



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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YMCA CAMP CLASSEN Keeps Youth Moving, Learning and Exploring this Summer

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK (April 22, 2014) – YMCA CAMP CLASSEN is offering resident camps to give kids and teens in Oklahoma and Texas an adventurous, active and healthy summer. YMCA camp programs offer youth fun and unique experiences with an opportunity to explore the outdoors, meet new friends, discover new interests and create memories that last a lifetime.

Summer is the ideal time for kids to get up, get out and explore. But, for some kids summer means no access to recreational and educational activities to help them learn, grow and thrive during out-of-school time. As a result, some kids can experience learning loss and gain weight twice as fast than during the school year. Attending YMCA CAMP CLASSEN summer camp is a wonderful opportunity for kids to keep their minds *and* bodies active.

“YMCA CAMP CLASSEN supports the social-emotional, cognitive development and physical well-being of kids,” says Scott Hall, Executive Director of CAMP CLASSEN. “In our resident camp, kids are in a welcoming environment where they can belong, build relationships, develop character and achieve – discovering their potential. We really encourage parents to give their kids the gift of camp so that every child can benefit from the experience.”

Hall says there are five reasons why children and teens should attend summer camp:

1. **ADVENTURE:** Summer camp is all about a wide variety of fun adventures and new experiences, and especially exploring the outdoors. YMCA camps have a new adventure for every child and teen. Visit www.ymcaokc.org for details.
2. **HEALTHY FUN:** Day and resident camps offer fun, stimulating activities that engage the body and mind, and also help children and teens learn the importance of nutrition to help improve their healthy eating habits.
3. **PERSONAL GROWTH:** While being away from the routine back home, youth have a chance to learn new skills, and develop confidence and independence by taking on new responsibilities and challenges. Camps offer cognitive learning and social-emotional development opportunities for achievement.

4. **NEW FRIENDSHIPS:** Amidst the fun of camp games, songs, swimming, canoeing and talent shows, campers meet new friends and strengthen existing friendships. The relationships formed at camp are important and lasting for many youth.
5. **MEMORIES:** Summer camp is an unforgettable experience that will give each camper memories (and camp traditions) that will last a lifetime. Youth return to school with plenty of camp stories to share!

YMCA CAMP CLASSEN offers: Resident Camps for ages 7-15, Adventure Trips for Teens and Equestrian Camps. And, to ensure that all youth have the chance to experience camp, CAMP CLASSEN offers financial assistance to those who need it.

A leading nonprofit committed to nurturing the potential of youth, the Y has been a leader in providing summer camp for nearly 130 years. CAMP CLASSEN continues to give youth an enriching, safe experience with caring staff and volunteers who model positive values that help build their kids' character.

For more information, visit www.ymcaokc.org or contact Scott Hall at 580 369 2272 or shall@ymcaokc.org

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The Y

The Y is one of the nation's leading nonprofits strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Across the Oklahoma City Metro, 14 Ys engage more than 160,000 men, women and children – regardless of age, income or background – to nurture the potential of children and teens, improve the nation's health and well-being, and provide opportunities to give back and support neighbors. Anchored in more than 10,000 communities across the country, the Y has the long-standing relationships and physical presence not just to promise, but to deliver, lasting personal and social change. ymcaokc.org.