

## MYSTIC SEAPORT MUSEUM



### ***Joseph Conrad Overnight Sailing Camp Apprenticeships***

*The Apprenticeship Program at the Joseph Conrad Overnight Sailing Camp is designed to allow campers to dive deeper into a subject they find interesting during their week at camp. Small groups allow for more opportunities to do hands on activities. On Sunday evening counselors will present each apprenticeship describing the potential activities. Campers will then rank them based on interest and be assigned to one. Depending on the number of campers and counselors not all apprenticeships are offered each week. The apprenticeship time blocks are Monday-Thursday, typically 4-6pm, but subject to change based on weather or scheduling around other activities.*

**Marlinspike Seamanship:** Learn seamanship skills like tying knots and sewing sails. Sailors who become proficient at knot tying, splicing, and sewing using a marlinspike are said to have mastered marlinspike seamanship, earning them the right to be known as marlinspike seamen. In this apprenticeship campers will learn traditional maritime skills, explore the museum, make a ditty bag, and become a knot master!

**Cartography and Charting:** Learn all about charts! Cartography is the science or practice of drawing maps. Explore the “uncharted” waters of the Mystic River and discover ways to navigate waterways. Campers will learn the skill of charting and navigating using nautical instruments such as a compass, ruler and dividers, sextant, lead line, chip log, and others. Campers will gain a deeper understanding of river exploration and the evolution of navigational technology.

**Art:** Art is everywhere at Mystic Seaport Museum! Tour the museum looking at different examples of artwork. Activities include making your own scrimshaw, wood carvings, sketches, sea chanties, and decorative knots. Campers will gain appreciation for the high level of skill needed for maritime professionals as well as an understanding of the average sailor using art to express what it was like to live aboard a boat.

**Marine Science/Biology:** Explore the River through the lens of science! Campers will learn about the environment, ecology, and biology of the Mystic River and Long Island Sound. Net for small fish, conduct water quality testing, and dissect a squid! Campers will gain new insights to the world around them by learning more about the environment in which they sail – science principles learned here can be applied to any waterway around the world.

**Astronomy:** Discover the science of space! Explore the night sky and learn how sailors used the sun, stars and planets to guide their way. Stars were the original GPS! In the Treworgy Planetarium at Mystic Seaport Museum, you will learn basic celestial navigation using historic instruments, such as the sextant. Campers will also learn about weather, satellites, and marine forecasts. Campers will gain a deeper understanding for the universe and an appreciation for how sailors explored the globe.

**Boat Handling:** Boost your time on the water with this apprenticeship that allows for extra time increasing your boat handling skills. Learn the finer points of boat handling skills in a small group, and have a chance to sail other types of boats in the fleet. Depending on the skill of the group, dive deep into the Racing Rules of Sailing and try match racing or team racing!