



The **PERFORMER**
April 2017
Informing The French Woods Community



French Woods
Festival of the Performing Arts

In this Issue: 4th Session Shows – Camper & Staff News – Ron, Beth & Isaac

THE PERFORMER IS YOUR NEWSLETTER!!!

We are packing up and getting ready to move from our Florida Winter Office to Camp! As of May 1st, 2017, all snail mail to camp should be addressed to French Woods, PO Box 609, Hancock, NY 13783. The summer office will be up and running on Monday, May 8, 2017 where our phone number will be (607) 637-8400.

**All the news that's fit to print.
See yourself in the French Woods Performer.**

1-800-634-1703 in FL 954-346-7455

French Woods Festival
of the Performing Arts
WINTER OFFICE
PO Box 770100
Coral Springs, Florida 33077

A Note from Ron



It's hard to understand how fast the year goes by. In three weeks Barbara and I leave for camp and then it's four weeks until the start of session one.

This summer holds an incredible storehouse of new things. New bunks start to appear on both campuses;

New waterfront ski boats and stand-up paddle boards and new circus acts just head the list.

We have three Broadway shows to offer this summer with limited tickets still available. Session one for ages 12 and up features *Dear Evan Hansen* with very few tickets left, Session two *War Paint*, and session three, *Hello, Dolly?* both available to all ages of campers. Reserve your space through the permission slip on your online CampInTouch account today.

I've been hearing from many of you with all kinds of requests. Keep 'em coming.

See you soon.

Tennis Anyone?

French Woods offers private tennis lessons by our staff of tennis pros for \$50 per lesson. This money is contributed to the Hancock French-Woods Arts Alliance, a 501(c) 3 public charity.

You can sign up online through your CampIn Touch account. Call Rose at the office for more info (607) 637-8404.

Important ONLINE Forms and Documents:

By now you should be familiar with our CampIn Touch program that gets you to your child's Forms Dashboard where you have been filling out all the required forms and documents. The deadline for Bunk requests has past and we are now reviewing all the **medical forms** and the **camper confidential questionnaire form**.

Darryn needs your transportation info input on to the travel form now. Even if you are driving your camper to camp - we need that info too. All children must be accounted for. Please help us!

Many forms are web-based and just need to be filled out online. The forms that require signatures must be downloaded and printed out. **Remember to fax back only to (845) 468-7078 without a coversheet or simply upload them directly to your account on CampIn Touch. All remaining forms are due no later than May 1st.** If you have not already done so, you should schedule a doctor's appointment for your child.

There are a number of informational family documents available to you at the bottom of your child's forms and documents page through CampIn Touch. You will find both the *2017 Parents and Campers Guides*, CampMeds Info, shipping your luggage, ordering FW apparel, and much more. If you have any questions about getting on to CampIn Touch or if we can help in anyway, please call us in the office at (800) 634-1703.

Camper Medication Procedures:

We **require** you to have your child's daily medication pre-packaged prior to arrival at camp. **This includes any herbal medications and/or vitamins!** Be sure all medications are ordered through Campmeds thru www.campmeds.com prior to your child's arrival at camp.

Winter Address:

Please address any mail sent **after May 1st** to the New York Address:

PO BOX 609, HANCOCK, NY 13783

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Allison Fabrizio | 6 Marina Lebowich | 11 Anna Fortenberry |
| 2 Annali Doyle | 7 Georgia Rose Fraser | |
| 3 Ande-Marie Balla | 8 Collin Flanagan | |
| 4 Anna Kief | 9 Alexis Talieato | |
| 5 Efreñ Cires | 10 Allison Lewis | |
| | 11 Anna Fortenberry | |
| | 12 Alexander Essig | |
| | 13 Blythe Sena | |
| | 14 Isaac Braunfeld | |
| | 15 Alexa Google | |
| | 16 Mercedes Garcia | |
| | 17 Madeleine Weiss | |
| | 18 Alejandra Goldszmidt | |
| | 19 Jaci Licari | |
| | 20 Coco Kief | |
| | 21 Cyd Kennard | |
| | 22 Clémence Patrat | |
| | 23 Caroline Morrissey | |
| | 24 Cosimo Lopez | |
| | 25 David Zaslavsky | |
| | 26 Emily Sparks | |
| | 27 Alisa Perevozchikova | |
| | 28 Adeline Weinstock | |
| | 29 Abigail Gluck | |
| | 30 Kinsley Thurber | |

April Birthdays!

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Benjamin Lillis | Madeline Kilroy | Claire O'Connell |
| Bianca Rosen | Olga Lopez | Harry Watkin-Fox |
| Eli Piccone | 19 Jaci Licari | Logan Lewis |
| Elora Liu | Katie Donenfeld | Noah Kriegstein |
| Kaitlyn Calcagino | Rebecca Besecker | Noah Miller |
| Reese Bruning | Sasha Herthel | Tyler Eveland |
| Sebastian Lopez | Sienna May | 28 Adeline Weinstock |
| Susan Eyring | 20 Coco Kief | Camden Bachochin |
| Alexander Essig | 21 Cyd Kennard | Hannah Siegel |
| Alexandra Bradley | Lydia Morris-Kliment | Juliana Laskow |
| Cara Savoy | 22 Clémence Patrat | Lauren Sternberg |
| Ella Gurfein | Sarah Abenante | Layla Yacoubi |
| Rio Schneider | Zoe Mevorah | Victoria Laddy |
| Samuel Essig | 23 Caroline Morrissey | 29 Abigail Gluck |
| Blythe Sena | Christina Charnin | Aidan Wizeman |
| Coleman Brown | Claire Ashby | Eleanor Lazaroff |
| Marlo Alexander | Julieta Garcia | Hailey Beane |
| 14 Isaac Braunfeld | Logan Lindstrom | James Lambert |
| Olivia Shar | Violette Cadet | Jessica Tansey |
| 15 Alexa Google | 24 Cosimo Lopez | Julian Kuri |
| Kerr Allan | Eli Sherling | Megan Chipka |
| Samantha Butwin | Kira Saks | Jillian O'leary |
| Sophie Smith-Brody | Rebeca Cires | 30 Kinsley Thurber |
| 16 Mercedes Garcia | Sasha Murray | Marissa Gagliano |
| Roli Oseragbaje | 25 David Zaslavsky | Michelle Grinberg |
| Tali Orenstein | 26 Emily Sparks | Nicole Namath |
| 17 Madeleine Weiss | Lily Koen | Safia Singer- |
| 18 Alejandra Goldszmidt | Matthew Kaplan | Pomerantz |
| Billy Test | Maximilian Dring | Samuel Rosner |
| Braden Ulrich | Miles Howard | Sonja Graf |
| Camila Goldszmidt | Mingze Sun | |
| Eve Harris | 27 Alisa Perevozchikova | |

Just Registered!

- | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Aaron Genachowski | Bennett Resner | Edwin Carvalho | Henry Chen | Kavya Green | Mi-chal Lewis | Samantha Cohen |
| Abdourahmane Diallo | Bettina Gradowczyk | Eleanor Ryan | Hope Shinderman | Kayla Colombo | Mia Evans | Samantha Rudner |
| Abdulrahman Al-Modaimigh | Bianca Rosen | Elena Paglia | Hunter Phay | Lara Peers | Mia Kanaley | Samuel Greenwald |
| Ahmad Richardson | Brian Schlafer | Eli Piccone | Ilya Zinkovskii | Lauren Deramo | Michael Shvidler | Samuel Morris-Kliment |
| Aidan Pesce | Brianna Kloda | Eli Sherling | Ilyssa Cohen | Lena Lee | Mikaela Leith | Sara Grant |
| Alberta Koomson | Bridget Dineen | Elias Raphael | Isabella Richter | Leo Rapaport | Miles Howard | Sarah Abenante |
| Alexa Walker | Caitlin Levene | Emiliano Chan | Isaiah George | Leo Rapaport | Milo Writer | Sariyah Hyman |
| Alexandra Purdue | Caleigh Risen | Emily Mendez | Jack Kramer | Leonard Chauvel | Mykal Bailey | Sebastian Miyao |
| Alexandra Schaney | Cameron Frey | Emily Photis | Jaime Bravo | Lia Murphy | Naja Skrine | Seraphima Belaeva |
| Alexis Talieato | Carl Tamussino | Emily Zhu | Jake Berman | Lilah Genachowski | Naomi Joseph | Shacil Boatswain |
| Amber Nelson | Carly Weiss | Emma Olgers | Jalen Bunch | Liliana Garber | Natalie Mahoney | Sining Chen |
| Amelia Song | Carson Adams | Emma Taylor | Jay Sean Samuels | Lily Kunkel | Natasha Kotzubei | Sofia Korostyshesky |
| Amina Fiks | Carys Grabel | Evangelina Belyaeva | Jayden Ellis | Lindsay Hernandez | Nicolette Peremen | Sophia Gianopoulos |
| Ande-Marie Balla | Carys Woolley | Ewen Tony | Jayden Julien | Lindsay Nattis | Nikhil Kamat | Sophie Jost |
| Andrea Chetirko | Cayley Cybulska | Fei'r Zhou | Jiayin Kralik | Nina Hutchins | Nina Lamb | Stacy Song |
| Andrew Maskoff | Celeste Gimonet | Finn Dippy | Jillian O'leary | Nina Lamb | Noemi Elliott | Stella Kross |
| Angelina Castrucci | Celia Zinman | Fiona Gierlinger | Jocelyn White | Natasha Kotzubei | Nyan Lieberthal | Taryn Kossover |
| Anna Callender | Chad Duncan | Francis Gindi-Chiafallo | Jolie Dormus-Bayer | Olivia Binder | Olivia Morse | Thomas Kunkel |
| Anna Shvidler | Chana Raphael | Garrett Greene | Jonah Kurschner | Olivia Londa | Paul Huggert | Tiffany Marcus |
| Annabelle Hanlon | Charlotte Richter | Gavin Gabriellini | Jordan Model | Olivia Morse | Peter Langer | Victoria Pertsovsky |
| Annabelle Lesser | Chloe Grudzinski | Georgiana Kriegsmann | Joshua Becote | Paul Huggert | Rachel Sapozhnikina | William Gianopoulos |
| Anneliese Simon | Clara Rohatyn | German Belyaev | Julian Galkin | Peter Langer | Rachel Wisniewski | Xavier Ma |
| Anouk Lévy | Claudia Birthisel | Giancarlo Collucci | Juliet Zeszutek | Rachel Sapozhnikina | Rakan Haddadin- | Zina Louhaichy |
| Arkady Lazebnik | Connor Giersz | Gianpaolo Colombo | Junama Haddadin- | Rakan Haddadin- | Camaron | Zoe Piccirillo |
| Artur Quarra Pomaskin | Connor Peck | Gonzalo Perezalonso | Cameron | Camaron | Matilde Cestero | Zoe Siegel |
| Ava Anderson | Cornelia Cassidy | Grace Krsul-Sullivan | Kadijah Olanipekun | Camaron | Marta Parravicini | |
| Ava Gnagy | Daniel Anderson | Grace Petersen | kadiiri Olanipekun | Camaron | Matias Gruener | |
| Ava Harkavy | Danson Paris | Grace Wolf | Kaila Stosal | Camaron | Matilde Cestero | |
| Avery Frekhitman | Dasol Kim | Gracie Shaw-Rothberg | Kaitlyn Calcagino | Camaron | Matthew Anderson | |
| Avery Whitacre | David Luongo | Griffin Zinman | Kaitlyn Greppin | Camaron | Megan Lauer | |
| Axel Peters | Declan Kates | Hannah Schrader | Karina Pronis | Camaron | Megan Mccloskey | |
| Benjamin Anshin | Dylan Smolla | Harrison Acrish | Kate Stiene | Camaron | Melanie Mahoney | |
| | Eduardo Lamazares | Harrison Lambert | | Camaron | Melody Alonso | |

Dear French Woods Families:



We are all geared up for the summer of 2017 - I have been putting finishing touches on the staffing and it looks like we will have an incredible group of counselors and teachers. I am still looking for a full summer staff member for our office, select musicians, stagecraft, a choreographer for theater and dance as well as one more nurse for our final sessions. Please let me know if you or someone you know might be interested and qualified!

The theater schedule is shaping up nicely and a performance date schedule will be posted in next month's newsletter. I'm very excited about this summer's show selections, as we are including several French Woods premiers including: *Jersey Boys*, *We Will Rock You* and *How I Became a Pirate*.

We are so excited to get up to camp next month and even more excited for you to get to camp too! See you soon!

Camper & Staff News

Grace Riedy will be performing in her middle school musical, *Legally Blonde Jr.*, as Paulette and will be joined by her bff and fellow camper **Isabella Monroe** who will be playing the role of Elle Woods.

Hannah Melnick is thrilled to have been cast as Sister Bertha in *The Sound of Music* at Briarcliff Middle School June 2nd-4th 2017

James Freedson's film *The Strange Ones*, that James shot immediately after leaving French Woods, won Best Breakthrough Performance, at South by Southwest Film Festival.

Viola Young, a student at the School of American Ballet, has been cast in the New York City Ballet's

production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* which will be performed at the end of May.

Sara Moore has been cast into the ensemble of *the Music Man* at the Broken Leg Theater

Alex Carnot played Bert in the production of *Mary Poppins* at Georgetown Day High School; Alex was named one of DC's finest performances of a high school student for his role in *Peter in the Star Catcher* by a local art magazine!

Olivia Carnot is playing Dorothy in *the Wizard of Oz* at St. Patrick's School in May.

Francesca Gamba and **Zina Louhaichy** were recently accepted to attend Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music and Art and Performing Arts in Manhattan.

Seth Greenberg and **Parker Palermo** were recently accepted to attend Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts in West Palm Beach, FL.

Special thank you to those campers, their parents and staff who helped us out at camp fairs this past month:

Annie and Evan Ross and **Samara Little**.

Congratulations to our graduating high school seniors on their acceptances to many college and university theater programs in the fall.

That's the News and we're out of here!



Are you keeping up with us on Social?

We are active on official channels on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. We post different sorts of information on all three, so if you want to be up on the latest French Woods Festival happenings, follow us there, too.

We're on Facebook as: **FrenchWoodsFestival**
We're on Instagram as: **french_woods_festival**
We're on Twitter as: **@frenchwoods**

Isaac's Corner

HOMESICKNESS... Many first year campers have never been away from home for an extended period of time. Homesickness is a natural result of the changes in a child's environment. Parents can take courage from the fact that many campers do not experience this, and those that do recover swiftly. All of the camp staff, from the director down, are prepared to help the youngster with the adjustment, expedited with the cooperation of the parent.

These suggestions are designed to help you prepare your child for camp.

At Home... If your camper exhibits concern about going to camp, encourage them to talk to you about it. It is helpful to tell your child that such concerns are normal and that many other campers feel the same way. If there are specific worries about bunkmates, clothes, or anything else, let your child call the camp office and speak with me. Often specific answers are not necessary after the child has had the opportunity to express themselves to a receptive ear.

Don't be ambivalent about the length of your child's stay at camp. There should be no trial periods. They are there for a full session and should understand this. A "try-out" approach is a sure loser, certain to create a serious homesickness problem at camp.

Send a note or care package (**Remember-No Food**) ahead of time to arrive the first day of camp. Acknowledge, in a positive way, that you will miss your child. For example, you can say "I am going to miss you, but I know that you will have a good time at camp."

Reassure your child that everything at home will be the same as when they left; that pets will be cared for, possessions protected, etc. If, for some reason, this is not possible, let me know so that my staff and can be effectively supportive. Don't bribe. Linking a successful stay at camp to a material object sends the wrong message. The reward should be your child's new found confidence and independence.

Please notify me of any upsetting event which may have occurred prior to camp, or is to occur during the summer. This might include illness or death in the family, poor school grades, divorce, or moving to a new house or city.

When seeing your child off at the bus, make your parting brief and pleasant. Long goodbyes and floods of tears are upsetting. The same applies for visiting days.

Remember, our staff will always be there to help make you and your child feel comfortable.

Every camp asks for parents to fill out medical and profile information. Be sure that you complete the online

health history, confidential camper questionnaire and activity profile forms as completely and as soon as possible. Don't forget to include a photo! While the camp is designed to provide instruction and recreation in many areas, certain campers may have a more rewarding time if encouraged in specific activities. The camp staff's knowledge of your child's interests (and phobias!) can be helpful in arranging the most appropriate program from the wide variety of activities that French Woods offers.

At Camp... Your cooperation is needed to ensure a successful summer for your child. Most children are resilient and adapt successfully to new situations. Parents, however, sometimes find it difficult to adjust to their children being away from home. To prevent any negative effects on your campers, write or email frequently with good news and a cheerful tone - chatty and pleasant. Try not to telephone except in an emergency. Contact me if you have a special concern. Be assured we will contact you if your child is experiencing difficulties. Remember children can call you after the first week of each session.

If a "rescue call" comes from the child, offer calm reassurance and put the time frame into perspective. Above all, avoid the temptation to take the child home early. Should you receive an upsetting call or email, telephone me immediately. My staff and I will help. **MAKE NO PROMISES.** This is a sure route to failure.

Talk candidly with me or your child's head counselor to obtain our perspective on your child's adjustment. Don't feel guilty about encouraging your child to stay at camp. For many children, camp is a first step toward independence and plays an important role in their growth and development.

Conclusion... Camp is an experience that cannot be replicated in any other environment. It offers the opportunity for your child to achieve the poise and confidence that comes with the mastery of skills and the sociability developed as a vital participant in a structured and democratic community of their peers. French Woods works diligently to assemble the best staff possible. Countless hours throughout the year go into preparation and evaluation of the camp program. With your help, we are well prepared to serve the needs of your child.



Fourth Session Shows 2017!***

Bugsy Malone (7-9 year olds)

is a pie-flinging, pinstripe-wearing, pint-sized classic. It seems Fat Sam, who runs one of the most popular speakeasies in town, is in danger of being closed down by his "business rival" Dandy Dan. Enter baby-faced Bugsy Malone, a killer with the ladies and a definite asset to Fat Sam. Unfortunately, Bugsy has also caught the eye of Sam's girlfriend Tallulah – though he's set his designs on the showgirl Blousey Brown.

The Jungle Book (7-9 year olds)

Join Mowgli, Baloo, King Louie and the gang as they swing their way through madcap adventures and thwart the ferocious tiger, Shere Khan. Specially adapted from the beloved film, this musical includes all your favorite Disney tunes, with colorful characters and that toe-tapping jungle rhythm.

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (9-11 year olds)

An eccentric inventor, Caractacus Potts sets about restoring an old race car from a scrap heap with the help of his children, Jeremy and Jemima. They soon discover the car has magical properties, including the ability to float and take flight. Trouble occurs when the evil Baron Bomburst desires the magic car for himself. The family joins forces with Truly Scrumptious and batty Grandpa Potts to outwit the dastardly Baron and Baroness and their villainous henchman, the Child Catcher.

The Little Mermaid. (9-11 year olds)

In a magical kingdom fathoms below, we meet Ariel, the little mermaid who is tired of flipping her fins and longs to be part of the fascinating world on dry land. Joining her are Sebastian, Ariel's crabby sidekick; Ursula, the evil sea witch; Triton, King of the Sea and the handsome and human Prince Eric.

Honk (11-12 year olds)

This is the story of Ugly, whose odd, gawky looks instantly incite prejudice from his family and neighbors. Separated from the farm and pursued by a hungry Cat, Ugly must find his way home. Along his rollicking and harrowing journey he not only discovers his true beauty and glorious destiny, but also finds love and acceptance in all its forms.

Anything Goes (11-14 year olds)

is set aboard the ocean liner S. S. American, where nightclub singer/evangelist Reno Sweeney is en route from New York to England. Her pal Billy Crocker has stowed away to be near his love, Hope Harcourt, but Hope is engaged to the wealthy Lord Evelyn Oakleigh. Joining this love triangle on board the luxury liner are Public Enemy #13, Moonface Martin, and his sidekick-in-crime Erma. With the help of some elaborate disguises, tap-dancing sailors and good old-fashioned blackmail, Reno and Martin join forces to help Billy in his quest to win Hope's heart. The story is wrapped around the magical score of Cole Porter. Included are such favorites as "Friendship", "I Get a Kick Out of You", "Anything Goes", "It's De-Lovely" and "Blow Gabriel, Blow".

Thoroughly Modern Millie (11-14 year olds)

This singing, dancing, romancing musical takes place in Manhattan, 1922, with all the jazz-age razzmatazz you want in a big, bright, brand-new Broadway blockbuster. It's the story of a Midwestern girl who arrives in New York determined to take the town by storm. A delightful valentine to the long-standing spirit of New York City and the people who seek to discover themselves there, this new stage version of *Thoroughly Modern Millie* features 15 songs, including two from the 1967 film, four standards from the 1920s, and nine brand-new songs by Jeanine Tesori (music) and Dick Scanlan (lyrics).

Zombie Prom (11-14 year olds)

This girl loves ghoulish rock and roll Off Broadway musical is set in the atomic 1950s at Enrico Fermi High, where the law is laid down by a zany, tyrannical principal. Pretty senior Toffee has fallen for the class bad boy. Family pressure forces her to end the romance, and he charges off on his motorcycle to the nuclear waste dump. He returns glowing and determined to reclaim Toffee's heart. He still wants to graduate, but most of all he wants to take Toffee to the prom. The principal orders him to drop dead while a scandal reporter seizes on him as the freak du jour. History comes to his rescue while a tuneful selection of original songs in the style of 50s hits keeps the action rocking across the stage.

Cabaret (11-17 year olds)

It is the city of Berlin in 1930, a time when political unrest racks the country, the economy has been destroyed and millions of unemployed roam the streets. Enter into this chaos an American cabaret dancer working at the downtown "Kit-Kat Club" where anything goes on the stage. Into this young dancer's life come several characters such as a rich German politician, a young man struggling with his identity, an English teacher from London, and of course the all-knowing, all-seeing Master of Ceremonies.

Hairspray (11-17 year olds)

It's 1962 in Baltimore, and the lovable plus-size teen, Tracy Turnblad, has only one desire – to dance on the popular "Corny Collins Show." When her dream comes true, Tracy is transformed from social outcast to sudden star. She must use her newfound power to dethrone the reigning Teen Queen, win the affections of heartthrob, Link Larkin, and integrate a TV network... all without denting her 'do'!

Rent (11-17 year olds)

Set in the East Village of New York City, *Rent* is about falling in love, finding your voice and living for today. Based loosely on Puccini's *La Boheme*, *Rent* follows a year in the life of a group of impoverished young artists and musicians struggling to survive and create in New York's Lower East Side, under the shadow of HIV/AIDS. How these young bohemians negotiate their dreams, loves and conflicts provides the narrative thread to this groundbreaking musical.

The Ritz (11-17 year olds)

This hilarious farce is set in a gay bathhouse of the title. When Gaetano Proclo, a hapless, middle-aged, overweight, very married man takes it on the lam from his mafioso brother-in-law, Carmine Vespucci, he ducks into "The Ritz," the last place anyone would look for him. What he encounters there sets the scene for an old-fashioned door slamming farce, albeit with towel-clad chubby chasers, bumbling detectives, and Googie Gomez, an over-the-top would be Bette Midler looking for her big break...

August Osage County (11-17 year olds)

A vanished father; a pill-popping mother; three sisters harboring shady little secrets. When the large Weston family unexpectedly reunites after Dad disappears, their Oklahoman family homestead explodes in a maelstrom of repressed truths and unsettling secrets. Mix in Violet, the drugged-up, scathingly acidic matriarch, and you've got a major new play that unflinchingly—and uproariously—exposes the dark side of the Midwestern American family.

One Act Plays (11-17)

- To be announced

***All shows are subject to availability/change