

LARCHMONT

Living

An exclusive magazine serving the residents of Larchmont



Girls Just Wanna Have Fun!





It's OK to *Play Like a Girl!*

By Jenny David, Toni Ann Simone
and Renata Mulder

At Next Level Camp, Girls Can Build a Robot, Build up Their Sports Skills, and Build Character!



Lola and Charlotte enjoy cooking class



Riley practicing her soccer skills

Next Level Day Camp for Girls, founded by Larchmont dad Ed Metzendorf, was created to inspire young girls to develop their skills and build their self-confidence in a warm and caring environment. Next Level opened its doors at The Ursuline School in June to eighty-eight girls. In its inaugural summer, almost 300 girls in grades 3-9 spent one or more weeks at the camp.

One of Next Level's unique qualities is its elective based schedule, which allows campers to choose their activities on a daily basis. This flexibility allows the girls an opportunity to explore many different interests and experience growth as an athlete, artist, inventor, scientist and, most importantly, as a person.

"Next Level Camp offers young girls all of the empowering and fun activities that girls should have the opportunity to experience," said Eileen Davidson, President of The Ursuline School. The range of activities "allows girls to develop life skills. I have been very impressed with both the program and staff." She added, "It has been delightful to have the Next level Camp for Girls. The halls and playing field are filled with the sound of happy girls."

Two distinctive features of Next Level Camp are the STEM program and character-building program. Over 100 girls looking for a chance to build, tinker and code took advantage of Next Level's intensive STEM program, which is run in partnership with the Stem Alliance of Larchmont-Mamaroneck. Some campers built and programmed LEGO EV3

robots. Other girls researched the global water crisis and constructed aquifers and water filters. Yet another week, campers learned to use a 3D printer and investigated electricity challenges in the world.

The team from a local company named My Remarkable Self facilitates projects, role-plays, games and discussions through which the campers can reach a new level of self-awareness and confidence. Each day at Next Level Camp begins and concludes with "daily circles" which focus on several different themes throughout the week such as self-esteem, cooperation, sportsmanship, teamwork and building friendships. Many of these themes taught in the daily circles are reinforced on the field, studio and in the classrooms by staff who work with the girls to make the most of "teachable moments." Next Level's staff of teachers, coaches, college athletes and parents pays particular attention to incorporate these values into each and every day.

Next Level offers a variety of sports and arts as well. Sports choices range from traditional sports such as lacrosse, soccer, basketball, and field hockey to specialty games such as gaga. The Next Level staff strives to teach the girls that to "play like a girl" is something to be proud of. Arts programs include theatre, dance, cheerleading and, every camper's favorite, cooking. Additionally, the girls loved the opportunity to try special camp activities such as yoga, cross fit and creative writing.

Camp also means time for fun and inspiration to dream. Wacky Wednesday, Tie Dye Thursday, and Pajama Day are opportunities to dress in creative ways and express their personalities. On "Try it Tuesday," the girls are asked to leave their comfort zone and try a new activity. Each Thursday the campers show off their array of talents in the Talent Show.

Next Level is getting rave reviews from campers and their families. Tess says, "Next Level is awesome. I met so many new people got to play and learn a lot of new games, sports and skills." Lindsey H. adds, "Camp is really fun. Everyone is really nice and so supportive. The staff members are fun and great teachers; best camp!" Samantha M. comments, "I love the STEM program. I have learned so much. Also, I love the chance to do cooking and art. Next Level is awesome!" Ed



Margherita and Lola show off an artistic creation

Metzendorf adds, "At the end of each week, it is so great to hear from so many families that they felt that Next Level created an environment where campers learned to feel GOOD about demonstrating positive values and felt proud to have spent the week playing like a girl!"



Aidan and Ella dress up for a special event

To learn more about Next Level Camp for Girls check out: www.nextleveldaycamp.com, email info@nextleveldaycamp.com or call 914-341-1488. Also, check out Next Level Day Camp on Facebook.

Tell us about your family and be featured in our pages:
Email rcacciato@bestversionmedia.com.



GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION!

Join us Saturday, September 12th from 1:00pm - 5:00pm for a Grand Opening Celebration of our new location at the 144 Larchmont Avenue, Larchmont!!!

There will be food, face painting, balloon art, cotton candy, giveaways and more!!!

We look forward to seeing you at this special event!!



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