



TNT University 2016

A CHRISTIAN CLOWN RETREAT

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Greetings, Campers!

The time for TNT University is getting closer, and I wanted to send you this note to answer some of the questions you may have been asking.

1. **When can we check into our room?** The check-in desk for your room will open at 3:30 p.m. on Monday, August 1st. The school registration will be open at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, August 1st, to get your name badge and notebook. If you arrive before that, you will have to be patient and wait. We can't open registration for the rooms before 3:30 p.m. because your room will not be ready. *A limited number of rooms will be available for check in on Sunday night, the additional cost for early check in is \$50.00 per person and that will include breakfast on Monday morning. We will need to know if you will be coming in on Sunday in order to notify the camp which rooms to prepare. So please fill out the early arrival card (included in this packet) and send it back to us with a check for your room. If you are using the airport shuttle you will need to arrive on Sunday night.*

2. **What if I don't have a roommate but don't want a private room?** We will assign you a roommate if you don't already have one. If you have arranged for a roommate, just fill out the roommate card and send it back with the rest of your information. All of the rooms this year will be in Griffith Hall, and therefore all are accessible via elevator (as well as stairs). If you have special needs, please let us know.

3. **Should I bring my clown costume and makeup to camp?** You will need your clown outfit and clown makeup for both a group photo and an outreach event. *Don't forget to bring an old washcloth or paper towels from home to remove your makeup, so that you do not ruin camp towels and end up getting charged to replace them.* The camp towels and washcloths are white, so to insure that your items are not taken when staff retrieves the laundry, it might be helpful to bring other colors.

4. **Will there be a vendor area where I can get clown supplies?** We will have a complete clown supply area (noted on the schedule as the Dealer Room) for you to shop. So bring money to spend and help support our vendors.

5. **What about sheets and towels for my own use?** The camp will provide 1 set of sheets, 1 towel and 1 wash cloth for you for the 7 days. If you want clean towels and wash cloths to use daily, you should bring some extras. Again, you might want to bring colored towels and washcloths, because the ones they use are white. That way there will be no mix-ups when it comes time to check out.

6. **What is the normal dress for the camp?** It will be hot in Georgia that time of the year; but we will be in air conditioning almost all the time; and some of the classrooms actually get cold due to the air conditioning, so you might wanna bring a light sweater. We still suggest dressing comfortably, but do remember we will be at a Christian camp, so please no crop tops or short shorts. Shoes must be worn at all times.

7. **Can I video or audio tape any of the classes or shows?** There will be no taping allowed of any of the classes or performances. You may take all the photos you would like, but please no taping unless you get specific permission from the instructor/performer.

8. **What about smoking?** All buildings are smoke-free. There are buckets in various places on campus to put out your cigarettes. Please be courteous to nonsmokers and avoid smoking near doorways and put cigarettes in designated buckets.

9. **What about bringing a pet?** Pets are not allowed in any of the buildings or on the grounds.

10. **Can I bring food or sodas to keep in my room?** No food is to be prepared or stored in guest rooms. If you have special dietary needs, please let us know and we can make special arrangements.

11. **I'm flying in and need to get from the airport to the camp. What do I do?** Fill out the attached Flight Information Card and return it right away. We will have an airport shuttle that will pick you up at the airport on Sunday at 6:00 p.m. and return you back to the airport on Saturday by 11 a.m., so make your flight schedule to allow two hours at the airport. There is an additional cost for the shuttle of \$40, so please include a check for this amount with your return information. You will also need to reserve your room for Sunday night if you are using the shuttle (see #1), so include that card and payment, as well.

12. **Will there be a camp shirt or logo items available?** We will have TNT Logo "patches" available. These are iron-on patches that can be applied to your own shirts, hats, vests, bags, etc. The price for these patches is \$3.

13. **Do I need to bring items for an auction as in years past?** There will be an auction supporting mission work and our scholarship fund. Bring any items you would like to donate to this very worthy cause. Anything you have that you no longer use and would like to donate will be accepted. Also come ready to buy all these very valuable items (well, at least some of them might be valuable), and have a lot of fun while raising money for a good cause.

14. **Can I bring my own clown items to sell?** Many of the instructors that come to TNT do this at their own expense. They don't get paid their normal teaching fee. Because of that, they rely upon their sales from their booth to make the money needed to cover their expenses and to make a living. Unauthorized vendors could take away from the sales our instructors are depending on, and in turn, they would have to charge their normal teaching fee to the camp. This, in turn, would result in an increase in the registration fee charged to the students. So we would ask that if you are not a staff member and have not made prior arrangements to be a vendor at TNT, please do not bring items to sell.

15. **Is there anything else I need to bring?** If you are planning on attending facepainting classes or balloon labs, you will need to bring supplies (face paint, brushes, balloons and pumps) for those classes if you want to participate in hands-on learning. There will be face painting and balloon jams in the evenings, and these skills may be put to use during your track outings; so even if you are not taking classes, you may want to bring these supplies. If you do not have the products you need, most will be offered for purchase in the Dealer Room.

If you have a balance due, remember your **final payment is due by July 15, 2016**. Please get it in on time so you will not lose your space. If you need to make arrangements for an extension, please contact Angie at tntuniversityclowncamp@gmail.com as soon as possible to make those arrangements. Please mail the attached applicable cards back to my attention at: Angie Gonzalez, 116 S. Audubon Road, #4, Indianapolis, IN 46219 or via e-mail. Any other questions, feel free to contact me at the number or e-mail address below.

Look forward to seeing you all in August. God bless and have a safe trip.

Angie Gonzalez
TNT University
317-840-1583
tntuniversityclowncamp@gmail.com

GEORGIA BAPTIST CONFERENCE CENTER

462 Sunrise Way, Toccoa, GA 30577 706-886-3133

DIRECTIONS:

From Atlanta, Georgia, take I-85 North to I-985 North. Exit right onto Hwy 365 at the Toccoa/Lavonia Exit. Travel for six miles. Turn left onto Hwy 123 at the Jeannette Jamieson Intersection. Travel eight miles on Hwy- 123. Turn left onto Lake Louise Road...two miles on the left.

From Athens Georgia, take Hwy 441 North toward Commerce. Turn right onto I-85 North. Exit at the Toccoa/Lavonia Exit #173(Hwy 17). Travel 17 miles and turn right onto Hwy 123. Travel for three miles and turn left onto Lake Louise Road...two miles on the left.

From Westminster, S.C., travel west on Hwy 123. Turn right onto Lake Louise Road...two miles on the left.

From Greenville, S.C., travel south on I-85. Exit at the Toccoa/Lavonia Exit #173(Hwy 17). Travel about 17 miles. Turn right onto Hwy 123. Travel for three miles and turn left onto Lake Louise Road...two miles on the left.

From Clarkesville, Georgia, travel Hwy 17 South to Hwy 123. Turn left onto Hwy 123. Travel for five miles and turn left onto Lake Louise Road...two miles on the left.



ROOMMATE/ACCOMMODATIONS CARD

We need this card returned no later than July 15th. If we don't have it back by then we will have to assign a roommate for you.

Your Name _____

Your Roommate's Name _____

Do you require a handicap room? _____

Do you want a private room? _____ (There is an additional cost of \$200 for a private room)

Will you be coming in early? _____ (There will be rooms available for Sunday night for an additional cost of \$50.00 per person (that includes breakfast on Monday). This card **must** be returned for Saturday night check in along with a check for the extra cost.

Mail to: Angie Gonzalez, 116 S. Audubon Road, #4, Indianapolis, IN 46219

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FLIGHT INFORMATION CARD

If you are planning to fly in for camp, please fill out this card and return it with the other information we have requested. There will be an airport shuttle that will leave the airport at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 31, 2016; so you must arrive before 4:00 p.m. on Sunday. The cost of the shuttle is \$40 round trip, and you will be returned to the airport on Saturday, August 6, 2016 no later than 11:00 a.m. Please include your payment for the shuttle service with this card's return.

Name _____

E-mail address _____

Phone Number _____

Airline & Flight number _____

Arrival time _____

Mail to: Angie Gonzalez, 116 S. Audubon Road, #4, Indianapolis, IN 46219

TRAINING TRACK CARD

Please select your FIRST and SECOND choice for your clown training track for the week and return this card to us by July 16th. If one track fills up (some are limited), you will be placed in your second choice.

Your Name _____

First Choice _____ Second Choice _____

Choose from the following: Basic Clowning 101 Track (This track is limited to 15 participants, so to be sure you get your slot, please return your reservation early.); Home Town Clowning Track; Church Ministry Clowning Track; Hospital and Nursing Home Ministry Track; Puppetry and Creative Arts Track, and Advanced Skills and Physical Comedy Track (This track is not for beginners, you should have some experience in clowning before an audience and some physical mobility to sign up for this track.). Track descriptions follow on the next page.

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INTENSIVE TRACK INFORMATION

The intensive tracks will meet for about 2 1/2 hours each day, and as the week goes by, the track lessons will become more and more intense. Each track is designed to give the student the best education in the focus area of the track. Once you sign up for a track, you will participate in that track throughout the course of the week during scheduled Track Training times. These tracks are also the areas in which you earn your credits towards a degree. Your track will also spend one afternoon (or evening) putting what you have learned into practice through a performance or outreach opportunity with the help of your track teachers/leaders.

Basic Clowning 101 Track (Led by Angel Contreras and Lee Andrews)

The Basic track is the place for you if you are new to clowning or if you have been clowning for a few years but have never had formal training. You will learn the correct way to apply makeup and you will get help with your makeup design. You will be taught character development, clown movement and the dos and don'ts of clown performance. This is a must track for those that are wanting to get a strong clown foundation. You need a good foundation to grow as a clown. Class size is limited to 15 members, so you will want to sign up quickly if this is the track you wish to take.

Church Ministry Clowning Track (Led by Colleen Fouts)

The Church Ministry Clowning track will take you through the correct way to perform with a group or alone on a stage in a ministry setting. It will also teach you how to deliver a biblical message and still be a clown. This is a great track for those whose heart is in performing in churches and reaching the lost for the Lord. This track will be performing in a local church during the outreach event as part of their track assignment.

Hospital and Nursing Home Ministry Track (Led by Kay Reed and Barb Field.)

This track will teach you how to develop a caring clown ministry in a hospital and/or nursing home. We will begin with why laughter is good medicine and discuss what to do and how to do it safely for yourself and the patient. You will learn to develop a whole new and gentle character to use in these venues. You will also learn some fun bits and shtick, how to use props effectively, how to get a hospital clown program started, and some tips on getting grant support. This track will take trips into Toccoa to work with the local hospital, nursing homes, and clinics.

Home Town Clowning Track (Led by Bob and Teresa Gretton)

In the home town clowning track you will learn how to work in the community at festivals and fairs. How to walk a parade properly. You will learn what works when doing birthday parties, how to put together a party, and how to market yourself and set fair pricing for your services. You will be given all kinds of ideas on things to use in all these venues, and more, and you will also learn how to get into these areas.

Puppetry and Creative Arts Track (Led by Gary and Ann Gramlich)

Ann and Gary will help participants learn about puppetry and other creative arts they can use to complement their clowning and ministries. The team will learn how to build their own puppets, stage and props and put together a full program from start to finish.

Advanced Skills and Physical Comedy Track (Led by Ben and Christine Christensen and various other instructors)

The goal of this track is to take clowning to another level. This track will focus on advanced skills like balancing, juggling, and other physically demanding performance measures. Participants will receive some one-on-one help with taking a routine they do regularly and kicking it up a notch...finding ways to improve on it to result in a better performance. This track will work on different routines, gags, bits and skill showcases to present a show on Friday night for their peers.