

Resilience Through Understanding Program Guidelines

Participants and Caring Adults

2023 - 2024

Purpose: To set expectations for professional relationships between The Collaborative, caring adults, and participants

RTU Participants

A participant is defined as any individual enrolled in the RTU program and who attends one of the nine area schools served, or is a homeschool student within that catchment area.

1. RTU Registration

- a. Participant program registration must be **completed** (paid, photo uploaded, form filled out, student **and** caring adult pledge signed) online **by designated and posted date and time**. Payments will be made by credit card using the online registration system, Venmo, or by submitting a check to The Collaborative. Registrations without payment or scholarship application will not be accepted as enrolled in the program.
- b. Registration payment is non-refundable after **October 25, 2023**.
- c. Failure to submit a completed registration by **October 25, 2023** will disqualify a participant from receiving a pass before Thanksgiving break. Participants may still attend the workshops and receive a pass after Thanksgiving.
- d. Participants who desire a pass in recognition of their work must choose between a Stratton, Viking, Magic Mountain, or Riley Rink Season pass. You may also choose to participate without obtaining a pass. Participation without obtaining a pass is free of charge. You are not allowed to change your pass after October 25th unless another \$50 registration payment is made.
- e. Families new to the area or newly enrolled in participating schools after the Kick Off date will have the opportunity to participate.
 - i. Families must contact The Collaborative or their representative to register for the program as soon as possible.

2. RTU Event Participant Attendance

- a. Participants must attend Event 1 (Kickoff) and 2 and have turned in all follow up forms and work to have their pass activated for Thanksgiving break or whenever the aforementioned community stakeholder opens their business for the season.
- b. Participants must attend Event 1, 2, and 3 and submit all follow up work by December 16th in order to maintain an active pass status over Holiday break.

- c. Participants may have the option to engage in alternative programming if they have been in the RTU program for multiple years.
- d. Participants AND caring adult must attend Event 4 (Dialogue Night) and submit all follow up work in January for pass to remain active for February
- e. Participants and caring adults must complete all 5 Events and any associated follow up work to earn an end of season incentive and/or pass to Dorset Theater Festival's "Giving Back Program"
- f. Participants may work directly with The Collaborative (eg: Programs Coordinator, Programs Assistant) and/or your school-based rep to make up any work that you miss.
- g. Please allow at least 48 hours between the completion of make-up work and pass reactivation.
- h. The Collaborative will host events either in person or virtually in the months of September, October, November/December, January, and February.

3. RTU Participant Conduct

- a. The RTU Program is an educational and wellness program aimed at helping young people in our community make safe choices - successful completion of the program is earned through whole-hearted and honest work. Participants will be respectful at all events hosted at any school and hosted by any school based rep or community member.
- b. Participants will represent themselves respectfully and appropriately while using their RTU pass at Stratton Mountain Resort, Riley Rink, Magic Mountain or Viking Nordic Center property. Participants who conduct themselves inappropriately will have their pass terminated.
- c. If a participant has questions or concerns regarding the RTU program or their pass they should first try to contact their school representative. If you are unable to get in touch with your RTU Representative you may contact The Collaborative. Neither participants nor caring adults should contact Stratton Mountain, Riley Rink, Magic Mountain, Viking Nordic Center, or the Dorset Theater Festival directly.
- d. Participants will be supportive of their friends' choice to remain substance free
- e. A participant's failure to meet the conditions of the Resilience Through Understanding policies will result in the suspension or termination of their season pass.

4. Student Substance Use Policy

- a. Participants in the Resilience Through Understanding program will refrain from the use of alcohol, tobacco, cannabis and any other substances including vaping, and will not misuse any over the counter or prescription drugs, (i.e. diet pills or cold medicines, etc).

- b. Participants will not make any claims of illegal substance use in any printed material, public speech and/or Internet site (i.e. Facebook, Instagram, Tik Tok, Snapchat, Twitter, etc).
 - c. If a participant is found to be in violation of RTU's Substance Use Policy, follow up procedures to violations will be addressed on a case by case basis.
5. Incident Reports/Violations
- a. In the event a participant is found to engage in behavior contrary to the values of the program (ie: misuses a substance, is disrespectful at an RTU event, etc.) an Incident Report will be completed by the RTU Programs Coordinator in collaboration with school-based reps and any other community member (ie: community presenter, Stratton ticket office, etc.) involved.
 - b. Incident reports will be held confidentially and will be removed/destroyed before the following program year.
 - c. Participants are entitled to an appeal process in the event their pass is suspended or terminated.
 - i. Appeal process will include a rep from The Collaborative, school based-representative, and caring adult.
 - ii. Participants will engage in restorative practices where resources and a path forward are discussed and implemented.
6. Online Virtual Event Conduct
- a. There will be virtual options for participants and caring adults to utilize as an event or as resources after the fact. Participants should always try to attend an in-person event before pursuing a virtual option.
 - b. Participants will engage in online learning events in a thoughtful manner, be respectful of themselves, other participants, and the facilitator, and adhere to all rules and regulations as outlined by host of Zoom/Google Meets event and/or The Collaborative
 - c. Participant window background will be appropriate.
 - d. Participants will identify themselves appropriately.
 - e. Participants will use all functions of online platforms (ie: chat, unmuting, sharing of documents) in an appropriate manner.

Parents/Guardians/Caring Adults

In the absence of a willing parent or legal guardian to engage in RTU alongside a participant a caring adult will be considered. Another adult relative, parent in the program or other interested adult can serve in this role if the parent or legal guardian is unwilling or unavailable. Adult siblings of RTU participants may only serve in this role if they are over 27 years of age. No RTU participant will be barred from RTU because they lack an adult that will engage with them

in the program. RTU participants who struggle to find an adult to serve in this role should reach out to their RTU representative for options.

1. RTU Caring Adult Conduct

- a. The RTU program is meant to supplement existing school curriculum regarding substance misuse and asset building. The pass is an incentive earned through the participant's adherence to program requirements.
- b. Caring adults will need to provide or assist with their student's transportation to the scheduled education events.
- c. Caring adults, participants, presenters, members of The Collaborative and the like are expected to hold themselves to the highest standard of behavior and actions at RTU in-person sponsored events, virtual events, or when they are using their pass at Stratton, Viking, Magic, or Riley Rink.
- d. RTU families can check The Collaborative website (www.thecollaborative.us) under the RTU tab (located in the 'Programs' drop-down menu on the homepage) on its Google calendar for the latest event schedules and cancellations. All workshop dates and times are tentative due to weather, school activities, or RTU representatives' health.
- e. Caring adults may contact The Collaborative with any questions regarding administration of the Resilience Through Understanding Program at 802.824.4200 or rtu@thecollaborative.us.
- f. **If a caring adult has questions or concerns regarding the RTU program or their participant's pass they should first try to contact their participant's school representative.** If you are unable to get in touch with your RTU Representative you may contact The Collaborative. Caring adults should not contact Stratton Mountain, Riley Rink, Magic Mountain, Viking Nordic Center, or the Dorset Theatre Festival directly.
- g. The Collaborative serves as liaison for the RTU program and Stratton Mountain Resort, Magic Mountain, Riley Rink, Viking Nordic Center and Dorset Theatre Festival.

2. RTU Registration

- a. RTU program registration must be completed online by **October 25, 2023 at 11:59pm**. Registration opens August 15, 2023.
- b. Registration payment of \$50.00 should be made by credit card using the online registration system, by Venmo, or by submitting to the student's RTU Representative a written check made out to The Collaborative attached to a printed copy of the online registration confirmation. Scholarships are available.
 - i. Registration payment is non-refundable after **October 25, 2023**.
 - ii. **Payment after this date will increase.**

3. Scholarships

- a. Participants may apply for a scholarship by filling out appropriate paperwork and **submitting to The Collaborative's Financial Director.**
 - b. Pass registration is not complete until all forms and payment have been successfully completed and submitted online or to the RTU representative by **October 25, 2023.** Registration is not considered complete until the registration form, signed participant and caring adult pledge, payment and photo are submitted.
 - c. Failure to submit a **completed** registration by **October 25th** will disqualify a participant from receiving a pass before the Thanksgiving break. Participants may still attend the workshops and receive a pass at a later date.
 - d. After October 25th, registration will increase to \$65. After January 1, 2024 registration fee will be \$75.00.
4. Mandatory Caring Adult Participation
- a. All-Schools Kick-Off Event - September 25th, 2022
 - i. Caring adults must attend the Kick Off event with their participant. If a participant and their caring adult are attending virtually, they should still "attend" together.
 - ii. If caring adults cannot attend the Kick-Off event, another important adult in the participant's life from the community can attend with the participant. This may include relatives, neighbors, religious leaders, teachers, etc.
 - iii. In the event of a family scheduling conflict or illness, caring adults **must notify** their Resilience Through Understanding Representative **BEFORE THE INITIAL KICK-OFF** and attempt to make alternate arrangements. The Resilience Through Understanding Kick-Off is mandatory.
 - b. January Community Dialogue Night
 - i. Caring adults must attend a community Dialogue Night in **January** with their participant. If a caring adult cannot attend this event, another adult community member may attend in their place.
 - ii. Dialogue Night event date will be posted on The Collaborative Resilience Through Understanding Google calendar which can be accessed from The Collaborative's website at www.thecollaborative.us.
5. Grievance Committee
- a. If a participant has not been awarded a pass, or had a pass terminated, and the participant or caring adult disagrees with this ruling, the participant should follow the following steps:
 - i. The participant should speak to their representative.
 - ii. If the situation is not resolved, a participant or caring adult can file a grievance.
 - iii. If a participant files a grievance regarding a pass not awarded or termination, a hearing will be held with the participant, school representative, Collaborative representative, and the grievance committee.
 - b. Decisions made by the grievance committee are final.
 - c. Grievance hearings will be held as needed.

All events are scheduled and posted for the season on The Collaborative's Resilience Through Understanding Google calendar found at thecollaborative.us. Programming will be updated regularly on the webpage and Google site. Additionally, event programming can also be found on the RTU Facebook page.