

camp lightbulb
provincetown
summer 2017



welcome
to our summer camp 2017 yearbook.

a letter from puck...

Dear Camp Lightbulb Family,

I am very lucky to be able to live my dream. My dream was to create a happy and safe space where campers come together for a wonderful week surrounded by friends, role models and a welcoming community. A place to connect, a place that is a stepping stone, and a place where memories are made that will last a lifetime.

Over the last 7 years, we have grown slowly and consistently - from 9 campers in our first year to 50 campers in 2017 at our Summer Camp in Provincetown and Winter Camp in Los Angeles. And in 2018, we will expand to a Spring Break in New York City and a Summer Camp on the West Coast.

When I close my eyes and think of Camp Lightbulb, I see a whole lot of happy smiles. Thanks to everyone who smiles with us.

X Puck





board of directors
(left to right)

jason michael butler, bill docker,
puck markham,

janet mock (special guest),
linda rohler, richard klein,

gina bettinsole (not pictured)

a letter from josh...

Camp Lightbulb continues to be one of the greatest blessings of my life.

I went into my first camp 3 years ago thinking I would change the lives of LGBTQ youth all across the nation. Little did I know, it was *my* life that would be forever changed.

The joy, strength, camaraderie, and astounding bravery I witness in these high schoolers each year nourishes my spirit in ways I didn't even know I needed. I fancy myself a warm, open-hearted queer mentor...but it's really the Camp Lightbulb family that inspires ME to be my full, glitter-soaked self each and every day.

It's always hard work, and Camp Lightbulb's 6th year was no exception. I came back home to Washington, DC, exhausted after countless bonfires, scavenger hunts, art projects, and other assorted adventures. But I also returned with a heart full to bursting.



I dream of a world where every LGBTQ young person is safe, happy, and thriving. Whether I'm fighting for progressive policy change, making queer art as a drag queen at my local bar, or working at the most fabulous summer camp in all the land, it's these campers who inspire me to keep going.

The world is a scary place right now. But we are resilient. We are fierce. We can turn pain into laughter better than *anyone* else. And - above all - we are family.

As you flip through these pages, don't forget to smile and remember just how lucky you are to be part of the Camp Lightbulb community. I myself am forever grateful to my fellow counselors, the board, our volunteers, the parents and social workers, Puck, and everyone else who makes this camp possible.

To my brothers, sisters, and gender non-conforming siblings all holding my hand under this big rainbow umbrella of life, I hope you know just how loved you really are.

In the words of my queer icon, Allen Ginsberg, "We're all golden sunflowers inside."

Until we meet again,
Josh



counselors
clockwise from left

josh, patti, kara,
sara,
finn, shaggy



campers



zak, nick, gigi,
 marshall, nick,

kade,
 jean, ruby (center),
zion



mason,

ethan, vic, remy,

abbey



gigi, nick,
jess,

nicolas, dylan,

kade



morgan,
logan,

sara,

josh



cat,

leo



sara, nick,
morgan, ruby,

charlie



abbey, jordan,
kenji,

devon, miles,
ophelia



jean,

dylan,

brett



jordan,

abbey, devon,
kenji, miles, chloe,

dylan, jonah



josh,

finn



camper yearbook

questionnaire

j bynum. they/them. bloomington-normal, illinois.

why did you come to camp?

i googled "gay camp" and now i'm here!

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?

making super awesome friends like me.

what is the most memorable quote from a camper or counselor?

"i don't need water, toxic is playing!" dylan m.

what did you learn about yourself this year at camp?

i learned a lot about my gender identity.

who is your lgbtq icon?

miles mckenna.

dylan greenberg. he/him. boston, massachusetts.

why did you come to camp?

to see old friends and meet new ones and to be with people like me.

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?

the boy.

who is your lgbtq icon?

gaga (sorry to perpetuate stereotypes but i just love her so much).

jordan seidmeyer. she/her. ashburn, virginia.

why did you come to camp?

i read about it online. i wanted to meet other lgbt people.

what did you learn about yourself this year at camp?

it is actually possible to make friends in less than a week.



josh white. he/him and xe/xem. millis, massachusetts.

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?

counselor josh.

what is the most memorable quote from a camper or counselor?

"mr. wiley, this man is a homosexual!"

who is your lgbtq icon?

myself.

vic mitterando. they/he. fair haven, new jersey.

why did you come to camp?

to meet new people, overcome anxiety, and have new experiences.

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?

talking to remy and finding out we were at the same youtube show.

what is the most memorable quote from a camper or counselor?

"self-inflicted flashlight wound."

who is your lgbtq icon?

miles mckenna and hanna hart.

miles woo. he/him. los angeles, california.

why did you come to camp?

i've attended twice before and enjoyed myself.

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?

brainstorming shrek erotica.

what did you learn about yourself this year at camp?

i am more social than i realized and can hold a conversation with strangers.



jonah whites. he/him. lexington, kentucky.

why did you come to camp?

i'm gay!

what is the most memorable quote from a camper or counselor?

probably the Shrek erotica

what did you learn about yourself this year at camp?

i'm good at starting cults. it's a little scary.

who is your lgbtq icon?

freddie mercury!!! also oscar wilde.

nicolas bell. he/him. boulder, colorado.

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?

digging holes and burying myself and jonah in them.

what did you learn about yourself this year at camp?

queer people are awesome and i like them.

who is your lgbtq icon?

gav or scarbie.

zak nunez. he/him. delray, florida.

why did you come to camp?

i'm gay.

what did you learn about yourself this year at camp?

i'm really gay.

who is your lgbtq icon?

the babadook.



kenji dutro-maeda. he/him. boulder, colorado.

why did you come to camp?

came 2x before and enjoyed. 3rd times the charm.

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?

brainstorming shrek erotica

who is your lgbtq icon?

scarbie.

abbey brunzell. they/them. west boylston, massachusetts.

why did you come to camp?

it's my 3rd (and last) year and i love it here.

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?

talking on the beach with my pals.

who is your lgbtq icon?

ellen page.

mason collier. he/him. yardley, pennsylvania.

why did you come to camp?

i came last year and i fell in love with it. i love all
the people here and the sense of family.

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?

making hats with the hat sisters.

what did you learn about yourself this year at camp?

people care about me.

who is your lgbtq icon?

aydian dowling.



devon shafer. they/them. west hartford, connecticut.

why did you come to camp?

the day that i left camp last year i asked my parents if i could come again. i love all of the people here and the atmosphere.

what is the most memorable quote from a camper or counselor?

"devon/ you smell like lemon/ you look like heaven/ on a scale of 1 to 5 you're a 7/ my favorite character on stranger things is eleven." the devon, as sung by mason collier.

who is your lgbtq icon?

june jordan.

leo bernstein. he/him. potomac, maryland.

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?

shrek erotica.

what did you learn about yourself this year at camp?

i can be outgoing if i try.

who is your lgbtq icon?

ellen degeneres.

ethan palmer. he/him. state college, pennsylvania.

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?

starting a cult (order of the boy).

what is the most memorable quote from a camper or counselor?

"self-inflicted flashlight wound." ethan palmer.

who is your lgbtq icon?

harvey milk or rfk.



remy paullay. he/him. yorktown heights, new york.

why did you come to camp?

i went last year and had a great time.

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?

joining a cult (order of the boy).

what did you learn about yourself this year at camp?

i learned that i will be okay no matter what happens and that my friends are awesome.

who is your lgbtq icon?

miles mckenna.

charlie dineen. he/him. marion, massachusetts.

why did you come to camp?

to be with my people.

what did you learn about yourself this year at camp?

a lot... too much to write down.

who is your lgbtq icon?

david bowie.

dylan mueller. he/him. livonia, michigan.

why did you come to camp?

because i loved camp last year, and wanted to come back so bad.

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?

feeling like part of a real community, and joining the order of the boy.

what did you learn about yourself this year at camp?

i have a newfound appreciation of going outside.

who is your lgbtq icon?

neil patrick harris.



morgan dermarderosian. they/them. bedford,
massachusetts.

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?
the conversations i had.

what did you learn about yourself this year at camp?
i am capable of more than i thought.

who is your lgbtq icon?
kaitlyn alexander.

ruby spies. she/her. berkeley, california.

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?
mom's dance moves.

what did you learn about yourself this year at camp?
i am resilient.

who is your lgbtq icon?
dorothy allison.

cat sword. she/her. arlington, virginia.

why did you come to camp?
i'm trans.

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?
building sand castles.

who is your lgbtq icon?
isabella bunny bennett.



brett dutson. they/them or she/her. pittsburgh,
pennsylvania.

why did you come to camp?

this is my 3rd year in a row and the environment is fun
and incredibly healthy.

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?

never have i ever on the beach.

what did you learn about yourself this year at camp?

what an amazing person i am.

who is your lgbtq icon?

jeffree star.

abbey casagrande. they/them. ludlow, massachusetts.

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?

skipping rocks after picking up trash on the beach.

gigi daley. she/her. adams, massachusetts.

why did you come to camp?

i came to camp to be surrounded by a group of accepting,
open-minded people that are like me and understand some
of the struggles i've faced.

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?

bonfires on the beach.

what did you learn about yourself this year at camp?

i've learned that i can unapologetically be myself and
there is nothing wrong with that.

who is your lgbtq icon?

halsey



marsh degenhardt. he/him. montclair, new jersey.

why did you come to camp?

to find a community.

what did you learn about yourself this year at camp?

that i'm a lot more confident than i knew.

who is your lgbtq icon?

everyone who has the power to live and be open and proud
of the lgbt community.

eli copeland. he/him. wilmington, north carolina.

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?

going shopping in p-town.

what did you learn about yourself this year at camp?

that i love caterpillars immensely.

who is your lgbtq icon?

the babadook.

jean lux patton. they/them and he/him. austin, texas.

why did you come to camp?

i had a lot of fun last year and i wanted to come back
for more fun at cape cod with old + new friends.

**what is the most memorable quote from a camper or
counselor?**

"what you don't think danny devito is extremely hot?"
miles woo.

what did you learn about yourself this year at camp?

i'm a lot less anxious than last year, and better at
interacting with others and self-regulating.



nick hampton-merino. he/him. oakland, california.

why did you come to camp?

because i wanted to meet more trans people.

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?

flag football

what did you learn about yourself this year at camp?

that i've gotten more confident and social.

who is your lgbtq icon?

elliott fletcher.

kade bresett. they/he. adams, massachusetts.

why did you come to camp?

i came to camp this year because i'm gay and it sounded like a good way to build a community.

what is the most memorable quote from a camper or counselor?

"yaasssss."

what did you learn about yourself this year at camp?

i learned that i really want to start my transition.

who is your lgbtq icon?

elliott fletcher.

nick hollows. he/him. michigan.

why did you come to camp?

to have a wonderful time and meet great people.

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?

meeting all of the people who support all of us.



logan mcconnell. he/him. atlanta, georgia.

why did you come to camp?

so that i can have one week of acceptance.

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?

my favorite moment was having the hour long deep conversation with my peers.

what did you learn about yourself this year at camp?

i learned that i can be strong no matter the situation.

who is your lgbtq icon?

shaggy.

ophelia rauch. she/her. seattle, washington.

what was your favorite moment at camp lightbulb?

singing in the funk bus.

what is the most memorable quote from a camper or counselor?

"when in doubt, throw it out." josh kelley.

who is your lgbtq icon?

jazz jennings. gigi gorgeous. janet mock. laverne cox.



















we can't say goodbye without saying thank you.
thank you, thank you, thank you...

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Finn Lanning, Shaggy Stearns, Josh Kelley, Patty Lonergan,
Sara Janakas, Kara Borelli

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photographer

Dan McKeon

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Foundation, Cape Cod Five Foundation, Black & White Party
Baltimore, Tito's Handmade Vodka, Anchor Inn, FLAG Flag
Football, ScottCakes, Town Hall, DKR Films, Street Eatz





until we meet
again...

eli,
oliver (in purple)