



Last month we introduced you to Camp Fire National's new 18-month Strategic Plan. The plan and goals were created to hold Camp Fire accountable in its commitment to strengthen as an equity-focused organization that prioritizes nature, youth voice and inclusion for all. We looked at how Camp Fire Columbia is focused on advancing diversity, equity, inclusion and access in January, and this month we want to explore another goal Camp Fire is working attentively on: **Engage in actively antiracist practices.**

Over these last years, Camp Fire Columbia has:

- **Created and implemented Equity hiring practices and policies. For example, applicants must answer an Equity question in the initial first steps of applying, and pass an Equity screening**
- **Developed BIPOC and white Affinity groups for staff. Affinity Groups being an important component of anti-racism, anti-oppression work.**
- **Incorporated antiracist training for staff to help us better understand the experiences of BIPOC youth, talk about race; and more.**

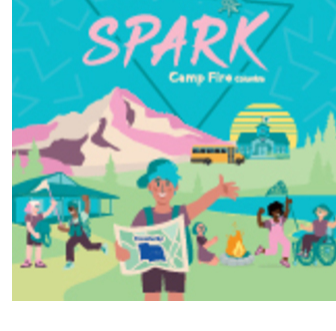
We recognize this work is a life-long journey and can be difficult at times but giving focus to race and racism is necessary to the overall efforts for equity and justice in our work with youth, families and each other. We want to create opportunities that deepen our existing knowledge of the impacts of white supremacy culture and begin to heal from the damage caused by oppressive systems. By exploring the complications grounded in personal and lived experiences, we can become better partners within our Camp Fire community, provide better support to students and families and better take care of ourselves.

Again, as we move through this journey, we want to invite you along and share ways you too can actively engage in antiracist practices within in your own lives.

- **National Museum of African American History & Culture provides tools and guidance to empower and inspire conversation around race.** Talking about race is not easy, although hard, is necessary.
- **Acquaint yourself with the Characteristics of White Supremacy Culture.** Here are two resources to help: <https://www.nea.org/resource-library/white-supremacy-culture-resources> and <https://www.whitesupremacyculture.info/>
- **Take a listen:**
 - *Code Switch*, an NPR podcast tackling race from all angles
 - *Brené Brown with Ibram X. Kendi*, a podcast episode on antiracism
- **Make time to read:**
 - *So You Want to Talk About Race* by Ijeoma Oluo
 - *How To Be An Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi
 - *Me and White Supremacy* by Layla F. Saad
- **Sit down to watch:**
 - *The Hate U Give*, a film based on the young adult novel offering an intimate portrait of race in America
 - *Selma*, a film that chronicles the marches of the Civil Rights Movement
 - *13th*, a Netflix documentary exposing racial inequality within the criminal justice system

Program Updates

We're bringing the whole Camp Fire community together for our annual event, and you're invited!

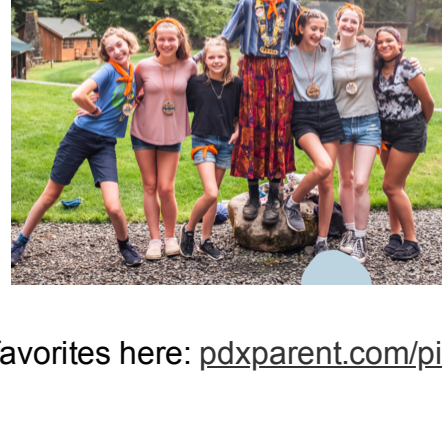


Join us for Spark, happening **virtually on Thursday, March 24, 2022 at 12PM (PT)** to hear new and exciting initiatives, all about the big return to in-person programs and camp—and stories of how all it took was one moment, one spark to keep youth connected and thriving.

RSVP today—avstream.me/spark22

Find your career in youth development! Bring your energy, skills and spark to our team. We're offering higher wages, and more opportunities to grow and inspire organization wide. Work at Camp Namanu this summer and bring the magic of camp to youth, or show up for families and youth in our schools when they need it most. We're hiring for seasonal, full-time and part-time positions!

WORK WITH US!



Camp Namanu was nominated and voted "Best Overnight Camp" in PDX Parent Picks 2022 Readers' Choice Awards!

Thank you to all who voted and helped earn the title. Check out all the other reader favorites here: pdxparent.com/picks-winners

This Camp Fire crew had a blast connecting and learning at this year's American Camp Association (ACA) National Conference, which was held here locally in Portland last week. After a challenging year and half, and adapting to ever-changing circumstances, this conference focused on how we can move forward, bring renewed energy and prepare for 2022 in a time where children and youth need camp more than ever.



Camp Namanu summer 2022 registration has opened! There has been a record-breaking number of campers signing up, and we still have a good amount of financial assistance available. Need support sending your camper to Namanu? Learn more about how we can help.

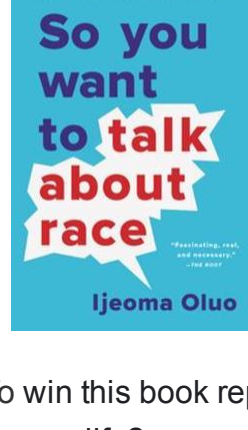
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

REGISTER FOR SUMMER 2022

Thank you to everyone who purchased Camp Fire Candy! The total of boxes sold was 479, putting \$2,000 towards helping campers attend Camp Namanu this summer.



Fun Activities!



Book of the month: So you want to talk about race by Ijeoma Oluo. This book guides readers of all races through subjects ranging from intersectionality and affirmative action to "model minorities" in an attempt to make the seemingly impossible possible: honest conversations about race and racism, and how they infect almost every aspect of American life.

To win this book reply to this email and share with us how racism has shown up in your life?

Activity of the month: How to make a canned cacti (or any other favorite plant!)



Events

32nd Annual Cascade Festival of African Films. Now through March 5th held virtually. The festival shows us Africa through the eyes of Africans, rather than a vision of Africa packaged for Western viewers. The films celebrate Africa's achievements, expose its failures, and reveal possibilities for a hopeful future. Although the films cannot represent an entire continent, the festival hopes to encourage American viewers to become interested in and study African cultures. Free and open to the public at: dev.africanfilmfestival.org

Wetlands Exploration Days. February 26 from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm at Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve, 2600 SW Hillsboro Hwy., Hillsboro, Oregon. This recurring Saturday event is free and open to the public, and covers different subjects each weekend. Hosted by Hillsboro Parks & Recreation. Upcoming topic: After every windy day this time of year the forest floor is covered with bits of lichens and mosses. What are they and what role do they serve in the forest?

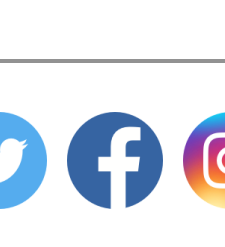


Friends of Namanu Corner

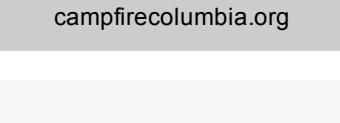
The Friends of Namanu steering committee is looking for volunteers to serve on FON Committees. Have a passion for communications, environmental stewardship, event planning, the camp store or fundraising? Contact Josey to get connected to the committee chairs! FON Coordinator Josey Larsfelt 38windrose@comcast.net

Want to keep updated on the latest Friends of Namanu news? Connect with others who love Camp Namanu? Find opportunities to help support Camp Namanu? There are several ways to keep connected to the FON community! The first issue of Friends of Namanu quarterly newsletter will be going out next month, and if you need to update your contact information please reach out to the Membership Committee Chair at emily@friendsofnamanu.org.

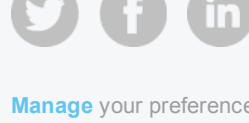
Join our [Friends of Namanu Facebook page](#) or follow [Friends of Namanu \(@friendsofnamanu\)](#) on [Instagram](#) for news, photos, trivia, giveaways and so much more!



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