

Friendsgiving 2023

On Friday, November 24, 2023, Brigaders, alums, campers, volunteers, and their families were all invited to attend our Friendsgiving potluck. Brigade provided the main course and everyone else brought a delicious side dish to pass.

There were lots board games played, fellowship had, and food eaten. We had a great time and loved connecting with all who attended this event. We're so thankful for our Brigade Family!

December 2023 Newsletter

To our Volunteers & Donors,

Holiday tidings to our volunteers and donors!

We want to take a moment this holiday season and sincerely thank all those who have invested their time, talent, & treasure to the youth participating in the many programs offered through Brigade. Because of your efforts, we were able to provide:

- **Dozens** of unique workshops and activities for our weeknight programming
- **10** Discover Clubs
- **\$35,000** for over **100 scholarships** to Camp Onaway
- Enriched the lives of over **1700 youth** in 2023

None of this would be possible without the generosity of our donors and hundreds of volunteers who give so much of themselves so that every youth may have the opportunity to be an active participant in self-growth in order to become *My Own Self, At My Very Best, All The Time.*





International Trip 2026

“Hej, Denmark!”

It’s official! The next international trip will be happening in summer of 2026! Youth will travel to Denmark and attend the FDF Lanslejr National Camp. Over 11,000 young people from all over the world attend this camp!

We also want to thank our amazing adult chaperones who will be accompanying our Brigaders on the trip:

- Janie Anderson
- Kurt “Wiz” Wisner
- Darrel “Grunt” Schoening
- Anja Marker

2024 Winter Camps

Beat the winter blues with a trip to Onaway! All winter weekends share common activities that can only be enjoyed during Wisconsin winters including ice fishing, ice bowling, broomball, skating, snowshoeing, sledding, cross-country skiing, and fort building. Onaway Island provides comfortable accommodations in the year-round facilities of Headquarters and the Mess Hall. Don’t miss the chance to see Onaway in all its wintertime splendor. Winter weekends are a great chance for parents to come see the island!

Jan. 26-28, 2024 | 10th Grade & Co-Leader Weekend

Bus leaves Brigade @ 6PM & returns @ 12PM Sunday

Feb. 2-4, 2024 | Family Weekend

Arrive at Onaway landing after 7PM Friday, depart Onaway by 11AM Sunday

Feb. 9-11, 2024 | Parent/Son Weekend

Carpool from Brigade @ 6PM Friday and return @ 12PM Sunday

Feb. 16-18, 2024 | Parent/Daughter Weekend

Carpool from Brigade @ 6PM Friday and return @ 12PM Sunday

If any of the scheduled weekends need to be rescheduled due to ice or weather conditions, we have set aside the following weekend: **Feb. 23-25, 2024**



Do you ever wish you could spend the entire summer up at Onaway? Are you 16 or older (as of June 3, 2024)? If you answered “Yes!” to either question, then we’ve got the perfect position for you! We’re hiring for the 2024 summer season at Camp Onaway for the following positions:

Chore Staff

Life Guard

Both of these positions are open to anyone turning 16 by June 3, 2024.

Applications are due by Thursday, January 25, 2024.

“My Own Self” Scholarship Project

Our 12th Grade Brigaders are invited to participate in the “My Own Self” Scholarship project each year, starting in January. In this project, the students are asked to play to their creative strengths to create something in order to demonstrate the unique effect the Brigade has had on them and how they’re a better member of their community because of it. Check out the project winners from last year!

Important Dates:

- **Participation Form Due: Jan. 19, 2024 (by 12 NOON)**
- **Completed Project Due: Feb. 16, 2024 (by 12 NOON)**
- **Late Feb-Early March: Panel review of Projects**

Winners will be announced at the **2024 Awards Banquet** on **March 17, 2024**



Jensen Haese



Anna Foucault



Quentin Reichard

2023-24 Program Schedule:

Fall Session:

October 2 - December 14, 2023
6:30-8:30 pm

Spring Session:

January 8 - March 18, 2024
6:30-8:30 pm



Brigade registration will be discounted to **\$75** for anyone who registers between

Dec. 18th - Jan. 5th, 2023.

Also, any Brigader that brings a friend that registers for the Spring Session will receive **\$25 off their registration** for the **2024-2025 program year!**

Call the front desk at 920.725.3983 for more information

Staff Training: Youth Mental Health First Aid



Because the youth are always our highest priority at Brigade and Camp Onaway, it’s important to equip our staff and volunteers with skills to support them. On Saturday, November 18, the Brigade staff members and several Brigade volunteers participated in “Youth Mental Health First Aid” workshop from the National Council for Mental Wellbeing.

The course was led by two instructors that introduced some of the most common mental health and substance abuse challenges for youth. It also taught skills that are needed to reach out and provide initial help and support to youth that may be developing a mental or substance use problem or experiencing a crisis.





veterans' care packages

The 5th & 6th grade boys put care packages full of goodies together in November for Veterans' Day. The care packages were distributed to the veterans residing at the Wisconsin Veterans' Home in King, WI. One of the veteran's family members sent us a card thanking the Brigaders for honoring her dad. She wrote, **"He really appreciated the wonderful assortment of items. It was even more special to him as Neenah had been his place of residence for many years. Please continue to do these wonderful and meaningful projects for the community and for the veterans."**

a very neenah christmas

The Brigade participated in Future Neenah's A Very Neenah Christmas Event on Friday, December 1, 2023. The Brigade's Discover Music Band performed live music at THE Plaza while another group of Brigaders had a Live Mannequin display at The Hang Up Gallery. Their theme this year was **"Christmas at Camp Onaway"** featuring a cardboard cabin decorated with stockings and campers huddled around their "campfire roasting marshmallows."

stay up to date with all our activities by downloading the monthly calendar on our **website!**

winter **discover mini series**

"fun"damentals of finance

jan 11, 18, 25
5:30-6:30 PM
Open to gr 6th-12th
(& their parents)
\$10

lego competition

jan 9, 16, 23, 30 &
feb 6, 12, 19
4-5 pm
Open to gr 5th-12th
\$25

ski club

jan 12, 19 | feb 2, 9
4:45-11 PM
Open to Brigaders gr
6th-12th
\$10

music 101

jan 13, 20
gr.4th-5th | 9-10:30 AM
gr.9th-12th | 10:45-12:15
pm
\$15

guitar

jan 27 & feb 3
10am-12pm
Open to gr 6th-12th
\$15

music tech

feb 10, 17
10am-11:30pm
Open to gr 6th-12th
\$15

winter break **discover breakouts**



christmas trivia

dec. 21 | 4:00-5:30 pm
Open to gr 5th-12th
FREE

altitude trampoline park

dec. 27 | 1:00-4:15 pm
Open to gr 4th-12th
\$25



marbled tapestries

dec. 28 | 10:00 am-
12:00 pm
Open to gr 5th-12th
\$5

tubing @ nordic mountain

dec. 29 | 12:45-5:15 pm
Open to gr 5th-12th
\$25



january 2024 **discover breakouts**

gingerbread house competition (grades 4-12)	thurs. jan 4	4-5:30 pm	\$5
disney movie trivia (grades 5-12)	thurs. jan 11	5-6 pm	\$0
badger sports park (grades 5-12)	mon. jan 15	1-4 pm	\$15
the great escape (grades 5-12)	wed. jan 24	4:15-6:15 pm	\$5