

# Meet Our Youth Program Staff



Mary Jane (MJ)



Beth



Mollie



Sandy



Darren

## Youth Program Director

**Mary Jane (MJ) Meherg** is a middle school science teacher from Florida with tons of camp management experience including 9 years directing camps in Florida and 2 years in NY state. She worked with a variety of age groups and developed many programs including CIT and Leadership Programs and has helped camps reach NY State and ACA certifications. The Assistant Principal where she teaches described her as “amazing, awesome, very creative with the kids and my lead person ..... has a sense of humor, very approachable and in the top elite of my teachers” Mary Jane is bringing her two dogs (beagles), will live in the Ashe Cottage and she loves to swim, play tennis, hike and camp.

- Masters in School Admin & Supervision, experience teaching grades 1-8 and a Project WILD Facilitator

## Head Counselors

**Beth Carlson (Younger Kids)** I am so excited to be at Twilight Park again this summer. I am a 2nd grade teacher from Maryland. I enjoy being able to spend my summers in the Catskill Mtns where I grew up. I look forward to a fun packed summer. See you in June!

- Elementary Scholl teacher with 5 years experience as a Head Counselor at Twilight Park
- 2004 Magna Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa- Binghamton U & 2006 Masters in Elementary and Special Education

**Mollie Zucker (Older Kids & CIT Leader)** literally grew up living and working at summer camps and over the years has held various leadership positions in five different camps. She had some extraordinary experiences including working as a PE Teacher in Kuwait, an Adventure Team Leader in Fiji and Indonesia and as a Graduate Teaching Assistant finishing her Master's Degree in Adventure Education at Prescott College. She enjoys outdoor sports, especially field hockey, gardening, and learning about construction. Mollie loves to challenge and be challenged. She is looking forward to the summer at Twilight Park implementing leadership programs at the camp where her husband attended as a camper.

- B.S. Health and Physical Education / B.S. Biblical Studies / WFR (Wilderness First Responder), CPR / Lifeguard and Padi Scuba Cert. / P.E. Teacher Certification

## Activities Coordinators

**Sandra Truesdell - Aquatics Director** –manages both the Twilight Pool and our Youth Aquatics programs. Sandy is a suburb swimming instructor and this year she will also be helping out with our administrative and business functions. She teaches elementary school during the winter and is a beloved and stalwart member of the Twilight community.

- Certified in childhood education, Life Guarding, Water Safety Instruction, First Aid, CPR, AED, YMCA Healthy principles and more!

**Jessica Mack -Arts and Crafts Coordinator** is our part time resident artist who will help coordinate our artistic side with a creative nature oriented arts and crafts program. She has past experience at Twilight and she is a magna cum laude graduate in Fine Arts in Painting from Boston University. Jessica is also pursuing a second degree in Nursing

**Darren Patlen Tennis Director** is Twilight Parks very own Tennis Pro and he will be Directing our Tennis Program

**Will Bennett- Tennis Assistant** is an avid tennis player and provided Tennis instruction to our younger children in our youth program last year. He not only enjoys tennis but also track, soccer and football as well as intellectual pursuits such as writing and politics. He is also CPR certified.

## Our Counselors

- **Alton Sioussat** an 18 year old from Onteora with experience as a Junior Counselor at Twilight Park and also with the Onteora Children's Nights. He is very athletic and is a star Football player and tennis player but also loves to play his ukulele, sings and performed in the Onteora children's theater. He is CPR certified and worked with the older campers last summer.
- **Robbie Barker** an 18 years old from Onteora with experience as a Junior Counselor & Swim Instructor at Twilight Park and also with the Onteora Children's Nights. Robbie is very athletic and participates in varsity swimming, soccer and Tennis. He loves to cook, hike and camp and is an established talented photographer. Robbie also acted in the Onteora children's theater and is CPR certified.
- **Emma Douglass** a 19 year old rising sophomore at Lake Forest College with 3 years experience as a Junior Counselor at Twilight Park and 1 year at a day camp in Boston. Emma is certified in both life guarding and CPR and is a very talented singer and past youth coordinator for the Boston Singers.
- **Skylar Dayton** a 19 year old year with experience as a Life Guard at Twilight Park and as a Camp Aid. He also loves sports including swimming, golf, tennis, lacrosse, and soccer and flag football. Skylar has extensive camping experience and his life guarding certification.

## Our Junior Counselors

- **Katie Sade** a 16 year old with 3 years experience as a CIT for Twilight Park and a Day Care Center volunteer for the past 4 years. Katie is into rowing, swimming, writing, and reading and is CPR certified.
- **Walker Douglass** a 16 year old with 2 years experience as a CIT. He is a very talented singer and has been a youth coach and activities leader for the Boston City Singer. Walker also likes to play soccer, baseball, basketball and likes to sail, hike, bike and play ultimate Frisbee. He is also CPR certified.

## Our Returning "Counselors In Training" (CITs)

- **Anna Zabel** a 15 year old with 3 years experience as a CIT at Twilight Park, also a nursery school assistant counselor and ballet teacher assistant. Anna loves a variety of dance, theater and vocals and is CPR certified.
- **Zachery Hommel** a 15 year old with 2 years of CIT experience and 1 year Maintenance Helper experience at Twilight Park. Zach likes to hike, read and plays basketball and baseball. He is CPR certified
- **Annie Canning**, a 15 year old from Onteora with 1 year experience as a CIT at Twilight Park and has also spent many years attending camp. She loves crew, drama, tennis, soccer, hiking, theater and horseback riding. She is CPR certified.
- **Carolyn Sade** a 14 year old with 1 year volunteer CIT experience at Twilight and extensive babysitting experience. She is taking an Acting Intensive Course and is CPR certified.
- **Charlotte Mack** a 13 year old who has been a volunteer CIT at Twilight and has years of babysitting and camp experience. She is a wonderful artist and loves swimming, yoga and reading. Charlotte is trained in Conscious Discipline and is CPR certified.
- **Benjamin Martin and Oliver Martin** both 15, from Onteora and will be returning to join us during the month of August. Both boys enjoy lacrosse, tennis, soccer, camping, cooking and are CPR certified. Ben is also into art and biking and Oliver likes hiking and kayaking.

## The Newest additions to our Counselors in Training / Leadership Program

Thus far the following new Teens have been accepted into the Counselor In Training/ Leadership Program

- **Aidan Gibbons & William Stephens** – 13year olds from Elka Park
- **Anna Titowsky** – 15 year old will be joining us in mid July
- **Kate Titowsky** – 14 year old will be joining us in mid July
- **Ryan Clare & Milo Marcus** – 13 year olds from Twilight
- **Quinn & Hayne Ainslie** – 16 and 13 year olds from Onteora starting in late July

**Accepting Applications for the Counselor in Training / Leadership Program** until June 1

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