



## **SHARE ORKILA AND COLMAN WITH YOUR FRIENDS HOST A HOME INFORMATION GATHERING**

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### *YMCA Camping Services - Camp Orkila and Camp Colman*

Thank you for helping to introduce more kids to our YMCA Camps by inviting friends, neighbors, family or YMCA adventure guides to your home for an information night on summer camp programs at Orkila and Colman.

Our goal is to bring camp to your friends and neighbors who are not familiar with opportunities that are available at Orkila and Colman for youth and families - to experience positive role models and independence, have fun, make friends and develop leadership skills.

We know that most parents hear about Orkila and Colman by word of mouth – so what better recommendation can there be than to have you invite your friends and family to your home to talk about camp?

We appreciate your time and together we will share the story of overnight Y camp.

## **Questions and Answers About Hosting a Camper Recruitment Night**

**1. Learn first hand from Y staff about all the adventures of camp.**

**2. Is there an advantage for me to host a camper recruitment night?**

\$100 off your own camper's week of summer camp in 2012 for every new camper that attends your home night and registers for camp

**3. How long will such a gathering last?**

We suggest about 1 ½ hours depending on your group and the night of the week.

**4. Who will help me?**

Staff from YMCA Camping Services. Cheryl Rau, David Affolter, Dave Bell, Dom Vellucci, Maya Webber or Alicia Hogl will attend to make the presentation and answer questions.

**5. Who should I invite?**

Go through your address book and make a list of friends, colleagues, family, friends of your children, neighbors who have never attended summer camp at Orkila or Colman before. Narrow your list to include only families with kids entering grades 1-11 in fall of 2012 and by how interested you think they would be in a week at camp.

**6. How many families should I invite?**

At least 5 but as many as you are comfortable having in your home. If your list is larger, we can always use a space in your local YMCA. Let us know if this is something you would like to do.

**7. How should I invite people and what should I say in the invitation?**

You can invite people to come by sending a paper invitation or an E-vite. You could also invite people by phone or send an e-mail invitation. Following up your invitation with a call or e-mail will increase attendance and make planning easier.

In your invitation, make it simple and authentic for you – don't make it sound formal – it is a relaxed time to talk one-on-one with camp staff to help new camper parents and kids become comfortable with a week of overnight camp.

**8. What should I say at this gathering?**

You can start the program by thanking guests for their time and by sharing you or your child's camp story - what sparked your interest in Camp Orkila & Camp Colman? Feelings shared through stories are contagious: when you tell your guests why you feel camp is important, they will want the experience for their kids as well.

**9. Do I need to serve refreshments?**

Not necessary, but if it is something you would naturally do, that is great.

**10. Can kids attend?**

Certainly – they have great questions and it is a good opportunity for them to get comfortable with going to camp.

**11. What kinds of materials will the YMCA provide?**

- *Slide show about camp* – either a DVD or power point presentation.
- *Screen and projector*
- *Brochures* – Summer camp brochures that give an overview of all our programs.
- *Answers to all the camp questions*
- *Fun camp ice-breaker if kids are attending*

**12. What time of day should the gathering be?**

We can meet your and your friends' schedules. Afternoon or evening and whatever day of the week works for your group.

**13. What months are best?**

Beginning January through April

**Next Steps**

1. Choose your date and time and schedule it with the Camping Services Office by calling 206-382-5009 or [colmanorkilainfo@seattleyymca.org](mailto:colmanorkilainfo@seattleyymca.org)
2. Pull together your guest list
3. Invite your friends at least 2 weeks in advance – you know your friends and what is best for their scheduling.
4. Call your friends one week in advance to follow up – a phone call can show your enthusiasm and hope that they come.

**Contact any of the following staff at 206-382-5009 with questions;**

Cheryl Rau- [crau@seattleyymca.org](mailto:crau@seattleyymca.org)

David Affolter – [daffolter@seattleyymca.org](mailto:daffolter@seattleyymca.org)

Alicia Hogl – [ahogl@seattleyymca.org](mailto:ahogl@seattleyymca.org)