

JOSIAHKIDS



THE SCHOOL OF YOUNG LEADERS

2023-2024 School Year

Parent Handbook

Last Revised / July 19, 2023





JosiahKids Incorporated

Mailing Address

1689 Centerville Drive,
Buford Georgia 30518

Phone: 770.282.3775

Email: contactus@josiahkids.com

Website: josiahkids.com

Mission

JosiahKids Incorporated is a faith-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to educate, empower, and equip young students and TEENS in the local community in the areas of faith, leadership, community service, and the arts.



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Welcome to JosiahKids!

The following information is intended to inform and guide you as we work together to provide the very best developmental opportunities for your child. This parent information booklet provides you with important information regarding our program.

History

One night Marlene Maina had a dream and woke up with the desire to invest in their daughters' personal development and the Word of God. The thought to teach her two children, gradually grew into teaching kids all over the world. On September 15, 2018, JosiahKids officially opened its doors to what was at first, a simple neighborhood discipleship classroom. From eleven students, to 18, to now more than 40, JosiahKids has continued to grow in the mission of educating, empowering, and equipping young students and teens in the areas of faith, leadership, community service and the performing arts. But what was the driving force behind this passion in Marlene's heart? It was Marlene's personal story.

"As my mother's casket was being lowered into the ground, I watched in slow motion as my father threw his hands up in a rage and stormed off—for good. My broken heart could not be comforted. My eyes stayed on my younger sisters only 11, 12 and 15, weeping uncontrollably, their weak knees giving way. Nothing could describe the dread that gripped me as we slowly walked away from that grave into what felt like a black hole of a future. We were homeless, trapped in hopelessness, and successfully silenced by the shame of losing—everything. Two things I simultaneously longed for: death or a place—a place where seeds of hope could stand the chance to germinate out of the darkness of my young broken heart." Marlene Maina, Founder JosiahKids

Newton and Marlene Maina founded JosiahKids because they deeply believe that every child deserves to cross the finish line of childhood, loved, supported, and empowered to make a meaningful life for themselves, as well as a meaningful difference within their spheres of influence.

Physical Meeting Locations: JosiahKids uses

- 1) *Saturday Sessions: Futures Church* located at (2838 Duluth Highway, Duluth, Georgia 30096)
- 2) *Tuesday & Friday Sessions: George Pierce Community Center (55 Buford Hwy, Suwanee, GA 30024)*

IMPORTANT NOTE: These locations do not receive physically mailed correspondence on behalf of JosiahKids. Please send all communication through our official email address, at (contactus@josiahkids.com), or use our official mailing address: JosiahKids Incorporated: 1689 Centerville Drive, Buford Georgia 30518.

Licensing and Liability Insurance: JosiahKids Incorporated is not a childcare facility. Our program is not required to be licensed by the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning. The program is exempt from state licensure requirements. We are a young 501(c)(3) that does not yet carry liability insurance. Acknowledgment of this information is included in our enrollment application for admission.

The Vision

“To raise a community of virtuous, service-minded leaders, committed to reinvesting their acquired success into their communities and spheres of influence.”

When we started JosiahKids, we thought of three main things. One, what critical convictions, values, skills, virtues, and knowledge should a child be getting in their formative years that they would not otherwise get unless taught intentionally? Two, how could we help families invest those critical values without the burden of exuberant costs or the strain on the bandwidth that has kept families running from one activity to the next across town? Three, how could we leverage our network of quality value-driven leaders to successfully build a central place for our community of students to grow, elevate creativity, develop a healthy self-image, be inspired to dream, serve others, and be fully equipped for the type of world they will soon be walking into?

The answers to those key questions are the foundation for the model we used to build JosiahKids. This was the gap we felt God was calling us to fill. We hope you will allow us the honor to build, empower and inspire your little ones into the fearless God-fearing leaders our world so desperately needs.

Newton & Marlene
Founders, JosiahKids

Statement of Faith

We believe in one God, the Father -YAHWEH- the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, (Light of the World, Bread of Life, The Door, The Good Shepherd, The Way-The Truth-and-The Life, The Resurrection and The Life, The Vine) begotten, not made, one in Being with the Father. Through HIM all things were made.

For us men and our salvation, Jesus came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit, He was born of the virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered, died, and was buried. On the third day, He rose again in fulfillment of the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father and serves as High Priest for His blood-bought church. He (Jesus) will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in The Holy Spirit. He is the third Person of the Trinity, co-equal with God, actively working in the world and the lives of God's people. We believe that the Holy Spirit who proceeds from the Father and the Son still quickens the dead and brings men back to life. We believe that the sacred writings of the Scriptures have been supernaturally preserved by God and can be trusted to be the final authority for every believer in Christ. We believe that ONLY God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit should be worshiped and glorified.

We believe that what the Living God has spoken through the Prophets is immutable, unchangeable, and decisively true. We believe in the second coming of our LORD Jesus Christ. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We believe that God is to be honored and revered as holy and that men should handle the Word of God in like manner.

We believe that Christ did not come to condemn the world but to save it.

We believe in eternal life for those who believe and put their faith and hope in Jesus with the promise of heaven.

Parents and guardians should be advised that our program is 100% aligned with the values, convictions, beliefs, and teachings of the Bible. Notwithstanding, parents of students from all walks of life are all welcome at JosiahKids.

Directory

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Main Number JosiahKids | 770-282-3775 contactus@josiahkids.com |
| Maina, Marlene Executive Director | 770-282-3775 marlenemaina@josiahkids.com |
| Maina, Newton CFO & Co-Founder | 770-282-3862 newtonmaina@josiahkids.com |
| Stackhouse, Sharae Program Director | 770-282-3697 sharae@josiahkids.com |

Volunteers & Staff

All JosiahKids volunteers, teachers, coaches, and staff members have undergone a criminal background check to ensure the safety of the families of our young students and teens. Volunteers are defined as individuals 18-years or older, vetted, and appropriately background approved to voluntarily serve in one or more areas within the organization. Adult volunteers are not certified counselors. A volunteer's role is therefore limited to compassionate listening and appropriately communicating concerns to the child's legal guardians, parents, or the proper authorities where necessary. Each staff member, and volunteer who works at JosiahKids is required to read, sign, and agree to comply with a (legal/ethical) code of conduct that pledges to protect the minors our organization was founded to serve.

General Program Description

JosiahKids Year 6: 2023/2024

This fall, JosiahKids will offer three components to our year-6 program. Contrary to the past, our students will now be able to sign up for one or all components offered this school year. We will focus on the following areas this year:

- Youth Discipleship
- Performing Arts
- Leadership through Service

For the first time ever, our (*discipleship* and *performing arts*) programs will be offered off-site, on a weekly basis, with registration open to the community. Our leadership component will move from two sessions a month to one session a month, strongly pivoting into more hands-on service projects in the community. Three of our monthly sessions will be dedicated to mentorship and coaching of our Middle & High School students in areas critical to their transition from adolescence into young adulthood.

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THE SCHOOL OF YOUNG LEADERS



Youth Discipleship

YOUTH DISCIPLESHIP: Our discipleship program will be offered off-site, at the on a weekly basis, with registration open to the community. This youth discipleship course is tailored to committed Middle School & High School students who are looking to go deeper in the Word. The course will be broken into two (2) twelve-week semesters.

Location: The George Pierce Park Community Recreation Center

Room: Prime Timers Pointe Meeting Room

Address: 55 Buford Hwy, Suwanee, Georgia 30024

Days: Tuesday Evenings

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

- Semester I - The Gospel of Luke
- Semester II - The Book of Acts

The cost of the two courses is \$120.00

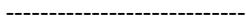


Performing Arts

PERFORMING ARTS: JosiahKids, the school of young leaders, together with New Jersey's renown Kimberly Cullen of Jeremiah's house, will for the very first time offer a faith-based creative expression collaborative for boys and girls ages 7yrs old and up. This performing arts program is designed to culminate in multiple performances at the Buford Harvest and end of year ceremony, on April 20th, 2024 to include spoken word, acting, dance, music, and more.

Location: The George Pierce Park Community Recreation Center
Room: Community Room (A)
Address: 55 Buford Hwy, Suwanee, Georgia 30024
Days: Friday Evenings
Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

The cost for the 27 week Performing Arts component is \$250.00



Leadership through Service

LEADERSHIP THROUGH SERVICE: Our Leadership component is now moving from two sessions a month to ONE session a month—strongly pivoting into more hands-on service projects directed to meeting the needs of the poor and disadvantaged in our community. Three of our monthly sessions will be dedicated to mentorship and coaching of our Middle & High School students in areas critical to their transition from adolescence into young adulthood.

- 9/23/2023 OPENING DAY - (Elementary, Middle, and High)
- 10/21/2023 Mentorship & Coaching (Middle & High) / Chefs Academy (Elementary)
- 11/18/2023 Community Service Project - Rainbow Village | (Elementary, Middle, High)
- 12/16/2023 Mentorship & Coaching (Middle & High) / Chefs Academy (Elementary)
- 1/20/2024 Community Service Project - St. Vincent de Paul | (Elementary, Middle, High)
- 2/17/2024 Mentorship & Coaching (Middle & High) / Chefs Academy (Elementary)
- 3/16/2024 Community Service Project - Duluth Co-Op | (Elementary, Middle, High)
- 4/20/2024 The Buford Harvest - (Community & All Students)

All Mentorship & Coaching Sessions

Who: Middle & High School Students ONLY
 Location: Futures Church (a.k.a. Influencers Church)
 Room: Chapel
 Address: 2838 Duluth Hwy, Duluth, Georgia 30096
 Dates: Oct 21, Dec 16, and Feb 17
 Time: 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

A partnership with the Cumming Young Chefs Academy—a premier cooking school for children, is in place for our elementary school students on the dates of our middle and high school mentoring sessions. The field trip will offer culinary workshops at the Young Chefs Academy in Cumming. A minimum of 2 recipes will be prepared per session by the students, and the duration of each workshop will be 90 minutes. The timeframe of these sessions has been designed to accommodate commute times for parents with students at both locations.

All Culinary Classes

Who: Elementary School Students ONLY
 Location: The Young Chefs Academy
 Address: 1595 Peachtree Pkwy #122, Cumming, GA 30041
 Days: Oct 21, Dec 16, and Feb 17
 Class Duration: 90min
 Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

IMPORTANT NOTE: There is an additional \$25 fee (per culinary workshop) for each of our elementary school students.
The cost of the Leadership through Service program is \$130.00

23/24 Class Schedule

| | | |
|---|----------------------|----------------|
| ARRIVAL TIME FOR STUDENTS | | |
| Saturday Sessions = 9:50 AM | | |
| Facilitated by Appointed Student Officers | | |
| 2min | Welcome | 10AM – 10:30AM |
| 2min | Opening Prayer | |
| 3min | Announcements | |
| 3min | Affirmations | |
| 5min | Student Led Devotion | |
| 15min | Ice Breaker | |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 10:30AM – 1:00PM | |
| Middle School & High School Students | MENTORING & COACHING SESSIONS |
| (50min) | Panel Discussions Coaches / Mentors |
| (15min) | Break & Snack |
| (40min) | Small Group Discussions Students & Mentors |
| (30min) | Q & A |
| (15min) | Closing Prayer & Room Reset |



| | | |
|---|----------------|-----------------|
| ARRIVAL TIME FOR STUDENTS | | |
| Tuesday Classes = 5:50 PM | | |
| Friday Classes = 5:50 PM | | |
| Facilitated by Appointed Student Officers | | |
| | | 6:00PM – 6:20PM |
| 2min | Opening Prayer | |
| 3min | Affirmations | |
| 15min | Ice Breaker | |

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|--------------------------|--|
| 6:20 PM – 8:00 PM | |
| | DISCIPLESHIP & PERFORMING ARTS CLASSES |
| (35min) | Instruction Time |
| (15min) | Break & Snack (15min) |
| (35min) | Instruction Time |
| (15min) | Closing Prayer & Room Reset |

Parking, Arrival - Departure and Sign In/Out Procedures

Parents are strongly encouraged to observe the speed limits and directional signs in place. We believe that all mentoring is already in session for our students by the courtesy and honor parents afford each other in the parking lot and on the premises we use for our program. During drop-off, we ask that parents kindly park their cars, walk their children into the main sanctuary, and sign them in with us BEFORE taking off. The same procedures will apply when picking up students. Parents should plan on formally checking out their children, no later than 1:00 p.m. from the Chapel.

IMPORTANT: A sign-in and sign-out sheet maintained by the program director must be signed when the child is dropped off and/or picked up. This is a state requirement. All attendance records will be preserved for a minimum of two years.

Dietary Restrictions

All dietary restrictions and allergies must be clearly communicated on each student's application (and any new concerns should be relayed to us in writing) by sending an email to the Program Director's attention to: contactus@josiahkids.com

Parent Participation

We understand that unforeseeable conflicts arise, yet to minimize double scheduling and overlapping important sessions, parents are encouraged to carefully review our master calendar and plug those dates into their schedules. To respect the valuable time of our volunteers and donors, parents are encouraged to honor arrival and pick-up times, as well as the program as a whole.

Selection Process

JosiahKids is committed to reserving at least thirty percent of our admissions for families that are underserved, underrepresented, or living below the poverty line. Young students and teens from economically disadvantaged circumstances, and those facing other daunting and complex challenges such as language barriers, separation by immigration policies, and poverty are welcome at JosiahKids. Also, students being raised by single-parent families, families underrepresented in higher education, and professional careers, with few examples of academic persistence, have a special place in our hearts at JosiahKids.

To ensure the opportunities continue to go to families and students who are likely to make the most of the investment in our program, JosiahKids takes the selection process seriously. These opportunities will be made available to students AND parents who demonstrate passion, commitment to growth, learning readiness, and an appreciation of the value our program offers. Accepting a student or family that is not committed means preventing a more suitable young person from getting a life-changing opportunity.

Electronic Devices

JosiahKids has adopted a technology-free policy for the hours our students are in session. Technology not permitted while in session (unless otherwise specified) includes cell phones, tablets, and smartwatches. This

policy will allow our students to focus while instructors, teachers, and guest speakers are teaching. This ensures that students are fully engaged in all educational workshops and getting all they can with the benefit of being fully present to build meaningful relationships with other students. This policy will also ensure that students do not distract or share inappropriate content with other students in our program. Parents who strongly prefer to have their children's devices in-house for emergency purposes will be advised to check in all devices with the Program Director when the child is signed in.

Cost of Tuition (Year 6)

The cost of our youth discipleship course this school year is \$120.00

The cost of our performing arts program is \$250

The cost of our leadership through service program is \$130

Tuition and fees made to JosiahKids are applied toward the organization's operating budget. It is important for each family to pay their tuition. These fees are deeply subsidized, but they help the organization with purchasing books, awards, certificates, food, website fees, printing t-shirts, and other rental fees.

- Tuition should only be paid **after** a student has received acceptance into the program.
- No student will be confirmed as enrolled in the program unless tuition is first paid.

Refunds

Under this policy, students who officially withdraw from JosiahKids by canceling his or her registration in writing through the Program Director's Office before the first day of class as designated in the official JosiahKids' Master Calendar, are entitled to a full refund of the amount owed for the school year (excluding a \$50.00 non-refundable fee). A student who officially withdraws from JosiahKids through the Program Director's Office after the first day of class is entitled to a refund of 50% of the tuition paid for the school year, whether or not he or she has attended any class(es), excluding the \$50 non-refundable fee. After the end of the fourth week of the school year, no tuition or registration fees will be refunded, whether or not the student has attended any class(es).

Scholarships

Though the cost of tuition is very minimal, we do realize that not every family can come up with the funding needed to apply for the program. Parents are welcome to inquire about the availability of a scholarship when submitting an application for their students. Once the application is reviewed, parents will be notified of the availability of a scholarship. A ten-month payment plan is also available to assist in making the tuition payments manageable for all families who need it.

Donations

Donations are always welcome. These help us advance the overall mission as well as support the families that are not able to finance their child's tuition. Our donations are equally the lifeline of our mission. Each gift given to the organization helps us with purchasing books, Bibles, awards, certificates, website fees, printing t-shirts, snacks, food, and other rental fees. Anyone can make a donation on our website (josiahkids.com) no matter the size of the gift. All donations made to JosiahKids are tax deductible.

Video and Photograph Release

Because of the nature of our mission, JosiahKids does ask for a photograph and video release consent on our enrollment applications. An authorization form granting permission/consent to (JosiahKids Incorporated) to take, record and publish the photographs and videos taken of the undersigned minor child for the use of JosiahKids' teaching, discipleship websites, and any other training or stewardship purpose will be among the forms parents will be asked to sign at the beginning of each school year.

Awards and Recognition

JosiahKids has been making a difference in the lives of young students through a wide range of enrichment programs since September of 2018. Each fall, JosiahKids students will have the opportunity to be part of our Annual Youth Leadership Awards Ceremony (The Buford Harvest). This event helps us recognize the amazing achievements of hardworking stand-out students in various categories including, innovation, servant leadership, community service, athletics, and courage from around the world. Parents, teachers, and school officials are encouraged to nominate students for the category that best fits the nominated student's achievements. All honorees must be nominated by an adult 21 years or older. Students do not have to be a part of JosiahKids to be nominated or to attend.

Attendance

The Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (Bright from The Start) requires that JosiahKids maintain attendance records of all children and all parental acknowledgment forms on-site while a child is enrolled **AND for one year after a child is no longer enrolled**. Parents are therefore required to notify JosiahKids (no later than 9:00 am on the morning of the session) of their child's absence. All absences must be sent in writing to the Program Director's attention: contactus@josiahkids.com.

Withdrawing A Child

Notice of plans to withdraw a child from the program should be requested as early as possible and in writing. A child may be dis-enrolled from the program if, in the judgment of the teachers and administrative staff, the child is at risk, or places others at risk of harm due to physical or behavioral conditions that are beyond the control of the program. JosiahKids will communicate openly with parents to ensure a collaborative, Christ-honoring approach is used to support the child before any action is taken to withdraw the child from our programs. JosiahKids will provide parents with written notice if such an action should need to occur. Parents needing to withdraw their children from the program must do so in writing by sending an email to the Program Director's attention to: contactus@josiahkids.com.

Confidentiality

Personal, financial, medical, and family information will be held in confidence and not shared outside the program beyond those you have entrusted with the information as responsible for administrative purposes. Our staff is, however, professionally, and legally obligated to report suspected child abuse and neglect,

including identifying information and specifics of the child's concern. With parental consent on each student's application, as well as this parent handbook (a) photographs and video recordings of children may be used for digital learning, public relations, website graphics, newspapers, and other publications; and (b) pictures may be taken of JosiahKids events such as birthdays, award ceremonies, community service events, holiday activities and special celebrations.

Safety and Security

Though we only have our students for a few hours twice a month, JosiahKids recognizes the importance of having a safe environment for your child's learning. Please follow all pick-up and drop-off procedures to ensure the safety of your child. If faced with life-threatening, unsafe, or suspicious behavior, JosiahKids will immediately seek help from law enforcement by dialing 911.-

Weather and Emergency-Related Closings

Parents can expect us to remain in session per our posted schedule online. However, our leadership team may determine when it is necessary to close or restrict operations because of winter storms, tornados, power failures, or other emergencies. If conditions or events require closing while we are in operation, parents will be contacted directly by email, text, or phone call. Children will remain under supervision in a safe place until picked up by a trusted/authorized adult. We will relay information regarding closings directly to parents through email and text message.

Illness and Medical Treatment

If your child becomes sick in the evening, please send us an email addressed to the Program Director at contactus@josiahkids.com and let us know that his/her absence is due to illness. Parents should not drop off a child who is unwell or who has been diagnosed with a communicable disease (example: strep, head lice, pink eye, COVID-19, or impetigo) until a doctor has provided clearance. A child, who has had a fever of 101+ degrees, must remain home until the child has been fever free for more than 24 hours. All known health conditions AND medical restrictions of your child must be disclosed on the formal application each parent has to complete during enrollment. A waiver must also be signed at the beginning of every school year before any child can begin taking classes at JosiahKids. JosiahKids does not have a qualified doctor or nurse on site that can administer medication, so please allow your children the proper time they need to get well before resuming attendance.

Thank you, parents, for entrusting us with your children. We are excited to partner with each of you and look forward to seeing your little ones grow, blossom, and transform into the leaders and destiny shapers we all know they were created to be. As always, your feedback, suggestions and ideas are welcome on how we can continue to improve and become better as an organization. Also, should you be interested in serving as a volunteer at JosiahKids, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Welcome to JosiahKids!