

Camp R.O.C.K. 2012

Dear Counselor Applicant and Parent,

While the warmth and fun of the summer months seem light years away, it is nevertheless time for us to begin planning for camp R.O.C.K. 2012! Organized and hosted by Joyful Hope Presentations, Diocese of Rockford and the Diocese of Joliet Youth Ministry Office, Camp R.O.C.K. is a four day Catholic junior high summer camp, and it is the leadership and guidance provided by the high school camp counselors that makes camp both a significant social and spiritual experience for our campers. Therefore, it is at this time that we are beginning the volunteer camp counselor recruitment, interview, and selection process.

Important! While many high school students may apply to be a camp R.O.C.K. counselor, we are sad to share that many cannot be accepted due to our limited camp capacity. Therefore, we use a two-phase application process to discern and select camp counselors. During Phase One, the youth ministers from Joyful Hope Presentations and the Diocese will review all student applications and determine a select number of candidates to proceed onto Phase Two of the application process: Counselor Interviews. *Therefore, it is possible that not all students who apply to be a counselor will be granted an interview.* In the event a student is not asked to enter Phase Two of the applicant process, he/she will be encouraged to continue their participation in the youth ministry programs at their parishes and apply for a counselor position next year.

For your information, below we have listed some of the criteria we will use as we interview, discern, and select counselors for the camp R.O.C.K. 2012. Specifically, we will focus on:

- A student's ability to work within a group;
- A steady pattern of involvement in spiritual activities including praying, reading of scripture, attending Mass every Sunday, and participation in Reconciliation;
- Active involvement in parish youth ministry events;
- Having previous retreat and/or camp experience;
- A student's ability to connect with and minister to junior high students; and
- Age-appropriate maturity and emotional/spiritual health.

Some parents ask about whether or not their student has a better chance at being selected as a counselor if a) he/she attended camp in the past or b) he/she has already been a camp counselor. In response, while having students with previous camp experience returning as counselors is a tremendous benefit to the program, our overall desire is to grow Disciples of Christ through camp participation. Therefore, previous camper and/or counselor experience does not guarantee anyone of a counselor position. As we discern camp counselors, we aim to have a balance of introverts and extroverts, as well as counselors from different grade levels with different experiences. Students applying should also be aware that turning in their completed application on time and their attendance at the counselor training sessions will be considered in our selection process. **Be assured that every student who applies to be a camp R.O.C.K. counselor will be given full consideration as we value each and every one of them! They are a blessing to our ministry programs!**

If you have any questions about this application process or Camp R.O.C.K. 2012, please contact John Lamperis Joyful Hope Presentations at 630-846-0688 or Mark Herwaldt from the Diocese of Joliet at 630-483-4226

On behalf of Joyful Hope Presentations and the Youth Ministry Office, we thank you for your support of our program. May God bless you and your family always!

Sincerely,

John Lamperis
Mike Kuhn
Mark Herwaldt

The logo for Camp R.O.C.K. 2012 features the text "Camp R.O.C.K. 2012" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The text is centered within a jagged, starburst-like shape that resembles a lightning bolt or a jagged star. This central shape is surrounded by several long, thin, black lines that radiate outwards, creating a sense of motion and energy.

Are you interested in applying to be a teen counselor at Camp R.O.C.K. 2012 this summer? Camp R.O.C.K. counselors consist of high school students, incoming sophomores through graduating college seniors, who are committed to serving Jesus Christ through a life of prayer, service, and by proclaiming His Gospel to JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS. The goal of Camp R.O.C.K. is Catholic youth evangelism. This is done through skits, mimes, talks, games, discussions, prayer, and the daily example of a Christian lifestyle. Through word and action, counselors attempt to expose these young people to a life-changing encounter with Jesus Christ.

Prospective counselors should have a personal commitment to Christ and openness to growing in their faith. Additionally, they should have a desire and openness to sharing their faith with junior high youth, be spiritually and emotionally healthy, and free from serious wrong doing in their life.

What can one expect while being a camp R.O.C.K. counselor? Hard work, lots of fun, the support of a Christian community, a sense of fulfillment, spiritual challenge and personal growth, and the joy of effecting other's lives in a positive way are just a few of the things you'll experience when you serve as a camp R.O.C.K. counselor.

Here are some general facts about being a camp R.O.C.K. 2012 counselor:

- The camps will be Saturday June 9, 2012 thru Tuesday, June 12, 2012. (Counselors will be arriving at camp on Friday, June 8th at 6pm) and Saturday August 4, 2012 thru Tuesday, August 7, 2012. (Counselors will be arriving at camp on Friday, August 3rd at 6pm). Attend both or either.
- **The application process is open to incoming high school sophomores through graduating college seniors.** The number of counselors WILL BE LIMITED, thus the two-phase application process (see cover letter).
- You are expected to attend all preparation and training meetings listed below (Lack of attendance will impact consideration). **Training dates and times are on Fridays from 6:30pm to 9:30pm February 17, March 2, March 16, April 13, May 4 and May 18, all held at Holy Cross 2300 Main St. Batavia, Illinois 60510.**
- Prospective counselors are encouraged to support and participate in the various ministries offered at their churches to continue their spiritual development and community building opportunities.
- **The deadline for applications (Forms A and B) is January 1, 2012.** After all applications are reviewed, each candidate will be contacted.
- The cost for this year's camp is \$175.00 for counselors. Medical forms and fee will be collected once you are accepted to be a counselor.
- Please review this application, its commitments and dates with your parents.

Thank you again for your interest in being a camp counselor. If you or your parents have any questions please call John Lamperis Joyful Hope Presentations at 630-846-0688 or Mark Herwaldt Diocese of Joliet at 630-483-4226.

God bless,

John N. Lamperis
Mike Kuhn
Mark Herwaldt

CAMP R.O.C.K. 2012 – Form A
COUNSELOR APPLICATION (Due Saturday, January 1, 2012)

(Please print or type)

Name _____	Home Phone (_____) _____
Address _____	Cell Phone (_____) _____
City _____ Zip _____	Email _____
School _____	Grade _____
Birth Date _____	Adult T-Shirt Size _____

Have you ever been a counselor at Camp R.O.C.K. or WOW (circle)? YES NO Camper (circle)? YES NO

Below are a series of questions that pertain to a student's readiness to be a camp R.O.C.K. counselor. On a separate piece of paper, please answer each question completely and to the best of your ability.

1. Please state why you would like to be a counselor at this camp? What leadership qualities do you have? Be specific.
2. What experience do you have working with junior high age youth?
3. Describe your participation in your parish youth ministry program. How does this involvement help you grow in your faith?
4. As a member of a Catholic leadership team, it is important that Camp Counselors activity practice their Catholic faith. Do you regularly attend Mass? If no, please explain your answer.
5. How does your faith impact your everyday life?
6. Please describe your prayer life.
7. List any/all activities you are involved in outside of camp (jobs, sports, plays, clubs, vacations, etc.). Do any of these interfere with the camp orientation, training dates, or the camp itself? Explain.
8. How do your parents feel about your participation as a camp R.O.C.K. counselor? Are they supportive?

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Camp R.O.C.K 2012 – Form B

PARENTAL CONSENT

This form must be completed and returned with a student's application in order for their application to be complete.

By signing below, I understand:

- The commitment of time and energy my student is making by applying to be a camp R.O.C.K. counselor;
- The selection criteria outlined in the application cover letter to be used by the youth ministers who will be reviewing applications, interviewing applicants, and selecting camp counselors;
- Joyful Hope Presentations anticipates many teens applying for camp counselor positions, thus not every teen that applies will be given an interview, regardless of any individual student's past experience as a camper or counselor; and
- All who apply will be contacted by Joyful Hope Presentations concerning their application.

Consequently, I fully support my student's participation in this program and commit to helping him/her meet the counselor responsibilities as required. This includes, but is not limited to providing transportation to and from counselor training sessions and the camp itself, supporting their active participation in training sessions, and attending the camp in its entirety.

Parent Name

Parent Signature

Date

***Completed applications (Forms A and B) should be turned in to
Joyful Hope Presentations
PO Box 484
Batavia, Illinois 60510
Or Emailed to john@joyfulhopepresentations.com
No later than January 1, 2012***