

A Warm Welcome from Camp Ballibay

Welcome to Ballibay! We are delighted to be caring for your children this summer. We have exciting activities planned, a wonderful staff, a beautiful campus, and truly exceptional food.

Some great news!

All of us at Ballibay are delighted that **Sara Galkin** will join us in summer 2018 to direct our visual art program at Ballibay. Her kindness, energy, and creativity are a joyous addition to the Ballibay community. Camp Ballibay started in the mid 1960s as an art and equestrian camp, and as an alternative environment for arts education. Dottie Jannone, an artist, art teacher, and education reformer, created the unique pedagogical approach that has made Ballibay a haven for so many creative and different-thinking kids for over 50 years. Sara's deep understanding and appreciation of Dottie's innovative philosophy of art education, combined with her own unique energy and artistic vision, and the warmth and generosity of a great mom, make her the ideal person to lead our program, guide our talented teaching staff and visiting artists, and work with our fantastic campers. Check out her beautiful, playful work at **Gursla.com**

And we could not be more excited that **Jonathon "Boogie" Long** will be directing both Rock Farm sessions this summer. Boogie is a monster player and one of the kindest men and most generous teachers imaginable. At age 14 Boogie began touring professionally, in 2011 he was named Guitar Center's "King of the Blues," and in 2013 toured with late blues legend B.B. King. He loves the Ballibay spirit and philosophy, and joins us whenever his busy touring schedule allows. Ballibay is the *original* rock camp; we started supporting kids making rock music in the late 1970s, and the program has grown to be one of our major offerings. Under Boogie's generous and gentle leadership, and guided by his astounding talent, this promises to be a superb summer for Ballibay's rock program. **Look up Boogie Long on YouTube** – he's seriously awesome – **JonathonBoogieLong.com**

We are thrilled to announce that filmmaker **Niav Conty** will be heading up our film and video program this summer. An experienced writer, director, and DP, and professor of screenwriting at Brooklyn College, she brings a wealth of experience to our exciting media program. Niav's film-making is enriched by her extensive background in the arts, spanning music performance, stage acting and directing, and Chinese classical painting. In 2000 she moved to France and began her career as a filmmaker, working closely with Boris Lehman, Pedro Costa, and Joseph Strick, and directing her first feature film. She returned to New York in 2011 to produce *Outworld*, which won the Princess Grace Award, the Cityvisions awards for Best Fiction Film, Best Production Design, Best Editing, and Best Sound Design, and the Los Angeles New Media Film Festival's Best Machinima award. Her most recent film, *Joy Ride*, screened at festivals worldwide, and won Best Director at the Reno-Tahoe film festival. She is currently producing a feature in collaboration with myself and the camp. Check out her reels at **Niav-film.com**

I will once again be overseeing our theater and technical theater programs, and, as always, camp director **Kristin Alexander** will be overseeing our outstanding dance program, and collaborating with myself and Niav on Ballibay's unique dance-on-camera program, part of our multi-faceted Dance Intensive. Kristin is a professor of dance at the College of Charleston, and former chairperson of the performing arts department at DeSales University. She is the director of the Annex Dance Company, Charleston's premiere modern dance company. Check out their work at: **AnnexDanceCompany.org**

Right now Kristin and I are finishing up a collaborative piece; it's my projection design and music score for Kristin's choreography, premiering this month in Charleston. It uses an experimental animation technique where the interaction of the objects in the animation creates the sound score, somewhat like my 2016 piece *sunspots*, which you can watch at: **Jann.one**

Before camp I'll be taking a 10-day workshop at one of the most amazing places on earth (besides Ballibay): Leviathan Studio on Lasqueti Island near Vancouver, BC. It's a studio for contact improvisation dance, created by visionary architect and master dancer Mark Young. I came late to dance; I began studying contact improvisation about 10 years ago in my late 30s; Leviathan is my "camp," and I go there to gather energy and inspiration for directing Ballibay. Like any good camper, I'll be mostly off the grid while I'm there (May 13-26), but you can always reach Elaine at the camp office at **570-746-3223** or **office@ballibayCamps.com**

I will be checking email daily for stuff that can't wait; but my 929 number will be off-line 5/13 to 5/26.

In this packet please find:

- A suggested Clothing List
- A required Medical Form
- A Map of Campus
- Information and policies

Things we need you to do:

- Please return the required **Medical Form** (enclosed) to camp ASAP. If you submitted a medical form last year, and there have been no changes, we can use last year's form. A doctor's signature is *not* required.
- Fill out the required **Transportation Form** at <http://transportation.BallibayCamps.com>

The cabin request form:

- Fill out the optional **Cabin Request Form** at <http://cabinrequest.BallibayCamps.com>
- Cabin requests must be mutual: If one family fills out a request, the *requested* family must fill out the portion of their form (the red part) that accepts the request.

Unlike most camps, at Ballibay there are absolutely no activities done as a cabin group after the initial camp tour, and relatively little time in the day is spent in the cabin. Every camper at Ballibay has a unique schedule based on interests, not age or grade. It's a good understanding to come to camp with, because we are different from most camps in this regard. Even though cabin placement is much less important than at many other camps, we typically can honor almost all cabin requests, but this is largely because all cabin requests are two-person requests. There tend to be some changes to the requests as camp approaches, so we treat what is on the forms as the last word.

See you this Summer!

But don't hesitate to call or email with any questions, comments, or concerns!



John Jannone, Director
john.jannone@ballibayCamps.com
570-746-3223