



## **2007 Program Proposal Las Vegas, Nevada, March 14-17, 2007**

The American Camp Association Camp West Conference is accepting proposals for innovative and dynamic sessions of all sizes. The target audience for the conference is camp professionals – experienced, new and seasonal directors; administrative staff; and supervisory staff including beginning supervisors.

The theme of the conference is “**The Social Landscape of Camp: Building Positive Relationships.**” We will integrate our learning from the brain development research in 2006 and explore social intelligence, the people skills needed for building relationships among campers, staff and parents. This theme will be developed throughout the conference in a variety of program delivery systems according to the critical issues statements below. All presentations should relate to one or more of the critical issues statements and selection for presentation will be made based on that relationship.

### **Critical Issues Areas**

1. Neuroscience has discovered that the brain is sociable and designed to connect. Even the most casual encounters, positive and negative, prime our emotions. How do we use the knowledge of the social brain to promote positive camper to camper relationships?
2. Strong social connections and positive interactions trigger positive immune system responses and make us feel better. How do we capitalize on this response in training and managing camp staff?
3. Shared insights help our social brains to develop stronger connections. How do we promote connections with parents to market the value of the camp experience and foster parent cooperation throughout their camper’s participation?
4. A healthy youth development experience includes supportive relationships with peers and adults that are physically and emotionally safe. How can camps structure opportunities and design facilities that support social interaction and promote social competence?

**Please complete the following information and return it by January 31, 2007 via email, fax, or mail (email, fax, address listed at the bottom of this form).**

Presenter(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Title and Credentials \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Session Title \_\_\_\_\_

Description of session content:

Learning objectives for the session:

Relationship to critical issues of conference:

Motivational statement (a statement that would encourage participants to attend your session):

Session length \_\_\_\_\_ Maximum number of participants \_\_\_\_\_

Target audience \_\_\_\_\_

Has the session been presented elsewhere      yes      no

If yes, where

Has the session been submitted to other conferences      yes      no

If yes, which ones?

Please list contact information for at least one reference who has seen you present at previous conferences or educational functions.

Bio of presenter(s)

Audiovisual needs (note please ask only for AV equipment that you feel is a must for your presentation due to the high cost for equipment rental):

All rooms will be set theater style.

Does this workshop include loud activities?      yes                  no

Please note that sessions may not have a commercial message for a product, service, organization or business or be perceived as a "sales pitch." The program committee reserves the right to reject any proposal.

### **Guidelines for Speaker Expenses**

Appearing before colleagues in the camp profession is an honor and a privilege. Members share a "joint responsibility" to help develop the profession and share knowledge. **If speakers are not already registered with a camp, you may have a discount of \$50 off an individual registration. If registered with a camp there is no discount.**

**It is expected that members speaking at the conference will register as participants. All related expenses for registration, travel and hotel accommodations and meals will be at the speaker's expense unless a specific request has been identified on this form and approved in writing by the conference committee. Workshop handouts must be received by Thursday, March 1, 2007 for copying.**

After reading the above Guidelines for Speaker Expenses please signify your agreement by initialing here \_\_\_\_\_

The Program Committee looks forward to receiving your proposal and will notify you as to the acceptance or rejection of your proposal based on Conference Session needs in late December 2006.

**Please submit proposals (hard copy or via email) to:**

CampWest Conference  
Attn: Meredith Eisz  
P.O. Box 712218  
Los Angeles, CA 90071-7218  
[meredith@acasocal.org](mailto:meredith@acasocal.org)  
(213) 483-4300 phone  
(213) 989-6814 fax