

Press Release

15 December 2009

2009 Camp of the Year is Camp Wah-Nee

International Exchange Programs (IEP) has announced the winner of their annual Camp of the Year competition. This year the honour goes to a Connecticut based camp, Camp Wah-Nee.

Nominations were made by past camp counsellors who provided IEP with descriptions of their camps and reasons why they felt their camp deserved the title for 2009. IEP's *Summer Camp USA* program coordinator Jessica Buttigieg made the final decision, awarding Camp Wah-Nee with the title, Camp of the Year for 2009.

Camp Wah-Nee, located in Litchfield County, Connecticut offers a huge range of sports, arts & crafts and waterfront activities to their campers, but it is the passion of the camp directors, staff and campers that makes this camp stand out from others.

Past *Summer Camp USA* participant Ashley, nominated Camp Wah-Nee and her time at summer camp has definitely left an impression on her. Ashley explained a little about why this camp deserved to win Camp of the Year.

"I loved how we were encouraged to be 'ridiculous' and to show how crazy we could be because everyone let loose and got into the spirit and even the other camps that Wah-Nee was playing against said they had never seen spirit like we had and that they all enjoyed coming to Wah-Nee to play because we were so involved with our campers sports and talents and that it was really nice to see how supportive we were with all of them."

Camp Wah-Nee's website explains how they focus heavily on the safety of their campers and how important good sportsman-ship is, not just while the kids compete in camp competitions but also throughout life.

A camp such as Camp Wah-Nee creates a feeling of a home-away-from-home through a welcoming and warm group of people. This has led to camp counsellors from America and across the world returning to Camp Wah-Nee year after year.

A huge congratulations to Camp Wah-Nee and thanks to those who nominated their own camps. 2010 will provide another opportunity for camp counsellors to nominate their own camp for the title.

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