



March 2024

Mission Stories of Outer Islands
& Coastal Downeast Maine



Mission Announces *Sunbeam* Gala Awardees

Mission President John Zavodny has announced the two recipients of the Sunbeam Award for 2024: Diana Davis Spencer Foundation and Island Institute. This year's awardees were chosen for their commitment to the communities the Mission serves. The Gala is the Mission's annual opportunity to celebrate those who embody the ideals of the community and whose work has made a lasting impact. The 2024 event will take place...

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Casual Fridays Support the Mission

The employees of Bar Harbor Bank & Trust recently donated \$2,780 to the Mission through the bank's "Casual for a Cause" charitable giving initiative. Employees who participate in "Casual for a Cause" dress casually on Fridays in exchange for a payroll deduction to collectively fund a charity. The bank matches 50% of the total donation made by its staff. Each quarter, the employees vote on which nonprofits will receive their contributions. In the fall of 2023, Bar Harbor Bank & Trust employees selected...

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Mission Launches Disaster Recovery Initiative to Maine Islands

Immediately following the January 10th and 13th storms, which caused widespread damage and flooding for Maine's coastal communities, the Mission traveled to select islands aboard *Sunbeam* to assess how these communities were faring. During the three-day venture, Mission staff and a guest from nonprofit partner Island Institute collected 20 contractor bags of debris in addition to having multiple...

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Davis Maine Scholars Reflect on their First Semester

What's it like to be a first-generation student starting the first semester of college? The second cohort of Davis Maine Scholars experienced this last fall. Their first semesters saw these six students move hundreds of miles away from home, learn new skills, and find their way. As they started their second semester, the Mission asked each to reflect on their challenges, surprises, and triumphs from...

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Students in their junior year at Davis Maine partner schools in Washington and eastern Hancock Counties can now apply for the Mission's Davis Maine Scholarship.

[Apply Now](#)



In the News

Here are a few of our favorite pieces from the past few weeks.

ABC 7 and Fox 22 Bangor featured Mission President John Zavodny and Housing Improvement Program Director Jennifer Kempthorne in a piece about the Housing Improvement program accepting applications.

Island Institute stopped by the Mission and toured the *Sunbeam* during a listening session on Mount Desert Island.

Maine Biz covered the Mission's partnership with Island Institute and Sunrise Economic Council to help bridge the digital divide through the Maine Connectivity Authority.

The Bangor Daily News mentioned the Mission's youth programs in an opinion piece about organizations that offer "strategies that foster circles of care around youth from early adolescence into young adulthood."

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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.

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