

MISSOULA
CHILDREN'S
THEATRE



A PRODUCTION OF MCT, INC.

PERFORMING ARTS CAMP
2024
Camper Rules and
Information

THE DEVELOPMENT OF LIFE SKILLS IN CHILDREN THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN THE PERFORMING ARTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	2
PAC BASICS	2
OVERVIEW OF CAMPS.....	2
CONTACT INFORMATION.....	2
CAMP ADDRESSES.....	2
BEFORE CAMP	3
FORMS AND QUICK LINKS.....	3
PAC TIMELINE.....	3
AUDITIONS.....	4
PAC PRICING.....	4
PAYMENTS AND CANCELLATIONS.....	5
SCHOLARSHIPS	5
WHAT TO “PAC”K.....	5
MEDICATION & HEALTH TOPICS.....	6
TRANSPORTATION & ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE.....	8
AT CAMP	10
PERFORMANCES.....	10
DAILY SCHEDULE.....	11
CODE OF CONDUCT.....	12
FAQs	13

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the world of Missoula Children’s Theatre’s Summer Camps, Performing Arts Camp (PAC) and Performing Arts Camp Prep (PAC Prep)! We are so glad that you are joining us (or thinking about joining us) this upcoming summer. Please use this handbook to learn more about our camps and prepare for your upcoming experience. For parents/guardians, it will be helpful to talk through the contents of this guide with your camper before they arrive at camp, so they know what to expect.

PAC BASICS

OVERVIEW OF CAMPS

MCT is proud to host two “sleep-away” performing arts camps in beautiful Western Montana every summer.

Performing Arts Camp Prep (PAC Prep): July 28 – August 3, 2024

A week-long, theatre skill-building camp located on the shores of Flathead Lake at Camp Marshall. The campers’ final event is singing and dancing in a small, on-site showcase. Students entering grades 6-8 are eligible to apply.

Performing Arts Camp (PAC): July 28 – August 10, 2024

An intensive two-week program located on the shores of Flathead Lake. Talented youth come from all over the world, make life-long friends, and hone their performing skills. Final performances take place at the MCT Center for the Performing Arts in Missoula, MT. Students entering grades 9-12 and 2024 graduates are eligible.

**This year we are combining our North and South Shore program to one location under the name of “PAC”*

Visit the [PAC HUB](#) for the [PAC Application](#) and the latest camp updates.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please get in touch with us if any questions arise, but we ask that you review the entirety of this handbook first just in case we have already addressed your question.

Email: PAC@MCTinc.org (All PAC & PAC Prep communication will come from this email, so please add it to your contacts! If you aren’t receiving communication, please check your junk mail or contact us.)

Year-Round Office Phone: 406-728-1911

PAC & PAC Prep Phone: 406-529-4743 (July 28 – August 10 ONLY)

“Remind” Communication Tool: We will be utilizing “Remind” for PAC & PAC Prep this year! It will be an easy and very safe way to communicate with parents & campers (only those with permission) via text. Please join the contact list by doing the following (no app download is needed to get reminders for camp): text [@24pac](#) or [@24pacprep](#) to [81010](#)

CAMP ADDRESSES

PAC Prep:

Camp Marshall
41524 Melita Island Rd
Polson, MT 59860
[Camp Website](#)

PAC:

Flathead Lake United
Methodist Camp
21339 Methodist Camp Rd
Rollins, MT 59931

MCT Center for the Performing Arts:

200 N. Adams St.
Missoula, MT 59802
[MCT Website](#)

Please note that MCT rents out the campground locations and is not affiliated with the organizations or churches that run the camps.

BEFORE CAMP

FORMS & QUICK LINKS

[PAC HUB](#)

[PAC Application](#) – Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and camp decisions will be communicated within 2 weeks of submission via email.

Scholarship Application – The Scholarship Application is now closed.

[Camper Form](#) (Transportation, OTC Meds, Dietary) – DUE July 1st.

[Health History Form](#) (including Immunization Record & Insurance Cards) – DUE July 1st.

[PAC ONLY: Optional Lesson Form](#) – DUE July 1st.

PAC TIMELINE

February 16: [PAC Application](#) go live

April 5: [PAC Application](#) & **Scholarship Application** DUE

April 19: Acceptance emails are sent

May 24: Deposit DUE (Non-refundable after June 3rd, 2024)

July 1: [Camper Form](#), Camper [Health History Form](#) (including Immunization Record & Insurance Cards), Tuition Balance DUE (Non-refundable after July 5th, 2024) [Lesson Form \(Optional\)](#).

July 8: Merchandise orders due (a link will be posted when the merch sales are available)

July 28: First day of PAC for everyone! Arrive at camp between 3PM - 5PM

August 3: Last day of camp for PAC Prep. Check out 10AM – 11:30AM at Camp Marshall.

August 7: PAC campers ride a bus to Missoula. Campers staying with friends or family locally can be picked up following rehearsal at MCT Center for the Performing Arts that evening. Campers staying at MCT provided accommodations will be taken to their hotel or hostel following rehearsal. A more detailed schedule for performance weekend to come at the end of July.

August 9: 7:00 PM Performance for PAC.

August 10: 5:00 PM & 7:00 PM Performance for PAC.

August 11: Last day of camp for PAC. Check-out for campers staying at MCT provided accommodations is 10-11:30AM at MCT. Campers staying with friends and family can check out following the final evening performance on August 10. There will be no formal event on Sunday.

AUDITIONS

Returning Campers DO NOT need to audition for acceptance or to move up to another camp. Please remember that acceptance into camp and future invitation to attend is contingent upon your behavior while at camp. We ask you to strongly consider the commitment you are undertaking in requesting to return to our program. If we do not receive your application by the April 5 deadline, we cannot guarantee you a spot at camp.

First Time Applicants do not have to submit audition materials with the online application, but should we require a “callback audition” from new applicants, we will reach out with details for submitting a very short video.

PAC PRICING

- **PAC Prep:** Tuition is \$675 with a deposit of \$300 due May 24, 2024 at 5PM MST (non-refundable after June 3rd, 2024). The remaining balance of \$375 is due July 1, 2024 at 5PM MST (non-refundable after July 5, 2024).
- **PAC:** Tuition is \$1,300 with a deposit of \$550 due May 24, 2024 at 5PM MST (non-refundable after June 3rd, 2024). The remaining balance of \$750 is due July 1, 2024 at 5PM MST (non-refundable after July 5, 2024).

Housing in Missoula – PAC Only

There is an additional fee of \$40 if housing in Missoula is needed for performance weekend (approx. 4 nights total). You can indicate your housing needs on your [Camper Form](#).

Special Diets

Due to the significant rise in food costs, the camp grounds are instituting a food premium of \$105 for campers requiring a vegan or gluten-free diet. This is a one-time fee and those requiring a special diet at PAC & PAC Prep will need to opt in via the [Camper Form](#).

Additional Camper Discount: We charge full price for the first attendee and 10% off for any additional siblings. If you qualify for this discount, it will be automatically loaded onto your account.

PAYMENTS & CANCELLATION

Payments can be made by calling MCT Patron Services weekdays from 12PM - 5PM at (406) 728-7529. Reservations are made under your camper's name. Scholarships and discounts will automatically be applied to your account. If payments are not received by the deadline, we will make every reasonable attempt to contact you prior to filling your position.

Payment plans are available. Please reach out to PAC@MCTinc.org to discuss your options. If your plans change and you need to cancel your child's registration, please inform us as soon as possible. Camps can fill up quickly and we may have a waitlist. Your deposit is non-refundable after June 3rd, 2024.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The 2024 PAC Scholarship Application closed April 5th.

WHAT TO "PAC"K

You will need to provide your own bedding, whether it is a sleeping bag or sheets and blankets. Nights often become quite chilly so you may want to include an additional warm blanket. Two pairs of shoes are recommended. These should be closed-toe and suitable for rehearsal. Open-toed sandals are NOT advised at camp except as shower shoes. Campers often bring a third pair of "lake shoes". The shore of Flathead and Seeley Lake are rocky and bare feet can be uncomfortable while wading or launching a boat. A pair of old or inexpensive tennis shoes for this purpose can come in handy.

Don't forget a water bottle! We want all campers to stay hydrated and days can be hot.

Campers spend most of their day in rehearsal or classes. Clothing should be comfortable and something that they can easily move in. Laundry facilities are NOT available at camp. For the performances, please bring a pair of medium to dark wash blue jeans (not black or super light in color and NO HOLES!). Tennis shoes will be the most comfortable for your performance shoes.

Make sure everything is marked with your camper’s name! Also, keep in mind that belongings need to fit into a closed suitcase when not in use. We ask that each camper restrict their luggage to two cases plus bedding.

<p>Clothing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Summer clothing for 6-14 days ● 2-3 sweaters or sweatshirts ● 2-4 pairs of long pants ● 1 pair of dark jeans (no holes!) for the show ● Underwear & socks ● 2 pairs of closed-toe shoes ● Pajamas ● Swimsuit(s) ● Raincoat or poncho 	<p>Toiletries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2 towels and 1 washcloth ● Soap/body wash ● Shampoo ● Toothbrush and toothpaste ● Hairbrush ● Deodorant ● Sunscreen ● Insect repellent
<p>Other Necessary Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sleeping bag or bedding for a twin mattress ● Pillow ● Water bottle ● Flashlight ● Medications ● A supply of masks (just in case) 	<p>Optional Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Musical instrument ● Book(s) ● Journal/notebook and pens ● Lake shoes or shower sandals ● Money for Canteen (\$20-\$30 recommended)

PAC Campers: If you have character, jazz or tap shoes and would like to bring them, please do.

PAC Campers: If you would like to, please pack one “nice” outfit for Banquet Night (semi-formal celebration just for PAC campers).

DO NOT BRING:

- **Electronic devices** - If these items are brought, their security cannot be assured. Cell phones are the exception. For PAC Prep, those traveling with a cell phone will be asked to turn it in on the first day of camp. Cell phones can be made available for check-out during free time or after evening programs and rehearsals. For PAC, cell phones are NOT allowed in rehearsal, but campers may use them at free time and following evening programs and rehearsals.
- **Food** - CAMPERS MAY NOT HAVE ANY FOOD ITEMS IN THEIR CABINS AS IT WILL ENCOURAGE NON-HUMAN CABINMATES! Western Montana is home to black and grizzly bears and many other animals that seek out human food. Food in cabins is not safe. “Care Packages” containing food are also discouraged. If food is brought or sent to camp, it must be stored safely in the kitchen or lodge.
- **Excess money** – There will be a Canteen store at camp selling limited amounts of snacks and supplies. Any snacks purchased must be consumed right away and not brought back to cabins. We suggest that each camper bring roughly \$20-\$30 for this purpose. Excess cash is strongly discouraged. PAC Campers who are staying in MCT provided housing might want to consider bringing a small amount of extra cash as ice cream visits or other opportunities in Missoula may arise.
- **Weapons or knives** – These are prohibited items and those in possession will be immediately dismissed from camp.

- **Drugs or alcohol** – These are prohibited items and those in possession will be immediately dismissed from camp. All prescription and over-the-counter medications must be turned into the camp nurse at check-in. Medications cannot be kept in the cabin for the safety of other campers.

MEDICATION & HEALTH TOPICS

Medical Forms

Every camper MUST have the medical forms and permissions signed before arriving at PAC & PAC Prep. **It is essential that you complete these forms or your child may NOT be able to stay at PAC & PAC Prep.** We do not keep records on file. If you are a previous camper, you will need to submit these yearly.

Mandatory medical forms are due July 1st, 2024 and include the following:

- **Camper [Health History Form](#):** contains vital information about your child’s allergies, health history, health care providers, permission to treat, and medications.
- **Insurance cards:** You will need to provide a copy of your insurance cards.
- **Immunization Records:** You will need to provide a copy of your child’s immunization records. Please plan accordingly and contact your doctor right away to obtain these. DON’T WAIT; doctor’s offices can be busy!

Medical Form Submission

We cannot accept faxed forms or photos of the medical forms. Please complete the form with a .pdf editor or print and complete by hand. You can scan and email back to PAC@MCTinc.org (preferred) or you can drop off or mail to MCT. There are free scanner apps for your phone that turn a photo into a .pdf that you can email.

Medications at Camp

All camper medications (prescription and over-the-counter) must be held and administered by our camp nurses, so they are not in areas where other campers have access to them. Campers will hand over medications and discuss daily regimens with the nurse at check-in.

It is IMPERATIVE that you bring all prescriptions and over-the-counter medicines that your child typically takes on a daily basis including vitamins and supplements. Camp is not the time to take your child off a medication or supplement. Our nurses will have general pain killers, stomach medicines, and topical ointments, but don’t generally carry items like melatonin or allergy medication.

Medications should be in their original container with the name of the camper, the name of the medication, dosage amount, and frequency on it. If the original container absolutely cannot be located, please write down that information and put it with your medication. Do not rely on your child to know their own dosage.

Emergency Contact

During camp, there may be instances when we need to get a hold of a parent or guardian – such as an important health issue, ongoing discipline issue, or homesickness concern. We will reach out to the primary contact first, but if we are not able to reach them, please list a secondary contact that we can contact on your application. If you ever need to change contacts or add an additional contact, please email PAC@MCTinc.org.

In the rare case of emergencies, there are medical facilities less than 10 miles away from each camp. Any medical crisis that cannot be handled by a camp nurse will be referred there. We work hard to keep your campers safe and there are inherent risks in attending an overnight camp in the Montana woods. Emergency contacts will not normally be called about minor medical issues like an upset stomach, headache, scrape, or bruise.

Health Concerns at Camp

We strive to provide a nurturing, warm, and encouraging environment to campers and staff at PAC & PAC Prep. If your camper experiences mental health concerns such as anxiety or depression, has any behavior issues, or has struggled with disordered eating, please be proactive in sharing that information on your health forms. We can do our best work when informed before camp about challenges that campers may face while at camp. Together, we can develop a strategy to address your camper's needs in a new environment.

Please also recognize that MCT does not have the capacity to support every health concern. Sometimes, our nurses or other counselors have proper training to address issues that may arise, but, in general, we do not employ experts in every field of health or behavior.

Wildfires & Air Quality Index (AQI)

Summer is wildfire season in Montana. Fire activity and air quality are closely monitored prior to the start of camp if conditions warrant (there is fire activity which is affecting – or could affect – air quality).

MCT has developed an emergency evacuation plan to deal with such scenarios. Outdoor activities are limited if the AQI reaches unhealthy to very unhealthy levels. If the AQI reaches hazardous levels, the Camp Director may make the call to evacuate the campground and move camp to a different location. When fire activity is close to camp, MCT works with campground caretakers and the local fire department to determine the best course of action to keep all campers and staff safe.

TRANSPORTATION & ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE

PAC & PAC Prep Transportation:

You are financially responsible for getting your camper to/from camp (gas, flights, bus tickets, etc.). We can assist with transporting your camper to/from the airport or bus station to camp. However, if you book tickets to the wrong airport or bus station, we cannot guarantee that we can provide transportation. If you require transportation, an additional \$10 fee will be added to your account balance.

Traveling by Car:

For those arriving by car, you must drop your camper off at your respective camp location. **We will not be taking a shuttle from MCT to camp this year and have limited seating on the shuttle from the airport that we need to reserve for those arriving by plane or bus.** Please arrive at camp between 3-5PM for check-in. We do not provide care for your child if they arrive early to camp.

Traveling by Plane:

Campers arriving by plane **MUST fly into and out of Missoula International Airport (MSO) as CLOSE to mid-day as possible.** Your [Camper Form](#) will require your airline information and flight number. If you are traveling as a registered unaccompanied minor, please let us know ASAP as you will need the name and information of the person picking up/dropping off your child at the airport. We will watch flights closely, but you can communicate any travel changes by texting or calling 406-529-4743.

The airport in Missoula is fortunately very small. Upon arrival, your camper can make their way to baggage claim where they will see MCT staff wearing PAC T-shirts and holding a sign. We will collect all passengers and then board the transport to camp.

Traveling by Bus:

Please travel into and out of the Bus Station in Missoula (1660 W Broadway St.). We understand that bus schedules are not always convenient. If you can travel in mid-day, that is the best option. In some cases, if your child is attending PAC and is arriving outside of the arrival window, it may make more sense to arrive at the Polson, MT Bus Station (but ONLY if your child is attending PAC and arriving past 5PM). Please contact PAC@MCTinc.org to discuss your travel plans if this is the case.

Arrival/Departure:

Please arrive between 3PM-5PM for check-in and 10AM – 11:30AM for check-out. **We do not provide care for your child if they arrive early to camp and you will likely be told to come back at 3PM.** Most of our camps do not allow us to check-in much earlier than the 3PM arrival time and we need to use all the time that we can to set up PAC.

- **PAC Prep:**

Check-in: Campers arriving by car should plan on arriving **Sunday, July 28 between 3PM - 5PM** at Camp Marshall (41524 Melita Island Rd., Polson, MT). If you are going to be later than 5PM, please call/text the Camp Director at 406-529-4743. Check-in can be a longer process as we require you to visit with the nurse to turn in any medications and discuss any health specifics or concerns. Please be patient and plan on 30-45 minutes to get your camper settled.

Check-out: Campers will be ready for pick up at Camp Paxson on **Saturday, August 3 (time tbd)**. Please do not be late as MCT needs to be out of camp facilities by 12PM. The last meal served will be breakfast on Saturday. If your child will be picked up by anyone other than a custodial parent/guardian, please indicate this on your [Camper Form](#). If this changes at all, please email PAC@MCTinc.org or text 406-529-4743 with the updated information. We require changes to pick up in writing.

Directions to PAC Prep: Camp Marshall is located 10 miles north of Polson, MT on the west shore of Flathead Lake. From Highway 93 North, turn right on Melita Island Road just north of mile marker 70.

- **PAC:**

Check-in: Campers arriving by car should plan on arriving **Sunday, July 28 between 3PM - 5PM** at the United Methodist Camp (21339 Methodist Camp Rd, Rollins, MT 59931). If you are going to be later than 5PM, please call/text the Camp Director at 406-529-4743. Check-in can be a longer process as we require you to visit with the nurse to turn in any medications and visit about any health specifics or concerns. Please be patient and plan on 30-45 minutes to get your camper settled.

Check-out: For those staying at MCT-provided accommodations, check-out is **Sunday, August 11 from 10AM – 11:30AM** at the MCT Center for the Performing Arts (200 N. Adams St, Missoula , MT 59802). Campers staying with family can check out after the final evening show on Saturday, August 10. If your child will be picked up by anyone other than a custodial parent/guardian,

please indicate who on your [Camper Form](#). If this changes at all, please email PAC@MCTinc.org or text 406-529-4743 with the updated information. We require changes to pick up in writing.

Directions to PAC: The United Methodist Camp is located north of Polson at mile marker 89 on Highway 93 North.

If you have any questions on arrival schedules or transportation logistics, please email PAC@MCTinc.org to discuss.

MCT-Provided Missoula Housing – PAC ONLY

When in Missoula, you have the option of providing housing for your camper (staying with family or friends in the area or arranging a hotel on your own) or purchasing MCT-provided housing. MCT provided housing costs (still to be determined) per night and is a homestay with local MCT families. Meals and transportation are included in this cost. You can indicate your housing needs (1-4 nights) on the [Camper Form](#). MCT has a limited number of housing options. If you can provide housing for your camper, please do! **More information will be sent about host families soon.**

Camper Form

The [Camper Form](#) is due July 1st, 2024. This form includes your transportation plans and housing plans. You will need to have made travel and housing arrangements prior to starting the form. If you have any updates/changes to information submitted on this form in the month leading up to camp, please email PAC@MCTinc.org with that information rather than submitting a second form.

AT CAMP

PERFORMANCES

PAC Prep Showcase:

The **PAC Prep Showcase is not open to the public.** The space is not conducive to an audience, and we focus our camp on theatre skills building without the pressure of a large final performance. We will be recording the performance and sending a link out for free to all PAC Prep families following camp.

PAC Performances:

PAC will have 3 performances August 9th and 10th at the MCT Center for the Performing Arts (200 North Adams Street, Missoula, MT 59802). You can purchase tickets closer to the date of PAC in person at our Box Office or via our website. Tickets to these performances are **not** included in the price of camp.

DAILY SCHEDULES

We follow these schedules most days, but sometimes have surprises that mix things up, special guests, or late sleep-in days.

Sample PAC Schedule	
8:00	Wake Up Bell
9:00	Breakfast/Cabin Clean up

Sample PAC Prep Schedule	
7:30	Wake Up
8:30	Breakfast/Cabin Clean-up

10:00	Warm Up Bell
10:30	Rehearsal
1:00	Lunch
1:30	Flat on bunk
2:00	Canteen
2:30	Rehearsal
4:30	Waterfront
5:45	Circle Up
6:00	Dinner
6:30	Activity
7:00	Rehearsal
9:30	Evening Program
10:45	Lights Out

9:30	Class RED GROUP: Dance GREEN GROUP: Voice BLUE GROUP: Acting
10:30	Class RED GROUP: Acting GREEN GROUP: Dance BLUE GROUP: Voice
11:30	Break
12:00	Lunch
12:30	Flat on Bunk
1:15	Canteen
2:00	Class RED GROUP: Voice GREEN GROUP: Acting BLUE GROUP: Dance
3:00	Waterfront
5:00	Dinner
6:00	Activity
7:00	Rehearsal
8:30	Evening Program
9:45	Lights Out

Optional Lessons - For PAC ONLY

You may sign up for optional lessons while at camp by submitting the [Optional Lesson Form](#) (due July 1, 2024). Because of our intense rehearsal schedule, we ask that campers register for no more than 8 lessons total in no more than 2 of the 3 performance disciplines (acting, dance, and voice). Our 30-minute lessons are \$20 per lesson and are taught by a professional teaching artist in a small group setting. Contact Patron Services at (406) 728-7529 weekdays from 12-5pm to submit payment for lessons. Lessons are scheduled during free times in the schedule.

CODE OF CONDUCT

All PAC & PAC Prep campers are expected to display appropriate and socially acceptable behavior at camp, including time spent in Missoula. MCT's rules are designed for a reason and set to protect our program, campers, staff, and property, and to create a safe and welcoming camp environment. In general, campers should always conduct themselves in a way that is respectful, responsible, safe, and

kind to all. Willful violation of camp rules can lead to dismissal at the camper's guardian's expense, without tuition refund. Such a break in the rules will jeopardize a camper's invitation to return in future years. MCT adheres to the following rules, regulations, and protocols:

1. MCT, Inc. Performing Arts Camps are conducted in complete conformance with all laws governing drug use, alcohol use by minors, smoking laws, environmental protection, and health and safety.
2. Profanity, bullying, verbal abuse, and/or physical harm to another individual will not be tolerated.
3. Physical boundaries and consent are important at camp so that everyone feels safe. We recognize that romantic relationships are a positive part of many teen and adult lives, but they are strongly discouraged at camp.
4. Camper sleeping and bath areas are separated by gender. All reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate any gender-expansive individual. Campers must respect other people's spaces and are not allowed in cabins that they are not assigned to. Campers should be aware that any kind of sexual activity between students is strictly prohibited and could be grounds for immediate dismissal.
5. Illicit drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, weapons, and fireworks are not allowed at PAC & PAC Prep.
6. Campers committing damage or theft - and their guardians – will be held responsible for payment of damages.

Policy on Inclusion: Everyone is Welcome!

MCT is committed to creating a camp environment free of discrimination and bias – both subtle and overt – regardless of race, color, religion, political views, sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity/expansiveness. The comfort and safety of all campers, staff, and personnel is paramount.

Cabin Clean-up

We live in close quarters at camp. Because of this, we ask that campers are considerate of sharing space and contribute to keeping camp a safe and healthy environment. Each day, campers will tidy up their cabin spaces and cabins will rotate through daily cleaning assignments to keep the outdoor spaces, kitchen, and bathrooms clean.

MCT-provided Housing Rules:

We are using homestays for Missoula housing this year. More information will be sent about homestay rules and information closer to camp.

Conflicts and Behavior Issues at Camp

When conflicts, behavior issues, or situations arise at camp, we try to find a way forward that works for everyone. This involves listening to and communicating with all involved parties. MCT reserves the right to deny admission to any camper at any time or ask campers to leave camp at any time due to policy or code of conduct violations. Dismissal from camp does not allow for tuition reimbursement. Please carefully review policies with your camper(s) prior to attending PAC & PAC Prep.

FAQs

When are the drop-off and pick-up times?

Drop-off time is between **3PM - 5PM on July 28**. Pick-up time is TBD. For PAC Prep, campers are picked up at Camp Marshall on **August 3**. For PAC, campers who are not local or staying with family in town, can be picked up at the MCT Center for the Performing Arts on **August 10**.

How are cabins separated?

MCT welcomes students of all gender identities. It is of the utmost importance to us that we create an environment in which ALL campers feel comfortable and safe at camp. Each camp is separated into 2 "pods" of cabins (a female pod and a male pod) with a bathhouse in each. Each pod will contain at least one of our gender expansive cabin options. (Please note: There are also gender expansive and/or single stall bathrooms and showers at each camp for anyone that would like to use them). You will select housing options on your PAC Application.

Where are campers allowed to go at camp?

Campers can be in all common spaces including the dining hall and rehearsal spaces. Campers are not permitted in staff housing or any pods/cabins other than their own.

Can my child be in a cabin with their friend?

You can send a request to PAC@MCTinc.org that will be taken into consideration. A lot of factors go into cabin assignments and we cannot guarantee all requests will be honored, but will do the best we can!

Will I be able to talk on the phone with my child?

Campers will be allowed their phone during free time and after the evening program. PAC Prep campers will be able to check-out their phones. PAC campers will be able to keep phones in their possession. If your child does not have a phone, that's ok! We find it best that campers stay present and focused on why they are at camp in the first place. If you need to contact your camper, the PAC & PAC Prep cell is 406-529-4743.

Can we visit our camper?

For security reasons, campers are **not** able to receive visitors at camp. This includes family members. If your child forgets something, please call/text the PAC cell at 406-529-4743 and we can arrange a parking lot drop off.

What if my child is homesick?

Homesickness is healthy and curable! We think that going to summer camp is a great way to "practice" being homesick AND happy. Before the summer starts, talk to your child about what camp might be like and discuss possible strategies for when they miss home. Strategies might include making a new friend, bringing a favorite stuffed animal, or telling their counselor how they are feeling. If homesickness persists, we'll call and let you know.

Can my child leave camp?

Campers must always remain on the campgrounds. Any departures from camp must be pre-arranged and approved by the Camp Director and the camper must be picked up by a parent/guardian or obtain written permission by a parent/guardian to leave with someone else. Going on walks, hikes, or leaving to run an errand is prohibited at camp. Any camper that needs something should speak with the Camp Director.

Can my child bring a car to camp?

If a child brings their own car to camp, they need to turn in their keys to the Camp Director at the start of camp. They are not allowed to transport other campers unless the Camp Director receives written permission to transport from parents/guardians of both parties (drivers and passengers).

What is Canteen?

Campers are permitted to visit the Canteen for snacks once each day. Stamps, envelopes, and small PAC merchandise items may also be sold. Special orders for forgotten items such as toothpaste, flashlights, etc., can be taken and filled in town by the next day.

What is “Flat on Bunk”?

“Flat on Bunk” or FOB time follows lunch and precedes Canteen. During this time, campers should be in their bunks and silent. Reading or writing is permitted, but the idea is to allow time for rest. By the third or fourth day, most campers will sleep during this time.

What is the weather like in Western Montana?

Days can be warm (85-95 degrees) and there are not any areas of camp with air conditioning. Nights can get colder (55-65 degrees). We encourage packing layers.

What is PAC Banquet Night?

Banquet Night is a night just for PAC Campers where we celebrate campers attending their final year of PAC. The night is full of fun, special programming, and a “nice” camp dinner. Campers are encouraged to dress up, but don’t have to. Attire is semi-formal.

What activities will campers participate in outside of rehearsals?

Each day, weather permitting, we will have waterfront. Canoes and paddle boats are available for check-out if there is a counselor with the campers. Each evening after dinner there is a structured outdoor activity. Activities in the past have included improv games, capture the flag, volleyball, etc. Campers do not have to participate in waterfront or these activities, but are encouraged to. Following the evening rehearsal, a special program is scheduled. Past programs have included Campfire, Talent Show, Counselor Switch, Trivia Night, Name that Tune, etc. Campers are required to attend evening programming.

My child is going to PAC; do they stay at camp the entire time?

No! PAC campers perform their show at the MCT Center for the Performing Arts. They are only at camp through the morning of Wednesday, August 7th and then are bussed to Missoula. When in Missoula, you have the option of providing housing for your camper (staying with family or friends in the area or arranging a hotel on your own) or purchasing MCT-provided housing. MCT provided housing costs \$25 per night and is generously hosted by local families. Homestay families are usually parents of PAC campers as and have all been background-checked. Campers that have indicated that they need Missoula housing will be paired with a Missoula homestay; upon this pairing, we will send the homestay family’s information to the camper’s guardians to establish contact with each other. Meals and transportation while staying with a homestay are covered in the housing fee. You can indicate your housing needs (1-4 nights) on the Camper Form. If you can provide housing for your camper, please do! And, if you are a Missoula resident who would be so kind as to house a fellow camper, please indicate that on the [Camper Form](#). More details about Missoula homestays will be provided closer to camp.

Can my child get a ride to or home from camp?

If you can get your child to/from camp, direct transportation is always easiest. Campers arriving on public transportation (bus or plane) can be provided transportation to/from the airport or bus station. If your child requires transportation, please indicate it on your Camper Form. If there are extenuating circumstances, please contact us as we may be able to get your child from Missoula to camp. However, space is limited and priority will be given to those flying in or taking a bus.

Can I purchase PAC Merchandise?

PAC Merchandise is not yet available, but it will be later in the year. Orders will be taken prior to camp and fulfilled at camp. Please plan to purchase ahead of time as we will not be selling any clothing items at camp this year. Note that sizes on some items are limited. We are planning on selling any remaining small merchandise items along with snacks at the Canteen each day (water bottles, stickers, pop sockets, and fanny packs). Once items are sold out, they will not be restocked. **All merchandise pre-orders must be completed by 5PM MST on July 8, 2024.**

Why do you charge a food premium for campers with a special diet at PAC?

Due to the significant rise in food costs, MCT is instituting a \$105 food premium for campers requiring a vegan or gluten-free diet. This is a one-time fee and those requiring a special diet at PAC will need to opt in via the [Camper Form](#). This fee can be paid via phone to MCT Patron Services weekdays from 12PM - 5PM at (406) 728-7529.

When is the deposit for camp Due?

If your deposit is not received by May 24th, 2024, we will make every reasonable attempt to contact you prior to filling your position. If that deadline poses a problem for you, please email PAC@MCTinc.org as soon as possible and we can set up a payment plan.

Can I cancel my camper's registration?

Yes. Please inform us if plans change as soon as possible. Your deposit is non-refundable after June 3rd, 2024.