## For Immediate Release

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## Families Award Gold and Silver Ratings to Camp Unalayee Voted "Best Sleep-Away Camp" by *Bay Area Parent Magazine* Readers

**Palo Alto, CA, September 6, 2011:** Camp Unalayee earned gold and silver awards in an online voting competition for "best camps" in the *Best of the Best* edition of *Bay Area Parent Magazine*. San Francisco-based families rated the camp as silver; peninsula families gave it gold.

Bay Area Parent is an online and print magazine that offers features about local issues, connections, resources and listings. It is part of a national network of local parenting publications that offer authoritative features with national scope and local relevance. The Best of the Best competition invited families to vote in a number of categories, from parks to day care to camps in categories such as theater, technology, and outdoor programs.

Camp Unlayaee is a backpacking camp located in the Trinity Alps Wilderness just north of Mt Shasta. Campers aged 10-17 participate in "base camp" programs similar to a traditional camp, with lakefront activities, archery, crafts and campfire, but they also head-out on backpacking trips into the surrounding wilderness. Sessions are either nine days or two weeks. The camp also offers additional sessions for families, welcoming everyone from babies to grandparents.

"We are honored to be ranked among the best camp programs in the Bay Area and honored to be selected by the families themselves," says Jennifer Susskind, president of Camp Unalayee's board of directors.

In addition to providing a wilderness experience, the camp weaves community building skills throughout its program, focusing on four "C's:" compassion, contribution, commitment, and character.

"My daughter came home from Camp Unalayee with a better attitude and a new love of nature," says Oliver Bock, of Mountain View. "I love how campers learn to love the earth by living on the dirt. By the end of camp, all the campers have a personal relationship with the earth. Lucy has learned great life skills at Unalayee, loves the counselors and her fellow campers, and can't wait to be back next year!"

For more information about the Best of Best edition of bay Area Parent's Magazine: <a href="http://www.flashedition.com/publication/?m=2672&l=1">http://www.flashedition.com/publication/?m=2672&l=1</a>

## **About Camp Unalayee**

Camp Unalayee was founded in 1949 in the coastal mountain range above Santa Cruz, California. Unalayee was originally started by the American Friends, and while it has been an independent organization since 1956, the camp still holds peace, community and nature as high ideals. In 1960 the camp moved to its current location in the Trinity Alps of Northern California. In 1968 the lands around our property in the Shasta-Trinity forest were designated an official primitive area. In 1985, when the Trinity Alps Wilderness area was officially created our land holding was "grand-fathered" and allowed to remain private.

Our mission is to bring together children from all walks of life to learn the lessons of respect for nature and community, as well as sharing the joys of camping and backpacking.

After operating for over 50 years we still maintain close connections to our root values of diversity, community and simplicity. We practice "Leave No Trace" wilderness ethics. Camp Unalayee operates as an independent private camp under as a non-profit 501(c)3 corporation. **The camp is accredited by the American Camping Association.** To find more information on Camp Unalayee, visit: <a href="https://www.gocampu.org">www.gocampu.org</a>.