

# CONNECTING YOU TO PLAY: JOOAY

## Jooay App Monthly Newsletter

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August 2025

Vol. 50

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### ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Jooay newsletter! Jooay is a free mobile and web app (<https://jooay.com/>) that helps children with disabilities and their families locate leisure opportunities that are close to where they live; accessible and inclusive; suit their needs and abilities; match their preferences; and can help them develop and participate in society.

Stay tuned for monthly updates on adapted leisure events and opportunities, as well as updates related to the Jooay App and our community. Let's help children get more involved in leisure together!

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### MEET OUR SUMMER STUDENTS

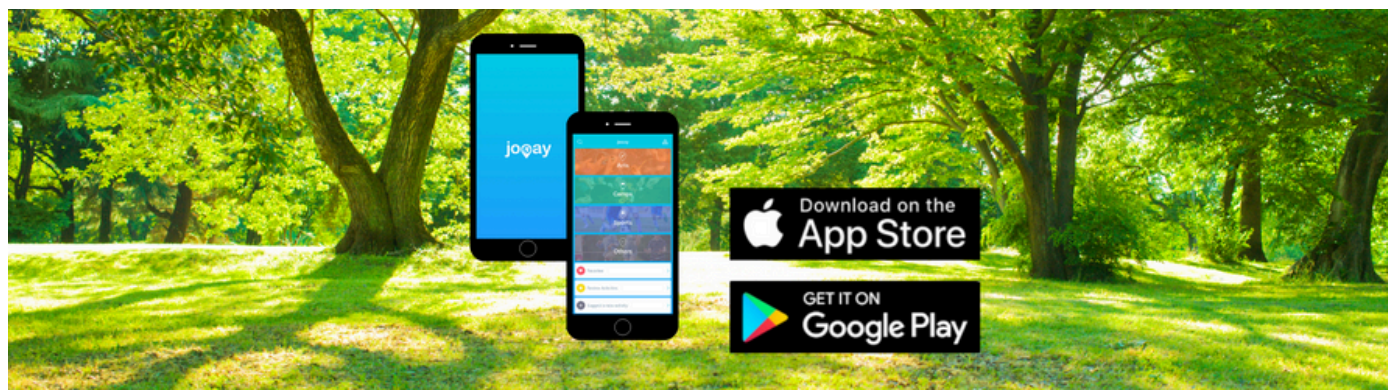
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#### This Summer's Work in Action

This summer, Aleks & Chloe joined the Jooay team with one big goal in mind — to make it easier for families and clinicians to find inclusive, accessible activities that fit their needs.

Over the past few months, they've reviewed and updated hundreds of activity listings, reached out to organisations to confirm important details, and added brand-new activities to the app. Each update helps ensure the information in Jooay is accurate, complete, and ready to guide families toward programs they can trust.

In this issue, they're excited to share more about who they are, what they've learned during their time with Jooay, and reflections on how activities vary across provinces.



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## Aleksi Klimis

Aleksi is a third-year Physical Therapy student at McGill University and one of Jooay's summer students this year.

He has a particular interest in adapted and inclusive fitness, believing that movement should be accessible, enjoyable, and part of everyone's life.

Fun fact! This summer, Aleksi updated over 500 activities in Ontario alone — if it's an inclusive activity in Ontario, chances are he knows it.



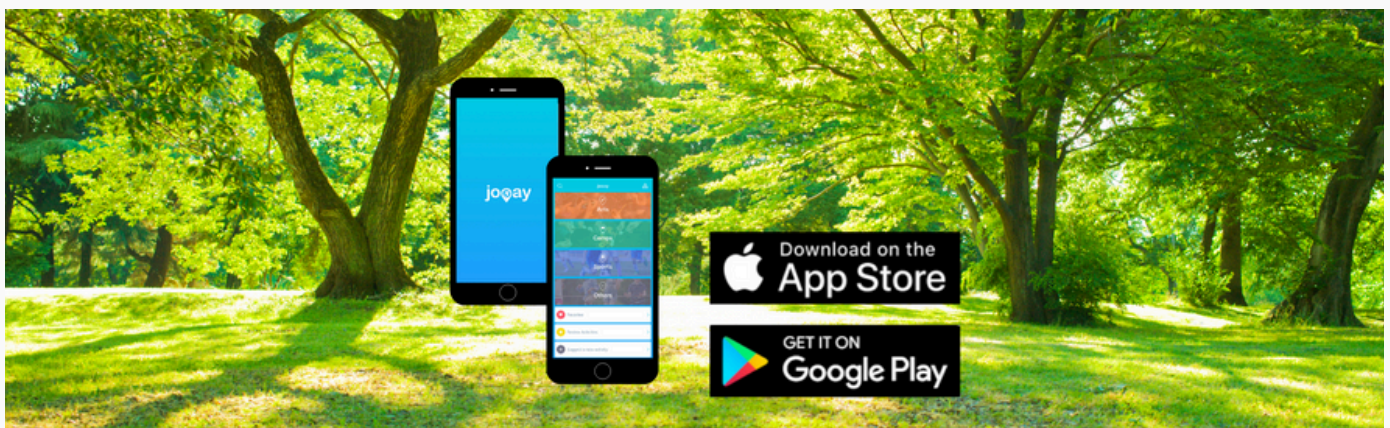
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## Chloe Leung

Chloe is a third-year Occupational Therapy student at McGill University and also one of Jooay's summer student this year.

She's especially driven to spotlight inclusive and adapted activities, ensuring families can easily find up-to-date options that truly reflect what's available.

This summer, Chloé added over 150 new activities to the Jooay App, with more than 100 in Quebec, where many listings needed fresh eyes and a full update!



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## What We've Learned

This summer, we've truly seen how important and useful the Jooy app is for the community. Having all the details about inclusive and accessible activities in one place can be a huge time-saver for families, parents, caregivers, and clinicians. In busy schedules, being able to quickly check cost, accessibility, supported disabilities, and program length without having to search multiple websites or make endless phone calls is invaluable.

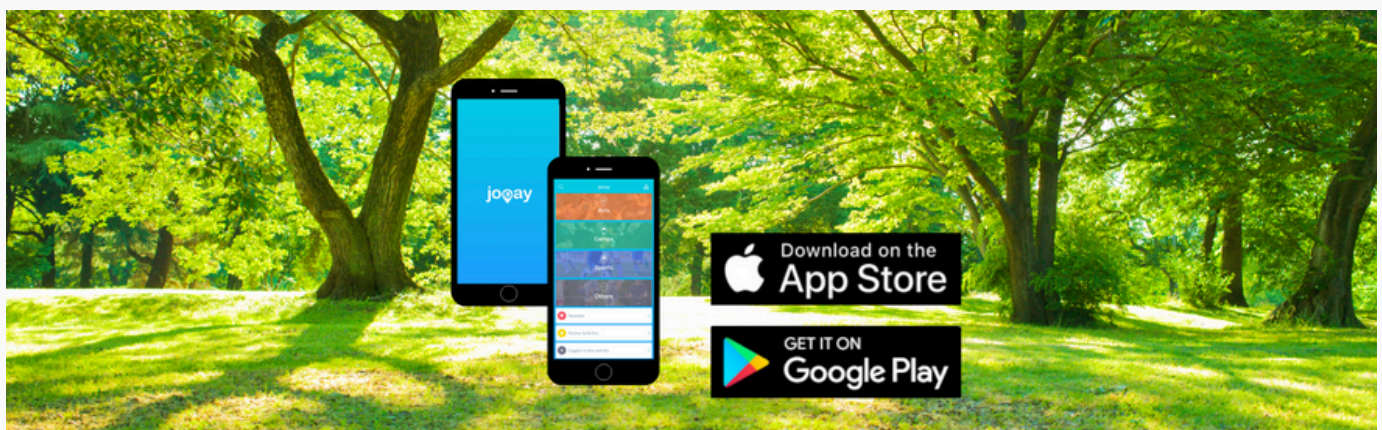
We've also learned that "inclusive" or "accessible" can mean different things depending on the organization. For some, it might include features like a paved path and automatic doors, while for others, it could mean making small adjustments to the space. This has shown us the value of advocating and asking questions to confirm details ahead of time, making sure an activity truly meets each person's needs.

## A Breakdown by Province

Looking at different provinces, we noticed some interesting trends:

**Quebec:** There is a wide variety of activities and support services for families and caregivers. However, while several organizations use an "open to all" approach, they often lack the specific supports needed for youth with disabilities who require more tailored assistance.

**Ontario:** There was a strong presence of sports and summer camps compared to arts programs, with many activities supporting physical or intellectual disabilities. However, there was a lack of activities that accommodated auditory impairments.



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**Alberta:** There was a strong presence of sports activities compared to other types of programs. Many of these were adapted for physical disabilities, but there were few options for individuals with visual impairments.

**British Columbia:** Similarly, British Columbia has a strong focus on sports-related activities. Many municipalities offer a range of adapted programs; however, the type and availability of services can vary significantly from one city to another.

Activities from other provinces are still undergoing the updating process! Anyways, it wouldn't be a newsletter without at least one activity!

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## SportAbility BC

Come celebrate the start of the 2025/26 para hockey season at the Victoria Para Hockey Kickoff Event!

Whether you're an experienced player or trying the sport for the first time, all ages and abilities 6+ are welcome. The event takes place on September 20 from 12:00 pm to 2:30 pm at Juan de Fuca Arena in Victoria, BC. All equipment will be provided.



**[Click here to learn more!](#)**



# JOOAY APP UPDATES

**HAVE YOU DOWNLOADED OUR UPGRADED VERSION  
OF THE JOOAY APP?!**

**FIND IT TODAY ON THE APP STORE AND GOOGLE  
PLAY & DISCOVER OUR NEW FEATURES.**

The advertisement features three smartphones against a background of green and blue bokeh circles. The largest smartphone on the left displays the 'jooay' logo on a blue screen. The middle smartphone shows the app's main menu with categories: Arts, Camps, Sports, and Others, along with a 'Favorites' section and buttons for 'Review Activities' and 'Suggest a new activity'. The rightmost smartphone displays the 'Art Activities' screen, listing various online programs with star ratings and 'Online' status. In the top right corner, there is a 'GET IT ON Google Play' button. In the bottom center, there is a 'Download on the App Store' button with the Apple logo.

**GET IT ON  
Google Play**

**Download on the  
App Store**

## THE UPGRADED VERSION OF THE JOOAY APP

### HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF THE JOOAY APP?

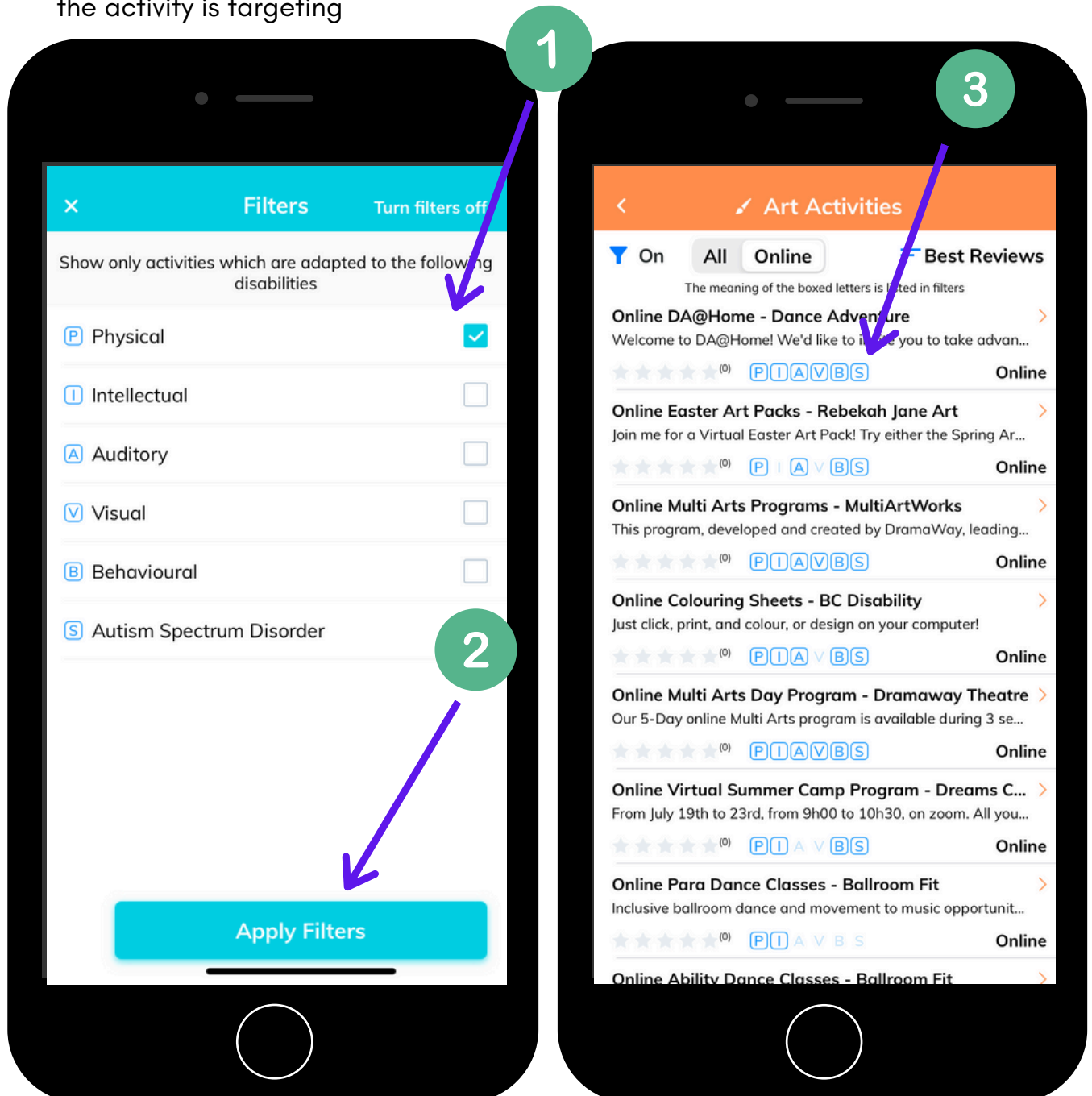
#### SEARCHING FOR THE TYPE OF SPECIAL NEED

When viewing an activity in the Jooay app ...

1. Select the filter of your choice
2. Click on "Apply Filters"

OR

3. When viewing activities, see the Letters which indicate the type of disability the activity is targeting

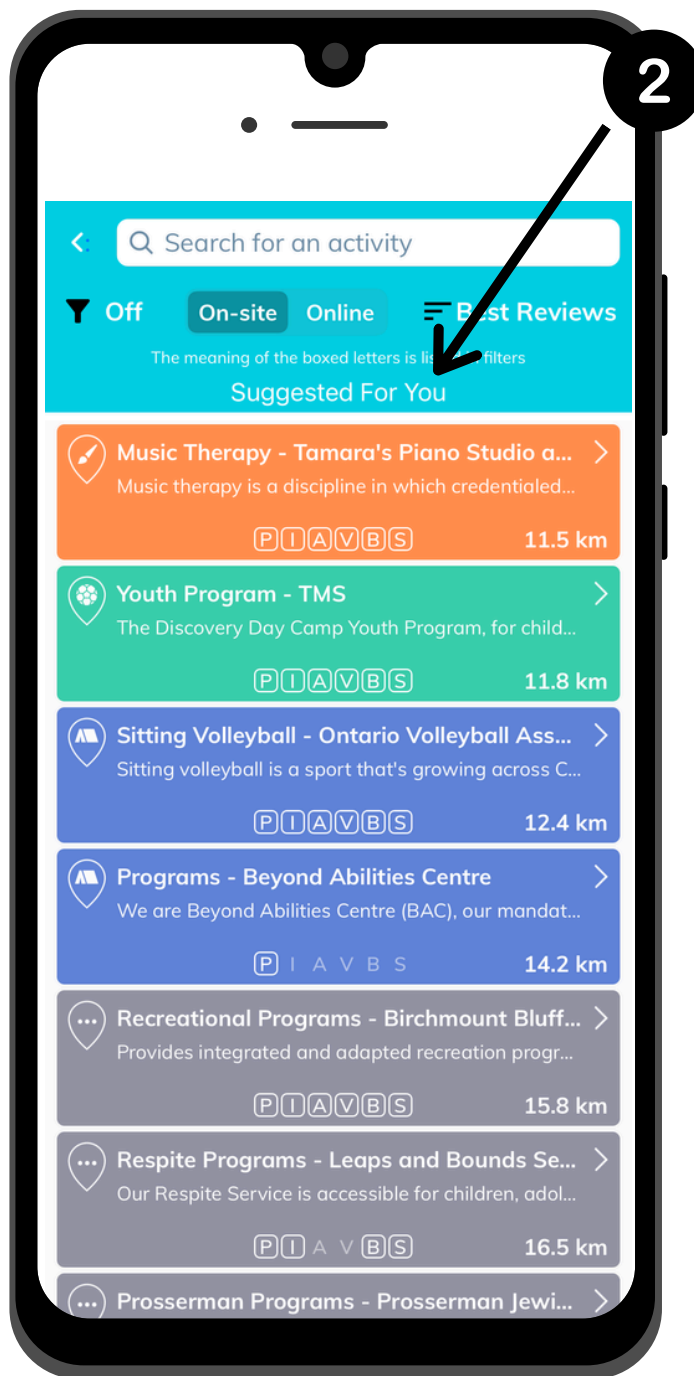
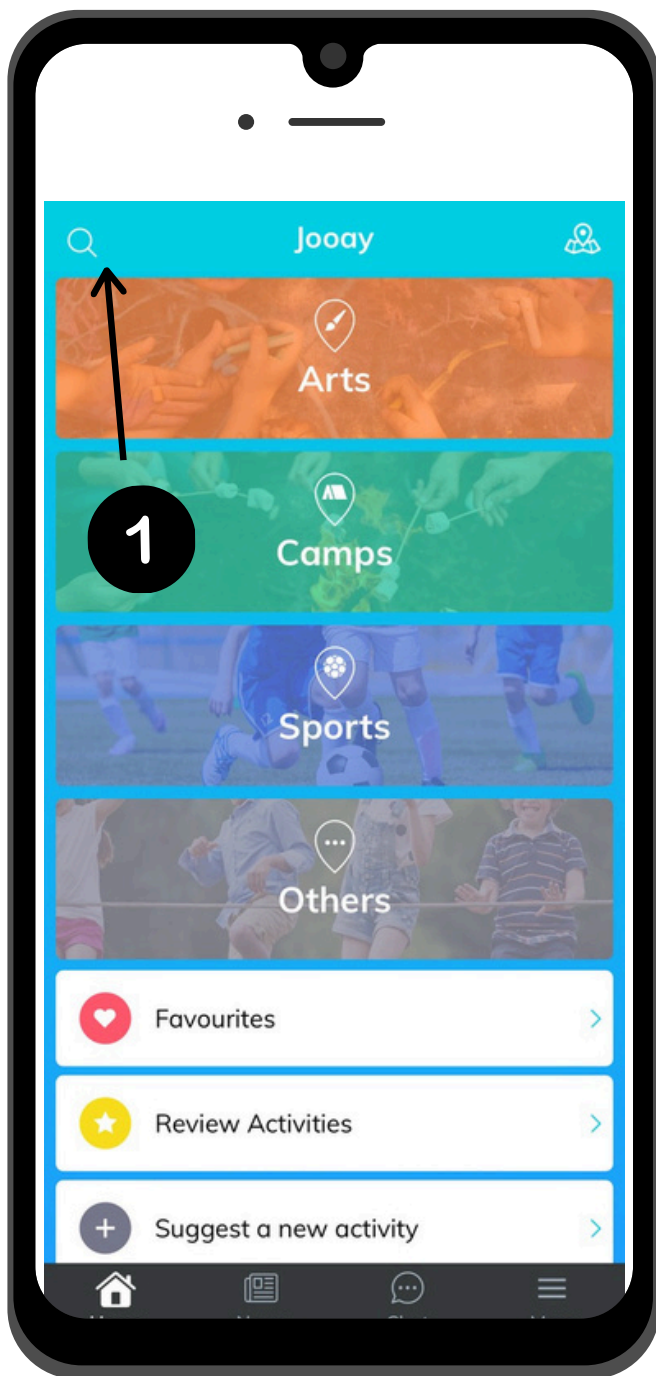


# HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF THE JOOAY APP?

## SUGGESTED FOR YOU

When viewing the new suggested activities

1. Click on the "Search" icon
2. Suggested activities will pop up under the search bar



# HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF THE JOOAY APP?

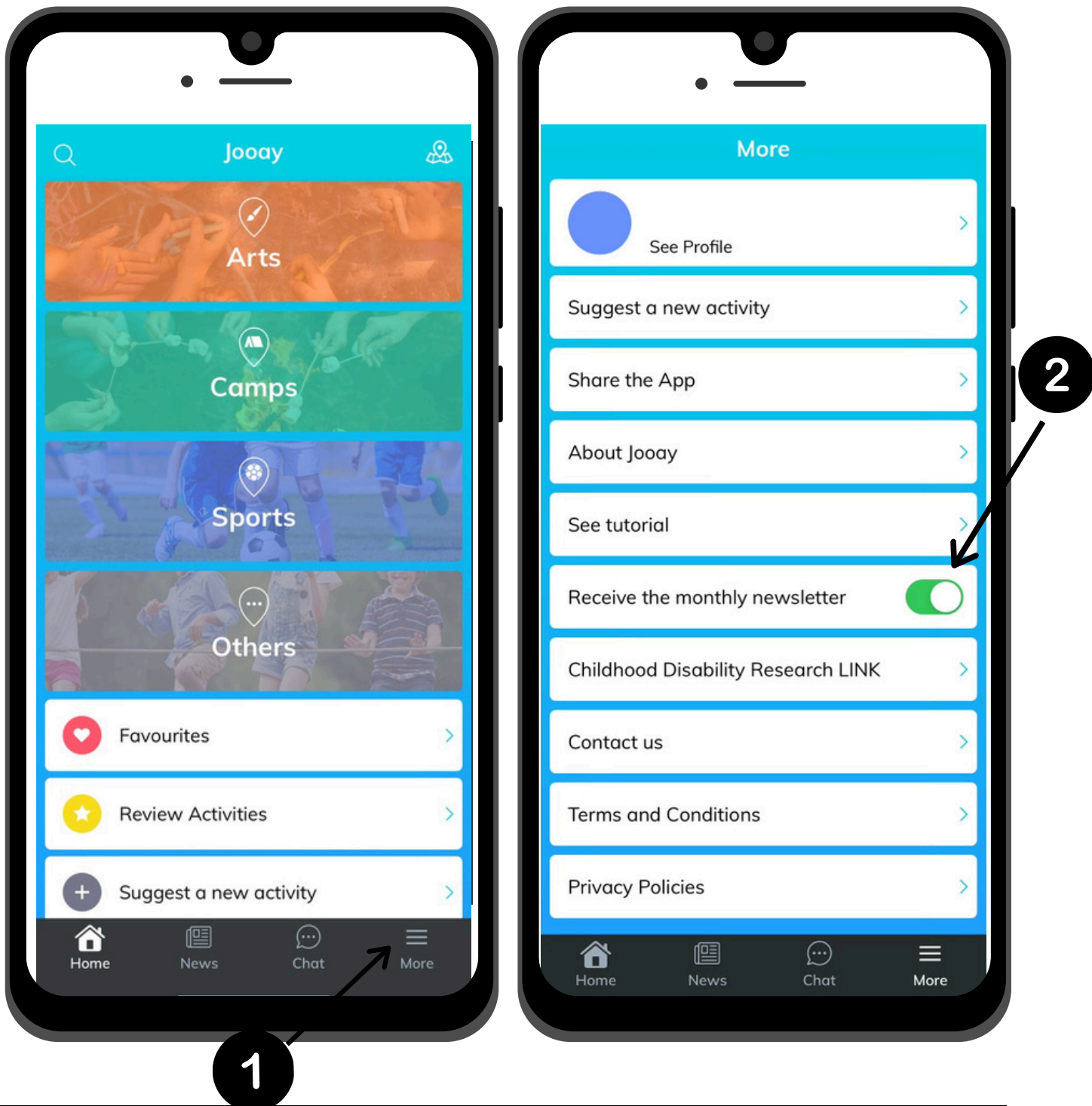
Stay  
TUNED

## RECEIVE THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

You can now receive the monthly newsletter which just a click of a button

1. Click on the "More" icon on the bottom left of your screen
2. Click on the "Receive the monthly newsletter" button

When it turns green, the newsletter will be sent to your email every month



# HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF THE JOOAY APP?

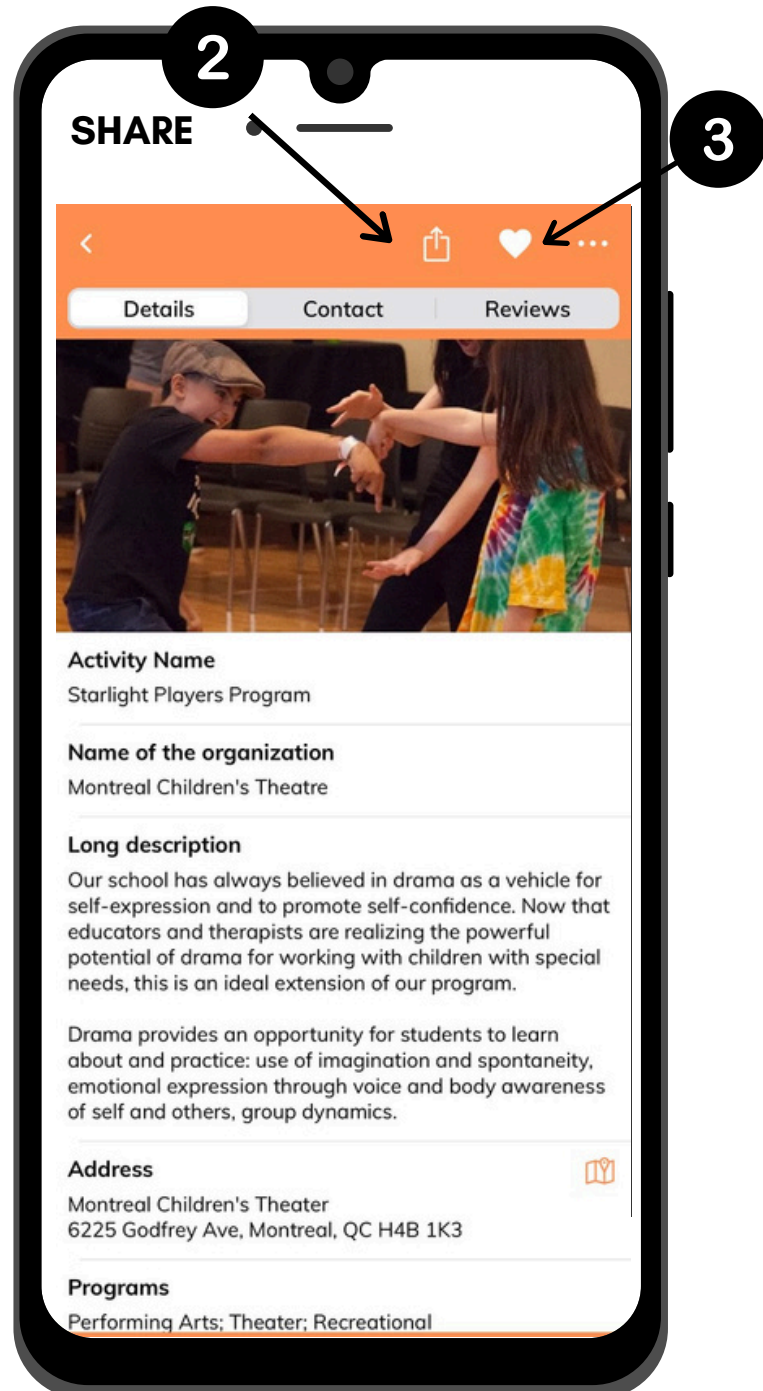
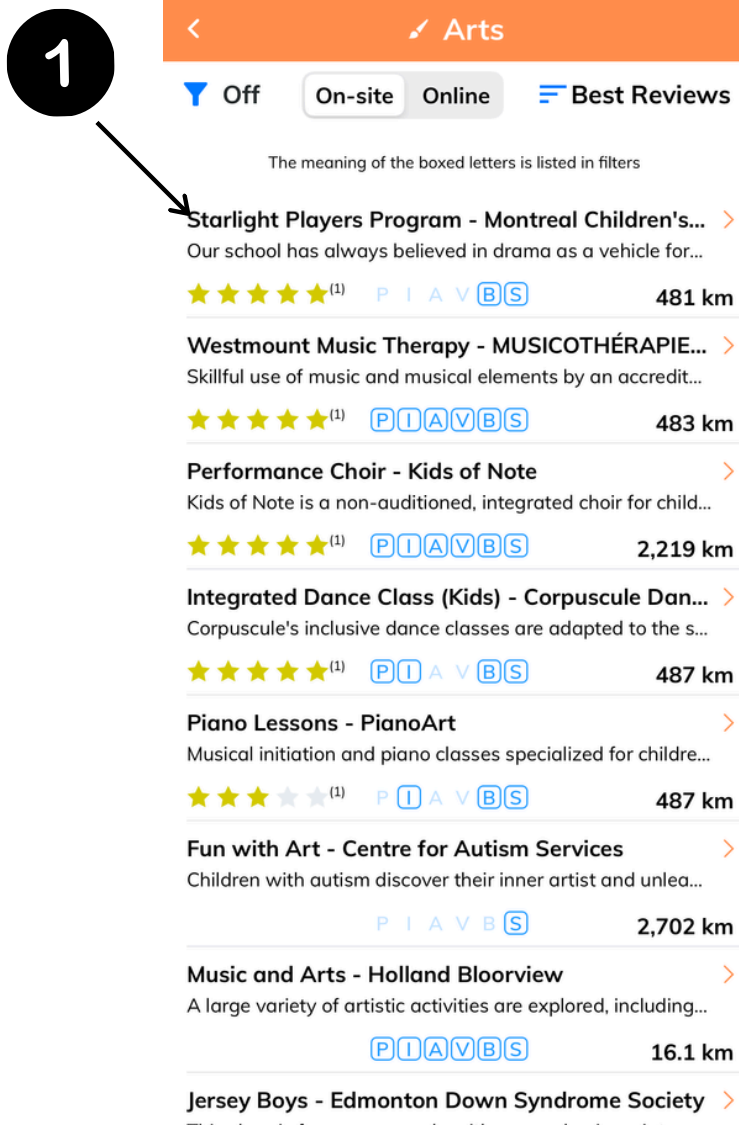


## SHARE AND ADD TO YOUR FAVOURITE

You can now share the activities to others and like your favourite activity

1. Click on the activity of your choice
2. To **share**, click on the top right of the screen on the "Share" icon
3. To **favourite**, click on the heart so you can easily access it in your favourites folder

## FAVOURITE



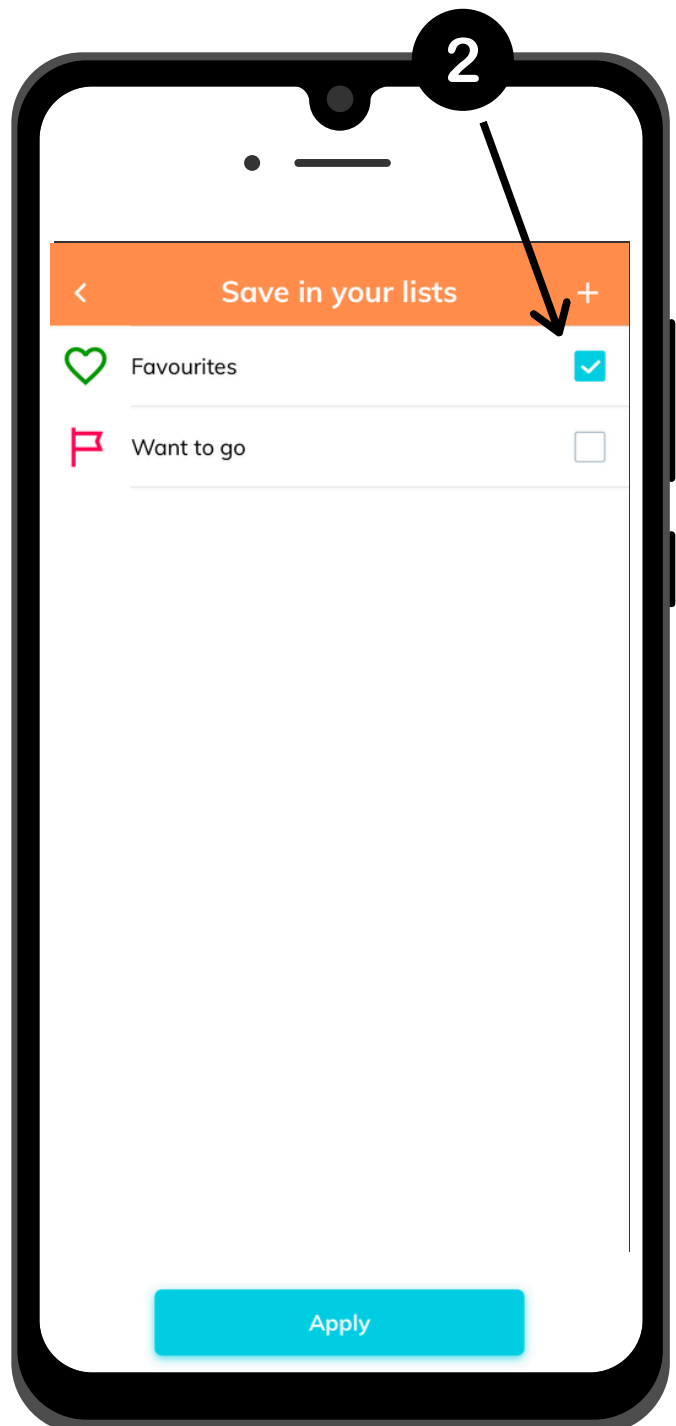
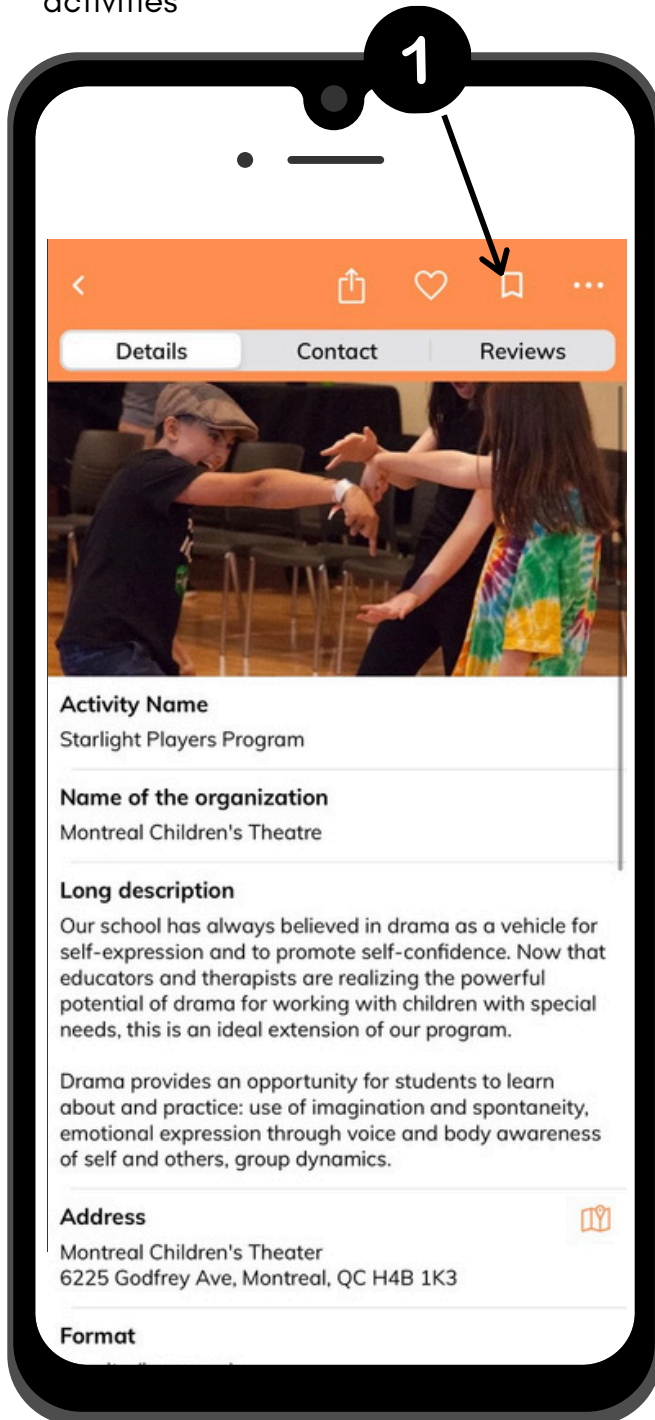
# HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF THE JOOAY APP?



## SAVED FOLDER

To add the activities in the bookmarked folder

1. Click on the activity of your choice
2. Tap on the "Bookmark" icon
3. Choose the folder you want the activity to be saved in to create a list of your favourite activities



**KNOW OF A GREAT  
INCLUSIVE ACTIVITY?  
LET US KNOW!**



## **SUGGEST A NEW ACTIVITY**

Add your organizations on the Jooay App!

1. Click "Suggest a New Activity" on the bottom of the screen
2. Fill in the form with the information of the activity

--> We will review it and notify you as soon as the activity is added to Jooay!

The image displays two smartphone screens side-by-side, illustrating the steps to suggest a new activity in the Jooay app.   
  
The left screen, labeled with a large '1' and an arrow, shows the app's home screen. At the bottom, there is a navigation bar with icons for Home, News, Chat, and More. Above this bar, there are four category tiles: Arts, Camps, Sports, and Others. Below the categories are three buttons: 'Favourites', 'Review Activities', and 'Suggest a new activity'. The 'Suggest a new activity' button is highlighted with a large '1' and an arrow pointing to it.   
  
The right screen, labeled with a large '2' and an arrow, shows the 'Suggest a new activity' form. The form has a title bar with a close button (X) and a plus icon followed by the text 'Suggest a new activity'. Below the title bar, there is a text box with the instruction: 'You can suggest an activity you know of to be included at Jooay. We will review it and you will be notified as soon as it is posted.' The form contains several input fields: 'Picture' (with a placeholder image icon), 'Category' (with a dropdown menu), 'Activity Name' (with a short answer text field), 'Name of the organization' (with a short answer text field), 'Description' (with a text area for 4-5 sentences), 'Address' (with a search field for an address), and 'Format' (with a dropdown menu). A large '2' and an arrow point to the 'Suggest a new activity' button in the title bar.

## August 12<sup>th</sup> is International Youth Day

This special day is a global celebration recognizing the contributions of young people and promoting their active participation in shaping a better future.



If you have any suggestions for our newsletter please let us know!

contact: [jooay@childhooddisability.ca](mailto:jooay@childhooddisability.ca)

**SOCIAL MEDIA**

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