



**Camper and Parent
Information Packet
Core & Combo Sessions**

Dear Camper:

In a matter of weeks, you will arrive at New England Music Camp to begin an enriching and life-changing experience. We have created this packet to help you pack and prepare for NEMC. This packet includes our camp policies, what to pack, and much more!

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

On May 1st, after you have completed your final tuition payment, please login to your Acceptd account and click continue. These forms must be completed for each registered child. We will send a reminder on that day!

- Travel Information
- Health Information (medical exam form can be downloaded and uploaded here)
- Camper/Parent Permissions and Policy Agreements
- Class Scheduling

These forms should be completed and your medical exam form uploaded by **June 1st** for Core/Combo Session Campers.

We look forward to having you with us this summer, and we sincerely hope that this packet will aid your preparation for camp. We recommend that you keep this packet and refer to it often! If you have any questions or problems, please contact one of the Camp Directors.

Sincerely,

Matthew Wiggin
Managing Director

Simón Gollo
Artistic Director

Thea Hollman
Associate Camp Director

Things to do before coming to camp

1. Have a physical examination within 12 months of the start of camp.
2. Label **all** belongings, including clothes and bedding, with indelible ink or labels.
3. Instrumentalists should prepare a piece of music for camp auditions and 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.
4. The following forms will be available in your Accepted account on May 1st, following complete tuition payment. We will notify you when the forms have opened. At that point you will login to your Accepted account and click continue:

- Travel Information
- Health Information (See documents attached)
- Camper/Parent Permissions and Policy Agreements
- Class Scheduling

Placement Auditions

All campers in the Core Session audition on the first full day of the session. Auditions are for the purpose of placing you in the appropriate groups and ensembles. Be prepared to play something you know well, and also be prepared to sight-read and play scales. Saxophone players should prepare a classical piece. See above in “Things to do before camp” for Choral and Musical Theater auditions. Be sure to bring sheet music with you for the audition.

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 at mid-season for all full-season campers; however, some changes may be unavoidable.

Camper Banking

Campers will NOT BE PERMITTED to keep cash in the cabin. This summer NEMC will be using Square as our Camper Banking System. 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 \$125.00 per session. Campers can use their cards at the Canteen, Library, and Office for treats, music, and personal items. We will send additional information regarding camper banking later in the Spring. ***RETURNING CAMPERS - Please note that we will no longer be using the pre-loaded NEMC Cards - this policy is a new change for this summer.***

Telephone

The office phone is not available for campers and staff 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 week at 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!** Following the first week of camp, Junior campers (four younger cabins) will have access to the phones on Monday/Wednesday and senior campers (four older cabins) will have access on Tuesday/Thursday. Phones will be open to all campers

Friday-Sunday. Campers may not make or receive calls during any class or scheduled activity or after 7:30 P.M, except in case of an emergency and then only with the authorization of a Head Counselor or Camp Directors. **Cell phones are not allowed on campus for the Core Program.**

Drugs, Alcohol, Tobacco, Vaping, and Weapons

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

Community Service

Community is at the core of NEMC's values. Because of this, every person at camp (campers, counselors, faculty, staff, and administration) will be responsible for contributing to the camp community throughout the summer. Community service tasks include assisting in the office, music library, canteen, at meals, concerts, etc. Everyone will participate in at least one community service task. If you attend a school where community service is required, you can bring any required forms and this can be applied to those hours.

Travel to Camp

NEMC requires a Camper Travel form on file with the camp office regardless of whether you will arrive by car, plane, or bus. The **Camper Travel Form** can be found with other important forms in your Accepted account.

Arrival at camp – Registration at the Office begins at **1:00 PM** with one-hour time slots that must be selected on the travel form. Each time slot has a limited number of spaces, so if a time slot is not available, all slots have been filled and you will need to choose another slot. **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.**

Directions to NEMC

NEMC is located at 8 Goldenrod Lane in Sidney, Maine, 04330.

From the North:

- Take Route 95 South to exit 127 (ME-11/ME-137 toward Waterville/Oakland).
- Turn right on ME-11S/ME-137W/Kennedy Memorial Drive.
- After 0.7 miles, turn left onto Country Club Road.
- At the end, turn right onto Webb Road.
- After crossing over Middle Road, turn left onto ME-23S/Snow Pond Road.
- NEMC will be on your right after approximately 3.2 miles.

From the South:

- Take Route 95 North to exit 112B to merge onto ME-11 N/ME-27 N/ME-8 N/Civic Center Drive/New Belgrade Road toward Augusta/Belgrade.
- After 4 miles, turn right onto ME-23 N/Pond Road.
- NEMC will be on your left after approximately 7.2 miles.

NEMC Boston & Portland Chartered Bus

The NEMC bus will serve 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 Saturday, June 29**. The bus leaves Boston at 2:00 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 **Sunday, July 28 for Core Campers and Monday, August 12 for Full Campers**. 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 Saturday, June 29**. 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 **Sunday, July 28 for Core Campers and Monday, August 12 for Full Campers**. 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 duffel, an instrument and a carry-on bag on the NEMC bus. If you would like to ship any additional belongings, see shipping information below.

PLEASE MAKE SURE TO PAY YOUR CAMPER'S AIRPLANE BAGGAGE FEES FOR BOTH ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE FLIGHTS PRIOR TO CAMP!

Fee: \$125 each direction to/from Boston and \$75 each direction to/from Portland. Reservations can be made on the travel form in your Accepted account.

FOR ANY TRAVEL QUESTIONS, please contact our Travel Coordinator, Patti DeSorbo at: office@nemc.org. Please include "Travel Question: Your Camper's Name" in the Subject line. These will be responded to beginning May 1.

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

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 2024 will run from July 12-13. Events will begin with **Friday Morning Classes, BBQ Lunch, Open Recs, and a Student Honor Recital** on Friday, July 12 and a **Family Brunch** and **Annual NEMC Pops Concert** on Saturday, July 13, which will feature ALL campers. Additional Family Weekend details and ticket information will be sent out later this spring.

Please note, our Camper Leave Policy has been reimplemented for this summer, so Families may sign their campers out during free periods of time. We will continue to have designated Canoe/Kayak Signouts for families on these days.

NEMC Electronics Policy

New England Music Camp offers a traditional summer camp experience in a rural setting. In keeping with those 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, personal computers, tablet computers, and gaming devices. Mobile 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!

Here is a list of accepted electronics:

- Metronome
- iPod Nano
- Variety of different MP3 players
- Cameras or Disposable Cameras

Students are encouraged to bring playing cards, books, fidgets, stationery for letters, journals, small crafts (friendship bracelets, beads, etc.), Kindle Paperwhite, FM radios with headphones, and other non-electronic games to camp.

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, Twitter 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.

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 health form **must be uploaded to your camper account by June 1, for Core & Combo Camper. If the health form is not received by the start of camp, campers will not be allowed to stay on campus.**

NEMC recommends COVID vaccination, including all eligible boosters. Campers will no longer need to test before arriving on campus, but we do ask that they bring masks should any illness arise.

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 Camp Director 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 will be treated confidentially.

If you take 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 nurses.

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

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 Core Campers and May 15 for Combo Campers. In addition, you can add the camper banking money on the NEMC website prior to camp and skip a step in the registration line. We will send instructions to do this later in the Spring. Transportation and additional lesson fees will be added to your accounts at a later date.

Please direct any questions about payment to Cathy Kennard at 207-465-3025 ext 210, or cathy.kennard@snowpond.org

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 cannot 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:

Cell phones, tablets, and personal computers are not permitted during camp. If you travel with a cell phone, you will have to turn it in upon your arrival at camp. Personal sports equipment is permitted for the sports we offer, but it is the responsibility of the camper. All personal archery equipment will be stored with similar camp equipment. 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
- **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
- **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. A detailed list for all voice students will be sent by June 1.

Miscellaneous:

Check the attached calendar of events. As you pack for camp, please consider the "special events" so that you arrive prepared. For example, you may want to plan ahead and bring certain equipment for the talent show, drama presentations, carnival, and square dance.

CLOTHING/ATTIRE:

Laundry is sent weekly, and returned the following day. All campers will have dresser drawers and closet space to properly store clothes.

Daily Dress:

- Appropriate informal daily attire can include sneakers, jeans, shorts, T-shirts, etc.
- Jacket, sweaters, sweatshirts for cool evenings
- Swimsuits – *all* campers are encouraged to take a swim test
- Rain gear: waterproof shoes or boots, waterproof jacket, umbrella

Required Concert Dress for Weekend Performances:

- Students will wear black on bottom and white on top
 - Please consider the following options:
 - black slacks, black skirt (comfortable sitting length)
 - white blouse, white button-up, white collared shirt
 - black socks, black shoes, black belt
 - Please avoid:
 - Sneakers, sandals, 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
 - Please avoid: athletic wear, pajamas, jeans, athletic shoes

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

- Formal or semi-formal dresses or slacks
- Suit or sport coat and tie
- 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!

Linens

- Towels and washcloths (2 bath towels, 2 beach towels, 2 hand towels)
- 2 sets of sheets (most camper beds are twin size) *Male-identifying campers over age 14 will need Twin XL sheet sets.
- 1 or more pillow
- 2 heavy blankets (Night temperatures often descend into the low 50s) Campers are not allowed to use sleeping bags except as outside bed covers.
- **Sturdy** laundry bag that **closes securely** (clearly labeled on the outside with camper's name). Laundry is sent in these bags to be laundered. Items not labeled will not be returned.

Other Essential Items

- Water Bottle
- Sunscreen
- Insect Repellent
- Umbrella
- Flashlight
- Watch
- Tissues
- General Toiletries
- Hand Sanitizer

(See detailed packing checklist attached or located in the Camp Info Tab on the NEMC website for more information)

NEMC Camper Leave and Visitation Policy

As administrators of NEMC, we assume responsibility for the care and safety of your child -- a charge which is accepted with utmost concern. The policies outlined below regarding guest visitation and off-camp travel for campers have been carefully designed to (1) protect your child (2) preserve the integrity of our program and (3) achieve concurrence with the parameters of our liability insurance. All campers must have the Permission to Leave Camp Form completed in their Accepted Accounts.

REGULATIONS STRICTLY APPLIED. PLEASE DO NOT REQUEST EXCEPTIONS.

Campers with documented parental permission may leave the grounds only as follows:

(Verbal/phone authorization or emails will not be accepted)

- FRIDAY:** After their last morning class to 2:15 pm and then again from after the concert to 7:15 pm, or the designated time.
Exception: On Final Banquet days campers may only leave after their last morning class and return by 2:15 pm.
- SATURDAYS:** 11:00 am to 2:15 pm then again after the concert until 7:15 pm or the designated time. (Please note: Campers are asked to neither leave nor return during Rest Hour – 1:15 – 2:15 pm)
- SUN - THURS :** Campers may not leave camp during these days.
- SUN-MON of :
CHANGEVER** Campers staying for Intensives/Prelude may sign out of campus on Sunday, but need to be back on campus before 9:00 pm on Sunday OR after 12:00 pm on Monday (if signed out overnight)

PLEASE NOTE: The policy for leave and visitation is different during Family Weekend. Campers with written parental permission may leave the grounds during Family Weekend only as follows:

- FRIDAY:** 1:15 pm to 7:00 pm
Campers are asked not to leave/ return during Rest Hour and Open Recs (1:30-4:30)
- SATURDAY:** After 11:00 am to 4:00 pm - All campers must be back on campus for the POPS Concert Soundchecks by 4:00 pm.

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 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 should not be entered unless absolutely necessary.

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.