

Application for Language/Culture Camp Youth Instructor at Norwegian Ridge Language & Culture Day Camp, 2024



Overview

Position Title	Language/Culture Camp Youth Instructor, Norwegian Day Camp – Norwegian Ridge Language & Culture Camp
Position Type	Staff
Employment Period and Hours	Course dates for the 2024 season are Sunday June 16 (Staff only day) through Friday, June 21. Daily camp availability idealistically covers the M-F period of 7:30AM-5PM. This includes prep time before the morning sessions, guided activities during snack and lunch times, and a daily wrap-up meeting with other staff. Breaks can be arranged as needed with other staff for short periods of time during the daily sessions.
Benefits Eligible?	No
Job Summary/Basic Function	<p>A Language/Culture Instructor at Norwegian Ridge Language & Culture Camp is responsible for instruction and overall implementation of our language-specific programming needs, and reports to/workshops with the Lead Instructor and the Program Coordinator. Duties include collaborating with other staff and volunteers and working directly with our day campers in an environment that is safe, enriching, eye-opening, and playful. The ideal candidate works well and flexibly with both small and larger groups (up to 25—with other staff support), enjoys multiple modes of teaching (including music, movement, use of props, integration of technology, theater, etc), and can re-direct and reassess in real time based on the group dynamic.</p> <p>The job is intensive for the week, with few breaks and a lot of interactions. A daily wrap-up meeting will occur for tying up loose ends for the next day, and preparing physical elements of upcoming sessions. There will undoubtedly be elements of off-site preparation and organizing/brain-storming as a team player before the session begins—either in-person or via Zoom or FaceTime. Each Instructor is responsible for contributing ideas and expertise with other staff in a manner that upholds the annual camp theme, mission and goals of the parent organization, Giants of the Earth Heritage Center, Inc. in the first Norwegian-American settlement in Minnesota: Spring Grove.</p>
Minimum Qualifications	<p>We seek an Instructor with superior proficiency in Norwegian and strong English skills. This candidate will roll out Norwegian content, as per the daily plan, in an immersive manner that enables day campers to join in through positive encouragement and role-modeling. Usage of English will be, in most cases, secondary—but essential for this short experience.</p> <p>It is assumed that the correct candidate(s) will hold knowledge of best practices and creative teaching techniques for second language learning and retention.</p> <p>The Instructor should also have both superb written and oral communication skills; a willingness to interface with parents, when needed; and strong organizational skills.</p>

Eligibility Requirements	<p>We seek an Instructor working toward or holding a B.A. degree in a field relating to education, languages, and/or other program elements, or with a strong history of travel/interaction/experience with Norwegian language and culture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to perform the essential functions of the instructor position (see job description and expectations below) • Eligibility to be employed legally in the USA; assume responsibility and costs for any visa requirements
Screening Begins	02/7/24 until position(s) are filled
Benefits	None
EEO/AA Statement	Giants of the Earth Heritage Center, Inc. will not discriminate against or harass any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, creed, sex, religion, national origin, age, veteran's status, disability, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, familial status, public assistance status, membership or activity in a local human rights commission, or any other legally protected status.
Special Instructions to Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please seek recommendations from three people or organizations, and furnish full contact information, as per instructions below. CV, Resume, and Recommendation Letters can be sent via snail mail or email (more info below). Please tailor your CV or resume and a cover letter in a manner that speaks to your experience or ability to teach Norsk to beginning through intermediate or advanced students. • Compensation is based on qualification. The minimum pay for 100% appointment is \$500 plus room and board while on site. This salary includes compensation for pre-arrival planning (approximately 3 virtual meetings, group work via Google Drive or other apps), and daily preparations. • Mileage will be reimbursed for travel to/from Spring Grove for our workshop/prep Sunday and drive home after camp wraps up.
Employment Contingencies	Background Check, Motor Vehicle Record Investigation (if you drive)
Location	Spring Grove, MN

Job Description and Expectations

Norwegian Ridge Language & Culture Camp (NRLCC) staff are assigned similar and equal responsibilities. These assignments include, but are not limited to:

- Supervising and managing a group of 10-25 students at our home site, Giants of the Earth Heritage Center, and off-campus at nearby parks, the Norwegian Ridge Birding and Nature Trail, and other educational field trip locations.
- Equal sharing of mealtime supervision with language immersive prep and conversation.
- Equal sharing of "fritid" supervision during the day sessions.
- Equal sharing of "on call" for emergency purposes during the week.
- Familiarity with and carrying out of NRLCC and Giants of the Earth Heritage Center, Inc. policies, procedures, rules, and regulations.
- Attendance at all scheduled planning meetings (via Zoom or in-person, depending on geographic location), Sunday orientation and set-up session, staff meetings, and all student activities for the entire week contract.
- Meeting all deadlines for paperwork, assignments, or other information requested by the Lead Instructor and Program Coordinator.
- Communicate and distribute necessary announcements and communication to the campers and their families.
- Communicate camper concerns to necessary staff including illness, damaged or stolen property, or behavior concerns.
- Contribute to the development and implementation of camp session learning modules, activities, and schedules.

Camper Interaction Responsibilities:

- Get to know individual students, their interests, and their likes/dislikes. Further encourage students to participate in all camp activities.
- Assist or lead in teaching and assigned activities.
- Supervise and participate in all assigned aspects of the camper's day.
- Help each student meet their individual language learning goals.
- Recognize and respond to opportunities for problem solving between students.
- Develop opportunities for interaction between students and staff.
- Facilitate discussions of individual or group problems or concerns.

Supplemental Questions

Please copy/paste these questions and answer in-line as a portion of the application process. Send back in as a .docx or .pdf with other portions of the application to uplifting.rachel@gmail.com

1. Describe your educational training and background with the Norwegian language, culture, people.
2. Provide specific examples of your language teaching methods and strategies that you have found to be most effective.
3. As a member of Team NRLCC (Norwegian Ridge Language & Culture Camp), you will be asked to lead certain daily sessions with our campers. Describe topics, themes, and historical and/or contemporary discussion points that you would feel comfortable developing teaching modules for, and describe other sources, materials, multimedia approaches you would integrate in order to engage a group of children aged 8-18 (and sometimes an adult or two!).
4. Describe your ideas for creating an environment of immersive learning in a day camp setting. What tools, resources do you need for success?
5. What defines success for you, taking into consideration the fact that our average age of camper is 8-16 years old, and attends camp for only one week from 8:30am through 1 or 3:30pm.
6. Finally, given our 2024 theme of "Dragons, Boats, and Trolls, Oh My!" what are some examples of student-centered activities that you would be excited to implement when running a session?

Documents Needed to Apply

Required Documents

1. CV or Resume
2. Cover Letter
3. Background check form (MUST be emailed with original signature). This will be handled after hiring.
4. Contact information for 3 References (including full name, position, email address, and phone number)
5. Answers to the "Supplemental Questions" above.

Optional Documents

1. Teaching Philosophy
2. Other Documents, letters of recommendation, etc.

Interested applicants should send in all documents via email to uplifting.rachel@gmail.com or via snail mail to Giants of the Earth Heritage Center, Inc. P.O. Box 223, 163 W. Main St. Spring Grove, MN, 55974.



Velkommen til Spring Grove, MN! We are a gem of a small town in the Driftless Region of SE MN, and proudly boast the title “First Norwegian-American Settlement in MN” Daily camp headquarters is the beautiful yellow building above, called Giants of the Earth Heritage Center. Our summer camp staff accommodation is this charming “American Hytte” located 2 blocks from camp headquarters.

We are grateful for Giants of the Earth Heritage Center board members
for their generosity as hospitality sponsors of Norwegian Ridge Language & Culture Camp!



The hytte is outfitted for two people (comfortably), with mini en suite bathroom and sink. The layout includes a charming fireplace, computer and wifi setup, games, and super koselig vibes! Showers are available in the main house. We look forward to welcoming you!

