

**SAVE THE DATE
APRIL 8-16, 2016**

**UCF
CELEBRATES
The ARTS**

A celebration of the arts in Central Florida

**FREE performances and
exhibits every day!**

SATURDAY, APRIL 9

Hans Zimmer and Kip Thorne present
the music and science of *Interstellar*

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

Patrick Doyle's Music of Shakespeare



All events are free, but tickets are required
ARTS.CAH.UCF.EDU

from **LETTER BOX**
the editor

One Summer, Then & Now

Looking back on summer camp experiences is both wonderful and tad bit embarrassing. It's all fun and games until you get to middle school. In sixth grade I had the pleasure of experiencing two fun-filled weeks at 4H camp. Oh, one thing: It was co-ed. My fellow campers fell in the range between sixth and eighth graders. Although I was in 4H, I was a city dweller specializing in cooking, crafts and sewing (the last was done under duress). The majority of my peers were students of agriculture: crops, livestock. The cutest-boy-ever was in the latter group. He raised pigs, horses and such. He was a farm boy, and I was smitten. However, he was an elder eighth grader. It's hard to shine in the awkward glow of sixth grade. Campers would have big outdoor adventures during the day, and at night we would go to the camp fire. Every night, I tried with all the strategy I could muster to sit by him. Certainly akin to a page out of a *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* book. Without fail, I would do just that. Until the last day of camp, when we had to put on a play with kids picked at random. Yep, you guessed it. He was in my group. I had always been in theater. Needless to say, I was so excited. I didn't get the intended seat by the fire, but I got to dance with him on stage. I truly was a happy camper.

Looking over this year's Cultural Camp Guide (page 28), it was hard to miss the wide variety of experiences that our children can enjoy this summer, with several offering a level of specialty for older students. Parents, make your plans early because these camps fill up quickly.

In the meantime, enjoy the spring season by taking in a film (or two, or three ...) at the Florida Film Festival (page 46). This year marks the 25th year of the Festival, and it won't disappoint. Every year it grows in stature, and the organizers put great importance on the quality of offerings. With the newly planned expansion, this event will only continue to become more impressive. A camp fire is still nice, but a movie date is a close second. Bring your favorite guy or gal and surround yourself with the adventures of film. No strategy necessary.

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