

Lucy
Counselor in Training
(CIT) Coordinator

Hi Flat Rockers! My name is Lucy Price and I am so excited to be back again this summer as a counselor. I'm currently an Environmental Engineering student at Purdue University, but in my free time I love to watch sports, read, and get involved in the West Lafayette community. This will be my eleventh summer at Flat Rock and my second year as a counselor.

As a kid, Flat Rock gave me the opportunity to be myself without limits and allowed me to grow my confidence as a leader. I aspire to be as good of a role model for my campers as my counselors were to me. I love being able to allow my campers to think of Flat Rock as a safe place and a second home.

Last summer I was so happy to encourage different ages of campers in both the high ropes course and up the Alpine Tower. My favorite camp song would have to be "Boat in the Sea of Galilee," and I can't wait to be up on the chapel stage singing it again.





Landon
Leadership
Developmnet Program
(LIT) Coordinator

Hello, my name is Landon and I am from Avon, Indiana. I am currently a history major planning to go to law school at Indiana University. I was a camper for 4 or 5 years and this will be my 2nd year at camp. I enjoy playing sports and my favorite (in order) are football (soccer), volleyball, and basketball. I love watching sports, as well, and I am a fan of Arsenal, the Colts, the Pacers, and despite being enrolled at IU, I am a massive Purdue fan and a Boilermaker through and through. I also love hanging out with friends and playing video games.

What I love most about being a role model and camp counselor is the connections I get to make and that I get to challenge myself to be the best version of myself every day and give the campers a positive model to look up to. This is how I feel I can make a positive difference in the lives of my young campers.

As a returning staff and camper, I feel camp has helped me become a better person because camp emphasizes the value of love and being a nice person. It is the only place in the world where everyone is welcome and I try to replicate that environment everywhere I qo.

My favorite camp song is "Penguin Company", and my favorite camp memory is when me and all my lifelong best friends put our arms across each others shoulders and swayed back and forth during closing campfire. It was a moment that brought us all even closer together and is something I will always remember.





Amalee
Leadership
Developmnet Program
(LIT) Coordinator

Hello! My name is Amalee and I am from Newburgh, Indiana. I just concluded my freshman year at Indiana University, majoring in Genetics and Biotechnology and minoring in Studio Art and History. This will be my second year as a counselor at Flat Rock following almost 10 years as a camper.

I am incredibly excited to be in a position to help others have the same wonderful experience I had with camp! I fondly look back at my time as a camper and have many memories that have stuck with me. One such memory was when my counselor from Educador taught me how to say certain phrases in Spanish after we had played our little rendition of the World Cup. Or during the talent show where I got up to sing in front of the whole camp. It was these moments that broke me out of my shell and grew my self-confidence. Camp taught me how to become more outgoing and believe in myself.

Those experiences bolstered my leadership and communication skills, which I have taken into every facet of my life and educational experience. I love teaching kids and seeing their faces light up when they complete a challenge. I hope that as a counselor at Flat Rock, I can help

others break out of their shells and teach them about the wonders of the world around them. Some of my hobbies include art, singing, soccer, and weightlifting. A fun fact about me is that I am a friendship bracelet master and have a ridiculous number of patterns under my belt. I also

love science and have a huge fascination with algae and its use as a biofuel source. I can't wait to teach and learn from my campers this year and give them the best summer ever! See you at camp!





Ridley
Creative Arts
Coordinator

Hello my name is Ridley and I'm the Creative Arts Coordinator here at Flat Rock! I study art in Chicago, Illinois full time during the school year! I'm preparing to attend Columbia College Chicago in the fall, as a traditional animation major with a minor in illustration. Living in Chicago has helped me understand the amazing opportunity the art world has to offer. This is my second year at camp. I came into the job blind last year and found my place very quickly. As someone who's been doing art my entire life, I have extensive experience with many different mediums including, painting, fiber, and even printmaking.

My goal this summer is to help campers realize that art can be a tool of personal expression! I want to expose campers to different mediums as a way of approaching art. I believe that I can make a difference by being a positive role model and showing campers art is something to be celebrated.

Some interests of mine outside of art are nature, cartoons, insects, paleontology, and horror movies! I'm also a big reptile lover. As the arts coordinator, I take pride in sharing the beauty of art with campers. Camp has left a significant impact on my life and I cannot wait to meet you all this summer!





Mackenzie
Ranch Coordinator

Hey, y'all! My name is Mackenzie! I'm from the Eastside of Indianapolis. I've been working Outdoor Education here at Flat Rock, helping school groups experience Camp Magic! I plan to go back to grad school and study for a Master's in Bioarchaeology. This will be my second summer as Ranch Coordinator, and my seventh year overall at Flat Rock! I've been working with horses for over 12 years, so I'm eager to be a part of Ranch staff again this summer, helping campers connect with horses and with themselves in the process. I have a lot of exciting new plans for the ranch program this summer.

Over my time as a camper and on staff, Flat Rock helped me gain confidence in myself and strengthen my social skills. I'm excited to be the kind of role model who encourages campers to learn, try new things, and build confidence while still being sensitive to individual needs, interests, and hesitations. I especially love the moments when campers finally achieve their goals or tackle a challenge.

My favorite camp song has to be "The Beaver Song" or "Hands". My favorite camp memories from last year are riding horses down to the flagpole as Princess Pat and seeing the smiles

on ranchers' faces when they cantered confidently the first time! I love showing kids the beauty of all animals big, small, fluffy, scaly and everything in between.

My other hobbies and interests include archaeology, zoology, ceramics, and poetry! Recently, I've been working on learning the 6-string banjo. I also love dressing up, spending time with my dogs, teaching them tricks, and coming up with silly little songs about everything I do! I'm so excited to be back as your Ranch Coordinator.





**Starlette**Trail Ride Coordinator

Hey everyone, my name is Starlette. I'm from Australia, Victoria and am so excited to come over to work at Flat Rock River YMCA Camp working on the ranch and teaching horse riding. I am currently taking a gap year in Australia as I finished school last year and this year my aim is to travel, explore and live life's moments. I have a few of my own horses at home and work at a couple of different horse riding places around the area, giving children riding lessons and leading trail rides. As you can tell, I'm very familiar with horses and I'm looking forward to being able to teach and watch how excited they get as they improve as riders.

On my days off, I'm usually riding my horse or taking my dogs for a run. I absolutely love getting involved in any type of fitness and cannot wait to get the campers to join in and play different types of sport games. I also love hanging out with my friends.

I feel I can make a positive difference in the campers' lives by showing them life is so important to live in the moment, as we only live once. I think it's so important to have mentors in your life to teach you. Anyone is capable of anything. If they believe they can do it, 100% they can. I believe more kids need to experience this. I also love witnessing the joy kids can make out of achieving even the smallest goals. I feel so special when I'm able to share the moment of being able to see life from a kid's perspective. I want to inspire young campers to reach their full potential in life.

By being able to work with kids and horses almost every day of my life, it has taught me so many skills such as being patient, kindness, problem solving. I've found most kids I teach live in the moment. This makes it so fun to be around them as you know they are having the best time of their life riding horses and just having fun conversations together.

I'm so excited for summer camp and cannot wait to make the best memories with the campers and horses. Looking forward to meeting you all very very soon!



Sara

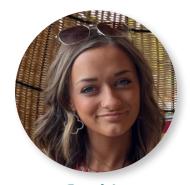
Hi there, Flat Rockers! My name is Sara, and I'm excited to be returning as a camp counselor for my second year. However, this will be my thirteenth summer at Flat Rock! I'm currently attending Purdue University, where I'm studying psychological sciences, but I'm originally from Franklin, Indiana. My experiences at Flat Rock have inspired me to help others be their best selves. I've seen how just one week of camp can make a difference in hundreds of campers' lives, and I want to continue making a positive impact, even after my time at Flat Rock comes to an end.

Flat Rock is a special place for me because it's where I had many firsts. It's where I first felt comfortable enough to sing in front of others, where I first rode a horse, and, most importantly, where I gained self-confidence. Seeing campers reach these same milestones is what motivates me to come back year after year. I'm looking forward to continuing to help campers reach their full potential this summer. With encouragement and guidance, every camper (and counselor) can become a better person each day at Flat Rock.

It's tough to pick a favorite camp song, but Sea of Galilee is definitely up there because it took me several years to learn all the words (and motions). As for my favorite camp moment, it's hard to beat riding horses through sprinklers on a hot summer day. It's the perfect way to cool off, and when you add horses to the mix, it's even better. When I'm not at camp, I enjoy listening to and making music, exploring the outdoors, and waltzing in the ballroom! Joining the Ballroom and Latin Dance Team at Purdue wouldn't have been possible without the confidence I gained from camp.

At Flat Rock, we encourage campers to step outside of their comfort zone and try new things. As a counselor, I am there to support them every step of the way. I'm committed to helping campers grow and develop their skills, in and out of the arena. I'm excited to guide this year's ranch campers and help them achieve their goals. Everyone has a place at the ranch, whether it's their first riding lesson or a peaceful trail ride.





Sophie

Hey everyone, I'm Sophia, proud to call La Grange, Kentucky my hometown! Currently diving into my sophomore year at the University of Kentucky, I'm immersing myself in animal sciences, with a focus on livestock production. As a first-generation agriculturalist, I'm passionate about shaping a brighter future for agriculture and dreaming of one day owning my own beef cattle production.

But there's more to me than just my academic pursuits. I'm thrilled to be joining the Flat Rock Camp team as a role model, mentor, and camp counselor. Working with kids is my absolute passion, and I can't wait to help them connect with nature and each other, while creating unforgettable childhood memories. Growing up as one of six siblings, I've learned the value of independence and the importance of guiding children on their journey of self-discovery. With empathy, patience, and a love for fostering laughter and community, I'm ready to make a positive impact on the lives of my campers.

When I'm not at camp, you'll find me indulging in my love for agriculture, animals, and the great outdoors. Whether I'm caring for my livestock or exploring the hiking trails of Kentucky, you can bet I'm happiest when I'm outside. And let's not forget about campfire memories and songs!

As an aspiring cowgirl, nothing beats cozying up under the stars to the tune of "My Rifle, My Pony, and Me." I can't wait to share these moments with my campers, creating memories that will last a lifetime. With my boundless enthusiasm and unwavering dedication, I am ready to be at Flat Rock Camp for an unforgettable summer of laughter, learning, and endless adventures.





Dakoda

Hello, my name is Dakoda. I am from Danville Indiana. I love to cook, run, travel, and play hockey. I am a senior at Danville Community High School and will be attending Vincennes University this fall. I will major in culinary arts and also compete in cross country and track. I have been a camper since 2017 and was in Service Corps last summer.

My experiences at camp have been a big part in who I am today. I have been taught how to lead and teach. Camp has connected me with some of my closest friends. At most places, school, my current job, etc. I'm known as the Flat Rock guy. I talk about camp to anyone that will listen. It has truly changed my life and my outlook on everything comes from camp. My favorite memories at camp are nature hikes with Tom. I have gotten to learn so much about camp on them and have made many laughs with my fellow campers. My favorite camp song has got to be funky chicken.

I have been looking forward to this summer since leaving last summer. I want to be a positive difference in campers lives or at the very least the week they are at camp. While a camper, my counselor made me feel like every part of me mattered. They helped me find new hobbies like mountain biking and backpacking, skills that I can use as a counselor this summer. I want to be that person for campers, I want to continue to spread the values and happiness of camp.





**Emma** 

Hi!! My name is Emma and this is my second summer being a counselor at Flat Rock! I'm from Indianapolis, Indiana, and I currently attend Ohio University as a Classical Studies student. My favorite part about being a camp counselor is helping to change kids' lives in such a fun way. I love seeing the impact my work does during a week at camp and helping kids get out of their comfort zone.

Camp has helped me in so many different ways, including becoming more outgoing, compassionate, and learning to love unplugging from social media. It's so amazing to me how much being a role model for kids can teach you so much about yourself, and it's an experience I really, really cherish. Making a positive difference for my campers is my number one priority as a counselor, and I plan to do that in absolutely any way that I can. I always get my kids involved in every single activity, which I've found to make a positive difference in every kid's experience. At the end of the day, they love to know that there's someone that cares enough to include them, and I strive to always be that person.

Camp songs are probably my favorite part of camp, so it's hard to choose one favorite. If I absolutely HAVE to choose though, I'd probably say the Princess Pat (basic I know). When I'm not at camp, I really enjoy being outside, reading, traveling, and hanging out with my friends!





**Sylvia** 

Hi guys! My name is Sylvia Martin and I am from Fishers, Indiana. I'm currently finishing up my freshman year at IU (GO HOOSIERS!). I am triple majoring in Psychology, Sociology, and Spanish and hope to one day become a Pediatric Therapist. This is my 9th year at camp and my 2nd year as a counselor. I can't wait to return to my home away from home!

My favorite part about being a counselor is meeting so many new people each year and making unforgettable memories. Each year I get the amazing opportunity to meet and work with people from around the world. As a kid, camp was a place where I felt free to be entirely myself and not worry about what others thought. My biggest goal as a counselor is to create this same environment for my campers. I want everyone to feel safe, included, and comfortable while having the most fun possible.

Camp has truly made me the person I am today and I don't know where I would be without it. Through camp, I have met lifelong friends and gained skills that will stick with me forever. The amazingness of camp is so hard to put into words but I think one of our alumni described it best as "the center of his universe" and I couldn't agree more. No matter how old or far away I get, camp will be a part of me forever.

My favorite camp song is Rise and Shine; it's my favorite way to start the day at Chapel. My favorite camp memory happened last year when it was super rainy. There were huge puddles everywhere but instead of letting the weather get us down, we decided to swim, stomp, and play in them. I even jokingly grabbed a lifeguard rescue tube and "guarded" one of the large puddles. My hobbies/interests include listening to music, playing guitar, reading, watching movies, and hanging out with friends. I can't wait for an amazing summer!





Grace

Hi! My name is Grace (or Gracie:) and I'm from Indianapolis. I just finished my first year at Indiana University studying Studio Art. I was a camper for 11 years and can't wait for more as a counselor! I owe so much of who I am to spending my summers at camp growing up. I still remember deciding that my dream job was "camp counselor" at the end of my first week at Flat Rock.

What I'm looking most forward to as a counselor and a leader is watching campers come out of their shells. I was a shy kid, and no matter how many years I came to camp, I was always a little reserved at the start of the week. But, of course, by the end of the week I was right at home! I can't wait to see those moments when a camper's personality really starts to shine through.

Some things about me that I believe will help me be a strong counselor and role model are positivity and creativity! I strive to spread positivity every day in any way I can. I've also been an artist my whole life and believe creativity and self-expression makes the world a better place. The positivity I see radiating at camp truly makes a difference in kids and inspires them to continue spreading positivity at home. I am beyond excited to be a part of this amazing place.

See you soon!





Margot



Hello new and returning Flat Rockers! My name is Margot, and I am a 3rd year counselor with over 11 years of camper experience. You may have seen me with a camera or my pictures last year, as I was one of the camp photographers! Throughout all my years at camp, my favorite memories are star-tipping with Wyandot last summer, performing an original Osage tribal dance with my first-year cabin, and creating a last-minute ukulele band with counselors to calm campers during a stormy weather shelter.

A little about me: I am a first-year professional student entering Purdue's professional PharmD program (i.e. an upcoming junior in the doctorate pharmacy program). I grew up in the cornfields of Shelbyville, Indiana (not far from camp!). Away from camp, you can usually find me nerding out about science, rollerskating, thrifting, or (most commonly) listening to Taylor Swift while cuddling with my cat, Mitski. I also love photography, playing guitar/piano, and yogurt parfait morning at camp.

Over the years, Flat Rock has truly been a transformative place for me; as someone who has always been shy and introverted, camp has helped me to break out of my shell, try thrilling new activities, and discover parts of identity that I may never have had the confidence or opportunity to explore. As a counselor, I've loved having the opportunity to create close bonds with campers, cheering them on as they grow and become more confident at camp, or (at the very least) teach them the age-old wisdom of bracelet making. I am so unbelievably excited to play just a small part in passing on such an impactful experience, and even more excited to see all the new and old friends joining us for their best summer ever!



Matt



Hello, campers! My name is Matthew and I am excited to be your counselor this upcoming summer. I hail from right here in the United States, Kokomo, IN to be exact, and I have lived there all my life. One thing you should know about me is that I'll play any sport that uses a ball, but my all-time favorite game to play is dodgeball. I also absolutely love being outside, doing things like kayaking, riding bikes, hiking, swimming and spending time with my family.

When I'm not at camp, I am a chef, cooking up pizzas at my local Pizza Hut. I never got to experience Flat Rock as a camper, but I am no novice when it comes to summer camp. During my teenage years, I was a camper at Camp Oasis, a summer camp for kids who have Crohn's Disease. There, I learned new life skills, made new friends, and spent plenty of time outdoors doing activities just like the ones we have here at Flat Rock! I also learned how to not let challenges in life slow me down, and accept myself for who I am.

When I was a camper, the counselors worked hard to make sure they were supportive, encouraging, and fun, and I am very excited to bring those same qualities to a new generation of campers! I had so much fun when I was a camper, and I am pumped to make your summer the best it can be! I am looking forward to getting to know all of you, both returning and new, and I am dedicated to making each individual feel safe, welcome, and included. I believe that I can make a positive difference in all of your lives by being the best counselor and role model you could ask for.

My personality is bold, boisterous, and caring, so I know that we will all get to know each other really well and have some wonderful adventures during your time here at Flat Rock. I can't wait to help you grow and learn new things while you are here at camp, and I know you will all help me learn and grow too!



**Jackie** 

Hi everyone! My name is Jackie and I'm from Indianapolis, Indiana. Though I currently attend Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee, I will be transferring to Loyola University or Depaul University in Chicago, Illinois in the fall for Criminology and Criminal Justice! This will be my second year as a counselor, and 11th year at camp. Some of my hobbies include writing and playing music, cooking, working out at the gym, and spending time with my family and friends. I also love animals, and will pet any creature that appears to be "friend-sized".

My favorite thing about being a counselor and role model at camp is showing the kids that it's awesome to be yourself and to let go of all those insecurities! Camp has helped me become who I am today by giving me skills such as problem-solving and quick thinking, which have been heavily applied in real-life situations and help me approach things with an open mind and open heart.

I feel as though I can make a positive difference in my camper's lives by helping them just let loose and have fun, while also letting go of any insecurities or worries they may have in the real world. My favorite camp memory has to be during the holiday-themed week when my cabin and I choreographed a very intricate and award-winning Hallow-een-themed dance. The crowd went wild! And in case any of you are wondering, my favorite camp song has to be "Throw It Out the Window." (If you don't know it yet, you will be an expert by the end of our week together.) I cannot wait to meet you all this summer!



**Brady** 



Hello everyone! My name is Brady, and I am from Avon, Indiana. I am currently attending Indiana University Bloomington, majoring in Recreational Therapy and Nursing. This will be my 3rd year as a counselor, having been a camper at Flat Rock for 7 years.

The thing I love most about being a camp counselor, role model, and mentor is helping campers achieve things that they thought were not possible and giving them confidence in themselves. I personally grew so much as a camper from my previous counselors, and ever since, I have wanted to give back that same experience to the future campers while I'm a counselor. Camp has personally helped me so much; it gave me confidence and more leadership. It also carried over to my life outside camp, making me more organized, patient, understanding nature more, less dependent, more independent, and better at time management. I feel like I can make a positive difference in my campers' lives by being a great role model, influence, and listener. My favorite camp song is "Sea of Galilee." One favorite camp memory is sleeping outside at starlight with my cabin and having s'mores, but there are too many favorites to pick just one.

My interests and hobbies include competitive cycling, bike packing, boating, hiking, camping, and traveling. My main one is cycling for Black Key Bulls and racing in the Little 500 at IU, as well as participating in road races/crits. I can't wait to see you and everyone this summer.



Ella



HIIII!!!!!! My name is Ella! This will be my first year as a counselor but also my tenth year at camp! I was adopted from Ethiopia but have lived in Indiana since I was a 7-month old! I hope to be attending either The University of San Francisco or IU Bloomington where I'll major in Environmental Studies/Science.

Coming to Flat Rock my first summer and throughout my entire life I was a nervous and shy young girl. My parents didn't know how I would do at camp so I was given the choice to leave halfway through the week if I wanted. After just a couple hours of camp I told my counselor I would be staying the rest of the week. Just half a day at camp and I was enthralled. As I stayed through the week my confidence grew. I was full of life unlike I had been before.

That's what I love about Flat Rock. Whether it's a couple of hours, a day, a week, or even the whole summer, camp lights campers up. Your confidence, smile, joy, and excitement all bubble up to the surface. I can't wait to share this experience with all of you! If you're ever looking for me I'll be at either the river or arts and crafts making pottery! I've been waiting since my first year to become a counselor at Flat Rock, so I certainly won't let myself or you down this summer!

I can't wait to meet you all!!! See you soon!



Cristian



Hi there! My name is Cristian from the vibrant city of Popayán, Colombia. Just graduated in Software Development and gearing up for Systems Engineering. But when I'm not geeking out over code, you'll find me tearing up the dance floor as a salsa pro or cooking up some beats as a music aficionado. Oh, and I'm a total TV show and series fan too! I have also won a lot of Salsa Competitions in my country. Last summer, I swapped city life for camp vibes and had a blast as a Camp Counselor in Pennsylvania. I had a wonderful experience working for people with special needs at that camp. While this is my first time at this camp, I can assure you that my passion for creating unforgettable experiences knows no bounds.

To all you awesome campers, brace yourselves for a week packed with giggles, adventures, and all-around good times! As your counselor, I'm on a mission to make every moment a total blast while sneaking in a bit of learning too. I'm all about bringing that extra dose of energy, warmth, and cultural flair to our camp crew. I love doing different activities and I can say that I have a lot of experience in outdoor adventures, such as, bike riding, pedal boats, climbing tower, zip line, among others.

As a role model, I'm most excited about the opportunity to inspire and empower each camper to reach their fullest potential. Whether it's leading by example, offering a helping hand, or just being there to share a laugh, count me in. Together, we'll make memories that'll last a lifetime and friendships that'll stand the test of time.

So let's kick off this adventure with open hearts and the biggest smiles you've ever seen. I can't wait to meet each and every one of you and dive into a week filled with laughter, friendship, and endless possibilities. Here's to the start of an epic journey together at camp!