Celebrating Love in the Camphill California Orchard

On Saturday, September 24th, one of Camphill California's longtime staff members married her best friend right here in the community. Jen and Andrew painted the land with love as they walked through the orchard, making their way towards each other to recite their everlasting vows beneath the warm evening sun. Jen was brought to Camphill California when she started working with Charlie 6 years ago and has grown into a more central role over time. She now co-leads the weavery and contributes time in the afternoon to weavery workshop and helping with meal prep and cooking in the big houses. Camphill California is also happy to welcome Jen into the Orientation year of the Camphill Academy. It was an honor to support her on this special day uniting two individuals in ceremony.

The Camphill Community was invited to share in the bliss as the happy couple began their new journey together as husband and wife.

"It was a lovely wedding!" Said Sasha, "My favorite part was watching Jen and Andrew walk down the aisle. It was so moving and nice. And the food was delicious!"

Katie’s favorite part was "The romance and seeing Jen and Andrew kiss!"

Following the ceremony, a reception was held on the patio behind Paloma Hall. "It was cool getting to meet new people," Said Matthew, "I met someone from Walnut Creek and that's close to where I'm from!"
If the ceremony wasn't romantic enough, the bouquet and garter toss really excited the guests. Scotia was elated to catch the bouquet. "It was really neat to see Jen throwing it backwards, and I was so excited to catch it!" she said. "Are you getting married soon then, Scotia?" asked one of the coworkers. "I don't know, we'll see!" she slyly responded. Aaron was excited to be the one to catch the garter.

It was truly an evening filled with love, laughter and elation. Smiles covered the community as everyone enjoyed each other's company with old friends and making new ones.

"We feel so blessed to be able to get married in such a beautiful place and to share this special day with everyone in the community," Jen said, thanking the Camphill community.

Congratulations, Jen and Andrew! We hope you are having the best time as newlyweds on your honeymoon in Hawaii!

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**Anthroposophy and the Lyre**

Every period in time cultivates new forms of musical expression. While we may tend to imagine musical instruments as borrowed from centuries ago, the lyre was developed in 1926 during a time when individuals in the Anthroposophical movement thirsted for a form of expression that met their strivings for a renewal in art. Motivated by a conversation between Rudolf Steiner and the eurythmyist Tatiana Kisseleff, it was suggested that a new instrument was needed to accompany the fluidity cultivated in the new movement art, eurythmy. Edmund Pracht, a musician and sharp thinker, began to meditate on the piano and what parts of it were needed and what wasn't. He began stripping away the non-essentials and what was left was a harp-like, beautifully orchestrated instrument rooted in creative and spiritual expression. Elisabeth Gartner describes the lyre as a musical instrument evolved "from a foundation of earnest meditative work with Anthroposophy and a spiritually oriented image of man."

Fast forward nearly a century later and you will find the lyre right here in Camphill California. Katherine Lyles teaches a course for the 2nd year students of the Camphill Academy—a training in Social Therapy. It was a course for about 6 students that consisted of 3 sessions focused on the lyre. It was an introductory class focusing on the technique of how to hold, stroke and play a few simple pieces. Katherine says "the courses will continue again later in the year, and at that time I hope we can give a concert for the community. The sound of the lyre brings a peaceful quality to its surroundings. Students were encouraged to play in the houses; especially during the evening hours in the living rooms."

To learn more about Camphill California's Social Therapy program, visit our website [here](#) or go to the [Camphill Academy](#) page to find out more.

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**Frederica von Stade performing in concert with Donna Stoering**
Please join us for an afternoon of classical music at Camphill California with Frederica von Stade, Mezzo-Soprano, performing in concert with pianist Donna Stoering. The event will be held in Paloma Hall on October 30th starting at 2pm. There will be a reception to follow with an exclusive opportunity to meet the artists.

Seating is extremely limited so purchase your tickets today

If you have any questions about the event, please contact Camphill California at 831-476-7194.

Camphill California is thriving especially due to the continuous interest and support from you all, and it is greatly appreciated. Thank you so much, we couldn't do it without you!

Click the button below to check off an item from he wish list - if you wish!