

At this moment when anti-Semitism and Islamophobia are rising in our nation, Appel Farm cares to respond with integrity to those who have expressed concern in this context.

Appel Farm stands against discrimination, prejudice, and bigotry in all forms, including anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, anti-Black and anti-Brown racism, Asian hate, ableism, sexism, homophobia, and transphobia.

Appel Farm affirms our unwavering support for both Jewish and Palestinian individuals. Appel Farm believes in the inherent dignity and worth of every individual, regardless of their background, identity, or belief system.

We are dedicated to creating a safe space where every individual feels seen, heard, and valued – particularly youth, who thrive in environments where their voices matter and their whole selves are nurtured.

This commitment stems from the core values of our founders Albert and Clare Appel, who wove transparency, inclusivity, and tolerance into the fabric of the organization. We ground our methods in Restorative Practices and Collaborative Problem Solving, through which we promote understanding and empathy. Consequently, we live out values that have anchored the Appel Farm community for more than 60 years.

Appel Farm recognizes that our employees, board members, and our community at large have powerful and diverse perspectives that contribute to our strength. We also recognize the need for continued learning and growth, as individuals and on the part of our collective organization, to truly ensure that all campers, families, program partners, staff, and community members feel safe and valued.

We make this statement with a commitment to action. We commit to:

- Engaging outside partners to facilitate our ongoing learning.
- Creating opportunities for open public dialogue with our community at large, to deepen our understanding and strengthen this work.
- Being transparent in this work.
- Authentically evolving this work, fully supporting and entrusting our staff to advance our mission through continuous learning, reflection, and revision.

Appel Farm envisions a world in which the arts are recognized and valued as central to the human experience, and we are committed to making that world one that is safe and supportive for all.