

CAMP HOLLYMONT FOR GIRLS

BEYOND THE BUBBLE

How Summer Camp Prepares Campers for College



Camp Hollymont is more than summer entertainment. While our days are packed with skills, games, and night activities, there is a mission behind it all. Camp teaches life lessons, fosters personal, social, and spiritual growth, and can even prepare your daughter for the transition to college life.

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Acceptance

What's the most pivotal camp-to-college life lesson? Campers learn the only things they have control over are their mindset and response when faced with a challenge. Friends may come different sessions, cluster assignments may not be exactly to our liking, skill schedules may be switched around, and old friends may not be in every activity we are in. Campers can struggle, be angry and upset, and let it ruin the camp experience. Alternatively, they can ask questions, work to change what's possible, and accept life as it comes. Hollymont provides campers with the tools to advocate for change, and to accept what can't be changed; making new friends, exploring new opportunities, and deepening their relationship with our Heavenly Father in the process. The key to success at camp, college, and life is embracing the challenges that come our way while remembering that we never walk alone!

"Camp Hollymont taught me how to get out of my comfort zone and try new things!" - Kate, camper

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Individuality

Some of our campers choose to fill their skill sheet with art and dance, while other campers couldn't imagine their summer days without soccer and basketball. Some of our girls take to the talent show stage with confidence, while others would much rather prefer to cheer on their clustermates. There are those who apply for leadership roles such as tribal chief and others who would rather not. All of us had a safe place to grow at Camp Hollymont. College campuses and courses widen that playing field too, but those of us who went to Hollymont learned at an early age that we could be ourselves and be proud of our individuality. It's those lessons our alumni admit to reaching for in the dorm room during moments where they feared that they might not be enough. Camp is a safe place for girls to explore and figure out who they are. With every success comes confidence in their new skills!

"Camp Hollymont taught me how to be myself, embrace my differences, ask for help, and be confident in who I am... because that is who God made me to be!" - Stella, counselor

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Resilience

For many girls, camp is the first time they are away from their families for more than a night. At one point or another, all of us have probably had a twinge of homesickness, but at camp there is always someone with a friendly shoulder, an ear to listen, or open arms for a hug that lessen the feeling and reminded us that this season will eventually come to a close. Homesickness happens at college, too, but at camp we learned there's always someone to help, whether it's your roommate, friend, counselor, professor, or advisor. Our alumni tell us that they were even better equipped to handle homesickness in college because they remember what it felt like at camp and how they overcame it. Homesickness is real, but it's manageable. Our campers learn that lesson at camp.

"Camp Hollymont taught me that camp friends are seriously the best! My counselors and friends always have my back!"

Katie, camper

So Much More!

We polled campers, parents, staff & alumni to get their thoughts...here are the lessons they learned:

■ "Camp Hollymont taught me how to LOVE God and to always be thankful for my camp friends!" - Hilty, camper

■ "I learned how to be a leader, care for others, and always have my sisters' backs." - McKenna, counselor

■ "I was encouraged to break out of my comfort zone and be my true self!" - Cate, counselor-in-training

■ "Hollymont taught me that honesty and integrity will take you far in life." - Paige, alumni

■ "Camp Hollymont challenged my daughter to try new things, embrace change, be a leader, and speak her mind! She now has a stronger relationship with the Lord and has made lifelong friends that will always be there for her!" - Kelly, parent

■ "You can always be yourself no matter what, and your real friends will celebrate your differences with you." - Reid, camper

■ "When my daughter went off to college, I wasn't worried at all! She learned how to be responsible, organized, and independent all while having fun and meeting new friends at Camp Hollymont." - Lisa, parent