

POMO SUMMER ARTS & CIRCUS CAMP 2026

Greetings Junior Counselors (Age 18+),

Welcome to the Pomo Summer Arts and Circus Camp 2026, held **July 20-24, 2026**, 9:30-3:30 at Gateway Mendocino, 13771 Hwy 101, Hopland, CA 95449! Directors Kevin Maldonado and Stefan Haves are thrilled to have you join our team. Congratulations on turning 18—you'll continue on as part of our Junior Counselor team this year, now with adult status. Most of your guidelines remain the same as last year, with a few adjustments noted below. We are sponsored this year by The Solar Living Institute, and our hosts— Gail Greenwell and George Fussell will be on site.

THANK YOU GAIL & GEORGE AND THE SOLAR LIVING INSTITUTE!

Important Dates & Information:

- **Mandatory Junior Counselor Orientation:** Sunday, July 19th, 2026, from 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM. This is an unpaid orientation that will include planning the week, team-building activities, dinner and an optional swimming session. Please dress comfortably in active wear and good walking shoes, and bring a bathing suit and towel.
- **Camp Dates:** Monday, July 20th – Friday, July 24th, 2026.
- **Final Performance & Cook Out:** Friday, July 24th, 2026, Cook Out at 4:30, Show at 6:00 PM. Junior Counselors and Campers will perform alongside Artists in Residence and Special Guests. We encourage you to invite friends and family to celebrate with us!

Key Expectations & Guidelines:

- **Release Form:** As you are now 18, you may complete and sign your own release form by Monday, July 20th.
- **Stipend:** Junior Counselors will receive a stipend of \$60 per day, distributed after the final show on Friday, July 24th. Please inform us if you will not be present on Friday for payment. Compensation will not be allocated for any missed days.
- **Daily Essentials:** Bring a bathing suit and towel every day.
- **Role & Responsibilities:** While the camp environment is joyfully fun, this is a summer job. Your supervisors, Ella Smith and Stefan Haves, will assign various tasks throughout the day, including working with children, meal preparation, and camp setup, to ensure the smooth running of the camp.
- **Creative Ensemble:** You will be integral to the camp's creative output, participating in group art projects, composing a Pomo Summer Arts song, and choreographing dance and content for the final performance.
- **No Phone Policy:** To foster engagement, Junior Counselors will adhere to a no-phone policy during main camp hours. If a phone is needed for a lesson, an Artist in Resident will assist. Designated times will be provided for personal digital check-ins and for taking photos with your phones.
- **Prohibited Substances:** Smoking, vaping, and drugs are strictly prohibited. Violation of this policy will result in immediate expulsion from the grounds.
- **Inclusivity:** We encourage you to extend your social circle beyond familiar friends to ensure no one feels left out.
- **Camper Supervision:** As a general rule, two Junior Counselors should escort campers when leaving the general area (e.g., for bathroom breaks) rather than one.
- **Communication:** For any problems or questions, please communicate with an Artist in Resident if Ella or Stefan are unavailable. If conflicts arise between Junior Counselors, please seek out Stefan or Ella for equitable resolution.
- **Behavioral Guidelines:** The Pomo Summer Arts Admin Team reserves the authority to expel a Junior Counselor at any time based on observed anti-social behavior. However, we are committed to working with youth, providing warnings, and championing your success.
- **Transportation:** Transportation to and from Gateway Mendocino is the responsibility of the Junior Counselor. If you require assistance with transportation, please reach out to us.
- **Overnight Stays:** As a local Junior Counselor over 18, you may sleep over upon invitation by the Admin Team.
- **Artistic Mentorship:** You will be paired with a mentor Artist in Resident within an artistic subject which magnetizes you. Within the Arts and Crafts component, different Mentor Guests will lead daily, covering crafts such as beading, drawing, jewelry, and basket weaving.
- **Performances:** There will be planned performances by Artists in Residence after lunch, as well as special guests. Junior Counselors should be prepared to perform as well at a moment's notice!
- **Meals:** Breakfast will be served at 9:30 AM, lunch at 12:30 PM, and snacks in the afternoon. Junior Counselors will have access to sodas during breaks.

We will review all of this and more during the orientation on Sunday, July 19th, 2026. See you there!

Sincerely,
Kevin Maldonado, Stefan Haves, Ella Smith

The Pomo Summer Arts Admin Team