Tahoe Expedition Academy Offers Hybrid Adventure and Academic Summer Camps for Kids Ages 4-14

Ranging from art and music to rock climbing and robotics, Tahoe Summer Camps incorporate TEA’s progressive blend of outdoor adventure and academic challenge.

[Kings Beach, Calif.] March 10, 2016 – Tahoe Expedition Academy (TEA) has opened enrollment for 2016 Tahoe Summer Camps, the school’s series of summer camps blending outdoor adventure with academic and artistic learning.

Ranging from art and music to rock climbing and robotics, Tahoe Summer Camps reflect TEA’s progressive model of using outdoor adventure as a mechanism to stimulate learning, academic curiosity and character development. Tahoe Summer Camps’ staff, comprised of expert teachers, craftsmen and adventure professionals, guide campers to become wilderness explorers, potters, sailors, blacksmiths, climbers, musicians and robotics engineers.

“Research shows education works best when kids stretch their comfort zones, conquer challenges and get physically involved with what they’re learning,” said Mark Kushner, TEA’s CEO and head of school. “We’ve distilled TEA’s philosophy into summer camps that build confidence, hone new skills and, most importantly, have kids enjoying summer outdoors on Lake Tahoe’s spectacular waters and wilderness.”

Tahoe Summer Camps are open to campers ages 4 to 14 and run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Campers meet in Kings Beach, with the exception of those attending Summer Robotics Camp, which meets at TEA’s Upper School in Martis Valley, just outside Truckee. More information at tahoesummercamps.com

All Tahoe Summer Camps are open to the public, offering an inside look at the school’s academic philosophy, teachers and project-based learning approach for students and parents interested in learning more about TEA’s education model.

Tahoe Expedition Academy is an independent K-12 school in North Lake Tahoe pushing academic and intellectual boundaries by teaching outside the walls of a traditional classroom. For more information, visit tahoeexpeditionacademy.org or watch a video on TEA’s philosophy here.

Awesome Art and Adventure I & II
The Awesome Art and Adventure I & II camps aim to enrich campers’ intellect, skills and character. Campers enjoy daily adventures on Lake Tahoe and in the Tahoe National Forest and work with professional craftsmen, musicians and artists. Session I is designed for 5 to 8-year-old campers, and session II is designed for 9 to 12-year-old campers. Cost: $350. More information at tea-school.org/tea-camps/art-and-adventure.

Awesome Art and Adventure I: Monday, July 11 – Thursday, July 14
Awesome Art and Adventure II: Monday, July 25 – Thursday, July 28

Claytivity Art Camp
In Claytivity Art Camp, campers work extensively with the clay medium, learning hand-building techniques such as coils, slabs, pinch pots and form collage. Mornings are spent in TEA’s art studio creating works of pottery and sculpture, and afternoons will be spent exploring and uncovering artistic inspiration in the Tahoe National Forest. Designed for 8 to 14-year-old campers. Cost: $350. More information at tea-school.org/tea-camps/summer-art-camp-claytivity.

Monday, August 1 – Thursday, August 4

Little Incredibles Wilderness Camp
Little Incredibles Wilderness Camp invites kids 4-6 to explore and experience the natural world. As stewards and caretakers of Lake Tahoe and the Tahoe National Forest, campers learn trail safety and etiquette, orienteering and map-making, and flora and fauna biology. Campers also learn to build their own camp, practice “Leave No Trace” principles, and learn what to do when things go wrong. Designed for 4-6 year olds. Campers must be bathroom independent. Cost: $350. More information at tea-school.org/tea-camps/summer-camps-little-incredibles.

Monday, June 27 – Thursday, June 30
Tuesday, July 5 – Friday, July 8
Monday, July 18 – Thursday, July 21
Monday, August 1 – Thursday, August 4

Primitive Skills Summer Camp
Primitive Skills Summer Camp takes campers sailing on the waters of Lake Tahoe, orienteering in Tahoe National Forest, blacksmithing in Kings Beach and so much more. Campers learn to sail on Lake Tahoe with Blake Hoffman, founder of Tahoe Sailing School, including how to read wind and weather, boat basics, points of sail, knot tying and self-rescue techniques. On land, campers learn archery, orienteering and wood carving in the forest with Loren Trux, TEA’s 4th Grade Crew Leader and certified archery instructor. Campers will also learn how to blacksmith using TEA’s forge, metalworking tools and anvils. Designed for 7 to 14-year-old campers. Cost: $400. More information at tea-school.org/tea-camps/summer-camp-primitive-skills.

Tuesday July 5 – Friday July 8
Monday, July 11 – Thursday, July 14
Monday, July 11 – Thursday, July 14
Monday, August 1 – Thursday, August 4

**Rock Climbing Camp**
Designed to foster the climbing skills necessary to function safely and confidently on rock and alpine terrain, Rock Climbing Camp teaches campers rope handling, route finding, technique and form in an environment focused on building trust and self-confidence. Rock Climbing Camp also includes an earth science focus, with campers learning about geology and the tectonic forces that created the Lake Tahoe Basin. Designed for 8 to 14-year-old campers, and beginner to advanced ability levels. Cost: $450. More information at tea-school.org/tea-camps/summer-camp-rock-climbing.

Monday, July 5 – Thursday, July 8
Monday, July 25 – Thursday, July 28

**Summer Music Camp**
At Summer Music Camp, campers learn and refine musical concepts like harmony and song dynamics to strengthen performance and vocal skills. Campers will learn a repertoire of various songs and strengthen confidence, stage presence and performance techniques. The camp is led by Emily Tessmer, TEA’s music program director and an international recording artist signed to Paradise Music based in the UK. Designed for 6 to 10-year-old campers. Cost: $400. More information at tea-school.org/tea-camps/summer-camp-music.

Monday, August 8 – Thursday, August 11

**Summer Robotics Camp**
Summer Robotics Camp inspires students to become problem-solving heroes of tomorrow. Campers learn the fundamentals of robot design and programming, using the VEX IQ platform. The program caters to learners of all levels, from those building their first robot to students who have already mastered the fundamentals and are looking for a design challenge. Beyond the computer lab, campers head outside daily to work in teams and complete physical challenges designed to mirror their robotics thinking and stimulate collaborative work. The camp is led by Nate Martz, TEA’s director of STEAM. Designed for 8 to 14-year-old campers. Cost: $400. More information at tea-school.org/tea-camps/summer-robotics-camp.

Monday, June 27 – Thursday, June 30
Monday, August 8 – Thursday, August 11

**About Tahoe Expedition Academy**
Tahoe Expedition Academy (TEA) is an independent K-12 school pushing academic and intellectual boundaries by teaching outside the walls of a traditional classroom. Students engage in academic adventures, consult with professional experts and learn to think critically and creatively in a project-based learning approach that draws them to the limits of their social and personal comfort zones, where research shows learning happens
more powerfully. Graduates of TEA will be prepared both for the finest universities in the country as well as successful and meaningful lives.

###