Rock & Roll camp returns to Pendleton

Live concert happens Friday, Aug. 12, on Main Street

By Lisa Britton

Go! Magazine

PENDLETON — After two years of a virtual experience, the annual Rock & Roll Camp is back in-person with a live concert in downtown Pendleton to celebrate the week.

The week-long camp, offered free for up to 60 teenagers from ages 13-18, started Aug. 8 at the Pendleton Center for the Arts.

It culminates with a public performance on Friday, Aug. 12, from 7-10 p.m. in the 400 block of Main Street.

Journey Hahn attended the camp from ages 13 to 18, and this year is helping organize it as an employee of the art center.

"Now I'm right back where I started," she said with a laugh on Wednesday, Aug. 3.

As a camp alumni, she's excited to be involved with helping today's youth experience everything the camp has to offer.

"It's a wonderful tool to build your self confidence and your creative process," she said.

During her years as a camper, she learned about music production, screen printing, musical culture and how bands get started.

Other opportunities include songwriting, playing instruments, music journalism, photography, sound mixing, marketing and more.

This is the camp's 17th year, and many instructors return year after year. Hahn said the camp staff is mostly Portland-based musicians, although some have come from the Seattle area and California, as well.

Hahn said Friday's performance will include quite the variety, "from indie-rock to full-on metal."

"We work really hard to foster their creative ideas." she said.



This week,
Pendleton
Center for the
Arts welcomed
campers for the
17th annual Rock
& Roll Camp,
which returned
to an in-person
experience after
two years as a
virtual event.

Pendleton Center for the Arts/
Contributed photo

CONCERT

Campers at the 2022 Rock & Roll Camp will present a live concert Friday, Aug. 12, 7-10 p.m. in the 400 block of Main Street in Pendleton.

lan Summerfield did not attend all the years he was eligible — and he still regrets missing the first year.

"I was kind of scared and didn't know what it was like," he said. "Then I saw all the pictures and was extremely jealous."

He then attended as long as he could, then switched to the role of counselor.

"It was exceptional, surrounded by music," he said. "It's a really special program."

If any teen seems reluctant to try the camp, Summerfield is quick to encourage him or her to give it a try.

"Absolutely," he said. "You have full range to try any instrument you want to try.

Everyone is so encouraging."

He now teaches teen ukulele classes at PCA and plays with several bands. The Rock & Roll Camp, he said, helped encourage his music and songwriting.

"They are very talented and very inspiring," he said of the camp instructors. "All walks of life and all influences of music."

