

The Camp Abilities Newsletter "The CAN"

VOLUME 17 ISSUE 1

Sunday June 27, 2021

EDITOR: Alyssa Poawui



"BELIEVE YOU CAN ACHIEVE"

"The CAN" (Camp Abilities Newsletter) is dedicated to the memory of Dr. Janet Joseph, "The CAN" founder and Lauren Lieberman's mother. "The CAN", as in, yes YOU CAN!

Meet the Staff and Specialist

The Camp Abilities staff and specialists have been working tirelessly to make sure that Camp Abilities 2021 is at its very best. It's time to shine a light on these wonderful people!



Founder and Director of Camp Abilities

Lauren Lieberman is celebrating her 26th Brockport Camp! She has attended so many other Camp Abilities all over the world that she can't count the exact number. Last year, she received a Global Fulbright Scholarship to start Camp Abilities in Ghana, Ireland, and Brazil! She loves music and loves to hike.

Assistant Director

This is **Alex Stribing's** 11th year at Camp Abilities. Alex has been to Camp Abilities Brockport, Saratoga, Boston, and Texas. During the pandemic, Alex adopted a puppy named Riggs! She loves to get outdoors as much as she can. She likes to play golf, disc golf, or just lying by the pool. Her favorite part about camp is seeing all of the athletes and coaches!



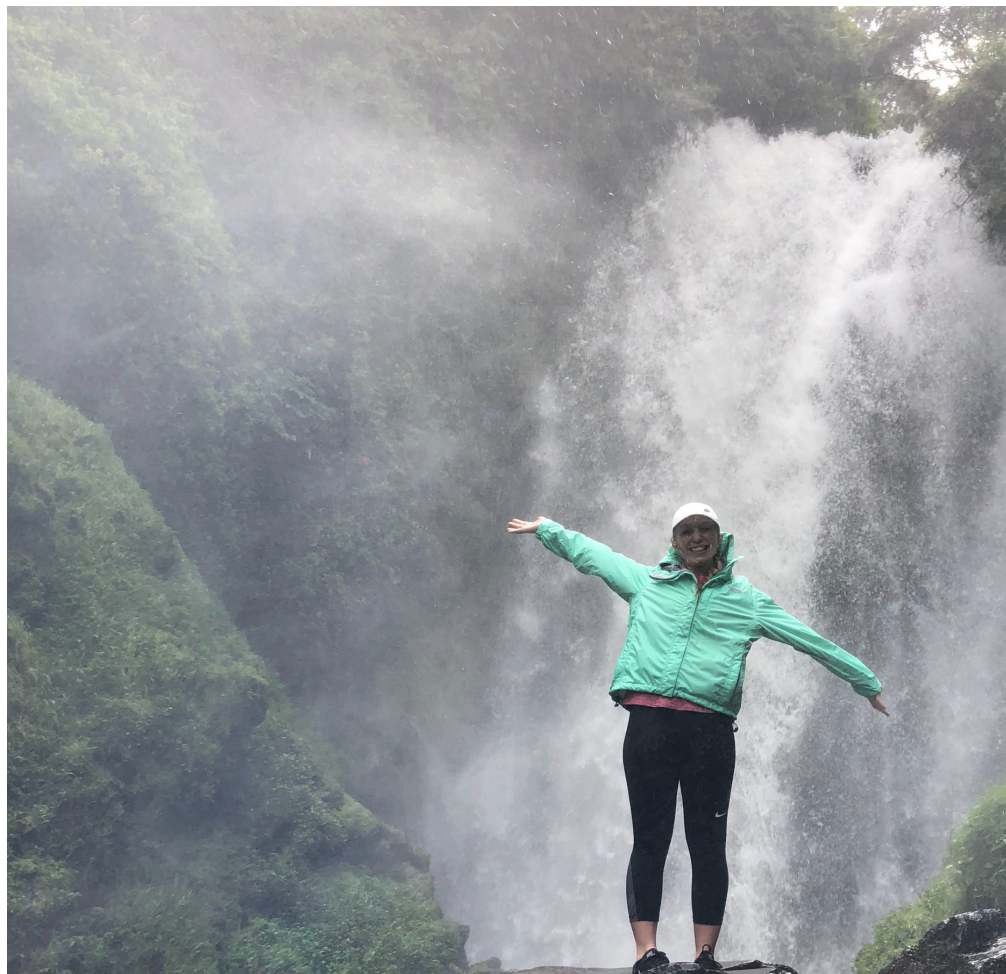
Coach Alex on the left.



GA Tina on the right.

Graduate Assistant

Cristina Iannacchino is going into her third year at Camp Abilities Brockport. She has attended Camp Abilities Spencer and numerous Mini Camps. Her favorite sport is volleyball, and her favorite food is sushi. Her favorite thing about camp is Care to Share!



Graduate Assistant

Kelsey Sammon is going into her fourth year at Camp Abilities, and her second year as a graduate assistant. She attended Camp Badger and Camp Abilities Brockport. Her favorite things about camp are tandem biking and paddle boarding! During the summer, she loves to go hiking and kayaking with her family!

Graduate Assistant & Green Assistant Team Leader

Eric Tuttle

is going into his 3rd year here at Camp Abilities. He has done multiple Brockport Mini Camps over the years. He loves playing beach volleyball with his brother, and his favorite movie is Nacho Libre. Eric's favorite thing about camp is meeting new campers, and helping to change their lives by teaching them about advocacy! His favorite quote is "Don't walk behind me; I may not lead. Don't walk in front of me; I may not follow. Just walk beside me and be my friend." – Albert Camus.



Basketball Specialist

This is **Erin Scheno's** 5th year at Camp Abilities Brockport. She has also been to Camp Abilities Pennsylvania, Saratoga, Delaware, Canada, Arizona, and Texas. Erin loves lacrosse and is currently coaching a summer travel team. She is a new dog mom! The puppy in the photo is Coach Alex and Coach Aarons's new dog Riggs who is 7 months old. Her chicken tender Instagram blog is going strong! (@iTend2GetTenders)



Track and Field Specialist

Jess Parfitt is going into her 8th year at camp! She loves to bake and to spend time training Tobin who is a service dog. Jess's favorite thing about camp is "seeing so many kids come with so much doubt, being told all year that they cannot do and cannot achieve, and leave with confidence radiating knowing that they CAN!"

Fitness Specialist

Dorothy (Dar) Niemira is going into her 9th year at camp! She has been to Camp Abilities Brockport, Saratoga, Delaware, Long Island, and Finland. She lives in Queens and loves to Geocache. Geocaching is a worldwide treasure hunt where you use your phone or a GPS device to locate and hide caches (containers) with a log or tradeable in them.

Dar ran her first 5K this June!



Soccer Specialist

This is **Emily Gilbert's** 10th year at camp. She has been to Camp Abilities Saratoga, Delaware, Long Island, North Florida, and Brockport. Recently, Emily took photos on Seneca Lake; she loves to be outdoors! Her favorite thing about camp is seeing the camp family. "Hey Camp! I can't wait to have another great year!"



Interpreter Coordinator

This is **Heather Machonkin's** 3rd year at Camp Abilities Brockport. Her favorite thing about camp is watching the Talent Show! She can't wait for what's in store this year!



Yellow Team Leader

This is **Lizzie Weaver's** 13th year at Camp Abilities Brockport! She has attended Camp Abilities Saratoga, North Florida, Delaware, and Long Island. Next year, Lizzie will be marrying the love of her life that she met at Camp Abilities Brockport! Coach Emily and Lizzie started a garden from scratch this year, and can't wait to see what they get to harvest from it. "I will find any excuse to go to a local coffee shop anywhere Coach Emily and I travel!"

Green Team Leader

Ali Weaver is going into her 12th year here at camp!

She has also been to Camp Abilities Oregon, Washington, Texas, Nebraska, and Saratoga. She can play the drums, her favorite food is chicken fingers, and she loves to bake!



Red Team Leader

This is **Rachel Sherman's** 5th year at camp. She has been to Camp Abilities Brockport, Saratoga, Long Island, Koshers Camp, and she is the director of Camp Abilities at Lions Camp Badger. Her favorite part about camp is watching the athletes crush their goals! She just bought a house, and this is her first full year of teaching with a full-time job!



Peter in lane 3 getting ready to run as fast as he can!

Blue Team Leader

Peter Rifenburg is going into his 5th year at camp. He has been to Camp Abilities Brockport, Saratoga, and Camp Spark Oregon in July. He wants to do five more camps next year! Peter's favorite sport is goalball, and he wants to become a professor!

Blue Assistant Team Leader

This is **Sara Koppenhaver's** 8th summer here at Brockport! She has been to Camp Abilities Saratoga, Delaware, and Camp Spark Oregon. Sara is finishing her first year as a head varsity softball coach, and she broke her elbow this year while coaching volleyball! Her favorite thing about camp is the energy!



Red Assistant Team Leader

This will be **Kyle Tirone's** first year at camp! Kyle has participated in Mini Camp Abilities before. Next year Kyle will be one of the graduate assistance here at Camp Abilities! Kyle is an Eagle Scout, and Kyle's favorite quote is from the film Rocky. "It's about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward. How much you can take and keep moving forward." - Sylvester Stallone, Rocky Balboa.

Yellow Assistant Team Leader

This is **Haydn Carr's** first year at Camp Abilities! She loves the color yellow, likes to bake, and hiking is her favorite outdoor activity.



**A Loss of
Sight, Never a
Loss of
Vision!**