



2026

WELCOME PACKET

JULY 12 - JULY 24

Session Three

“ *The overall LYNX Camp experience was amazing, not only did I get to learn things that I previously wouldn't have a chance to know, I also got to meet a bunch of like minded people that I could potentially work with in the future.* ”

Welcome to the 2026 LYNX National Arts & Media Camp!

We are excited you have chosen to spend part of your summer with us. We have been busy planning lessons and fun activities for your exciting time at CU Denver. This packet contains important information for you to be prepared for your time at camp. Please remember to bring necessary items, read over important policies, and most of all, GET EXCITED! We'll see you the first day of camp!

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2026 Administrative Staff

Contact Information



Dave Walter (he/him)
LYNX Camp Director

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Sierra Gorkun (she/her)
LYNX Camp Coordinator

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Laura Harvey (she/her)
LYNX Camp Manager

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Bianca Lipton (she/her)
Graduate Student Coordinator
bianca.lipton@ucdenver.edu

Major:
Recording Arts &
Singer/Songwriter

Minor:
Environmental Science

Graduation:
Spring 2026

Session 3 - Instructors

Filmmaking



Cynthia Cazan Garin (she/her)
Academic Director

Filmmaking

cynthia.cazanasgarin@ucdenver.edu



Pablo Perez (he/him)
Intermediate Instructor

Filmmaking

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Jessie Marek (she/her)
Assistant Instructor

Filmmaking

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Session 3 - Instructors

Animation



Brett Rutland (he/him)
Senior Instructor

3D Animation/Stop Motion

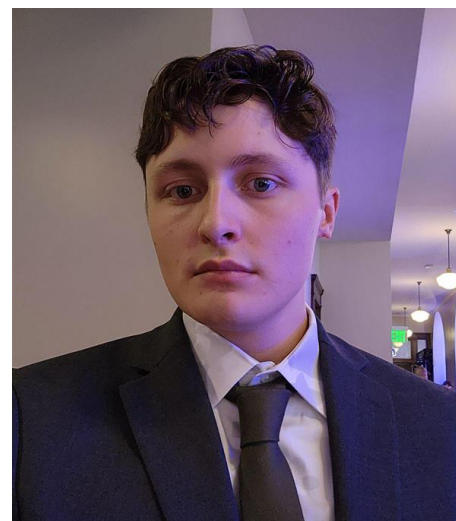
matthew.rutland@ucdenver.edu



Charles Valsechi (he/they)
Senior Instructor

Game Art & Design

charles.valsechi@ucdenver.edu



Andy Yankovich (he/him)
Assistant Instructor

2D Animation

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Ashley Hoffman (she/her)
Assistant Instructor

2D Animation

ashley.hoffman@ucdenver.edu

Contact Information

Visual Immersive Art



Shana Cruz-Thompson (she/her)
Academic Director

Visual Immersive Art

shanacruzthompson@gmail.com



Cal Duran (he/him)
Assistant Instructor

Visual Immersive Art

volarduran@yahoo.com

Supply List



Please be sure to be prepared for each day of camp. There will be limited access to stores to get supplies so make sure to bring what you will need for the week on the first day of camp.

All Students

- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Medications (if needed)
 - Included but not limited to prescribed medications and over the counter medications (examples: allergy medicine, Advil, Tylenol, eye drops, etc.)
- Copies (physical or digital) of Medical Insurance cards
- Umbrella/Jacket (depending on weather)
- Note taking materials (notebook, pencils, pens, folders)
- Snacks
- Walking Shoes
- Layers for clothing (weather can vary)

Optional

- Spending money for souvenirs
- Deck of cards, laptop, games, etc. for downtime in Residence Hall

Visual Immersive Art Campers ONLY

- 8.5x11 inch Sketchbook
- Writing/Sketching Materials
- Pencil Sharpener
- Scissors

Film Campers ONLY

- Headphones with a jack (no bluetooth headphones), ideally over the ear headphones

Supply List

Please be sure to be prepared for each day of camp. There will be limited access to stores to get supplies so make sure to bring what you will need for the week on the first day of camp.

Residential Students

- Personal toiletries
- Clothes*
 - Daily Clothes
 - Performances and presentations are informal. No need to bring formal wear.
 - Pajamas
 - Walking shoes for field trips
 - Walking clothes (layers recommended) for field trips
 - Warm clothes for mountain field trip - the weather varies during summer here!
- There will be basic towels, bedsheets, blankets, and pillows provided in City Heights. If you would like nicer or more substantial linens, we advise bringing your own. The beds are XL Twin size.

There will not be allotted time in the schedule for laundry. However, there is scheduled "free time" and campers will have the opportunity to do laundry during scheduled free time. Please bring 12 days worth of clothing. A camp t-shirt will be provided on the first day of camp.

Camp Will Provide

- Water bottle
- Lanyard for name tag
- Drawstring backpack
- Camp t-shirt
- **Residential Students ONLY**
 - There will be basic towels, bedsheets, blankets, and pillows provided in City Heights. If you would like nicer or more substantial linens, we advise bringing your own. The beds are XL Twin size.

Move-In Day for Residential Campers



We have scheduled a pre-camp orientation session on Friday, July 10 at 5pm Mountain Time via Zoom.
Here is the Zoom Link for this session: <https://ucdenver.zoom.us/j/97029872787>

Move-In Day (Sunday, July 12)

9:00 AM - 1:00PM

Airport Arrival For Out-Of-State Students

Denver International Airport (DIA)

LYNX Camp staff members will be at DIA to greet students and ride on the light rail with them to campus. In order to help the students find the staff, we will provide staff cell phone numbers a couple days before the start of camp and the staff will have the student's cell numbers as well.

1:00PM - 3:00PM

Residential Student Move-In

City Heights

Residential students must go to City Heights to check in and receive room assignments. All Residential Campers (local and out of state) must be moved in by 3:30pm

4:00PM - 5:00PM

Opening Camp Meeting (Campers Only)

City Heights

5:00PM - 6:00PM

Residential Students Eat Dinner

City Heights Dining Hall

6:00PM - 7:00PM

Ice Breakers & Team Builders

City Heights

7:00PM - 10:00PM

Unpack & Free Time

City Heights

10:00PM - 10:30PM

In-Room Time

City Heights

10:30PM

Lights Out

City Heights

First Day of Camp Schedule



We have scheduled a pre-camp orientation session on Friday, July 10 at 5pm Mountain Time via Zoom.
Here is the Zoom Link for this session: <https://ucdenver.zoom.us/j/97029872787>

First Day of Camp (Monday, July 13)

8:00AM - 9:00AM	Breakfast for Residential Students	City Heights Dining Hall
8:30AM	Commuter & Commuter Plus Students Check-In Teaching Assistants for each program will then walk campers to their program specific classrooms.	Arts Building
9:00AM - 12:00PM	Morning Class Time	Various Locations
12:00PM - 1:00PM	Lunch Lunch is provided for ALL campers	City Heights Dining Hall
1:00PM - 4:30PM	Afternoon Class Time	Various Locations
4:30PM	Commuter Students Depart	Various Locations
5:00PM - 6:30PM	Dinner & Team Time Commuter Plus and Residential Students Only	City Heights Dining Hall
6:30PM - 8:00PM	LYNX Camp Team Time	City Heights
8:00PM - 10:00PM	Free Time	City Heights
10:00PM - 10:30PM	In Room Time	City Heights
10:30PM	Lights Out	City Heights

Last Day of Camp Schedule



We have scheduled a pre-camp orientation session on Friday, July 10 at 5pm Mountain Time via Zoom.
Here is the Zoom Link for this session: <https://ucdenver.zoom.us/j/97029872787>

Last Day of Camp (Friday, July 24)

8:00AM - 9:00AM	Breakfast for Residential Students	City Heights Dining Hall
8:50AM	Commuter & Commuter Plus Students Arrive	Various Locations
9:00AM - 12:00PM	Morning Classes	Various Locations
12:00PM - 1:00PM	Lunch Lunch is provided for ALL campers	City Heights Dining Hall
1:00PM - 2:00PM	LYNX Camp Closing Activities	Arts Building
2:00PM - 4:00PM	Student Showcase	King Center Concert Hall
4:00PM	End of Student Showcase Most campers depart	King Center Concert Hall
4:00PM - 8:00PM	Student Who Fly Out Saturday Return To City Heights Dinner will be provided for these campers.	City Heights
8:00PM - 10:00PM	Free Time	City Heights
10:00PM - 10:30PM	In Room Time	City Heights
10:30PM	Lights Out	City Heights

Session Three Weekday Camp Events



Events and times are subject to change depending on weather and artist's schedule.

All Guest Artist Presentations will take place from **6:30pm-8:00pm** in the **Tivoli Theater** unless otherwise noted.

For more information about individual guest artists, please see the [Guest Artist page](#) on our website.

Parents are invited to attend any of the guest artist concerts and presentations. Commuter students are also able to attend if accompanied by a guardian/parent.

Monday, July 13	Tuesday, July 14	Wednesday, July 15	Thursday, July 16	Friday, July 17
Team Building and Free Time	Guest Artist: Adam Cayton-Holland (Filmmaker)	Guest Artist: Detour	Guest Artist: James Ward Byrkit (Filmmaker and Animator)	Guest Artist: Bruce Tetsuya (Filmmaker)

Monday, July 20	Tuesday, July 21	Wednesday, July 22	Thursday, July 23	Friday, July 24
Guest Artist: Cat Solen (Director, Producer, Animator)	Film Screening: The Prestige at the DCPA Sunset Cinema	Guest Artist: Elizabeth Ito (Animator)	Visual Immersive Art Exhibit Viewing & Presentation	Student Showcase 2-4pm King Center Concert Hall <i>Parents, family, & friends invited</i>

Session Three Weekend Camp Events



Events and times are subject to change depending on weather and artist's schedule.

All Guest Artist Presentations will take place from **6:30pm-8:00pm** in the **Tivoli Theater** unless otherwise noted.

For more information about individual guest artists, please see the [Guest Artist page](#) on our website.

Parents are invited to attend any of the guest artist concerts and presentations. Commuter students are also able to attend if accompanied by a guardian/parent.

Saturday, July 18	Sunday, July 19
Morning: Free Time & Fun Group Activities	Morning: Field Day
Afternoon: Meow Wolf	Afternoon: Downtown Denver Day (Optional)
Evening: Games & Free Time	6:30PM-7:15PM: College admissions/financial aid workshop (Optional)
	Evening: Movie & Game Night

Campus Map, Check-In Procedures, & Parking



Check In:

Residential Students will check in on **Sunday, July 12th** at the City Heights Residence Hall.

Address: 1191 Larimer St, Denver, CO 80204

Residential Drop-Off Time: 1pm-3pm

Commuter and Commuter Plus Students will check in on **Monday, July 13th**, at the ARTS Building, circled on map to the right.

Address: 1150 10th Street, Denver, CO 80204

Drop-Off Time: 8:30am-8:55am

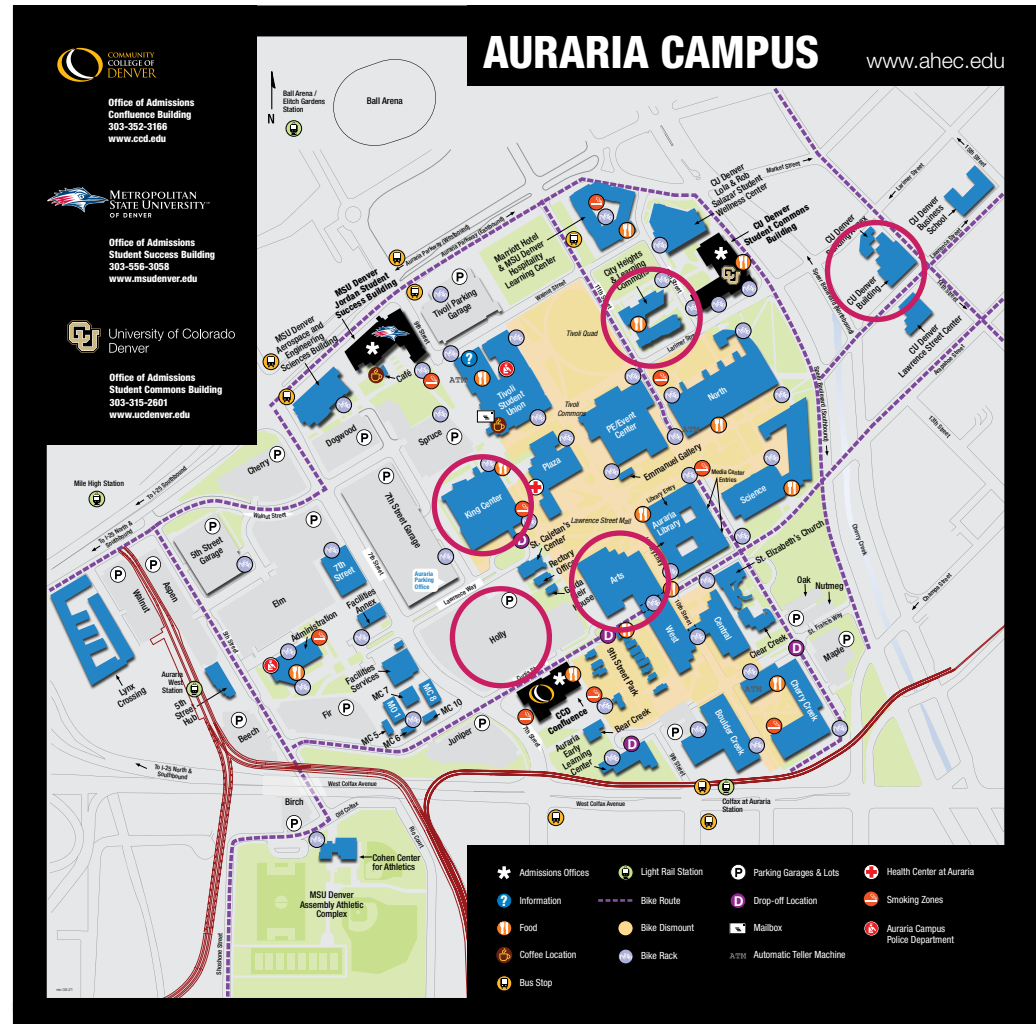
You will receive information materials and LYNX items upon check-in. Our LYNX Staff will be there to guide students and families.

Parking:

Please use the Holly Lot, located across the street to the King Center, near the Arts building. For free parking enter this code at a physical kiosk in the parking lot: **1102437**.

This code **MUST** be entered at a kiosk and **CANNOT** be used in the app.

The Holly Lot is free for LYNX Camp students and families when using this code.



Transportation - Residential *(Students Flying In)*



Out of State Students - Arrival:

While we aren't able to offer funding to help out-of-state students with travel expenses, we can help you to plan the logistics of your travel.

All campers must fly into Denver International Airport (DIA) on **Sunday, July 12th** between **9am-1pm**.

Our LYNX Staff will meet students at the airport and accompany them to campus in groups. They will take the Denver Lightrail to campus from the airport. The A-Line runs from DIA to downtown Denver with stops near the Auraria Campus. Individuals under age 19 can use RTD trains and buses for free, so no tickets are needed. Phone numbers of these staff will be sent to families the week before arrival.

The Opening Camp Meeting for Residential students will occur at 4pm. This is for campers only.

If you have not already provided us with your flight information, please let us know your flight info as soon as possible.

Out of State Students - Departure:

Camp ends on **Friday, July 24th** around **4:30pm**.

If you are booking a Friday, July 24th flight out of DIA, please have the departure time be 7:30pm or later. We want to ensure that each camper has ample time to participate in the showcase, say their goodbyes to friends, get to the airport, and get through airport security. Campers will be escorted to the A-Line Train to DIA for their flights back home the evening of Friday, July 24th.

If needed, campers can spend one additional night in the City Heights Residence Hall but must be ready to leave by 8am on Saturday, July 25th. You do not need to pay an additional fee to stay Friday night into Saturday morning. Campers will be escorted to the A-Line Train to DIA for their flights back home the morning of Saturday, July 25th.

If you have not already provided us with your flight information, please let us know your flight info as soon as possible.

If you are an out of state student who plans to be dropped off/picked up rather than flying - please email us to let us know!

Transportation - Residential Students



Residential Students - Arrival:

Residential students will be dropped off on **Sunday, July 12th** from **1pm-3pm** at the City Heights Residence Hall.

Address: **1191 Larimer St, Denver, CO 80204**

The Opening Camp Meeting for Residential students will occur at 4pm. This is for campers only.

Residential Students - Departure:

Camp ends on **Friday, July 24th** around **4:30pm**.

On the morning of the last day of camp (Friday, July 24th) all residential campers will fully move out of their rooms, and bring their packed up items to the Arts Building to be stored safely throughout the day.

The end of camp **Student Showcase** will occur on **Friday, July 24th** from **2:00pm-4:00pm** at an outdoor stage near the Arts Building. Families are welcome to attend this concert, and students can be picked up from here after grabbing their items from the Arts Building.

Carpooling

If you are interested in finding another family to carpool with, feel free to put your information on the Google Sheet below. We will not be connecting families, it is up to the families to connect with each other if they live in similar areas and want to carpool. We are just providing this as a resource.

[Carpooling Spreadsheet Link](#)

Transportation - Commuter & Commuter Plus



Camp will start for Commuter & Commuter Plus Students on July 13th. See [Page 14](#) for all Check-In Procedures.

Commuter Students

Students will need to be dropped off and picked up each day of camp, unless permission is provided by a parent/legal guardian to allow the student to transport themselves.

This permission can be given when filling out the [Required Forms](#) or on the first day of camp with a written note.

Students need to be in their classrooms by 9:00am each day and must be picked up or leave once they are finished at 4:00 pm each day.

Please see the [Parking Section](#) of this packet to learn about how to park during the academic days of camp.

Evening & Weekend Activities (Commuter Students):

If a commuter student wishes to participate in an evening activity, an adult must accompany them. Commuter students will not be able to participate in weekend activities. If a student wishes to change from Commuter to Commuter Plus to participate in weekend/ evening activities, please let us know as soon as possible.

Commuter Plus Students

Students will need to be dropped off and picked up each day of camp, unless permission is provided by a parent/legal guardian to allow the student to transport themselves.

This permission can be given when filling out the [Required Forms](#) or on the first day of camp with a written note.

Please see the [Parking Section](#) of this packet to learn about how to park during the academic days of camp.

Students need to be in their classrooms by 9:00am each day. Commuter Students will be provided dinner and join us for evening activities, they will be done with each day at 8:00pm.

Evening & Weekend Activities (Commuter Plus Students):

If a Commuter Plus student wishes to NOT participate in an evening activity, we will need the [Absent Notification Form](#) completed for when they will be missing.

Commuter Plus students are required to participate in weekend activities unless a parent excuses them with the [Absent Notification Form](#).

Carpooling

If you are interested in finding another family to carpool with, feel free to put your information on the Google Sheet below. We will not be connecting families, it is up to the families to connect with each other if they live in similar areas and want to carpool. We are just providing this as a resource.

[Carpooling Spreadsheet Link](#)

Conduct Agreement Form



The following requirements must be read and agreed upon by the camp participant and the participants' parent(s)/guardian(s). You should have e-signed these in your online registration form. This is just a copy for your records.

1. The LYNX National Arts and Media Camp has a zero-tolerance policy for use and/or possession of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, weapons, and other controlled substances and items. Possession and/or use of these substances and/or items will result in immediate expulsion from the program. Additionally, the police will be contacted if any illegal activity occurs. This includes underage alcohol use, marijuana use, and other illegal drug use.
2. Commuter participants are not required to attend any camp events outside of Monday-Friday academic instruction from 9:00 am – 4:30 pm. Commuter participants must be at class by 9:00 am each morning or notify the LYNX Camp administrator to let us know that you are running late. Commuter students are not allowed at the residential accommodations. Commuter students may attend evening and weekend camp events (such as guest speakers, concerts, or tours) if accompanied by a parent or guardian. For evening and weekend field trips, we will not have space for commuter students on our buses. With parent and LYNX Camp administration approval, commuter students are welcome to meet us at field trip sites.
3. Participants are not to leave the scheduled activities on their own. When in transit, participants and staff will travel as a group. This includes walking to meals, field trips, etc. Participants and parents/guardians should understand that CU Denver is an urban, university campus environment and not a K-12 environment.
4. Cell phones must be put away during classes, events, lectures, activities, and workshops unless they are being used under staff supervision as part of the assigned activity.
5. Participants will be held responsible if they cause any damage to CU Denver property.
6. The LYNX camp promotes equality and respect among all faculty, staff, and participants. We do not tolerate harassment or bullying of any kind. In the case of reported harassment or bullying, participants involved will be interviewed, which may result in parents being contacted and expulsion from the program if necessary. If a participant feels that they are being harassed or bullied, they should immediately report this to a LYNX Camp staff member.
7. Students are not permitted to use Lime, LYFT, or any form of e-scooter and/or e-bike share.

LYNX Camp Violation Policy



3 Strikes Policy for Minor Rule Violations

The following student behaviors will result in a written violation notice and a meeting with one of the LYNX Camp staff members to discuss the inappropriate behavior:

- Being late twice to a class or activity without contacting a LYNX Camp staff member.
- Using a cell phone in class (unless approved by the instructor).
- Being late for in-room time.
- Being out of your room between the hours of 10:00 pm and 7:00 am without permission from a staff member (residential participants only)
- Having lights on after lights-out time.
- Not wearing a lanyard and nametag during class periods, field trips, or other camp activities when LYNX Camp staff members have requested that students wear nametags or appropriate camp identification.
- Leaving a class, activity, or dining hall without permission from a staff member.
- Littering anywhere on campus or not cleaning up after oneself at the cafeteria.
- In general, not following the instruction of a LYNX Camp staff member. If a LYNX Camp staff member asks a student to follow a camp rule, the student is expected to do so without argument about the merit of the policy. The appropriate time to speak about the merits of our policies is before the camp starts or after the camp is over. If a student strongly disagrees with a policy during the camp, the student should contact their parent/guardian and have the parent/guardian contact LYNX Camp administration.

If the behavior happens again after the written violation warning, the student will receive another violation notice and the student's parent will be notified.

If the student commits another rule violation after the parents were notified, the student will be removed from the camp.

LYNX Camp Violation Policy Cont.



Immediate Expulsion from the LYNX Camp for Major Rule Violations

The following rule violations could result in immediate removal from the LYNX Camp:

- Any possession, distribution, or use of illegal substances. Illegal substances include alcohol and marijuana, as both are illegal in Colorado (and nationally) for anyone under the age of 21. The police will be contacted if illegal substances are used or found.
- Being in another student's room. Students are not to be in any other student's room without permission from a staff member.
- Skipping a class or activity without letting any staff member know where you are.
- Purposefully causing damage to any structure on campus, at the residence halls, or when on tours or field trips.
- Threatening harassment, or substantial bullying of a student, staff member, or anyone else associated with the LYNX Camp.
- Possession of any sort of weapons or making verbal threats involving weapons.
- Behavior that jeopardizes the physical safety of oneself or others. (This includes cutting, refusal to eat or drink, and other self-harm behaviors).

If one of these rules is violated a student will be removed immediately. The decision to remove the student from the camp will be made by the LYNX Camp Director.

Frequently Asked Questions



Do parents have to attend the closing concert or student showcase on the last day of the camp?

No, while it's great when family members are able to attend the closing day events, we understand that this may be difficult for some families. We plan to video and/or take pictures of the event to share with families.

What LYNX Camp items will students receive when they check in at the camp?

All students will receive a LYNX Camp t-shirt, water bottle, drawstring backpack, and lanyard, on the first day of the camp.

If I have a special diet and/or food allergies, will your camp be able to accommodate me?

We most likely will be able to accommodate students with special diets and/or food allergies. All meals will take place at the City Heights Residence Hall. Please contact us if you have special dietary issues that you would like us to be aware of for the camp.

Can friends and family attend LYNX Camp events?

Families are encouraged to attend the Student Showcase on the last day of camp. Students are welcome to leave with their family after these events.

Can I explore Auraria Campus and Downtown Denver on my own?

No, it is campus policy that minors participating in university programs are not to walk around campus on their own. We have plenty of planned events and outings that will allow you to see the campus and all that Denver has to offer.

Who will my roommate be?

We try to match roommates based on gender and year in school. There will be many opportunities to bond with other camp participants during your two weeks here as well.

Important Links



[LYNX Camp Website](#)

Find information about all camp programs at our website.

[LYNX Camp Payment Form](#)

Use this form to make all payments for camp.

[Student Absent Notification](#)

Please fill out this form if your student will be absent from camp at any point.

[LYNX Camp Instagram](#)

@lynxcamps

Great to follow for pictures and updates at camp!

[LYNX Camp Required Forms](#)

This form must be completed prior to camp for your student to attend!

[Optional Carpooling Form](#)

Find more information about this form on our Transportation page of this packet (page 10).

[LYNX Camp Facebook](#)

Another place to see photos from LYNX Camp.

Session Three - Student Administrative Staff



Dany Rose (she/her)
Office & Social Media Assistant

Major:
Singer/Songwriter

Graduation:
Spring 2028

Session Three - Teaching Assistants

Filmmaking



Savannah Londo (she/her)
Teaching Assistant

Major:
Film & Television Production

Graduation:
Spring 2026



Mason Dowdle (he/him)
Teaching Assistant

Major:
Film & Television Production

Graduation:
Spring 2028



Sam Makelky (she/her)
Teaching Assistant

Major:
Film & Television Production

Graduation:
Spring 2028

Session Three - Teaching Assistants

Filmmaking



Robert Page (he/him)
Teaching Assistant

Major:
Film & Television Production

Graduation:
??



Reyna Beckerman-Scholz (she/they)
Teaching Assistant

Major:
Film & Television Production

Graduation:
Spring 2028

Session Three - Teaching Assistants

Animation



Chase Douglas (he/him)
Teaching Assistant

Major:
3D Animation & Graphics

Graduation:
Spring 2028



Vivian Vien (she/her)
Teaching Assistant

Major:
Illustration

Minor:
Business Administration

Graduation:
Fall 2025



Dane Nguyen (she/her)
Teaching Assistant

Major:
3D Graphics & Animation

Graduation:
Spring 2026



Celia Lafferty (she/her)
Teaching Assistant

Major:
3D Graphics & Animation

Graduation:
Spring 2028

Session Three - Teaching Assistants

Visual Immersive Art



August Blackmer (she/they)
Teaching Assistant

Major:
Art Practices with a concentration
in Painting and Illustration

Graduation:
Spring 2027

Session Three - LYNX Leaders



Cole Ellis
(he/him)
LYNX Leader

Major:
3D Graphics & Animation

Graduation:
Spring 2026



Lake Hogan
(she/her)
LYNX Leader

Major:
Film & Television Production

Minor:
Photography

Graduation:
Fall 2029



Micaela Delarosa
(she/he/they)
LYNX Leader

Major:
3D Graphics & Animation

Graduation:
Spring 2028



Marissa Lee
(she/her/any)
LYNX Leader

Major:
Illustration

Graduation:
Spring 2028

Session Three - LYNX Leaders



Jessica Cazan Garin

(she/her)
LYNX Leader

Major:
Film & Television Production

Graduation:
Spring 2029



Isabella Andrus

(she/they)
LYNX Leader

Major:
Digital Design

Graduation:
Spring 2028



Maya Ray Taylor

(she/her)
LYNX Leader

Major:
Illustration
Creative Writing

Graduation:
Spring 2026



Lizzeth Moreno (she/her)
LYNX Leader

Major:
Music Business
Music Performance (Voice)

Graduation:
Spring 2027