at 12-1 pm

**If you are delayed unexpectedly on the day of arrival later than 5:00pm, please text Michelle at 614-598-2662.**

## **PARKING**

You will receive a visitor parking permit during check-in. Visitor permits are valid only in the following lots: 41, 55, 104, 125, 127, 128, and South Green Garage. South Green Garage (#78) under Nelson Court (#75 - grid J-6) is the closest to Carr Hall. It is your responsibility to park within the correct lot with the permit visible at all times. Permits are not valid in metered or restricted spaces. [Download an Ohio University Campus Parking Map](#)

## **GENERAL SCHEDULE**

### **Thursday**

5:00-6:30 pm Dinner at The District on West Green in Boyd Hall (#115)

7:00-8:30 pm Camp Kick-Off - Welcome & Introductions at the Ping Recreation Center (#91)

**Come prepared to briefly introduce your family and share how you celebrate Black Excellence.**

- Children meet with their counselors.
- Parents meet with Executive Director April Dinwoodie and Camp Directors of Youth Programming Mary Halm and Schai Schairer.

8:30-9:00 pm Activities sign-up & informal hang out time in the Living Learning Center (#76)

### **Friday & Saturday**

7:00-8:45 am Breakfast at The District on West Green in Boyd Hall (#115)

9:00 am-12 pm Morning Programming

12:00-1:00 pm Lunch in the Courtyard of the Living Learning Center (#76)

1:00-3:30 pm Afternoon Programming

3:30-5:30 pm Family Time

5:00-6:30 pm Dinner at The District on West Green in Boyd Hall (#115)

7:00-9:00 pm Evening Programming

### **Sunday**

7:30-8:45 am Continental Breakfast at The District on West Green in Boyd Hall (#115)

9:00 am-12 pm Wrap up session and camp closing ceremony at the Ping Recreation Center (#91)

12pm Checkout at the Living Learning Center (#76)

12:00-1:00 pm Lunch at The District on West Green in Boyd Hall (#115)

1:00 pm Departure

## **MEALS & SNACKS**

Three meals and snacks will be provided each day, beginning with dinner at 5:00 pm on Thursday and concluding with lunch at 12 pm on Sunday. Breakfast and dinner will be at the Ohio University dining hall, The District on West Green in Boyd Hall (#115). The dining hall offers a wide variety of food stations and choices. The dining hall opens at 7:00 am for breakfast (7:30 am on Sunday) and closes at 7:00 pm after dinner. [Preview the Ohio University dining hall menu.](#)

Lunch on Friday (tacos) and Saturday (picnic) will be served buffet style at the Living Learning Center. The "Southwest Taco Buffet" lunch includes: Southwest mixed green salad with sweet corn, black beans, and chimichurri dressing, Mexican style rice, ground beef taco meat, tofu sofritas, warm flour tortillas and crispy corn taco shells, vegan refried beans, shredded cheddar cheese, sour cream, diced

tomatoes, shredded lettuce, diced red onions, sliced black olives, house-made salsa, sour cream, southwest chocolate cake with cinnamon and pecans, iced tea, coffee, iced water. "The Picnic" lunch includes: hamburgers, hot dogs, veggie burgers, veggie hot dogs, coney sauce, hamburger and hot dog buns, vegan baked beans, LTOP platter (lettuce, tomato, onion, pickle), sliced cheese platter (American, cheddar, Swiss), potato chips, cole slaw, assorted baker's choice cookies, iced tea, coffee, iced water.

Given the options available to us, we selected the lunches that can accommodate the most dietary restrictions/needs. Supplementing the lunches with personal food is permitted.

### **PROGRAMMING FOR CHILDREN**

During the mornings and early afternoons, children will participate in age-based group activities centered around the youth theme of "*Community, Confidence & Self-Care*" staffed by two or more adult Transracial Journeys counselors and teen counselors-in-training. In the mornings, children will explore an adoption-related theme. In the afternoons, children will participate in activities - Art, Basketball, Hip Hop, Tumbling/Floor Gymnastics, and Yoga. Activities sign-up will take place Thursday evening after the Camp Kick-Off.

### **PROGRAMMING FOR PARENTS**

While the children meet with their age groups, parents will explore our camp theme of *Community, Consciousness & Tools to Build Capacity* in depth with TRJ Executive Director April Dinwoodie and outside speakers. Facilitated group discussion opportunities are built into the schedule to allow time and space to process the sessions and find peer support for issues you may be facing at home.

### **HAIRSTYLING APPOINTMENTS**

Parents can sign their children up for 1-hour hairstyling appointments with a professional stylist, first come, first served. Appointments will be available on Friday 1:30-5:30 pm and Saturday 1:00-5:30 pm. You will need to meet with the stylist briefly the day before to ensure that your child's hair is ready for the appointment. The cost of providing this service to you is being covered by Transracial Journeys as part of camp, however, tips will be greatly appreciated by the stylists.

### **AFTERNOON FAMILY TIME**

On Friday and Saturday afternoons, families will have free time to participate in a variety of optional activities including backyard games, basketball, exploring the Hockhocking Adena Bikeway, 9-hole golf course, disc golf, mini-golf, hiking, indoor rock climbing, swimming, and volleyball.

### **EVENING PROGRAMMING**

On Friday evening, we will create our own TRJ Holiday Party with a story teller, photo booth (get your holiday family photo taken!), calendar pages to share your favorite holidays, card making, cake and dancing. On Saturday evening, we will host our own Transracial Journeys' Got Talent Show! Participation is open to all children, parents, and counselors. Afterward the legendary TRJ Dance Party will take off with a DJ to play your favorite songs.

### **SAFETY & SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN**

Parents are solely responsible for their children in the residence hall, during meals, afternoon family

time, and evening programming. During the programming for children, every effort will be made to provide personal attention as needed and encourage children to participate with the group. However, parents may occasionally be called if a child is unable to participate in the group activities for any reason. Parents with children who nap, may need to coordinate to share nap supervision. We appreciate everyone's cooperation.

### **CAMP BOOKSTORE**

This year's book sale features titles from the 2023 TRJ annotated bibliography prepared by librarians Avril McInally (TRJ Board Member) and Vicki Richards. You may have read some of their reviews in the TRJ monthly newsletter "Book Corner" feature. They chose books that focus on issues and topics that our children, parents and families encounter and experience. The bibliography is divided in sections from birth to adult. The bibliography will be available both digitally and in print. Books will be available for sale during breaks in the parent sessions in the Ping Center Conference Room.

### **WHAT TO BRING**

Ohio University is in Athens, Ohio along the Hocking River. The current forecast is 81- 84°F during the day and 61°F at night, with some possible rain and thunderstorms.

Suggested base packing list:

- **A REUSABLE WATER BOTTLE FOR EACH MEMBER OF YOUR FAMILY**  
(Water bottle filling stations are available. Cups NOT provided.)
- **AN INSULATED MUG for hot beverages for adults**
- Comfortable clothing, footwear, and lightweight outerwear for both indoors and outdoors
- In case of rain, a raincoat and umbrella
- Swimsuits, goggles & **POOL TOWELS FOR SWIMMING**
- Toiletries, sunscreen, bug repellant, personal first aid kit
- Extra blankets
- Medications. You will be responsible for securing and dispensing medications for family members.
- TRJ has some basketballs, volleyballs and soccer balls, but you may bring your own.
- Personal items (optional) for free time - Baseball gloves & balls, bicycles/helmets/locks, inline skates, running shoes, scooters, and/or skateboards, frisbees, frisbee golf discs, reading materials, cards, yoga mat, musical instruments, hand drums/percussion instruments, etc.
- Lawn chairs (optional) for the backyard game area
- Please leave at home: alcohol, drugs, pets, fireworks, weapons.

### **CONTACT INFO FOR TRANSRACIAL JOURNEYS**

If you have any questions prior to camp, contact us at 614-598-2662 or [info@transracialjourneys.org](mailto:info@transracialjourneys.org).