

SHARED WORLDS

Information Packet

July 14 – July 27
2024



**SHARED
WORLDS**

Registration (Subject to Change)

Registration will be held from 1300 – 1600 (1:00 to 4:00pm) in the Olin Building lobby on July 14, which is located near Wightman Hall, the students' residence. Travel information and shuttle request forms are available on the Shared Worlds web site at: <https://www.sharedworldscamp.com/>.

Arrival Day Schedule: Sunday July 14, 2024 (Subject to Change)

1300 – 1600	Arrival and Registration – Olin Building Lobby, Wofford Campus (https://www.wofford.edu/about/links-resources/campus-map) Park in P1 or P2 on campus map RAs on halls
1600 – 1630	Welcome meeting/Staff introductions – Olin Building
1630 – 1730	Meeting with Instructional Groups – Olin Building
1730 – 1830	Dinner, Burwell Building
1830 – 2100	Meetings with RA groups – Residence Halls Games/Icebreakers/Campus Tour
2100 – 2200	Social time, entire program – lawn around the Pavilion
2200 – 2300	Students on halls/Preparation for Monday
2300	Lights out

Departure Day Schedule: Saturday, July 27, 2024 (Subject to Change)

0930 – 1015	Breakfast in Burwell for all students
1030	Closing Ceremonies: Leonard Auditorium, Main Building <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jeremy J, Jackie G, and Nike P discuss SW program• Comments from guests• Mini world presentations• Closing remarks from Jeremy
1200	All students have left/end of program.

Key Personnel

• Tim Schmitz	Director Emeritus of Summer Programs
• Joseph Spivey	Executive Director of Shared Worlds
• Jeremy Jones	Co-Director and Creator of Shared Worlds
• Jackie Gitlin	Guest Author Program Supervisor
• Nike Power	Guest Author Program Supervisor
• Heide Woodworth	Office Manager, Shared Worlds
• Bennett Lewis	Director of Residence Life, Shared Worlds

Housing

Students will be housed in Wightman Hall. The dorm is organized as suite housing, meaning that students will have individual rooms that are connected to common areas. Four students will share a bathroom. It is Shared Worlds policy that campers and Resident Assistants designated male at birth, and campers and Resident Assistants designated female at birth, will reside on different floors. There will be clearly defined boundaries for students designated male at birth and for students designated female at birth in Wightman Hall. Residence hall assignments will be made primarily according to sex designated at birth, age, and section assignment (there will be five sections of Shared Worlds this year, although there will be many common activities, and a common program schedule will be followed). In general, Shared Worlds discourages roommate requests. The program is small and self-contained, and we hope that students will make many new friends.

Student rooms are equipped with a twin bed, a desk, a chair, and storage for clothing and personal items. Bed linens (with the exception of pillows and blankets), towels and washcloths are provided for students who need them, though we ask that students who live near Wofford bring their own bed linens. The building is also equipped with laundry facilities, which will be free for the students to use. Shared Worlds will provide laundry detergent. There is a soda machine in the residence hall.

What to bring to Shared Worlds:

- Basic school supplies, such as paper, pens, etc. Additional supplies may be purchased from the Wofford Bookstore as necessary.
- Basic art supplies, such as colored pencils and markers.
- Some spending money (\$50-\$75). There will be outings to Hub City Books as well as the opportunity to visit the Wofford College Bookstore. Parents may also wish to arrange for their children to have a debit card to which money can be added as necessary.
- Casual summer clothing. There will be no "dressy" events at Shared Worlds, and South Carolina is hot in the summer, although the classrooms and residence halls are air-conditioned.
- At least one sweater or sweatshirt, in case a student feels cold in the air-conditioned rooms.
- At least one pair of long pants.
- A bathrobe, pajamas, and shower shoes.
- Some clothes hangers.
- An umbrella and/or a rain jacket.
- A bed pillow and blanket.
- A hat.
- A backpack or school bag.
- Sunglasses.
- Sunscreen.
- Copies of pharmacy and insurance cards (front and back).
- An alarm clock.
- At least one pair of closed-toe athletic shoes.
- Ordinary toiletries to last for the two weeks of the camp. There will not be an opportunity to go shopping for such items, although particular needs can be met by Shared Worlds staff in a pinch.
- Any medications that students customarily take on a regular basis. Those should be brought in their original containers. Those medications, with a very few notable exceptions, will be kept by Shared Worlds staff and distributed as instructed.

What you might wish to bring to Shared Worlds:

- A laptop computer or tablet. (Many Shared Worlds participants bring laptops or tablets. Use of such devices often makes the world-building and writing processes easier for students.) Note: Shared Worlds participants are responsible for the condition and security of their personal property. Shared Worlds assumes no responsibility for lost, stolen, or damaged laptops or tablets or for their misuse by their owners or other users.
- A cell phone. (See cell phone policy below.)
- Musical or sports equipment that participants might wish to use in their free time. (Students are responsible for the safe storage of their musical and sports equipment.)
- Some personal snacks.
- A reusable bottle for water (such as a Nalgene or Sigg bottle).
- Books for pleasure reading.

Prohibited Items (What not to bring to Shared Worlds):

- Weapons of any kind, including pocketknives and martial arts devices.
- Bicycles, skateboards, in-line skates, or roller skates.
- Any flame-producing device, including matches, lighters, and firecrackers.
- Pets of any kind.
- Water guns. Laser pointers.
- Age-inappropriate materials. (Shared Worlds is PG-13.)
- Water guns. Laser pointers.
- Halogen lamps, refrigerators, or cooking implements like hot plates.
- Automobiles/ motorcycles. Students of legal driving age should not drive themselves to the Shared Worlds program at Wofford College.

In addition to the items listed above, Shared Worlds staff reserves the right to confiscate for the duration of the program any items that, in our judgment, detract from the students' Shared Worlds experience or pose a risk to the safety and well being of members of the campus community.

Contact Information

- Office Manager: Heide Woodworth woodworthhm@wofford.edu
- Shared Worlds program sharedworlds@wofford.edu
- Shared Worlds voice mail box 864-597-4701
- Wofford College Campus Safety 864-597-4911
- We'll also have a phone number during camp where you can reach a Shared Worlds staff member; that phone number will be distributed shortly before camp commences.

Cell phone policy

Students are permitted to have cell phones at Shared Worlds. But cell phones should be used only in student rooms or other designated areas of campus, such as outdoors or in the dining hall. Cell phones must not be used in class or during activities, nor should they be used for playing games or for inappropriate reasons such as prank calling. Inappropriate use of cell phones may lead to their confiscation for the duration of the Shared Worlds program.

Shared Worlds assumes no responsibility for lost, stolen, or damaged cell phones or for their misuse by their owners or other users.

Mail and Care Packages

Mail for campers is picked up and distributed Monday through Friday. The campus post office is not open on weekends. Mail received over the weekend will be delivered on Monday. Mail should be addressed in the following manner:

Student Name

Shared Worlds Program / Attn. Heide Woodworth
Olin Building
Wofford College
429 North Church Street
Spartanburg, SC 29303-3663

Personal Belongings/Lost and Found

Students are responsible at all times for the safekeeping of their belongings. Wofford College and Shared Worlds encourage students to label all of their belongings, including clothing, with their first and last names. Wofford College cannot be responsible for theft or other losses of, or damages to, students' belongings — including computers, musical instruments, or athletic equipment. When considering whether to bring an expensive item, families may wish to investigate possible coverage under their homeowner's or renter's insurance policies.

Expectations for Student Conduct

We expect the student participants in Shared Worlds to meet a high standard of conduct, both in their personal deportment and in their dedication to the purpose of Shared Worlds. Upon their arrival to Shared Worlds, students will learn about our standards for behavior, which apply both inside and outside the classroom. Our standards include a commitment to academic and personal integrity, respect for all members of the community, regard for basic rules of physical safety, and cooperation with adult supervision at all times. Shared Worlds cannot accommodate students who are unwilling or unable to meet these expectations. Parents should help their children to understand that their participation in Shared Worlds depends on their adherence to our code of conduct.

Academic Expectations

While Shared Worlds participants do not attend class in a traditional sense, the program is, at its core, about learning and the cultivation of writing skills and imaginations. Those are intellectual goals that require the willing exercise of the mind. Shared Worlds therefore expects participants to strive to do the best academic work possible. When a student is not meeting expectations, Shared Worlds staff will work with him or her to succeed, including consulting with parents. A repeated pattern of poor performance on academic assignments or an unwillingness to participate fully in the Shared Worlds experience may lead to a negative evaluation and eventual early dismissal from the program.

Dismissal Policy

Shared Worlds rules will be discussed with students on the day of their arrival. Those rules will define campus boundaries and establish safety and conduct policies, etc.

Students may be dismissed from Shared Worlds for any of the following reasons:

- Unwillingness to participate in Shared Worlds activities.
- Being in a restricted area of campus or leaving campus unaccompanied by staff.
- Being on an opposite-sex floor.
- Leaving the residence hall after lights out.
- Theft or vandalism.
- Possessing or using alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.
- Bullying or hazing.
- Undermining the safety or well-being of self or others (including threats or bigoted language).

Shared Worlds reserves the right to dismiss a student from the program for disciplinary, medical, or other reasons. If a student is asked to leave Shared Worlds, parents must arrange for the student's transportation from Wofford College.

Shared Worlds Refund Policy

Shared Worlds is a small program. Numbers of employees, scholarships/discounts offered, and the overall program budget are closely tied to the number of students enrolled. Therefore, refunds in full will be made to those making such requests at least one month before the beginning of the Shared Worlds program. Refunds requested within one month of the beginning of Shared Worlds will be made at the discretion of Shared Worlds staff.

Tuition refunds will not be made to students dismissed for disciplinary reasons. If a student damages the property of Wofford College, the cost of repair or replacement will be borne by the student's parents. Shared Worlds will provide careful supervision, but participants are ultimately responsible for their own conduct.

Visitation Policy

Shared Worlds hopes that participants in the program make new friends and enjoy their time on Wofford's campus. We therefore discourage students from receiving visitors while the program is in session. Only a student's parent, guardian, or an authorized adult may visit the Shared Worlds program. Please note that homesickness can actually be intensified by frequent calls or visits from parents. If your child becomes homesick while at Shared Worlds, please contact Shared Worlds staff.

For reasons of security, Shared Worlds staff must be made aware of any campus visitors, including parents. We must also know of any plans to take students off campus. Please contact Shared Worlds in advance if you intend to visit a participant in the program. If parents intend to take a participant off campus, the participant must be signed out and the parents must provide identification. Shared Worlds will release participants to individuals other than parents or guardians only with written permission received in advance through the completion of an Authorization to Visit/Take Student off Campus form. Unaccompanied legal minors are not permitted to visit the program.

Divorce, Separation, and Custody Issues

Please inform Shared Worlds of shared living arrangements and any custody issues about which Shared Worlds staff should be made aware. If relevant, send copies of pertinent legal documentation to Heide Woodworth at woodworthhm@wofford.edu.

Health Care

Wofford College is served by the campus infirmary (864-597-4370). Summer hours will be posted in the dorms. If there is an urgent need for medical care on weekends or after hours, Shared Worlds participants will be taken to Spartanburg Regional Hospital or an urgent care facility, both of which are a short distance from Wofford College.

Families are responsible for the costs of prescription drugs and any health care beyond what is provided as first aid by Shared Worlds staff on Wofford's campus. In most cases, providers will bill the family for direct payment; claims for reimbursement should then be filed with the family's insurance company. In some cases, payment may be required at the time services are rendered. If you will be away from home during the time your child is at Shared Worlds, please ask a relative or friend to be responsible for arranging immediate payment should it be required. Shared Worlds does not provide medical insurance of any kind. If you are unable to insure your child while at camp, we require that a credit number be on file.

COVID-19

Shared Worlds strives for an outstanding residential camp experience where students can make meaningful connections with other students and grow as collaborators and as writers. This experience is possible only when we can all meet safely together. Shared Worlds is also committed to the health, safety, and well-being of its campers and staff members.

To ensure the health of the Shared Worlds community, we require that all staff members and campers be fully vaccinated (including booster shot, as appropriate) before the camp begins. A COVID test taken within 72 hours of arrival at Wofford is strongly encouraged. Masking is not required; masking is at the discretion of the camper.

As circumstances evolve and as new details emerge about the pandemic, we will review and update our COVID safeguards, so these guidelines are subject to change.

A scan or photo of the camper's COVID vaccination card is required in the forms; you will receive an email with a link to the forms later. Please reach out to Sharedworlds@wofford.edu to obtain information on seeking an exemption from the COVID vaccine requirement.

Medical Forms

Attendance at Shared Worlds is dependent on the completion of medical forms. You will receive an email with a link to all necessary forms later.

NOTE: The decision on the part of parents to permit their child to attend the Shared Worlds residential program indicates to Shared Worlds staff that the participant's parents have deemed their child to be in good health and able to attend the program without medical difficulty.

Medication Policies and Procedures

Students are not permitted to keep medications of any kind, including prescriptions, OTC medications, vitamins, growth-hormone serums, or herbal and dietary supplements in their possession. Exceptions are made for topical skin medications, asthma inhalers, Lactaid, and single doses of medications that might be needed urgently, such as insulin and EpiPens. Students who bring prescription or non-prescription medications to the site must turn them into the Shared Worlds staff at registration. The medications will be kept in a secure location. A Shared Worlds staff member will distribute medications at appropriate times throughout the day.

Prescription medications must be in their original pharmacy containers with the student's name and dosage instructions written in English and clearly legible. Some pharmacies will package the medication in individual blister packs for daily distribution. OTC medications must also be in their original containers and can only be given according to package directions in English. Make sure your child has enough medication for the entirety of Shared Worlds. Medications will be returned to students prior to departure. Shared Worlds staff will keep a stock of common OTC medications on hand for occasional use, such as ibuprofen, diphenhydramine (Benadryl), Cepacol or other throat lozenges, Imodium, Robitussin, Mucinex, Sudafed PE (not Sudafed – pseudoephedrine), Tums, Roloids, Alka Seltzer Chews, acetaminophen, Visine or any OTC eye drops, and a homeopathic ear ache formula, so students have no need to bring these items to the site.

Students with Disabilities

Parents are encouraged to communicate openly with Shared Worlds staff regarding the physical, learning, or medical disabilities of their children. Shared Worlds will strive to meet individual students' needs, but good communication is essential in the achievement of that goal.

If you deem it relevant or if Shared Worlds makes a request, please provide documentation that includes a diagnosis of the disability as well as a description of the specific functional limitations of your child as they pertain to the residential and classroom settings. Shared Worlds will honor the privacy rights of students with disabilities to the fullest extent possible.

Costs for personal attendants, personally prescribed devices, or services, which involve travel and other expenses, are the responsibility of the student's family.

All students on medication should continue to take their medication during the program as prescribed by their physicians. Although the program occurs during the summer and often students may not take the medications that they do during the school year, Shared Worlds requires as much if not more concentration, energy, and self-control as an ordinary school day does. Students who regularly take medications during the school year should consider Shared Worlds to be an academic environment, and they should, as a result, consider continuing their medication as a key part of getting the most from the Shared Worlds experience.