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CONNECTED BY MUSIC.
SUSTAINED BY COMMUNITY.

Camper and Parent Information Packet 2026

Dear Camper:

In just a short time, you'll be arriving at New England Music Camp to begin what we hope will be an enriching and memorable experience. We've created this packet to help you prepare for your time at NEMC and make packing a little easier. Inside, you'll find helpful information about camp policies, what to bring, and many other details to get you ready for a wonderful time at camp!

IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU AND YOUR PARENTS PRINT AND READ THIS INFORMATION PACKET TOGETHER.

On April 1st, please log in to your Acceptd account and click continue. At this time, we will be asking all campers to complete their **Health History Information**. With these questions, you will upload your **Insurance Cards** and **Permission to Treat Form**. You should also make sure you have a physical exam scheduled, although you will not need to upload the Medical Exam form until a later date.

Final Payment is due by May 1st. After you have completed your final tuition payment, please log in to your Acceptd account and click continue. You will be prompted to complete the follow forms for each registered child:

- ❏ Travel Form
- ❏ Medical Exam Form Upload (Document attached)
- ❏ Camper/Parent Permissions and Policy Agreements
- ❏ Class Scheduling

These forms must be completed and your medical exam form uploaded by **June 1st** for all campers.

If you have any questions or problems, please contact our Associate Camp Director, Patti DeSorbo at patti.desorbo@nemc.org.

Sincerely,

Matthew Wiggin	Patti DeSorbo	Bethany Niedbala
Managing Director	Associate Camp Director	Registrar

Payment Schedule

You have agreed to terms for your payment schedule. Please follow them, and make sure that all balances, including extra fees are paid in full. **Final payment is due May 1 for all campers**. The final set of forms (Travel Form, Doctor's Exam Form, Policy Agreements, Permission to Leave) will be available after the final payment is due. Transportation and additional lesson fees will be added to your accounts at a later date once those forms are received.

Camper Banking

Campers will NOT BE PERMITTED to keep cash in the cabin. Campers should plan to bring a debit/credit card or they may use a Visa/MC/Amex Gift Card (See example HERE). Most campers use about $75.00 per session. Campers can use their cards at the Canteen, Library, and Office for snacks, music, personal items, and off-campus trips.

Placement Auditions

Campers in each session will audition on the first full day of the session. Auditions are for the purpose of placing you in the appropriate groups and ensembles. Instrumentalists should be prepared to play a piece you know well, and also be prepared to sight-read and play scales. Students in the choral ensembles and musical theater showcase should prepare a song of their choice that best represents their vocal range and style. Details will be provided on the Course Registration Worksheet from the Registrar, provided later this spring.

Housing

In fairness to all, **cabin assignments will be made strictly by chronological age. No exceptions will be made.** Effort will be made to avoid housing changes between sessions however, some changes may be unavoidable. NEMC also offers a Gender Expansive cabin. This housing is an option for campers who would be comfortable outside of the Binary housing options. If you have further questions, please contact Patti DeSorbo at patti.desorbo@nemc.org.

Travel to Camp

NEMC requires a Camper Travel form on file with the camp office. The **Camper Travel Form** can be found with other important forms in your Acceptd account.

Arrival at camp – Registration at the Office begins at **2:00 PM on the first day of each session (Sunday 6/28, Sunday 7/12, and Sunday 7/26)** with one-hour time slots that must be selected on the travel form. Parents will not be allowed beyond the camp parking lot and camp office on opening day.

Departure from camp – Campers must leave no later than **9:00 AM on the last day of each session (Sunday 7/12, Sunday 7/26, and Sunday 8/9).** Campers staying for multiple sessions will remain on camp on changeover days.

NEMC Boston & Portland Chartered Bus

The NEMC bus serves Portland-PWM Airport, Boston-Logan Airport, and Boston-South Station. Please read below for specifics on each location. Counselors will meet your campers at each location upon arrival.

BOSTON:

Arrival Day: Your child MUST arrive in Boston no later than **1:00 pm on the first Sunday of each session (Sunday 6/28 for Session 1; Sunday 7/12 for Session 2; Sunday 7/26 for Session 3).** The bus leaves Boston at 1:30 pm to return to NEMC. The bus picks campers up at both Logan Airport and Boston-South Station.

Departure Day: The bus leaves camp at 6:00 am and arrives in Boston at approximately 10:00 am on **the last day of each session (Sunday 7/12 for Session 1; Sunday 7/26 for Session 2; Sunday 8/9 for Session 3)**. Plan for your child to depart from Boston-Logan or Boston-South Station between 11:00 am and 2:00 pm.

PORTLAND:

Arrival: Your child MUST arrive at Portland-PWM Airport **between 12:00 pm and 3:30 pm on the first Sunday of each session (Sunday 6/28 for Session 1; Sunday 7/12 for Session 2; Sunday 7/26 for Session 3).** The bus leaves PWM Airport at 4:30 pm to return to NEMC.

Departure: The bus leaves camp at 6:00 a.m. and arrives in Portland at approximately 7:30 am on **the last day of each session (Sunday 7/12 for Session 1; Sunday 7/26 for Session 2; Sunday 8/9 for Session 3)**. Plan for your child to depart from Portland **between 9:00 am and 12:00 pm**.

Important Information:

- Campers may bring one large suitcase or duffle, an instrument, and a carry-on bag on the NEMC bus. If you would like to ship any additional belongings, see shipping information below.
- If your child is checking bags on the plane, please pay for any extra baggage fees ahead of time for both arriving and departing flights to make the check-in process easier.

Fee: $150 each direction to/from Boston and $100 each direction to/from Portland. Reservations can be made on the travel form in your Acceptd account.

FOR ANY TRAVEL QUESTIONS, please contact our Associate Camp Director, Patti DeSorbo at patti.desorbo@nemc.org.

Shipping Luggage

Round-trip or return shipping can be arranged online from The Mailing Center in Augusta, Maine at www.mailingctr.com, through lugless.com, or by using any independent shipping program like UPS, FedEx, or USPS. Shipped luggage must be sent prepaid **AT LEAST TWO WEEKS** in advance by UPS or motor freight. Clearly address each piece to your camper at the camp and **attach the label securely** to the luggage so that it cannot come off in transit. Items should be addressed as follows:

CAMPER NAME
NEMC
8 Goldenrod Lane
Sidney, ME 04330

What to Bring

Label everything indelibly! The camp is not responsible for lost or missing items. **Clothes and other belongings left behind at the end of camp will not be sent to you.** The detailed packing checklist provided in this packet is intended to help you pack and collect your belongings before you leave camp.

Personal Property:
Personal sports equipment is permitted for the sports we offer, but it is the responsibility of the camper. All other personal belongings are the responsibility of the camper, and are brought to camp at their own risk. We do not lock our cabins during the regular camp operation.

Musical Supplies:

- **All campers** – current method books and solos, metronome, tuner, pencils
- **String players** – mutes, extra strings, rosin ***Bass players must bring their own bow**
- **Brass players** – straight mutes (cup and Harmon mutes if you intend to be in Jazz groups)
- **Reed players** – extra reeds (Vandoren single reeds recommended), reed-making tools for double-reed players
- **Electric Bass and Electric Guitar players** – personal amp and cable
- **Percussionists**
    - A pair of concert snare sticks
    - A pair of drumsticks and brushes (if you want to play set)
    - A pair of xylophone/glock mallets (hard plastic)
    - A pair of yarn mallets for marimba/vibraphone
    - A pair of general timpani mallets
- **Vocalists/Musical Theatre** – bring sheet music for any pieces you are currently studying. All music should be in a three-ring binder, prepared for accompanists.

CLOTHING/ATTIRE:
Laundry is sent out every other week, and returned the following day for campers staying more than one session. **Laundry is not provided for campers only attending one 2-week session.** All campers will have dresser drawers and closet space to properly store clothes. Please refer to the packing list to ensure you have enough clothing for a two-week span.

Daily Dress:

- NEMC does not require a daily uniform.

Required Concert Dress for Weekend Performances:

- Students will wear black on bottom and white on top
    - Please consider the following options:
        - black slacks, floor length black skirt
        - white blouse, white button-up, white collared shirt
        - black socks, black shoes, black belt
    - Prohibited: sneakers, flip-flops, t-shirts, white socks, athletic clothes, leggings

Evening Recital Dress (2 times per week):

- Dressy casual attire including:
    - polos, slacks, skirts, summer dresses, capris, dress/golf shorts
    - nice sandals, boat shoes, dress shoes
- Prohibited: athletic wear, pajamas, jeans, athletic shoes, flip-flops

Formal/Dressy Attire (1 Formal Occasion for each session)

- Formal or semi-formal dresses or slacks
- Suit or sport coat and tie optional
- Anything you are comfortable in for a formal event

NEMC dress code is non-gendered. Our goal is for all campers to be themselves and feel comfortable!

See a detailed suggested packing checklist attached or located in the Camp Forms Tab under About on the NEMC website for more information.

Telephone

The office phone is not available for campers except in an emergency. Public phones are available. We ask campers to make calls only when absolutely necessary, and to limit each call to five minutes. Please note: the camp phones will be unavailable to campers for the first few days of camp to allow them to immerse themselves in the camp experience. We ask that parents not call the camp office during this time. We will contact you with any concerns during that period. Remember, no news is good news!

Health, Safety and Welfare

A Basic Health and Accident Insurance policy, which is to be supplemented by your insurance, will be provided by NEMC. The policy and group number of your provider **must** be listed on the health form.

We require you to have a physical examination within twelve months of your arrival at camp. The medical exam form **must be uploaded to your camper account by June 1. If the medical exam form is not received by the start of camp, campers will not be allowed to stay on campus.**

If you have been under the care of a mental health professional within the last three years, **the treating physician or clinician must send a letter to the Associate Camp Director (patti.desorbo@nemc.org) by June 1** verifying your ability to be successful in the camp setting in order to facilitate your adjustment to camp. **This is mandatory.**

Please note: All information is treated confidentially.

If the camper takes prescription or over-the-counter medications, please properly label and bring enough for your stay at camp. All medications will be deposited in the camp health center and dispensed by the camp medical professionals.

VERY IMPORTANT: Hospitals and doctors will refuse to treat campers without parental permission. Therefore, parents/guardians **MUST** sign the authorization for treatment on the health form.

NEMC Electronics Policy

New England Music Camp offers a traditional summer camp experience in a rural setting. In keeping with these traditions and sound youth camping guidelines and practices, personal electronics are not permitted at NEMC. These include, but are not limited to: cell phones, smart phones/watches, personal computers, tablet computers, and gaming devices. Cell phones necessary for travel will be collected upon arrival at camp and returned upon departure.

NOTE: NEMC campers may bring personal music listening devices, but they may NOT be smart phones or anything that can connect to WiFi. Campers will be asked to turn in their phones for the session. Please plan accordingly if you want to listen to music with a personal device. All personal property is the responsibility of the camper, and as such, campers are not encouraged to bring any belongings to camp that they cannot afford to lose. **If it connects to WiFi, it is NOT permitted!**

NEMC Camper Social Media Policy

New England Music Camp views social networking sites (e.g., Facebook, Instagram, TikTok etc.), personal Websites, and Weblogs positively and respects the right of campers to use them as a medium of self-expression. When a person chooses to identify himself or herself as a camper of NEMC on the internet, readers may view the camper as a representative or spokesperson of the camp. Therefore, NEMC requires, as a condition of participation in the camp, that campers observe the following guidelines when referring to the camp, its programs or activities, its campers, and/or other employees, in a blog or on any social networking website.

- Campers must be respectful in all communications and blogs related to or referring to the camp, its campers, and/or other employees.
- Campers must not use blogs, websites, or social networking sites to disparage the camp, campers, or employees of the camp.
- Any photos or messages that are linked or "tagged" from "friends" and attached to your site(s) or profile(s) that are inappropriate must be removed.
- Campers must not post photos taken anywhere at camp that are inappropriate or break camp rules.
- Campers must not use blogs, personal websites, social media messaging platforms, or social networking sites to harass, bully, or intimidate employees or campers. Behaviors that constitute harassment and bullying include, but are not limited to: comments that are derogatory towards race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, color, or disability; sexually suggestive, humiliating, or demeaning comments, and/or the sharing of personal information, without consent.
- Campers must not use blogs, personal websites, social networking sites, or any other form of online communication to discuss engaging in conduct that is prohibited by camp policies, including, but not limited to: the use of alcohol and drugs, sexual behavior, sexual harassment, inappropriate language, and bullying.
- The use of our copyrighted camp name or logo is not allowed without written permission. This includes the creation of websites, blogs, Facebook Pages, X accounts, and/or any other internet properties.

Any camper found to be in violation of any portion of this Social Networking and Blogging Policy will be subject to immediate disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from camp, and/or appropriate legal action.

Camper Behavior Agreement

At New England Music Camp, we are committed to fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion within our organization. We believe that trust, compassion, honesty, and integrity are fundamental values that create a welcoming environment for all participants and staff. While we celebrate differences, certain behaviors that impact the health, welfare, and safety of individuals are non-negotiable.

Our primary objective is to ensure that every participant successfully completes their program in a safe and supportive environment. Should any negative behavioral issues arise, we will communicate openly with families and collaborate with individuals involved. This process may involve implementing a personal improvement plan, temporary return home, disciplinary measures, and/or dismissal from the program.

We kindly request that each individual participating in a New England Music Camp program carefully reads and agrees to our behavior agreement outlined below. If you have any questions or concerns regarding our expectations, please don't hesitate to contact the program director.

1. I will follow all safety instructions by NEMC staff;
2. I will strive to protect the health and safety of humans, animals, and the natural environment;
3. I will communicate any distress, injury, sickness, and/or inability to perform necessary activities;
4. I will conduct myself in such a way that respects the rights and privacy of others;
5. I will not engage in aggressive or threatening behavior directed at others including hate speech, bullying, or harassment;
6. I will not use alcohol, tobacco, vaping products, or controlled substances;
7. I will not bring or use firearms;
8. I will not misuse prescription or over the counter medications and agree to only bring/consume physician-authorized medications, which, by Maine law, may only be distributed by members of the NEMC staff;
9. I will not use foul language or inappropriate humor;
10. I will not engage in aggressive physical contact with NEMC staff and other participants;
11. I will not break curfew or make unauthorized visits to other spaces;
12. I will unplug from personal electronic communication devices and social media for some or all of the experience, as directed by NEMC staff;
13. I will immediately seek help from NEMC staff if I experience suicidal ideation or the desire to engage in self-harm;
14. I will do my best to bring a positive attitude and personal integrity to the experience;
15. I will not engage in disruptive behavior that compromises the safety and enjoyment of the program for others, including on field trips.
16. I will not engage in exclusive relationships including, but not limited to, sexual activity with other participants.

Drugs, Alcohol, Tobacco, Vaping, and Weapons

The possession and/or use of drugs, alcohol, tobacco, vaping materials, or any weapon will result in the offending camper's **IMMEDIATE DISMISSAL** with **no refund of tuition.** All drugs, alcohol, tobacco, vaping products, and weapons are prohibited on camp grounds and at any camp-related activity.

Family Weekend, Weekend Concerts, & Visiting Camp

While families are encouraged to visit us on the weekends for our weekly concerts, one of the highlights of a session at NEMC is Family Weekend! Family Weekend is the second weekend of each session. Families will be able to visit camper classes, join for a BBQ lunch, and attend concerts. See attached calendar for dates.

NEMC Camper Leave and Visitation Policy

As administrators of NEMC, we assume responsibility for the care and safety of your child. All campers must have the Permission to Leave Camp Form completed in their Acceptd Accounts.

REGULATIONS ARE STRICTLY APPLIED. PLEASE DO NOT REQUEST EXCEPTIONS.

Campers with documented parental/guardian permission may leave the grounds only as follows:
(Verbal/phone authorization or emails will not be accepted.)

FRIDAYS: After their last morning class to 2:15 pm and then again from after the concert to 7:15pm, or the designated time.
Exception: On the final Friday of each session, campers may only leave after their last morning class and must return by 2:15 pm.

SATURDAYS: Due to the different schedules of each session, Saturday check-out times will vary. Please contact the camp office (office@nemc.org) for specific times.

SUNDAYS: Campers may be signed out after breakfast, but must return at 6:00 pm for dinner and evening activities.
Exception: On Sunday 7/19 campers can sign out from 11:00 am to 2:15 pm then again after the concert until 7:15 pm or the designated time.

MON - THURS: Campers may not leave camp during these days.

1. Campers MUST sign out and sign in at the office upon departure and return.
2. Adults who leave the grounds with any campers, regardless of whether or not it is their child, must sign an affidavit of responsibility at the Camp office before leaving.
3. NEMC cannot and does not accept responsibility for any camper during the time they are off the campus (except on official camp trips).
4. Permission to leave camp is a privilege, subject to the approval of the Camp Directors. Time limits must be strictly observed. Campers and parents must plan their return so they will avoid any interruption to the camp routine.
5. GUESTS AND VISITORS: Parents are welcome to visit camp anytime except during Rest Hour and the afternoon Recreation Periods (1:15 - 4:45 pm) It should be kept in mind that no camper may be released from any scheduled activity. All Guests and Visitors MUST check-in at the Camp Office.
6. Please remember that the cabins are the campers' living quarters and cannot not be entered.
7. CARS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON THE CAMPGROUNDS. Please park your car in the main lot near the Office or at the Bowl.
8. ALL dogs must be kept on a leash. Please clean up after your pet.

PLEASE NOTE: The policy for leave and visitation is slightly different during Family Weekend. Details will be sent with the Family Weekend Information later this Spring.