May 2023

Camp Happenings



SUMMER CAMP



Refer-A-Friend:

The smell of sunscreen is in the air and the temperatures are warming up, that can only mean one thing - summer camp is weeks away! We've been working hard all year to make this the best week of your camper's summer and we don't want anyone to miss out! Here are some important things to know:

- Recruit a friend to sign up for summer camp and we will take \$45 off your overnight camp fee!
- For every friend you refer THEY get an additional \$25 off THEIR overnight camp fee!
- You can recruit as many friends as you like (and if you get 10⁻ your session is FREE!)

Transportation:

 Busses will be available in McAllen, Weslaco and Harlingen for a weekly fee of \$20.



For more information:

- Visit our website www.camprio.org
- Call our office at 956-204-0036
- Email our summer camp manager: anali@camprio.org

Join our Team!

If you love creating exciting experiences for campers, working in a fast-paced environment and would like to gain experience that can be transferred to almost any field, consider joining our team. We currently have two opportunities:



Summer Camp 2023 Counselor:

Each year, we look for enthusiastic, attentive Camp Counselors to lead, support, and motivate campers as they enjoy all that camp has to offer. You should be positive, proactive, and caring while focusing on giving campers a fun, safe camp experience. We only have 6 openings left apply at our website today!



Year-Round Residential Staff:

The Camp RIO Residential Program Staff develops and delivers carefully constructed TEKS-based lessons in a fun and engaging way during the academic school year. Please note this is not a summer position. The start date will be in August and continue through May each academic year.

Staff Spotlight



Gilbert Montes is one of the longest serving staff members of Camp RIO. He began his adventure here as a summer camp counselor in 2016. He stayed at camp as a guide in our year-round Outdoor Education program where he made lasting contributions as the Range Manager and as a Lead Guide. In 2022, Gilbert became the manager of our Outdoor Education program, leading a team of twenty people in providing amazing experiences for thousands of students in south and central Texas. Gilbert is often the first one to be at camp and the last one to leave. He can fix almost anything that has broken and has a gift for figuring out the most efficient way to do anything. This coming fall, Gilbert's adventure will continue on a new path. While we will miss him terribly, his impact will continue to be felt for years to come. Thank you for all you have done to make Camp RIO what it is today, Gilbert! Stay tuned for more information on next year's Outdoor Education program manager!

Meet our Head Chef!

If you've recently enjoyed a meal at Camp RIO you may have noticed a few changes. Our dining hall now has brand new doors and windows which keep the cool air in and make meal time a nice chance to cool off between activities. You may have also tasted the delicious meals made fresh by our awesome kitchen staff, led by head Chef Liz Saldivar. Chef Liz has been at Camp RIO for one year. Her favorite thing to eat is popcorn and her favorite thing to make for campers is tacos. She loves to hang out at the camp bridge and watch campers canoe. Her favorite camp compliment was from a camper who told her, "Wow, your food is better than my moms!" Chef Liz believes Camp RIO is the most fun place to be in Brownsville and her two kids, Eli and Carli, love visiting her at work.



Follow us!

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Feathered Friends:

You may wonder why we have orange hula hoops on the ground. These are to make sure no one disturbs the nests of our Killdeer.



These birds are a migratory species but many make their homes in south Texas yearround. Killdeer nest on the ground, preferably near water. The female lays four eggs which she incubates for approximately 28 days. If the eggs are threatened, the female will pretend to be injured to lure predators away from the nest!