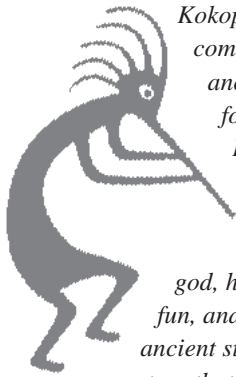


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# Teen Program



*Kokopelli is the hunchbacked flute player common in petroglyphs and carvings by the ancient Anasazi peoples. According to the folklore of the Hopi and the Zuni peoples, Kokopelli was a trader who travelled through villages, playing his flute and bringing seeds. Known as a magician, storyteller, healer, trickster, and harvest god, he symbolizes trade, community, harmony, fun, and the untamed spirit with passion for life. In ancient stories, Kokopelli had a playful, carefree nature that brought the good out in everyone. Stories of his sexy, joyous, uninhibited ways have often led people in modern times to overlook his wisdom, magic, and simple, beautiful nature. Because of these qualities, Kokopelli was chosen to symbolize our Teens, whose spirit for life will fill SUUSI 2000 with beautiful music and fun.*

The **Teen Program** is an intense community experience for people between the ages of 14 and 17. During the week of SUUSI, we share many things—space, worship, ideas, games, food, music, play, laughter, and tears, to name a few. In the SUUSI Teen Program, friendships are made that last a lifetime.

From sports on the quad to arts and crafts projects to discussion workshops, massage and music circles, there are interesting, challenging and fun activities 24 hours a day, all week long. Special **Teen Nature trips** start Monday with inner tubing on the New River. (Check the Nature section for Teen and other great trips, and be sure to register for them to guarantee you'll have a space). We've even been known to take road trips—to thrift stores and other fun locations nearby.

One of the best parts of the Teen Program is our nightly Teen Worship, planned by and for teens. Teen Worship is a time for gathering as a community and sharing stories, experiences, hopes and dreams. In this special space each night, we explore what's going on in our lives, learn new things about each other, and come together as a special teen community. Please bring your favorite readings, music, and worship ideas to share with us in these worship services.

Of course, teenagers are part of a larger community at SUUSI as well, and SUUSI provides many other opportunities for learning, fun, and community that are open to teens. Be sure to check out General Workshops that are marked with a bold **T** (for teen) or **Y** (for youth), as these are open to teen participants. In addition, this year's teens will be producing a SUUSI Teen Zine, to be distributed as a special edition of the SUUSI NUUS to all of our neighbors throughout SUUSI.

Music is a big part of SUUSI—both in and out of the Teen Program. Be sure to bring your instruments—drums, guitars, horns, violins, whatever. Teens are also invited to perform at Cabaret and the Common Ground coffee house.

Speaking of music and nightlife, don't forget about CACHE, the nightly dance party that's open to everyone over 14. And dancing doesn't just happen at night. From spontaneous dance outbreaks in the Teen Dorm to workshops on swing, African dance, and other kinds of dance, the Teen Program is hopping with good times.

Do you just need quiet time to hang out and talk? You can do that, too. Above all, the Teen Program is about choices, and lots of them.

## **Life in the Teen Dorm**

Teen activities are in the Teen Dorm. You can choose to live communally in the Teen Dorm (co-ed floors), or to stay with your parent/guardian. Teens not living in the Teen Dorm are welcome to join any activity at any hour, but between the hours of 1:00 a.m and 6:00 a.m. must check in with the staff and be accompanied by a parent/guardian when coming to or leaving the Teen Dorm.

The Teen Dorm is a busy place and the center of all Teen Program activities. Something is happening in the dorm 24 hours a day. Because of this, the dorm is divided into areas for sleeping and areas for activities. We keep strict quiet hours on the sleeping floors (midnight to 7:00 a.m.), and have a 24-hour courtesy policy on these floors (because we know that *someone* will be sleeping at pretty much all hours). In order to protect the safety of all teens, access to the Teen Dorm will be through the front door only. This door will be locked only between the hours of 1:00 am and 6:00 am, when teens must be in the dorm, on a pre-announced Teen Program activity, or with their parents/guardian (see the **Rules for Teens**).

## **Important Information for Parents and Guardians of Teens**

The extent to which your teen participates in our program is up to you and your teen. All teens and their parent/guardian must sign our behavior agreement as part of the registration process. See the section in the enrollment packet entitled "Rules for Teens." Read these rules carefully.

Guardians of teens must be at least 21 years of age and each guardian may only be responsible for 2 teens (other than their own). All teens must also provide proof of age with your registration (see below). Being a guardian is in all respects equivalent to being a parent. Your responsibility for the teen will be for the duration of

SUUSI. All parents, guardians, and teens are **required** to attend Sunday night's Teen Program Orientation at 9 p.m.

Parents/guardians are welcome to visit the Teen Dorm at any time. For the safety of the teens and staff, a Teen Staff member will ask you to identify yourself with your SUUSI name tag, and that adults will be allowed in the Teen Dorm only when escorted by a Teen Staff member. No exceptions will be made to this rule.

You will be given a schedule for the week in the confirmation packets mailed out in early July, and a copy of the Teen Schedule will be in your registration packet when you arrive at SUUSI. Any updates to that schedule will be posted each day in the Teen Dorm lobby. You will need to discuss your teen's schedule and make time each day to meet. Each teen and teen staff member will have a mailbag for messages and goodies. We really do want to hear from you!

Teen Staff have a wide range of backgrounds, life experiences, points of view, cultures, theologies and skills. We are there to create a safe space for you in which you can learn, explore, experiment, laugh, cry, sing, play, talk, share, and open up to each other. We are there to create an environment that is free of physical and emotional danger, and to empower you to have as much fun as possible.

Feel free to contact the Teen Program director, Michael Tino (see staff list on inside back cover) if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, or if

you're over 21 and would like to be a part of this wonderful staff group in future years.

### **Attention Teens and Parents This is VERY IMPORTANT**

The SUUSI Teen Program is for 14 to 17 year olds only, as of July 23, 2000. **All** teens who were not in the SUUSI Teen Program in 1997, 1998, or 1999 **must** provide a notarized copy of a birth certificate or driver's license as a proof of age with your registration. Don't forget! You will not be able to stay in the teen dorm or participate in the teen program without this! **No exceptions** will be made.



## **Young Adults**

SUUSI 2000 promises to be another exciting year for the Young Adult program, for those in the age range of 18-25.

We'll have activities for mind, body, and spirit. Our activities range from informative and enlightening workshops on topics like sexuality, politics, millennia ethics and becoming what you love, to fun-loving nature trips and athletic endeavors. Each day our chaplain and spiritual chef will prepare her RDA (recommended daily allowance) of spiritual nutrition that highlights the UU in SUUSI. We have a talented and enthusiastic staff again this year that will help Young Adults forge a close and supportive community to form within the larger SUUSI community.

This community will be centered in the Young Adult dorm, a living space that will have a central meeting area for worship, discussion, mailbags, and activities. This year the YA program will reflect SUUSI's transition to Blacksburg, as the Young Adult dorm shall transition into a newer, air-conditioned living space. Young adults wishing to room with people outside of the 18-25 age range (or wanting to stay in the non-air-conditioned dorms) will need to sign up for regular housing.

So, bring your good feelings, games, swimsuit, toys, instruments, and interest. If you have any questions please contact Jay Camp at [toomanyjays@hotmail.com](mailto:toomanyjays@hotmail.com) We can't wait to hear from you and see you at SUUSI!



## Youth Program

Get your travel clothes ready! Last year, we had a whole week of rites of passage for the thirteen year olds. And, as always, lots of things we do every year, which makes SUUSI so special. Can't wait to see you in July, 2000!!!

The program for SUUSI YUUTH is packed with fun and adventure. Our goal is to provide a safe and happy place for our children to explore and create, through outdoor activities, arts and crafts, team building, games and more.

Our staff consists of people who love working with children. Age group leaders are experienced in working with UUs in RE and camps. Many of their support staff were once in the SUUSI YUUTH program. Additional staff members include specialists in arts and crafts, sports, drama and movement, and counseling.

We are committed to providing quality programming for all children at SUUSI. That is why we require that all youth attending SUUSI be under the direct supervision of a legally responsible adult at all times. If youth are not with YUUTH staff during programming hours, they must be with their parents or guardians. Children who come to SUUSI with someone other than their parents must be sure to have a signed guardian form, included with their registration forms.

Look for more info in the Confirmation NUUS. If you have any questions about the YUUTH Program, or if you like to work with youth, have experience, and would like to share your experience with SUUSI Youth by being on the Youth Staff, please contact Kathee Williams, YUUTH Staff Coordinator, at (770) 592-1235 or via e-mail at [Kathee@folkways.com](mailto:Kathee@folkways.com)

### ***Programming Hours***

Age groups will be assigned by the age of the child as of July 23, 2000.

### ***Arrival***

8:45 am–9:00 am: All Youth will arrive at their classrooms. (Please note that this is a change from last year. Children who wish to attend the Daily Ingathering may do so with their parent/guardian, and come to Youth programming later.) We ask that a parent/guardian accompany each child to their rooms, to receive the daily news updating the events of the week, changes in schedules, etc.

### ***Morning Programming***

9:00 am–12:15 pm: Children will be in their age groups, and will have a variety of activities, including indoor and outdoor events.

### ***Lunch***

12:15 pm–1:45 pm

0-2 year olds: May either go to lunch with their parents or have lunch in the classroom. We recommend that the youngest children stay with the staff all day, but we encourage parents to visit often.

3-8 years olds: Must be picked up by their parents or guardians for lunch.

9-13 year olds: May sign themselves out for lunch, but only if we have prior written parental permission.

### ***Afternoon Programming***

1:45 pm–4:15 pm: The afternoons will be different from last year's programming. Children who are interested in full-week arts and crafts projects, musical performance, full-week drama projects, outdoor games, etc., will have an opportunity to do these activities with their tribes, larger groupings of ages. Parents or guardians must pick their children up at 4:15 pm.

### ***Evening Programming***

7:15 pm–9:15 pm: The evening programming is for **ages 9-13 only**. More full-week projects, movies, dancing and more. Check the YUUTH schedule at the registration desk for details on night programs.



## General Workshop and Nature Trip Information

Picture yourself exploring a new philosophy or a mountain trail, and examine the diverse selection of general workshops and nature trips offered this summer. Then sign up with your registration forms for all Nature trips and workshops you plan to attend.

Don't wait until July 23 to register for an activity. Workshops and Nature trips **may** be canceled if they do not attract a sufficient number of registrants, or changed for other logistical or meteorological reasons. Obviously, we don't want to cancel anything... but if only 3 people sign up, the leader gets sick and can't attend SUUSI, hailstones fall from the sky in July, or Elvis returns unexpectedly, then we have to make adjustments.

Sign up early for favorites to avoid disappointment—capacity is often limited. The earlier your registration is received, the greater the chance of getting your first choice(s). If a workshop you select is filled and you have an alternative choice, you will be placed in the alternate workshop if it is available. Check the description for your scheduled activities carefully. SUUSI can be as hectic or as relaxing as you want, but few of us have mastered the ability to be in two places at the same time.

You can change your schedule during registration on the first day of SUUSI, and get refunds for workshops/Nature trips that you drop then. After you finish registration, you may still add or change workshops and Nature trips (on a space-available basis) during scheduled hours in the Information Office and at the Nature "tent."

**NOTE:** After you register on Sunday, no refunds will be issued for Workshops or Nature trips unless SUUSI has to cancel the scheduled activity. Instead, you can apply workshop or Nature trip credit to another workshop or Nature trip, up until the time of the first meeting of the workshop/trip you wish to change. Once the workshop or Nature trip has started, no credits or refunds will be given. If you snooze through the departure time of the Nature trip, you lose... but relax, sometimes it's worth it for an extra 40 winks.

### ***Fees for Workshops and Nature Trips***

General Workshop and Nature fees are listed per individual unless otherwise indicated. We strive to keep your cost as low as possible, and to offer plenty of free experiences. Fees are used to cover costs of supplies and materials, pay for van rental, etc. A higher-than-average fee for a workshop reflects a higher cost of materials or other resources for that workshop. Workshop fees do not pay workshop leaders. Instead, leaders are volunteers who receive credit toward SUUSI registration, room, and meals in accordance with a formula developed by the SUUSI Board.