

Opportunity and Challenge

Camp Augusta

Camp Augusta is not a part of the “high self-esteem” movement in the US, and we don’t believe in making things easy for the children just so they can experience “success.” We try to keep our leveled (see below) clinics challenging for everyone that comes to camp, so that they will always have something to work on and something to improve at. That said, we try to keep things manageable, so that campers can set attainable goals for themselves, and the levels are not completely out of reach. The structure of the programs keeps campers motivated enough to continue improving on their skills and working towards completing future levels. We believe that having campers set goals for themselves that they can complete with a manageable amount of diligence and hard work can create the greatest reward possible for them: achievement that stems from internal motivation, rather than having our staff members simply tell them that “they’re great” or “they’re doing a really good job.” Keeping the challenges present, interesting, and manageable is a chief aim for our programming. When campers go up to the signup board, we want them to reach each of the four clinic blocks with a sense of excitement, “oh, wow, what shall I choose here!?”

Camp Augusta is a place of exploration, and the exploring that is possible is up to the community to create and foster. “Oh, I didn’t know I could do something like that!” “Wow, I really enjoyed that kind of activity!” “Hey, I really learned something about not only the activity, but also myself!” Stretching people in what they consider possible and desirable for themselves is a central and critical focus of Camp Augusta, both in activities area skills/experiences and personal growth. The resulting limberness creates the ability to achieve more as one can stretch and move in different ways than before, as well as the joy that comes from the experience and knowledge. Exciting, stretching, challenging, empowering, exploring . . . these are the experiences we want children and families to have whenever they come to this dedicated and magical place called Camp Augusta.

Activities that have a dedicated level system

- Archery
- Archery Clout
- Climbing
- Ropes courses
- Mountain Biking
- Riflery
- Mountain Boards
- Horses
- Canoe
- Fire-spinning
- Throwing range
- Sword fighting and Quarter Staff
- Whip
- Aerial Silks

Nearly 100 other activities do not have a level system like the above, instead the participation is for fun and/or the experience/production is the equivalent, such as ceramics, outdoor cooking, or fishing.