



THE SPARKFINDER

Camp Fire Columbia's Newsletter

Over the past year, one of the biggest lessons we have learned is the value and importance of connection and relationships. It made us think, "beyond the services we provide and occasional requests for financial support- how are we connecting with all of you?" We started to dream about how we could take the very thing we do in program, helping young people find their spark, and bring it to our entire network. Ta-da! The Sparkfinder newsletter was born. We surveyed you to discover what you would want out of a monthly newsletter and we heard: fun activities, resources on how to raise caring and confident children, and ways to connect, volunteer, and get involved.

In the Sparkfinder each month you will find a compelling article that unpacks the theory behind what we do at Camp Fire. Also, you'll find an activity of the month to do with incredible youth in your life, recommendations for justice themed books for youth and adults, as well as events, updates, and important opportunities for connection. To start us off, we wanted to share what one of our amazing partners, [the Search Institute](#), instilled in us -- the importance of Developmental Relationships framework and how it can be applied both in and out of the classroom.

Developmental Relationships significantly impact students' self-confidence, academic success, and relationships with their mentors, friends, and families. Youth in our Teen Programs who experienced strong developmental relationships through Camp Fire Teen Programming were 17x more likely to score high on social awareness! And that's not the only staggering statistic. We asked ourselves how we could use this framework to positively impact relationships with family, friends, and peers, and here we are! What better way than sharing knowledge and tools to help build a stronger, more meaningful relationship with our Camp Fire community.

Over the next few months, we will share more about each of the pillars of Developmental Relationships:

- Expressing Care
- Challenging Growth
- Providing Support
- Sharing Power
- Expanding Possibilities

We can't wait to connect and grow together!



Program Updates

In honor of Juneteenth, Camp Fire Columbia will be closed on Friday, June 18th. To learn more about this celebration commemorating the ending of slavery in the United States [click here](#).

We're hiring! We have openings for a multitude of jobs including Director of Development, Human Resources Manager, Program Registrar, Multi-Site Coordinator and more! Search and apply [here](#).

Overnight camp at Camp Namanu kicks off June 27th! We're overjoyed to be welcoming campers back. Property projects, hiring summer staff, and hosting spring rentals at camp have been keeping everyone busy.

Teen Programs wrapped up with the end of the school year. Camp Fire had 170 students participate in Middle School and High School programming and ran completely virtual. Staff supported tech challenges and continued to mentor through the move into hybrid learning.

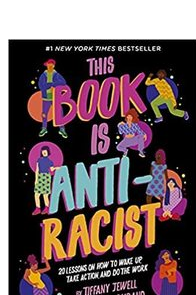
Before & After School programming is transitioning from after-school to Summer Day Camp! Summer programming starts up June 14th and runs through August. [Dates, themes, and more information can be found here!](#)



Fun Activities!

Do you consider yourself to be a Namanu expert? [Test your knowledge!](#)

Raffle of the month: Camp Fire swag! Tickets are \$5 each. Win over \$100 of Camp Fire and Namanu gear. [Enter to win here!](#)



Book of the month: This Book Is Anti-Racist: 20 Lessons on how to Wake Up, Take Action, and Do the Work by Tiffany Jewell. Respond to this email with how your relationship with Camp Fire began and be entered in a raffle to win a copy of this month's book.

Activity of the month: Learn how to create a tornado in a jar!



Events

[Sante Bar](#), the only black-owned LGBTQ2S+ bar in Portland will be supporting Camp Fire Columbia for Pride (June 12-20th). [Every Tito's Vodka cocktail](#) you purchase, a portion will go back to support Camp Fire Columbia!

Our Streets PDX in partnership with Don't Shoot PDX is [hosting service projects every day next week starting June 14th](#) in celebration of Juneteenth.



Friends of Namanu Corner

The Facebook FON Auction raised over \$4,000! That's enough to send five campers to camp for free. Thanks to everyone who pitched in!

The Camp Namanu Welcome Center is almost done! It's exciting to see the transformation of the camp store into something bigger, and a welcoming, historical space for all.



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