



OCTOBER 2022

Mission Stories of Outer Islands
& Coastal Downeast Maine



Help Us Bring Christmas to Islands and Downeast Communities

Right before Christmas in 1905, we delivered our first Christmas presents to residents and lighthouse keepers living on Maine islands. More than a century later, we still deliver gifts, wrapped in white parchment paper tied with red string, to island residents and people living in Washington County. Last year, because of the generosity of donors to the Christmas Program, 1,264 people people received gifts from the Mission.

Now the Mission is looking for your help to fulfill its 2022 Christmas Wishlist and brighten the holiday season for so many individuals and families who might not have presents to go under the tree.

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Mission Volunteers Rehab 14 Houses

182 volunteers + 6,142 hours of service = patched roofs, new stairs and ramps, reinforced windows, and 14 happy homeowners. Between Memorial Day and the end of August, we welcomed 182 volunteers from across the country to take part in our [housing rehabilitation program](#). Together those volunteers helped fix up 14 homes in the Downeast area as well as two buildings of community partner organizations. Because of the work done by the volunteers, ten of those houses can now be weatherized...

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First College Visits for 2023 Davis Maine Scholars

For high school seniors, touring a college campus can be a portal into a potential future. But for students—first-generation college students in particular—these visits also bring them into an unfamiliar world and can lead to questions and worries. What will it be like to be in a place so different from home? What will living with roommates be like? What should my major be? Scholars in the [Davis Maine Scholarship](#) program started answering some of those questions and envisioning their future during a five-day trip earlier this month.

Antonio, Joe, Austin, Laney, Tori, and Marissa, this year's Davis Maine Scholars, along with Christina Griffith, Director of Davis Maine Scholarship, and Marianne Calcara from Bowdoin Upward Bound, piled into rental cars to visit...

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Uniting Students from Unbridged Islands

On a rainy day in September, the sound of laughter, cheers, and music coming from the Town Hall could be heard walking up from the mostly quiet harbor on Isle au Haut. The noise of 26 students (six times as many as there are usually on island), meant only one thing, the Inter-Island Event (IIE) was underway. The IIE brings together students, teachers, and parents from...

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Flying High and Learning Leadership Skills

While dangling 10 feet in the air, a student in the Marion Kane Leadership program, worked with her friends on the ground to figure out how to climb up the next obstacle. Looking down at them for support and guidance, they helped and encouraged her as she pulled herself up and threw her leg over the next platform.

Communication was just one of the skills students in 7th grade from eight Washington County schools practiced during the Marion Kane Leadership program at our Cherryfield campus. This two-day retreat, in the fall, brings students...

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Dakin Hewlett | Baker at Mariaville Falls

People & Places - Dakin Hewlett

I'm Dakin Hewlett, the Mission's [Journey](#) program Manager. I moved to Maine a little over a year ago from Pennsylvania where I was working as an environmental educator and leading youth development programs. Alongside my team, I aim to provide engaging and meaningful opportunities for our 7th-12th grade students to explore their passions.

In my short time here, I've gravitated toward spending time at [Mariaville Falls](#). It's my dog Baker's favorite place to run wild along the river and let his zoomies free. I also enjoy floating the warm, summer days away at Donnell Pond. I'm looking forward to exploring more of Maine's beauty!

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Rooted in a history of compassionate service and mutual trust, the Mission seeks to strengthen coastal and island communities by educating youth, supporting families, and promoting good health.

