

Future of St. John Valley Aspirations Scholarship



Name: Elliot bechard Today's date 2/25/26
Mailing Address: 67 Flat Mouth Ln
Your city/town: Saint Anthony Me Zip Code: 04172
Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Kristal Larbee
What school do you attend? Dr. Levesque What grade are you in? 4
Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Mrs Marie Conrath
How many times have you applied for this scholarship in the past? 1 How many times have you earned this scholarship? 0

\$100 Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarships will be awarded by community members to grade 3 - 6 students living in communities served by the schools listed below, and students who best demonstrate effort -- effort to do well in school, effort to pursue education beyond high school, effort to reach their goals, and effort to complete this scholarship application especially well. You are strongly advised to read the "12 Tips" under "Informational Resources" at www.mainecollegecircle.org. If you earn this Aspirations Scholarship, you may also apply for ongoing Ambition Scholarships through 12th grade. These scholarships give you the opportunity to earn over \$5000 or more to help you pursue your aspirations.

Schools:

Madawaska Elementary School
Madawaska Middle High School
Dr. Levesque Elementary School
Wisdom Middle High School

Aspirations Partners:

Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **April 10, 2026**. ALL parts of your application must be completed. Scholarship recipients will be selected and celebrated shortly after the deadline. Recipients may use their \$100 Aspirations Scholarship for educational programs and resources to help them pursue their aspirations. Submitted applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Review Committee and may also be read by a small group of prospective scholarship funders.

To the applicant:

Respond to the following prompts on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to put your name on separate sheets of paper and attach them to this application. Your application may be handwritten or typed. You must also complete the Future of Maine Scholarship Application Expectations Checklist and attach it to your scholarship application. Scholarship Committees will only consider applications with completed Checklists that are signed by the student and the teacher.

1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite or least favorite vegetable or fruit and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

Grade 3: Your Aspirations. What do you enjoy doing today that might make a great career for you in the future? Why do you think it would be a good career for you? What can you do today to prepare for this career? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school student about their pathway to and through high school. Write what you learned from this interview.

Grade 4: Your College* Options. Write about your interests today and aspirations for your future. What career or careers might fit your interests especially well? Given your interests and career aspirations, which college* or colleges might be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school or college* student about their pathway through high school and to college or other educational opportunity after high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: Your College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses or activities before college that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses or activities help you? And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

Grade 6: Your College* Pathway and Beyond. Write about your aspirations. What educational program beyond high school might serve you best as you pursue your career aspirations? Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of what you learned from that interview, including what you might like or dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)



2026

Future of St. John Valley

Aspirations Scholarship

To the applicant:

Please assess your level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Your level of effort is minimal. 3 = Adequate. 7 = Your work shows your highest level of effort possible. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

To the teacher:

Please assess this student's level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Low. 7 = Outstanding. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Optional: If you (teacher) wish to write additional comments in support of your student and his or her application for this scholarship, please feel free to do so below or on a separate sheet of paper. That will be helpful, but is not required. Completed Expectations Checklists are required, must be completed by the student with the teacher's help if needed, and must be signed by the student and the teacher and attached to the application.

To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Elliot is a good student that tries his hardest in school. He is kind, caring, and always looking out for his friends. He spends alot of time at the ~~spo~~ shop or trucking with his dad when he can. These times spent with his dad are teaching him about trucking already.

* Maine College Circle defines "college" as one-, two-, and four-year colleges and universities, trade colleges, and other career-specific educational programs after high school.

Expectations Checklist

Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship, 2026
To be completed by the student

I have written my name (including my last name), my address, my school, my grade, my teacher, and the date.

I even spelled my teacher's name correctly.

I have written my 25 word response that is exactly 25 words long.

My spelling on this whole application is perfect . . . (choose one)

I am quite sure.

I think.

I am not sure.

My grammar and punctuation are pretty good also. I begin sentences with a capital letter. I end sentences with a period or some other appropriate punctuation. I even capitalize "I" every time I write the pronoun "I."

Choose one.

I am very proud of the effort I put into this application.

I worked fairly hard on this application.

I didn't do as well as I could have on this application because _____

I have rated my effort in school and on this application at the top of page 2.

My teacher has rated my effort in school and on this application on page 2.

I have included comments from a parent or some other adult who knows me well and supports my aspirations for the future.

I have a fun and engaging first sentence.

I have provided some details about my interests that hopefully show that I know something about my interest.

I have made an effort to write this in a way and with a voice that is fun to read and helps the reader know more about me.

Grade 3

- I have written about my aspirations for my future.
- I have explained why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me and why it would make me proud.
- I have interviewed a high school student and have written a little about what I learned.

Grade 4

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me and have explained why I think they would be good for me.
- I have interviewed a high school or college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 5

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses or activities that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 6

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a professional and have written about what I learned.

Signed:

Student

Elliot Becham

Teacher

Marie Conarrol

My Trucking Life
By Elliot Bechard

Cantaloupe is my favorite fruit. I like how it is juicy and sweet. I heard about fruit pizza and I'd like to try with cantaloupe

My dream career is to be a truck driver. I want to do long hauls but stay in the state of Maine. I think I would be good at it because I have experience with trucks because I have driven in the woods. I would be good at this because I like it. I have experience and I want to learn more about it.

I am planning to attend the St. John Valley Tech Center. Some of the classes I need to take are OSHA, 10 hour training, and J.J. Keller Entry Level Training course. I also need to take a written test to earn my class A or B. I am excited to drive on the obstacle course. I learned from my interview that with a CDL license you can drive a truck or a semi that exceeds 26,001 pounds. I also learned you start with zero points, but if you get a ticket, you receive points. If you get too many points, you lose your license. I will do my best to follow the laws and work hard in school.

I am excited about jumping into my trucking career. The St. John Valley Tech School has all the courses that I need. I am super excited that I can start this program in high school. It would make me proud to follow in dad's steps and be a long haul truck driver. When you see a logging truck driving down the road it might just be me!

As Elliott Bechard's 4th grade teacher, I have had the pleasure of seeing him grow into a positive, hardworking, and motivated student. Elliott consistently brings a great attitude to the classroom and approaches each day with a willingness to learn and improve. He is dedicated to doing his best, even when faced with challenges, and shows perseverance in all that he does. Elliott has a clear vision for his future, with a strong dream of becoming a logging trucker, and his determination to reach that goal is truly admirable. His work ethic, positive mindset, and commitment to learning will serve him well as he continues to pursue his dreams. I am confident that Elliott will make a meaningful impact in whatever path he chooses.

Best regards,

Mrs. Marie Conarro

Future of St. John Valley Aspirations Scholarship



Name: Natalise Cyr Today's date 2/24/26

Mailing Address: 11 Paradis Ave Frenchville ME.

Your city/town: Frenchville ME. Zip Code: 04745

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s)? Lana + Curtis Cyr

What school do you attend? Dr Levesque elementary What grade are you in? 4

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Mrs. Marie Conarroe

How many times have you applied for this scholarship in the past? 1 How many times have you earned this scholarship? 0

\$100 Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarships will be awarded by community members to grade 3 - 6 students living in communities served by the schools listed below, and students who best demonstrate effort -- effort to do well in school, effort to pursue education beyond high school, effort to reach their goals, and effort to complete this scholarship application especially well. You are strongly advised to read the "12 Tips" under "Informational Resources" at www.mainecollegecircle.org. If you earn this Aspirations Scholarship, you may also apply for ongoing Ambition Scholarships through 12th grade. These scholarships give you the opportunity to earn over \$5000 or more to help you pursue your aspirations.

Schools:

Madawaska Elementary School
Madawaska Middle High School
Dr. Levesque Elementary School
Wisdom Middle High School

Aspirations Partners:

Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **April 10, 2026**. ALL parts of your application must be completed. Scholarship recipients will be selected and celebrated shortly after the deadline. Recipients may use their \$100 Aspirations Scholarship for educational programs and resources to help them pursue their aspirations. Submitted applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Review Committee and may also be read by a small group of prospective scholarship funders.

To the applicant:

Respond to the following prompts on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to put your name on separate sheets of paper and attach them to this application. Your application may be handwritten or typed. You must also complete the Future of Maine Scholarship Application Expectations Checklist and attach it to your scholarship application. Scholarship Committees will only consider applications with completed Checklists that are signed by the student and the teacher.

1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite or least favorite vegetable or fruit and why?

2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

Grade 3: Your Aspirations. What do you enjoy doing today that might make a great career for you in the future? Why do you think it would be a good career for you? What can you do today to prepare for this career? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school student about their pathway to and through high school. Write what you learned from this interview.

Grade 4: Your College* Options. Write about your interests today and aspirations for your future. What career or careers might fit your interests especially well? Given your interests and career aspirations, which college* or colleges might be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school or college* student about their pathway through high school and to college or other educational opportunity after high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: Your College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses or activities before college that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses or activities help you? And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

Grade 6: Your College* Pathway and Beyond. Write about your aspirations. What educational program beyond high school might serve you best as you pursue your career aspirations? Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of what you learned from that interview, including what you might like or dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)



Future of St. John Valley

Aspirations Scholarship

2026

To the applicant:

Please assess your level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Your level of effort is minimal. 3 = Adequate. 7 = Your work shows your highest level of effort possible. *Please circle one number in each category.*

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

To the teacher:

Please assess this student's level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Low. 7 = Outstanding. *Please circle one number in each category.*

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Optional: If you (teacher) wish to write additional comments in support of your student and his or her application for this scholarship, please feel free to do so below or on a separate sheet of paper. That will be helpful, but is not required. *Completed Expectations Checklists are required, must be completed by the student with the teacher's help if needed, and must be signed by the student and the teacher and attached to the application.*

To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

* Maine College Circle defines "college" as one-, two-, and four-year colleges and universities, trade colleges, and other career-specific educational programs after high school.

Natalise Cyr is a compassionate and resilient go-getter with big dreams of becoming a teacher. From a very young age, Natalise could be found playing school and making lesson plans for her brothers. *Natalise consistently encourages and guides those around her. Her kindness and compassion make her* someone people are naturally drawn to. When challenges arise, she seeks solutions or asks the necessary questions to overcome them, an approach very important in the real world, no matter the profession. Natalise always strives to do her best and works diligently to improve her skills in whatever she undertakes. These characteristics are sure to make her an amazing teacher someday.

Expectations Checklist

Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship, 2026
To be completed by the student

I have written my name (including my last name), my address, my school, my grade, my teacher, and the date.

I even spelled my teacher's name correctly.

I have written my 25 word response that is exactly 25 words long.

My spelling on this whole application is perfect . . . (choose one)

I am quite sure.

I think.

I am not sure.

My grammar and punctuation are pretty good also. I begin sentences with a capital letter. I end sentences with a period or some other appropriate punctuation. I even capitalize "I" every time I write the pronoun "I."

Choose one.

I am very proud of the effort I put into this application.

I worked fairly hard on this application.

I didn't do as well as I could have on this application because _____

I have rated my effort in school and on this application at the top of page 2.

My teacher has rated my effort in school and on this application on page 2.

I have included comments from a parent or some other adult who knows me well and supports my aspirations for the future.

I have a fun and engaging first sentence.

I have provided some details about my interests that hopefully show that I know something about my interest.

I have made an effort to write this in a way and with a voice that is fun to read and helps the reader know more about me.

Grade 3

- I have written about my aspirations for my future.
- I have explained why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me and why it would make me proud.
- I have interviewed a high school student and have written a little about what I learned.

Grade 4

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me and have explained why I think they would be good for me.
- I have interviewed a high school or college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 5

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses or activities that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 6

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a professional and have written about what I learned.

Signed:

Student

Natalise Cyr

Teacher

Marie Benarroch

Teaching In The Future!

By: Natalise Cyr

I like strawberries because they are sweet and healthy. I dislike peppers, they taste bitter. I haven't tried them cooked, maybe I'd like them then.

Okay, class, sit down and settle in, we have some interesting things to talk about today. I think I'd be a great teacher because I really like helping others. I would like to teach 2nd grade. I like teaching my family and friends. When I teach my brothers I teach them real things. I think teaching is an amazing job because you get to help kids and they can learn. I am great at math and I would be a good math teacher because I've been learning a lot of skills over the past couple of years

Learning is important so you can be successful and smart. Safety is also important because you need to know how to deal with things and help kids out. Some of the courses I am looking forward to taking are, Teaching mathematics in the elementary school. Teaching reading in elementary school. I would like to take directed student teaching. Exceptionality. Teaching social studies in elementary school. I am looking forward to being the best teacher, and doing my best to pass all my courses. I learned that I have to be a good student and work hard in all of my courses. I am going to be strongly invested in my learning to earn A's. I learned from the interview that you need to teach but teach in a fun and interesting way.

I am preparing now for my future. I look forward to attending the University of Connecticut. I feel strongly that with my dedication to my learning, helping others and continuing to learn that I will be ready for any challenges and adventures that my future holds.

I'm confident with my education that I can become a great teacher, creating a fun and engaging learning environment.

Natalise Cyr is a bright, kind, and highly motivated 4th grade student who is deeply invested in her learning. She consistently works hard to stay on task and puts great effort into doing her very best on every assignment. Natalise holds herself to high standards and takes pride in striving for excellence in all that she does. She is also incredibly helpful and caring toward her classmates, always contributing positively to our classroom community. Natalise has a clear passion for her future as an elementary teacher, often using her imagination to play “school” with her peers and family as she practices the skills she will one day use in her own classroom. Her dedication, strong work ethic, and love of learning make her truly deserving of this scholarship opportunity.

Best regards,

Mrs. Marie Conarroe

Future of St. John Valley Aspirations Scholarship

2026

Name: Jemma Desjardins Today's date 03 25 26

Mailing Address: PO Box 153

Your city/town: Frenchville Zip Code: 04745

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Troy and Alexandra Desjardins

What school do you attend? NLES What grade are you in? 4

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? M. Conrath

How many times have you applied for this scholarship in the past? 0 How many times have you earned this scholarship? 0

\$100 Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarships will be awarded by community members to grade 3 - 6 students living in communities served by the schools listed below, and students who best demonstrate effort -- effort to do well in school, effort to pursue education beyond high school, effort to reach their goals, and effort to complete this scholarship application especially well. You are strongly advised to read the "12 Tips" under "Informational Resources" at www.mainecollegecircle.org. If you earn this Aspirations Scholarship, you may also apply for ongoing Ambition Scholarships through 12th grade. These scholarships give you the opportunity to earn over \$5000 or more to help you pursue your aspirations.

Schools:

Madawaska Elementary School
Madawaska Middle High School
Dr. Levesque Elementary School
Wisdom Middle High School

Aspirations Partners:

Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **April 10, 2026**. ALL parts of your application must be completed. Scholarship recipients will be selected and celebrated shortly after the deadline. Recipients may use their \$100 Aspirations Scholarship for educational programs and resources to help them pursue their aspirations. Submitted applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Review Committee and may also be read by a small group of prospective scholarship funders.

To the applicant:

Respond to the following prompts on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to put your name on separate sheets of paper and attach them to this application. Your application may be handwritten or typed. You must also complete the Future of Maine Scholarship Application Expectations Checklist and attach it to your scholarship application. Scholarship Committees will only consider applications with completed Checklists that are signed by the student and the teacher.

1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite or least favorite vegetable or fruit and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

Grade 3: Your Aspirations. What do you enjoy doing today that might make a great career for you in the future? Why do you think it would be a good career for you? What can you do today to prepare for this career? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school student about their pathway to and through high school. Write what you learned from this interview.

Grade 4: Your College* Options. Write about your interests today and aspirations for your future. What career or careers might fit your interests especially well? Given your interests and career aspirations, which college* or colleges might be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school or college* student about their pathway through high school and to college or other educational opportunity after high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: Your College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses or activities before college that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses or activities help you? And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

Grade 6: Your College* Pathway and Beyond. Write about your aspirations. What educational program beyond high school might serve you best as you pursue your career aspirations? Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of what you learned from that interview, including what you might like or dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)



Future of St. John Valley

Aspirations Scholarship

2026

To the applicant:

Please assess your level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Your level of effort is minimal. 3 = Adequate. 7 = Your work shows your highest level of effort possible. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

To the teacher:

Please assess this student's level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Low. 7 = Outstanding. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Optional: If you (teacher) wish to write additional comments in support of your student and his or her application for this scholarship, please feel free to do so below or on a separate sheet of paper. That will be helpful, but is not required. Completed Expectations Checklists are required, must be completed by the student with the teacher's help if needed, and must be signed by the student and the teacher and attached to the application.

To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Jemma is a very kind and gentle soul. She loves people, animals and right down to bugs. She is a natural Mothering figure. She loves to help any way she can. She is a caring child and beyond mature for her age. Nursing would be second nature to her. She is a fun loving girl who loves to help and be involved. Jemma would strive to be the best nurse she could be. With her whole heart.

* Maine College Circle defines "college" as one-, two-, and four-year colleges and universities, trade colleges, and other career-specific educational programs after high school.

Expectations Checklist

Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship, 2026
To be completed by the student

I have written my name (including my last name), my address, my school, my grade, my teacher, and the date.

I even spelled my teacher's name correctly.

I have written my 25 word response that is exactly 25 words long.

My spelling on this whole application is perfect . . . (choose one)

I am quite sure.

I think.

I am not sure.

My grammar and punctuation are pretty good also. I begin sentences with a capital letter. I end sentences with a period or some other appropriate punctuation. I even capitalize "I" every time I write the pronoun "I."

Choose one.

I am very proud of the effort I put into this application.

I worked fairly hard on this application.

I didn't do as well as I could have on this application because _____

I have rated my effort in school and on this application at the top of page 2.

My teacher has rated my effort in school and on this application on page 2.

I have included comments from a parent or some other adult who knows me well and supports my aspirations for the future.

I have a fun and engaging first sentence.

I have provided some details about my interests that hopefully show that I know something about my interest.

I have made an effort to write this in a way and with a voice that is fun to read and helps the reader know more about me.

Grade 3

- I have written about my aspirations for my future.
- I have explained why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me and why it would make me proud.
- I have interviewed a high school student and have written a little about what I learned.

Grade 4

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me and have explained why I think they would be good for me.
- I have interviewed a high school or college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 5

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses or activities that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 6

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a professional and have written about what I learned.

Signed:

Student

Jemma Desjardins

Teacher

Marie Conarrol

Nurse Jemma
By Jemma Desjardins

Cucumbers are my very favorite vegetable. I like eating them with a sprinkle of salt. I also like them in my salad with no dressing.

I would like to be a pediatric surgical nurse because I like to help kids. A pediatric surgical nurse helps kids after they are done with surgery. I feel I would be good at this because I like to. Help kids to feel better. I want to help them not be scared before and after surgery. I want to do this for a career because I went through two surgeries and my pediatric surgical nurse made me feel comfortable and not scared. This is what inspired me to follow this career path. The college I would like to go to is the University of Maine at Presque Isle. Some classes I will take are Human Anatomy and Physiology, General Microbiology, Pharmacology, General Psychology, and Introduction to Professional Nursing. I interviewed Ms. Joanne. I asked her if she helped in surgery or after surgery? She said yes. I also asked her what her scariest moment was at work. She said when someone is on the edge of dying, I also asked her what school she would recommend. She said UMFK. I also asked her "Is it hard to draw blood?" She said "No, it is fun." My last question was what is the most difficult thing in nursing? Her response was "when a patient is dying". The best school for me is UMPI. When I grow up I would like to be a pediatric surgical nurse. I can help children before surgery and after.

Jemma Desjardins is an exceptional fourth-grade student whose hard work and dedication to her learning truly stand out. She consistently gives her best effort in everything she does, showing perseverance even when tasks are challenging. Jemma is also a kind and thoughtful friend who is always willing to help her classmates, making her a positive role model in the classroom. Her enthusiasm for learning shines through each day, and she already has exciting goals for her future. Jemma dreams of attending college to become a pediatric surgical nurse, where she can help care for children and make a meaningful difference in their lives. With her strong work ethic, compassion, and determination, there is no doubt that Jemma will achieve her goals and continue to make those around her proud.

Best regards,

Mrs. Marie Conarro

Future of St. John Valley Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Scarlett Lowe Today's date 2-24-26

Mailing Address: 244 US Rt 1

Your city/town: Frenchville, ME Zip Code: 04745

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Christopher Lowe

What school do you attend? Dr. Levesque What grade are you in? 4

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Mrs. Marie Conarroe

How many times have you applied for this scholarship in the past? 1 How many times have you earned this scholarship? 0



\$100 Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarships will be awarded by community members to grade 3 - 6 students living in communities served by the schools listed below, and students who best demonstrate effort -- effort to do well in school, effort to pursue education beyond high school, effort to reach their goals, and effort to complete this scholarship application especially well. You are strongly advised to read the "12 Tips" under "Informational Resources" at www.mainecollegecircle.org. If you earn this Aspirations Scholarship, you may also apply for ongoing Ambition Scholarships through 12th grade. These scholarships give you the opportunity to earn over \$5000 or more to help you pursue your aspirations.

Schools:

Madawaska Elementary School
Madawaska Middle High School
Dr. Levesque Elementary School
Wisdom Middle High School

Aspirations Partners:

Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **April 10, 2026**. ALL parts of your application must be completed. Scholarship recipients will be selected and celebrated shortly after the deadline. Recipients may use their \$100 Aspirations Scholarship for educational programs and resources to help them pursue their aspirations. Submitted applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Review Committee and may also be read by a small group of prospective scholarship funders.

To the applicant:

Respond to the following prompts on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to put your name on separate sheets of paper and attach them to this application. Your application may be handwritten or typed. You must also complete the Future of Maine Scholarship Application Expectations Checklist and attach it to your scholarship application. Scholarship Committees will only consider applications with completed Checklists that are signed by the student and the teacher.

1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite or least favorite vegetable or fruit and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

Grade 3: Your Aspirations. What do you enjoy doing today that might make a great career for you in the future? Why do you think it would be a good career for you? What can you do today to prepare for this career? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school student about their pathway to and through high school. Write what you learned from this interview.

Grade 4: Your College* Options. Write about your interests today and aspirations for your future. What career or careers might fit your interests especially well? Given your interests and career aspirations, which college* or colleges might be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school or college* student about their pathway through high school and to college or other educational opportunity after high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: Your College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses or activities before college that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses or activities help you? And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

Grade 6: Your College* Pathway and Beyond. Write about your aspirations. What educational program beyond high school might serve you best as you pursue your career aspirations? Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of what you learned from that interview, including what you might like or dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)



Future of St. John Valley

Aspirations Scholarship

2026

To the applicant:

Please assess your level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Your level of effort is minimal. 3 = Adequate. 7 = Your work shows your highest level of effort possible. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

To the teacher:

Please assess this student's level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Low. 7 = Outstanding. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Optional: If you (teacher) wish to write additional comments in support of your student and his or her application for this scholarship, please feel free to do so below or on a separate sheet of paper. That will be helpful, but is not required. *Completed Expectations Checklists are required, must be completed by the student with the teacher's help if needed, and must be signed by the student and the teacher and attached to the application.*

To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Scarlett's aspirations are to enroll in college and see what the future holds for her, she has a very positive outlook for her future

* Maine College Circle defines "college" as one-, two-, and four-year colleges and universities, trade colleges, and other career-specific educational programs after high school.

Expectations Checklist

Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship, 2026
To be completed by the student

I have written my name (including my last name), my address, my school, my grade, my teacher, and the date.

I even spelled my teacher's name correctly.

I have written my 25 word response that is exactly 25 words long.

My spelling on this whole application is perfect . . . (choose one)

I am quite sure.

I think.

I am not sure.

My grammar and punctuation are pretty good also. I begin sentences with a capital letter. I end sentences with a period or some other appropriate punctuation. I even capitalize "I" every time I write the pronoun "I."

Choose one.

I am very proud of the effort I put into this application.

I worked fairly hard on this application.

I didn't do as well as I could have on this application because _____

I have rated my effort in school and on this application at the top of page 2.

My teacher has rated my effort in school and on this application on page 2.

I have included comments from a parent or some other adult who knows me well and supports my aspirations for the future.

I have a fun and engaging first sentence.

I have provided some details about my interests that hopefully show that I know something about my interest.

I have made an effort to write this in a way and with a voice that is fun to read and helps the reader know more about me.

Grade 3

- I have written about my aspirations for my future.
- I have explained why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me and why it would make me proud.
- I have interviewed a high school student and have written a little about what I learned.

Grade 4

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me and have explained why I think they would be good for me.
- I have interviewed a high school or college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 5

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses or activities that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 6

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a professional and have written about what I learned.

Signed:

Student Scarlett Lowe

Teacher Marie Conarrol

Cosmotologist
By Scarlett Lowe

My favorite fruit is watermelon, because it is juicy on the inside and out. On a hot and sunny day eating watermelon is so refreshing.

I love doing makeup because it's fun and since I was four years old I got some makeup and I drew on my dolls. I regret doing that but I got better at it and I've been putting makeup on my friends. I've been braiding and curling my doll's hair.

I got a doll that you can clip to the table. You can do anything with it . You can do her hair, you can put make-up on, and paint her nails. When I am older I want to help people when they are bald or need help with their hair. I want to make it work and for all the people that don't have hair. I am going to make it work so they will have hair and for the people that have long hair. For the people with long hair and want to cut it, they can donate their hair for cancer patients. They take their hair and make wigs. I enjoy doing other people's hair and it makes me feel good when I see how happy they are when they have a makeover. I think this is the perfect career for me. I like to make people happy and feel good about themselves.

I am excited about my future and attending Empire Beauty School in Bangor. I really like this college. After I researched it and saw all the cool things I will learn and be able to practice, makes me get really excited to start in my career in helping people to feel good about themselves.

As Scarlett Lowe's teacher, I have had the pleasure of watching her grow into a dedicated and compassionate student with outstanding work habits. She consistently approaches her learning with focus, responsibility, and a strong desire to do her best. Scarlett is kind and supportive to those around her, always willing to lend a helping hand or offer encouragement to her classmates. Her creativity shines through in her work, especially when she is given opportunities to express herself in unique and thoughtful ways. Scarlett has a clear passion for pursuing a career in cosmetology, and her attention to detail, artistic ability, and caring nature make her especially well-suited for this field. I am confident that she will continue to work hard and make a positive impact on others as she follows her goals.

Best regards,

Mrs. Marie Conarroe

Future of St. John Valley Aspirations Scholarship



Name: Bella Martin Today's date 2/24/26
Mailing Address: 253 Main Street St. Agatha ME
Your city/town: St. Agatha Zip Code: 04772
Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Neal and Denise Martin
What school do you attend? Dr. Levesque elem What grade are you in? 4th
Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Mrs. Marie Conarroe
How many times have you applied for this scholarship in the past? 1 How many times have you earned this scholarship? 1

\$100 Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarships will be awarded by community members to grade 3 - 6 students living in communities served by the schools listed below, and students who best demonstrate effort -- effort to do well in school, effort to pursue education beyond high school, effort to reach their goals, and effort to complete this scholarship application especially well. You are strongly advised to read the "12 Tips" under "Informational Resources" at www.mainecollegecircle.org. If you earn this Aspirations Scholarship, you may also apply for ongoing Ambition Scholarships through 12th grade. These scholarships give you the opportunity to earn over \$5000 or more to help you pursue your aspirations.

Schools:

Madawaska Elementary School
Madawaska Middle High School
Dr. Levesque Elementary School
Wisdom Middle High School

Aspirations Partners:

Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **April 10, 2026**. ALL parts of your application must be completed. Scholarship recipients will be selected and celebrated shortly after the deadline. Recipients may use their \$100 Aspirations Scholarship for educational programs and resources to help them pursue their aspirations. Submitted applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Review Committee and may also be read by a small group of prospective scholarship funders.

To the applicant:

Respond to the following prompts on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to put your name on separate sheets of paper and attach them to this application. Your application may be handwritten or typed. You must also complete the Future of Maine Scholarship Application Expectations Checklist and attach it to your scholarship application. Scholarship Committees will only consider applications with completed Checklists that are signed by the student and the teacher.

1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite or least favorite vegetable or fruit and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

Grade 3: Your Aspirations. What do you enjoy doing today that might make a great career for you in the future? Why do you think it would be a good career for you? What can you do today to prepare for this career? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school student about their pathway to and through high school. Write what you learned from this interview.

Grade 4: Your College* Options. Write about your interests today and aspirations for your future. What career or careers might fit your interests especially well? Given your interests and career aspirations, which college* or colleges might be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school or college* student about their pathway through high school and to college or other educational opportunity after high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: Your College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses or activities before college that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses or activities help you? And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

Grade 6: Your College* Pathway and Beyond. Write about your aspirations. What educational program beyond high school might serve you best as you pursue your career aspirations? Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of what you learned from that interview, including what you might like or dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)



2026

Future of St. John Valley

Aspirations Scholarship

To the applicant:

Please assess your level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Your level of effort is minimal. 3 = Adequate. 7 = Your work shows your highest level of effort possible. *Please circle one number in each category.*

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

To the teacher:

Please assess this student's level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Low. 7 = Outstanding. *Please circle one number in each category.*

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Optional: If you (teacher) wish to write additional comments in support of your student and his or her application for this scholarship, please feel free to do so below or on a separate sheet of paper. That will be helpful, but is not required. *Completed Expectations Checklists are required, must be completed by the student with the teacher's help if needed, and must be signed by the student and the teacher and attached to the application.*

To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

(other page)

* Maine College Circle defines "college" as one-, two-, and four-year colleges and universities, trade colleges, and other career-specific educational programs after high school.

Bella Martin
Grade: 4

Ms. Marie Conarroe

Bella would love to be a gymnast when she grows up. She would make a great gymnast because she has the right attitude and strong work ethic. She is constantly practicing and aiming to improve her skills.

Bella keeps wanting to add equipment to her "gym" in the garage. She works hard on making up routines and gaining her strength daily.

A big influence and role model for Bella is Simone Biles. She loves watching her perform and is amazed by her athleticism.

Bella was part of her school's mini Cheer squad this year and absolutely loved it. By being part of this team, she gained a deeper passion for the sport and confidence as well.

Bella plans on attending college in the future and hopefully joining a gymnastics program while studying. She would eventually like to open her own gym and teach students gymnastics.

13

[Faint, illegible text on lined paper]

14

15

Expectations Checklist

Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship, 2026
To be completed by the student

I have written my name (including my last name), my address, my school, my grade, my teacher, and the date.

I even spelled my teacher's name correctly.

I have written my 25 word response that is exactly 25 words long.

My spelling on this whole application is perfect . . . (choose one)

I am quite sure.

I think.

I am not sure.

My grammar and punctuation are pretty good also. I begin sentences with a capital letter. I end sentences with a period or some other appropriate punctuation. I even capitalize "I" every time I write the pronoun "I."

Choose one.

I am very proud of the effort I put into this application.

I worked fairly hard on this application.

I didn't do as well as I could have on this application because _____

I have rated my effort in school and on this application at the top of page 2.

My teacher has rated my effort in school and on this application on page 2.

I have included comments from a parent or some other adult who knows me well and supports my aspirations for the future.

I have a fun and engaging first sentence.

I have provided some details about my interests that hopefully show that I know something about my interest.

I have made an effort to write this in a way and with a voice that is fun to read and helps the reader know more about me.

Grade 3

- I have written about my aspirations for my future.
- I have explained why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me and why it would make me proud.
- I have interviewed a high school student and have written a little about what I learned.

Grade 4

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me and have explained why I think they would be good for me.
- I have interviewed a high school or college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 5

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses or activities that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 6

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a professional and have written about what I learned.

Signed:

Student

Bella martin

Teacher

Marie Conarrol

My Gymnastic Life

By Bella Martin

Cucumbers are one of my favorite vegetables. Because pickles are made of cucumbers, and I love pickles. I could eat them all day long everyday.

'All right you can do this Bella' said coach Aimee Boorman. This is what I want to hear one day. I love doing gymnastics because I really like to do flips and tricks. I also like to do cartwheels and try new things. It is so fun! I love to do gymnastics every day.

I think that gymnastics is an amazing sport and maybe you should try it one day. You might end up loving it as much as me! If you like to work out and fly in the air then this is the perfect sport for you! I think gymnastics is an amazing sport for me because I am a great gymnast, I haven't been in gymnastics or been coached. I learned everything by myself!

In my interview I learned I need to have a back-up career. My back-up career is cosmetology. I found a college that interests me and has both career fields I want to do. My interviewer told me how important it is to go to a college that has the courses and a gymnastics team that I like. She also told me to research and have a plan and have fun. She explained that I need to keep up with my gymnastics so when I graduate I can try-out for the team.

After researching and my interview I learned that practicing can be challenging but I need it so I can be successful. I work hard in school which helps me be prepared for college. I also want to coach to help other kids make their dreams come true. I think the University of Utah fits my dream of becoming a gymnast and a Cosmetology technician.

Bella Martin is an incredibly dedicated and hardworking 4th grade student who brings both heart and determination to everything she does. She is kind, helpful, and always willing to support those around her, making her a positive presence in the classroom. Bella shows outstanding commitment to her learning, consistently putting forth her best effort and taking pride in her work. Outside of school, she practices diligently to achieve her dream of becoming a professional gymnast, demonstrating perseverance and strong self-discipline. She also has a thoughtful back-up plan of becoming a cosmetologist, showing maturity and foresight about her future. Bella's drive, compassion, and dedication to her goals make her truly deserving of this scholarship opportunity.

Best regards,

Mrs. Marie Conarro

Future of St. John Valley Aspirations Scholarship



Name: Austin Ouellette Today's date 3-24-26
Mailing Address: P.O. box 283
Your city/town: Frenchville Zip Code: 04745
Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Julie Paradis
What school do you attend? Dies What grade are you in? 41
Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Mrs. Marie
How many times have you applied for this scholarship in the past? 1 How many times have you earned this scholarship? 0

\$100 Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarships will be awarded by community members to grade 3 - 6 students living in communities served by the schools listed below, and students who best demonstrate effort -- effort to do well in school, effort to pursue education beyond high school, effort to reach their goals, and effort to complete this scholarship application especially well. You are strongly advised to read the "12 Tips" under "Informational Resources" at www.mainecollegecircle.org. If you earn this Aspirations Scholarship, you may also apply for ongoing Ambition Scholarships through 12th grade. These scholarships give you the opportunity to earn over \$5000 or more to help you pursue your aspirations.

Schools:

Madawaska Elementary School
Madawaska Middle High School
Dr. Levesque Elementary School
Wisdom Middle High School

Aspirations Partners:

Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **April 10, 2026**. ALL parts of your application must be completed. Scholarship recipients will be selected and celebrated shortly after the deadline. Recipients may use their \$100 Aspirations Scholarship for educational programs and resources to help them pursue their aspirations. Submitted applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Review Committee and may also be read by a small group of prospective scholarship funders.

To the applicant:

Respond to the following prompts on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to put your name on separate sheets of paper and attach them to this application. Your application may be handwritten or typed. You must also complete the Future of Maine Scholarship Application Expectations Checklist and attach it to your scholarship application. Scholarship Committees will only consider applications with completed Checklists that are signed by the student and the teacher.

1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite or least favorite vegetable or fruit and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

Grade 3: Your Aspirations. What do you enjoy doing today that might make a great career for you in the future? Why do you think it would be a good career for you? What can you do today to prepare for this career? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school student about their pathway to and through high school. Write what you learned from this interview.

Grade 4: Your College* Options. Write about your interests today and aspirations for your future. What career or careers might fit your interests especially well? Given your interests and career aspirations, which college* or colleges might be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school or college* student about their pathway through high school and to college or other educational opportunity after high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: Your College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses or activities before college that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses or activities help you? And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

Grade 6: Your College* Pathway and Beyond. Write about your aspirations. What educational program beyond high school might serve you best as you pursue your career aspirations? Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of what you learned from that interview, including what you might like or dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)



2026

Future of St. John Valley

Aspirations Scholarship

To the applicant:

Please assess your level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Your level of effort is minimal. 3 = Adequate. 7 = Your work shows your highest level of effort possible. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Effort on this application: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

To the teacher:

Please assess this student's level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Low. 7 = Outstanding. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Effort on this application: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Optional: If you (teacher) wish to write additional comments in support of your student and his or her application for this scholarship, please feel free to do so below or on a separate sheet of paper. That will be helpful, but is not required. *Completed Expectations Checklists are required, must be completed by the student with the teacher's help if needed, and must be signed by the student and the teacher and attached to the application.*

To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Austin is a bright kid and doing well in school. He's a good reader and works hard. Austin wants to work on the railroad when he grows up.

* Maine College Circle defines "college" as one-, two-, and four-year colleges and universities, trade colleges, and other career-specific educational programs after high school.

Grade 3

- I have written about my aspirations for my future.
- I have explained why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me and why it would make me proud.
- I have interviewed a high school student and have written a little about what I learned.

Grade 4

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me and have explained why I think they would be good for me.
- I have interviewed a high school or college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 5

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses or activities that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 6

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a professional and have written about what I learned.

Signed:

Student

Austin Ouellette

Teacher

Marie Conarrol

Expectations Checklist

Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship, 2026

To be completed by the student

I have written my name (including my last name), my address, my school, my grade, my teacher, and the date.

I even spelled my teacher's name correctly.

I have written my 25 word response that is exactly 25 words long.

My spelling on this whole application is perfect . . . (choose one)

I am quite sure.

I think.

I am not sure.

My grammar and punctuation are pretty good also. I begin sentences with a capital letter. I end sentences with a period or some other appropriate punctuation. I even capitalize "I" every time I write the pronoun "I."

Choose one.

I am very proud of the effort I put into this application.

I worked fairly hard on this application.

I didn't do as well as I could have on this application because _____

I have rated my effort in school and on this application at the top of page 2.

My teacher has rated my effort in school and on this application on page 2.

I have included comments from a parent or some other adult who knows me well and supports my aspirations for the future.

I have a fun and engaging first sentence.

I have provided some details about my interests that hopefully show that I know something about my interest.

I have made an effort to write this in a way and with a voice that is fun to read and helps the reader know more about me.

Trains

By Austin Ouellette

Watermelon is my favorite fruit because it's so sweet and very very juicy. I like to eat watermelon for a snack on a hot summer day.

My dream is to be a train conductor that hooks up the train cars. I'll be good at it because I'm good at hooking up toy trains.

I would like to go to NMCC to become a train conductor. Some courses I have to take are Introduction to Conductor Service, Conductor Mechanical Operation, Conductor Service General Operation, General Code Of Operation Rules and the Conductor Field Application course.

I learned from my interview and videos how important safety is. There are a lot of dangerous things that you have to fix. My favorite thing to do is hooking up the train cars. I learned that it is hard work, but it looks fun and I can't wait to work on trains and be a train conductor.

Austin Ouellette is a fun, kind, and hardworking 4th grade student who consistently puts forth his best effort in everything he does. He is actively invested in his learning and approaches each task with a positive attitude and determination to succeed. Austin is a thoughtful classmate who contributes to a supportive and encouraging classroom environment. He has a clear interest in becoming a train conductor and is already beginning to think about and prepare for his future path. With his strong work ethic, curiosity, and enthusiasm, I am confident that Austin will continue to grow and achieve his goals, making him a wonderful candidate for this scholarship opportunity.

Best regards,

Mrs. Marie Conarro

Future of St. John Valley Aspirations Scholarship



Name: Saul Paradis Today's date 2-24-26
Mailing Address: PO BOX 91
Your city/town: FRENCHVILLE, ME Zip Code: 04745
Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): MELINDA PARADIS
What school do you attend? Dr. Levesque What grade are you in? 4
Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Mrs. Marie Conarroe
How many times have you applied for this scholarship in the past? 1 How many times have you earned this scholarship? 1

\$100 Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarships will be awarded by community members to grade 3 - 6 students living in communities served by the schools listed below, and students who best demonstrate effort -- effort to do well in school, effort to pursue education beyond high school, effort to reach their goals, and effort to complete this scholarship application especially well. You are strongly advised to read the "12 Tips" under "Informational Resources" at www.mainecollegecircle.org. If you earn this Aspirations Scholarship, you may also apply for ongoing Ambition Scholarships through 12th grade. These scholarships give you the opportunity to earn over \$5000 or more to help you pursue your aspirations.

Schools:

Madawaska Elementary School
Madawaska Middle High School
Dr. Levesque Elementary School
Wisdom Middle High School

Aspirations Partners:

Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **April 10, 2026**. ALL parts of your application must be completed. Scholarship recipients will be selected and celebrated shortly after the deadline. Recipients may use their \$100 Aspirations Scholarship for educational programs and resources to help them pursue their aspirations. Submitted applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Review Committee and may also be read by a small group of prospective scholarship funders.

To the applicant:

Respond to the following prompts on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to put your name on separate sheets of paper and attach them to this application. Your application may be handwritten or typed. You must also complete the Future of Maine Scholarship Application Expectations Checklist and attach it to your scholarship application. Scholarship Committees will only consider applications with completed Checklists that are signed by the student and the teacher.

1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite or least favorite vegetable or fruit and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

Grade 3: Your Aspirations. What do you enjoy doing today that might make a great career for you in the future? Why do you think it would be a good career for you? What can you do today to prepare for this career? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school student about their pathway to and through high school. Write what you learned from this interview.

Grade 4: Your College* Options. Write about your interests today and aspirations for your future. What career or careers might fit your interests especially well? Given your interests and career aspirations, which college* or colleges might be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school or college* student about their pathway through high school and to college or other educational opportunity after high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: Your College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses or activities before college that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses or activities help you? And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

Grade 6: Your College* Pathway and Beyond. Write about your aspirations. What educational program beyond high school might serve you best as you pursue your career aspirations? Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of what you learned from that interview, including what you might like or dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)



Future of St. John Valley

Aspirations Scholarship

2026

To the applicant:

Please assess your level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Your level of effort is minimal. 3 = Adequate. 7 = Your work shows your highest level of effort possible. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

To the teacher:

Please assess this student's level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Low. 7 = Outstanding. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Optional: If you (teacher) wish to write additional comments in support of your student and his or her application for this scholarship, please feel free to do so below or on a separate sheet of paper. That will be helpful, but is not required. Completed Expectations Checklists are required, must be completed by the student with the teacher's help if needed, and must be signed by the student and the teacher and attached to the application.

Saul has big dreams to follow in his family farm. He loves to share with me the things he's learning and helps to do around the farm. He has a strong work and learning ethic. He works hard and is invested in his learning now and in his future. I know he will do great things!

To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Saul has the attributes to be a good farmer - hard working, eager to learn, early riser, good work ethic. Saul has been helping out on our ~~farm~~ family farm since he could walk and continues to do so at age 10. We are excited to pass on our farm to our kids if it's their aspiration to follow in dad's foot steps.

* Maine College Circle defines "college" as one-, two-, and four-year colleges and universities, trade colleges, and other career-specific educational programs after high school.

Expectations Checklist

Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship, 2026
To be completed by the student

- I have written my name (including my last name), my address, my school, my grade, my teacher, and the date.
- I even spelled my teacher's name correctly.
- I have written my 25 word response that is exactly 25 words long.

My spelling on this whole application is perfect . . . (choose one)

- I am quite sure.
- I think.
- I am not sure.

My grammar and punctuation are pretty good also. I begin sentences with a capital letter. I end sentences with a period or some other appropriate punctuation. I even capitalize "I" every time I write the pronoun "I."

Choose one.

- I am very proud of the effort I put into this application.
 - I worked fairly hard on this application.
 - I didn't do as well as I could have on this application because _____
-

- I have rated my effort in school and on this application at the top of page 2.
- My teacher has rated my effort in school and on this application on page 2.
- I have included comments from a parent or some other adult who knows me well and supports my aspirations for the future.
- I have a fun and engaging first sentence.
- I have provided some details about my interests that hopefully show that I know something about my interest.
- I have made an effort to write this in a way and with a voice that is fun to read and helps the reader know more about me.

Grade 3

- I have written about my aspirations for my future.
- I have explained why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me and why it would make me proud.
- I have interviewed a high school student and have written a little about what I learned.

Grade 4

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me and have explained why I think they would be good for me.
- I have interviewed a high school or college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 5

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses or activities that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 6

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a professional and have written about what I learned.

Signed:

Student

Saul Paradis

Teacher

Marie Conarro

L

Growing Up to Farm
Saul Paradis

We farm yellow potatoes. They are the best potatoes ever! My favorite way to eat them is mashed with sour cream, butter, salt and pepper.

My great Pepe Raoul started our family farm in 1958. My dad grew up on the farm and now I am. I have learned by watching my dad and pepe how to load pallets of potatoes and sometimes after my pepe plants the seeds with the seeder. My dad and I will spray the fields with the huge sprayer. I like working on the farm and I think with my experience with my family, that I would be good at farming. I have many mentors to help me learn and help me in college.

Some of the most important things I learned from my interview are about the importance of crop care, bug control, and disease control. Potatoes can get blight, which kills the crop. I learned that the GPS is one of the important tools for a farmer. It can map out the fields and do repeat passes perfectly. I also learned that hands-on work helps me to understand how a machine or tool works. And college helps me with the business part of farming. Another important machine that I learned from my interview is the sprayer. The sprayer has many uses. It is used for fertilization, bug control, and disease control. My interview also told me that sprayers can cost \$350,000. The best advice my interviewer shared with me was to keep working with my family and when I go to college to be engaged and work hard so I can be a good farmer.

As a fourth generation farmer, I learned that farming is not just farming, it is a business. I think it is important for my path as a future farmer to keep working on the farm with my dad and pepe and when I graduate I will go to college and continue working on the farm.

Saul Paradis is a wonderful 4th grade student who brings joy and energy to the classroom with his fun, silly personality while also showing how smart and dedicated he truly is. He is deeply invested in his learning and works incredibly hard on his assignments, always striving to do his best. Saul has a strong sense of purpose as he prepares for his future as a fourth-generation potato farmer, proudly following in the footsteps of his father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He is already very knowledgeable about farming and is eager to keep learning, often asking thoughtful questions and helping out on the farm whenever he can. Saul understands the importance of education and how it will support his future success. His strong work ethic, curiosity, and dedication to both school and his future make him a truly deserving candidate for this scholarship.

Best regards,

Mrs. Marie Conarroe

Future of St. John Valley Aspirations Scholarship



Name: Jocelin Perreault Today's date 2/25/26

Mailing Address: 239 Main St

Your city/town: St. Agatha, ME Zip Code: 04772

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Tricia Perreault

What school do you attend? Dr. Levesque What grade are you in?

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Mrs. Marie Conarroe

How many times have you applied for this scholarship in the past? 1 How many times have you earned this scholarship? 1

\$100 Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarships will be awarded by community members to grade 3 - 6 students living in communities served by the schools listed below, and students who best demonstrate effort -- effort to do well in school, effort to pursue education beyond high school, effort to reach their goals, and effort to complete this scholarship application especially well. You are strongly advised to read the "12 Tips" under "Informational Resources" at www.mainecollegecircle.org. If you earn this Aspirations Scholarship, you may also apply for ongoing Ambition Scholarships through 12th grade. These scholarships give you the opportunity to earn over \$5000 or more to help you pursue your aspirations.

Schools:

Madawaska Elementary School
Madawaska Middle High School
Dr. Levesque Elementary School
Wisdom Middle High School

Aspirations Partners:

Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **April 10, 2026**. ALL parts of your application must be completed. Scholarship recipients will be selected and celebrated shortly after the deadline. Recipients may use their \$100 Aspirations Scholarship for educational programs and resources to help them pursue their aspirations. Submitted applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Review Committee and may also be read by a small group of prospective scholarship funders.

To the applicant:

Respond to the following prompts on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to put your name on separate sheets of paper and attach them to this application. Your application may be handwritten or typed. You must also complete the Future of Maine Scholarship Application Expectations Checklist and attach it to your scholarship application. Scholarship Committees will only consider applications with completed Checklists that are signed by the student and the teacher.

1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite or least favorite vegetable or fruit and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

Grade 3: Your Aspirations. What do you enjoy doing today that might make a great career for you in the future? Why do you think it would be a good career for you? What can you do today to prepare for this career? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school student about their pathway to and through high school. Write what you learned from this interview.

Grade 4: Your College* Options. Write about your interests today and aspirations for your future. What career or careers might fit your interests especially well? Given your interests and career aspirations, which college* or colleges might be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school or college* student about their pathway through high school and to college or other educational opportunity after high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: Your College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses or activities before college that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses or activities help you? And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

Grade 6: Your College* Pathway and Beyond. Write about your aspirations. What educational program beyond high school might serve you best as you pursue your career aspirations? Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of what you learned from that interview, including what you might like or dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)



Future of St. John Valley

Aspirations Scholarship

2026

To the applicant:

Please assess your level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Your level of effort is minimal. 3 = Adequate. 7 = Your work shows your highest level of effort possible. *Please circle one number in each category.*

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

To the teacher:

Please assess this student's level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Low. 7 = Outstanding. *Please circle one number in each category.*

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Optional: If you (teacher) wish to write additional comments in support of your student and his or her application for this scholarship, please feel free to do so below or on a separate sheet of paper. That will be helpful, but is not required. *Completed Expectations Checklists are required, must be completed by the student with the teacher's help if needed, and must be signed by the student and the teacher and attached to the application.*

To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Jocelin is very dedicated to whatever she does, she can be very shy which I believe is why she is drawn to animals. She loves to learn about animals and has a passion for helping.

* Maine College Circle defines "college" as one-, two-, and four-year colleges and universities, trade colleges, and other career-specific educational programs after high school.

Expectations Checklist

Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship, 2026

To be completed by the student

I have written my name (including my last name), my address, my school, my grade, my teacher, and the date.

I even spelled my teacher's name correctly.

I have written my 25 word response that is exactly 25 words long.

My spelling on this whole application is perfect . . . (choose one)

I am quite sure.

I think.

I am not sure.

My grammar and punctuation are pretty good also. I begin sentences with a capital letter. I end sentences with a period or some other appropriate punctuation. I even capitalize "I" every time I write the pronoun "I."

Choose one.

I am very proud of the effort I put into this application.

I worked fairly hard on this application.

I didn't do as well as I could have on this application because _____

I have rated my effort in school and on this application at the top of page 2.

My teacher has rated my effort in school and on this application on page 2.

I have included comments from a parent or some other adult who knows me well and supports my aspirations for the future.

I have a fun and engaging first sentence.

I have provided some details about my interests that hopefully show that I know something about my interest.

I have made an effort to write this in a way and with a voice that is fun to read and helps the reader know more about me.

Grade 3

- I have written about my aspirations for my future.
- I have explained why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me and why it would make me proud.
- I have interviewed a high school student and have written a little about what I learned.

Grade 4

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me and have explained why I think they would be good for me.
- I have interviewed a high school or college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 5

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses or activities that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 6

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a professional and have written about what I learned.

Signed:

Student

Facelin Pervreault

Teacher

Marie Canarro

Practicing responsibility and caring is a big part of becoming a great vet. Lastly, in my interview I learned the worst disease that a cat can get is Feline Leukemia Virus. It can make a cat's immune system very weak, which means they can get sick more easily. Sadly, there is no cure for it right now, but vets can help cats live longer and more comfortable lives with good care. The good news is that there is a vaccine to help protect cats from getting it!

The best part of being a vet is seeing them get better. That's what a vet said. I believe in myself to go and do what I want. I hope you get to do what you want.

Jocelin Perreault is a truly hardworking and dedicated student who consistently strives to do her very best. She is kind, respectful, and always willing to help others, making her a positive role model in the classroom. Jocelin has a clear passion for becoming a small animal veterinarian, and she actively works to learn as much as she can about caring for animals and preparing for her future. Her curiosity, compassion, and strong work ethic set her apart, and she approaches her goals with determination and enthusiasm. I am confident that Jocelin has the drive and heart needed to succeed and make a meaningful difference in the lives of animals and those who care for them.

Best regards,

Mrs. Marie Conarro

Future of St. John Valley Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Katelin Pinette Today's date 2-24-26

Mailing Address: 441 Main St

Your city/town: St. Agatha, ME Zip Code: 04772

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Megan Pinette

What school do you attend? Dr. Levesque What grade are you in?

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Mrs. Marie Canaroe

How many times have you applied for this scholarship in the past? 1 How many times have you earned this scholarship? 0



\$100 Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarships will be awarded by community members to grade 3 - 6 students living in communities served by the schools listed below, and students who best demonstrate effort -- effort to do well in school, effort to pursue education beyond high school, effort to reach their goals, and effort to complete this scholarship application especially well. You are strongly advised to read the "12 Tips" under "Informational Resources" at www.mainecollegecircle.org. If you earn this Aspirations Scholarship, you may also apply for ongoing Ambition Scholarships through 12th grade. These scholarships give you the opportunity to earn over \$5000 or more to help you pursue your aspirations.

Schools:

Madawaska Elementary School
Madawaska Middle High School
Dr. Levesque Elementary School
Wisdom Middle High School

Aspirations Partners:

Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **April 10, 2026**. ALL parts of your application must be completed. Scholarship recipients will be selected and celebrated shortly after the deadline. Recipients may use their \$100 Aspirations Scholarship for educational programs and resources to help them pursue their aspirations. Submitted applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Review Committee and may also be read by a small group of prospective scholarship funders.

To the applicant:

Respond to the following prompts on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to put your name on separate sheets of paper and attach them to this application. Your application may be handwritten or typed. You must also complete the Future of Maine Scholarship Application Expectations Checklist and attach it to your scholarship application. Scholarship Committees will only consider applications with completed Checklists that are signed by the student and the teacher.

1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite or least favorite vegetable or fruit and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

Grade 3: Your Aspirations. What do you enjoy doing today that might make a great career for you in the future? Why do you think it would be a good career for you? What can you do today to prepare for this career? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school student about their pathway to and through high school. Write what you learned from this interview.

Grade 4: Your College* Options. Write about your interests today and aspirations for your future. What career or careers might fit your interests especially well? Given your interests and career aspirations, which college* or colleges might be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school or college* student about their pathway through high school and to college or other educational opportunity after high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: Your College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses or activities before college that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses or activities help you? And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

Grade 6: Your College* Pathway and Beyond. Write about your aspirations. What educational program beyond high school might serve you best as you pursue your career aspirations? Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of what you learned from that interview, including what you might like or dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)



2026

Future of St. John Valley

Aspirations Scholarship

To the applicant:

Please assess your level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Your level of effort is minimal. 3 = Adequate. 7 = Your work shows your highest level of effort possible. *Please circle one number in each category.*

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

To the teacher:

Please assess this student's level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Low. 7 = Outstanding. *Please circle one number in each category.*

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Optional: If you (teacher) wish to write additional comments in support of your student and his or her application for this scholarship, please feel free to do so below or on a separate sheet of paper. That will be helpful, but is not required. *Completed Expectations Checklists are required, must be completed by the student with the teacher's help if needed, and must be signed by the student and the teacher and attached to the application.*

To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Kate you can be anything that you want to do in life if you put your mind to it. You are such a smart girl and an amazing big sister. We are so proud of the girl you are growing into: can not wait to see what you grow up to be.

* Maine College Circle defines "college" as one-, two-, and four-year colleges and universities, trade colleges, and other career-specific educational programs after high school.

Grade 3

- I have written about my aspirations for my future.
- I have explained why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me and why it would make me proud.
- I have interviewed a high school student and have written a little about what I learned.

Grade 4

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me and have explained why I think they would be good for me.
- I have interviewed a high school or college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 5

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses or activities that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 6

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a professional and have written about what I learned.

Signed:

Student

Katelin

Teacher

Marie Conroy

Expectations Checklist

Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship, 2026

To be completed by the student

I have written my name (including my last name), my address, my school, my grade, my teacher, and the date.

I even spelled my teacher's name correctly.

I have written my 25 word response that is exactly 25 words long.

My spelling on this whole application is perfect . . . (choose one)

I am quite sure.

I think.

I am not sure.

My grammar and punctuation are pretty good also. I begin sentences with a capital letter. I end sentences with a period or some other appropriate punctuation. I even capitalize "I" every time I write the pronoun "I."

Choose one.

I am very proud of the effort I put into this application.

I worked fairly hard on this application.

I didn't do as well as I could have on this application because _____

I have rated my effort in school and on this application at the top of page 2.

My teacher has rated my effort in school and on this application on page 2.

I have included comments from a parent or some other adult who knows me well and supports my aspirations for the future.

I have a fun and engaging first sentence.

I have provided some details about my interests that hopefully show that I know something about my interest.

I have made an effort to write this in a way and with a voice that is fun to read and helps the reader know more about me.

Singing Dream
By Katelin Pinnette

Dragonfruit is a unique fruit with a cool name. Dragonfruit is sweet like candy and it is good for you. That's why it's my favorite!

I want to be a singer when I grow up. You get a lot of money and I am good at singing. My Grandma was a singer and she was good. She said if she could be a young girl again, she would be a singer, again. If you are a singer you have a lot of friends.

Some of the classes I have to take are Music Literature and Applied Music Lessons. The courses I am excited to take are Advanced sight Singing and Ear Training. I am really excited to do is the singing and performing. What I learned from my interview is that you have to work hard and practice a lot. Some classes seemed exciting and I saw some looked challenging. I am preparing for college with going to vocal lessons, practicing singing, watch videos to help me know what it is like. I am excited for my future!

Katelin Pinette is a hardworking and kind fourth grade student who dreams of becoming a singer and entertainer. She shows great dedication by always trying her best and putting effort into everything she does, especially when it comes to practicing and improving her singing. Katelin has a big heart and is a wonderful friend to her classmates, always ready to help others and bring a smile to their faces. She is also very helpful in the classroom, supporting both her teacher and her peers whenever she can. With her positive attitude, strong work ethic, and passion for performing, Katelin is well on her way to becoming an amazing entertainer in the future.

Best regards,

Mrs. Marie Conarroe

Future of St. John Valley Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Ava Reese Today's date 3-27-26

Mailing Address: 25 Charette Hill Rd. APT 201

Your city/town: Fort Kent Zip Code: 04743

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s)? Jesse Reese SR.

What school do you attend? Wisdom What grade are you in? 4th

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? MRS. Conarrol

How many times have you applied for this scholarship in the past? 1 How many times have you earned this scholarship? 0



\$100 Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarships will be awarded by community members to grade 3 - 6 students living in communities served by the schools listed below, and students who best demonstrate effort -- effort to do well in school, effort to pursue education beyond high school, effort to reach their goals, and effort to complete this scholarship application especially well. You are strongly advised to read the "12 Tips" under "Informational Resources" at www.mainecollegecircle.org. If you earn this Aspirations Scholarship, you may also apply for ongoing Ambition Scholarships through 12th grade. These scholarships give you the opportunity to earn over \$5000 or more to help you pursue your aspirations.

Schools:

Madawaska Elementary School
Madawaska Middle High School
Dr. Levesque Elementary School
Wisdom Middle High School

Aspirations Partners:

Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **April 10, 2026**. ALL parts of your application must be completed. Scholarship recipients will be selected and celebrated shortly after the deadline. Recipients may use their \$100 Aspirations Scholarship for educational programs and resources to help them pursue their aspirations. Submitted applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Review Committee and may also be read by a small group of prospective scholarship funders.

To the applicant:

Respond to the following prompts on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to put your name on separate sheets of paper and attach them to this application. Your application may be handwritten or typed. You must also complete the Future of Maine Scholarship Application Expectations Checklist and attach it to your scholarship application. Scholarship Committees will only consider applications with completed Checklists that are signed by the student and the teacher.

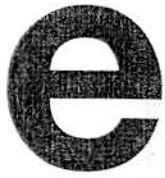
1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite or least favorite vegetable or fruit and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

Grade 3: Your Aspirations. What do you enjoy doing today that might make a great career for you in the future? Why do you think it would be a good career for you? What can you do today to prepare for this career? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school student about their pathway to and through high school. Write what you learned from this interview.

Grade 4: Your College* Options. Write about your interests today and aspirations for your future. What career or careers might fit your interests especially well? Given your interests and career aspirations, which college* or colleges might be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school or college* student about their pathway through high school and to college or other educational opportunity after high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: Your College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses or activities before college that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses or activities help you? And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

Grade 6: Your College* Pathway and Beyond. Write about your aspirations. What educational program beyond high school might serve you best as you pursue your career aspirations? Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of what you learned from that interview, including what you might like or dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)



Future of St. John Valley

Aspirations Scholarship

2026

To the applicant:

Please assess your level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Your level of effort is minimal. 3 = Adequate. 7 = Your work shows your highest level of effort possible. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

To the teacher:

Please assess this student's level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Low. 7 = Outstanding. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Optional: If you (teacher) wish to write additional comments in support of your student and his or her application for this scholarship, please feel free to do so below or on a separate sheet of paper. That will be helpful, but is not required. *Completed Expectations Checklists are required, must be completed by the student with the teacher's help if needed, and must be signed by the student and the teacher and attached to the application.*

To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Ava's aspirations to become a nail tech aligns with her creative side. When she is at home you can find her doing her nails and on youtube learning of new tip's and design ideas. I can see the enjoyment and passion she has for nails. I will Be there to support her on her journey to becoming a nail tech.

* Maine College Circle defines "college" as one-, two-, and four-year colleges and universities, trade colleges, and other career-specific educational programs after high school.

mail tech

Expectations Checklist

Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship, 2026
To be completed by the student

I have written my name (including my last name), my address, my school, my grade, my teacher, and the date.

I even spelled my teacher's name correctly.

I have written my 25 word response that is exactly 25 words long.

My spelling on this whole application is perfect . . . (choose one)

I am quite sure.

I think.

I am not sure.

My grammar and punctuation are pretty good also. I begin sentences with a capital letter. I end sentences with a period or some other appropriate punctuation. I even capitalize "I" every time I write the pronoun "I."

Choose one.

I am very proud of the effort I put into this application.

I worked fairly hard on this application.

I didn't do as well as I could have on this application because _____

I have rated my effort in school and on this application at the top of page 2.

My teacher has rated my effort in school and on this application on page 2.

I have included comments from a parent or some other adult who knows me well and supports my aspirations for the future.

I have a fun and engaging first sentence.

I have provided some details about my interests that hopefully show that I know something about my interest.

I have made an effort to write this in a way and with a voice that is fun to read and helps the reader know more about me.

Grade 3

- I have written about my aspirations for my future.
- I have explained why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me and why it would make me proud.
- I have interviewed a high school student and have written a little about what I learned.

Grade 4

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me and have explained why I think they would be good for me.
- I have interviewed a high school or college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 5

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses or activities that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 6

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a professional and have written about what I learned.

Signed:

Student

aa

Teacher

Marie Conarrol

Nail Tech

By Ava Reese

My favorite fruit is Strawberries because they are juicy and sweet. I like them with fluff or whip cream. I like making strawberry Ice cream.

When I grow up I want to be a Nail technician, and I want to own my own salon.

To be a nail tech I need to go to cosmetology school. I like doing nails because it is fun and a good way to help people express themselves. Cosmetology School is different from regular college. To be a nail tech in the state of Maine I need to complete three hundred hours of a training program . I'll like to go to Empire Beauty School in Bangor Maine. Here I will take classes like nail technology bases, nail art and design, Gel and Acrylic application and sanitation and safety practices. It will also teach me about client consultation and communication. All of these classes will help me achieve my dreams of being a nail technician.

I interviewed a high school student who is currently taking courses for nail technician at the same school I want to attend. My biggest challenge I learned from my interview was there are many students and not many instructors. You also learn about sanitation and what you need to know to pass the exams. The rest comes from you and your own learning and engagement and practice. I am excited to start my schooling and start my future career. I am working on my path by practicing on my friends' nails and my own. I watch videos and look at magazines that have examples of nail work.

I would like to attend Empire Beauty School in Bangor. I want to become a great nail tech and then own my own nail salon one day. I look forward to creating beautiful nails in my own nail salon.

Ava Reese is a kind-hearted and hardworking student who always strives to do her very best. She shows determination by pushing through challenges, even when things become difficult, and is not afraid to ask for help when she needs it. Ava is also a strong advocate, not only for herself but for her friends who may need support, demonstrating both courage and compassion. Her positive attitude and willingness to grow set her apart as a dedicated learner and a caring individual. With her strong character and thoughtful nature, Ava has all the qualities needed to accomplish wonderful things in her life, especially in the career path she has chosen, which truly reflects her generous heart and personality.

Best regards,

Mrs. Marie Conarroe

Future of St. John Valley Aspirations Scholarship



Name: Camden Soucy Today's date _____

Mailing Address: 40 Main Street

Your city/town: St. Agatha Zip Code: 04772

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Jill Soucy

What school do you attend? Dr. Levesque What grade are you in? 4

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Mrs Marie Conarroe

How many times have you applied for this scholarship in the past? 1 How many times have you earned this scholarship? 0

\$100 Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarships will be awarded by community members to grade 3 - 6 students living in communities served by the schools listed below, and students who best demonstrate effort -- effort to do well in school, effort to pursue education beyond high school, effort to reach their goals, and effort to complete this scholarship application especially well. You are strongly advised to read the "12 Tips" under "Informational Resources" at www.mainecollegecircle.org. If you earn this Aspirations Scholarship, you may also apply for ongoing Ambition Scholarships through 12th grade. These scholarships give you the opportunity to earn over \$5000 or more to help you pursue your aspirations.

Schools:
Madawaska Elementary School
Madawaska Middle High School
Dr. Levesque Elementary School
Wisdom Middle High School

Aspirations Partners:
Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **April 10, 2026**. ALL parts of your application must be completed. Scholarship recipients will be selected and celebrated shortly after the deadline. Recipients may use their \$100 Aspirations Scholarship for educational programs and resources to help them pursue their aspirations. Submitted applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Review Committee and may also be read by a small group of prospective scholarship funders.

To the applicant:

Respond to the following prompts on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to put your name on separate sheets of paper and attach them to this application. Your application may be handwritten or typed. You must also complete the Future of Maine Scholarship Application Expectations Checklist and attach it to your scholarship application. Scholarship Committees will only consider applications with completed Checklists that are signed by the student and the teacher.

1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite or least favorite vegetable or fruit and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

Grade 3: Your Aspirations. What do you enjoy doing today that might make a great career for you in the future? Why do you think it would be a good career for you? What can you do today to prepare for this career? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school student about their pathway to and through high school. Write what you learned from this interview.

Grade 4: Your College* Options. Write about your interests today and aspirations for your future. What career or careers might fit your interests especially well? Given your interests and career aspirations, which college* or colleges might be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school or college* student about their pathway through high school and to college or other educational opportunity after high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: Your College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses or activities before college that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses or activities help you? And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

Grade 6: Your College* Pathway and Beyond. Write about your aspirations. What educational program beyond high school might serve you best as you pursue your career aspirations? Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of what you learned from that interview, including what you might like or dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)



Future of St. John Valley

2026

Aspirations Scholarship

To the applicant:

Please assess your level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Your level of effort is minimal. 3 = Adequate. 7 = Your work shows your highest level of effort possible. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
 Effort on this application: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

To the teacher:

Please assess this student's level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Low. 7 = Outstanding. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
 Effort on this application: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Optional: If you (teacher) wish to write additional comments in support of your student and his or her application for this scholarship, please feel free to do so below or on a separate sheet of paper. That will be helpful, but is not required. *Completed Expectations Checklists are required, must be completed by the student with the teacher's help if needed, and must be signed by the student and the teacher and attached to the application.*

To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Camden is already thinking of his future and that makes me proud. He has a strong interest in becoming a welder one day. He is hardworking, curious and always eager to learn new things which I know as his mom will help him reach his dreams. I do hope he continues to believe in himself and work hard to achieve his goals with confidence and determination. No matter his path I will always be there to support and encourage.

* Maine College Circle defines "college" as one-, two-, and four-year colleges and universities, trade colleges, and other career-specific educational programs after high school.

Expectations Checklist

Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship, 2026
To be completed by the student

I have written my name (including my last name), my address, my school, my grade, my teacher, and the date.

I even spelled my teacher's name correctly.

I have written my 25 word response that is exactly 25 words long.

My spelling on this whole application is perfect ... (choose one)

I am quite sure.

I think.

I am not sure.

My grammar and punctuation are pretty good also. I begin sentences with a capital letter. I end sentences with a period or some other appropriate punctuation. I even capitalize "I" every time I write the pronoun "I."

Choose one.

I am very proud of the effort I put into this application.

I worked fairly hard on this application.

I didn't do as well as I could have on this application because _____

I have rated my effort in school and on this application at the top of page 2.

My teacher has rated my effort in school and on this application on page 2.

I have included comments from a parent or some other adult who knows me well and supports my aspirations for the future.

I have a fun and engaging first sentence.

I have provided some details about my interests that hopefully show that I know something about my interest.

I have made an effort to write this in a way and with a voice that is fun to read and helps the reader know more about me.

Grade 3

- I have written about my aspirations for my future.
- I have explained why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me and why it would make me proud.
- I have interviewed a high school student and have written a little about what I learned.

Grade 4

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me and have explained why I think they would be good for me.
- I have interviewed a high school or college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 5

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses or activities that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 6

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a professional and have written about what I learned.

Signed:

Student

CAMDEN

Teacher

Marie Conasroe

I Want to be a Welder

By Camden Soucy

I cut up watermelon in triangle slices and ate them up. It is refreshing and sweet on a hot summer day. Watermelon is my favorite.

The spark for welding started when my brother showed me how to weld, and I thought it was pretty cool. Welding provides a unique life because you learn important and helpful skills. You also have opportunities to travel. I learned from my interview that some companies send you all over the United States to work on different jobs. I also like to make things. The sparks are cool!

The school I picked is the St. John Valley Tech Center. I know all the types of welding such as gas welding, stick, and Mig. The things you can do as a welder are assembler, tack welder, artistic welder, sculpture fabricator welder, welding machine operator, welding engineer, underwater welding production, welding construction, welding inspector, tig and mig welding. You have to pre-plan stuff before you go to a job. Sometimes you get bored and build something. You can weld metal pipes for people. Some welders locate and some travel to different places for their jobs. Another fact is that if you don't wear a welding helmet you can really damage your eyes if you keep not wearing one, you could be blind. I further researched types of metal that you cannot weld with. One metal creates a poisonous gas called zinc oxide fumes. Metals that are sprayed with brake cleaner cannot be welded because it creates a phosgene gas, which is fatal. These are important to know to be a safe welder.

My future means a lot to me. I am preparing for my future by working hard in school, having a positive attitude, helping others and learning about welding as much as I can. I will continue to follow the rules and be engaged and invested in my learning so I can be a skilled and

knowledgeable welder. I also learned that having experience watching welders will help me to understand the dangers and techniques with welding different types of metal. I am excited about this adventure!

As Camden Soucy's 4th grade teacher, I have truly enjoyed having him in my classroom and watching him grow into a fun, helpful, and dedicated student. Camden is hard-working and takes pride in putting forth his best effort in everything he does. He is always willing to lend a hand to classmates and brings a positive energy that makes our classroom a better place. What stands out most is his excitement for his future as a welder, he is already eager to learn more and continues to build his knowledge and skills whenever he can. Camden's strong work ethic, curiosity, and determination will no doubt help him succeed as he pursues his goals. I am confident he has a bright and successful future ahead of him.

Best regards,

Mrs. Marie Conarro

Future of St. John Valley Aspirations Scholarship



Name: Lauryl Wilcoy Today's date Feb 25 2026

Mailing Address: 27 Main St

Your city/town: St. Agatha, ME Zip Code: 04772

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s)? Danielle Roy

What school do you attend? Levesque What grade are you in? 4

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Mrs Marie Conrnoe

How many times have you applied for this scholarship in the past? 1 How many times have you earned this scholarship? 0

\$100 Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarships will be awarded by community members to grade 3 - 6 students living in communities served by the schools listed below, and students who best demonstrate effort -- effort to do well in school, effort to pursue education beyond high school, effort to reach their goals, and effort to complete this scholarship application especially well. You are strongly advised to read the "12 Tips" under "Informational Resources" at www.mainecollegecircle.org. If you earn this Aspirations Scholarship, you may also apply for ongoing Ambition Scholarships through 12th grade. These scholarships give you the opportunity to earn over \$5000 or more to help you pursue your aspirations.

Schools:
Madawaska Elementary School
Madawaska Middle High School
Dr. Levesque Elementary School
Wisdom Middle High School

Aspirations Partners:
Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **April 10, 2026**. ALL parts of your application must be completed. Scholarship recipients will be selected and celebrated shortly after the deadline. Recipients may use their \$100 Aspirations Scholarship for educational programs and resources to help them pursue their aspirations. Submitted applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Review Committee and may also be read by a small group of prospective scholarship funders.

To the applicant:

Respond to the following prompts on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to put your name on separate sheets of paper and attach them to this application. Your application may be handwritten or typed. You must also complete the Future of Maine Scholarship Application Expectations Checklist and attach it to your scholarship application. Scholarship Committees will only consider applications with completed Checklists that are signed by the student and the teacher.

1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite or least favorite vegetable or fruit and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

Grade 3: Your Aspirations. What do you enjoy doing today that might make a great career for you in the future? Why do you think it would be a good career for you? What can you do today to prepare for this career? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school student about their pathway to and through high school. Write what you learned from this interview.

Grade 4: Your College* Options. Write about your interests today and aspirations for your future. What career or careers might fit your interests especially well? Given your interests and career aspirations, which college* or colleges might be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school or college* student about their pathway through high school and to college or other educational opportunity after high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: Your College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses or activities before college that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses or activities help you? And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

Grade 6: Your College* Pathway and Beyond. Write about your aspirations. What educational program beyond high school might serve you best as you pursue your career aspirations? Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of what you learned from that interview, including what you might like or dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)



2026

Future of St. John Valley

Aspirations Scholarship

To the applicant:

Please assess your level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Your level of effort is minimal. 3 = Adequate. 7 = Your work shows your highest level of effort possible. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

To the teacher:

Please assess this student's level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Low. 7 = Outstanding. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Optional: If you (teacher) wish to write additional comments in support of your student and his or her application for this scholarship, please feel free to do so below or on a separate sheet of paper. That will be helpful, but is not required. *Completed Expectations Checklists are required, must be completed by the student with the teacher's help if needed, and must be signed by the student and the teacher and attached to the application.*

To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Laurnyn has 5 siblings, 4 of them being girls. Three of her sisters are younger than her. She loves to dress them up, do their hair and find new hairstyles for them. She's always playing with my hair as well. She's a great big sister. She's very outgoing as well.

Danielle Roy

* Maine College Circle defines "college" as one-, two-, and four-year colleges and universities, trade colleges, and other career-specific educational programs after high school.

Expectations Checklist

Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship, 2026
To be completed by the student

I have written my name (including my last name), my address, my school, my grade, my teacher, and the date.

I even spelled my teacher's name correctly.

I have written my 25 word response that is exactly 25 words long.

My spelling on this whole application is perfect . . . (choose one)

I am quite sure.

I think.

I am not sure.

My grammar and punctuation are pretty good also. I begin sentences with a capital letter. I end sentences with a period or some other appropriate punctuation. I even capitalize "I" every time I write the pronoun "I."

Choose one.

I am very proud of the effort I put into this application.

I worked fairly hard on this application.

I didn't do as well as I could have on this application because _____

I have rated my effort in school and on this application at the top of page 2.

My teacher has rated my effort in school and on this application on page 2.

I have included comments from a parent or some other adult who knows me well and supports my aspirations for the future.

I have a fun and engaging first sentence.

I have provided some details about my interests that hopefully show that I know something about my interest.

I have made an effort to write this in a way and with a voice that is fun to read and helps the reader know more about me.

Grade 3

- I have written about my aspirations for my future.
- I have explained why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me and why it would make me proud.
- I have interviewed a high school student and have written a little about what I learned.

Grade 4

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me and have explained why I think they would be good for me.
- I have interviewed a high school or college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 5

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses or activities that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 6

- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a professional and have written about what I learned.

Signed:

Student Lauryn

Teacher Marie Conarrol

ONE DOZEN TIPS FOR WRITING A GREAT ASPIRATIONS

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY

From Bob Stuart (The same advice I give to high school seniors applying to college.)

bstuart@mainecollegecircle.org

- 1. EFFORT** is what matters most. You don't have to be smart to make an extra effort. Making an extra **EFFORT** to research your college and career options, and to write an essay you are proud of, will greatly improve your chances of earning a scholarship.
- 2.** Be sure to **complete ALL parts** of your essay. Identify a college or colleges of interest and courses, when required. Assess your effort on page 2. Make sure your teacher does that too. Make sure a parent or guardian or another adult who knows you well writes some comments about you. Make sure you have done whatever interview is required. These can be in-person interviews or online interviews or an interview you found on the internet. In-person interviews are usually best, but they may be hard to set up. If you need help with this, ask your teacher. You can find interviews by clicking on "Connections" at www.mainecollegecircle.org.
- 3.** Spell Coll**e**ge correctly. Spell all words right. If you spell some words wrong in your essay, especially college, you are probably toast! Very good grammar and punctuation are very smart. This will all show extra **EFFORT**. Proof your work. Proof it again. Get others to proof it. If you spel allot of werds rong, it does'nt luck two good.
- 4.** Including additional schoolwork or other information that supports your message is always a good idea. It shows extra **EFFORT**. Doing a little more than is asked of you will always serve you well.
- 5.** Don't be boring! Make your essay **FUN** to read. Have fun writing it. **DIFFERENT** is good! Don't worry about being the only student to write an essay about a certain interest. Be courageous. I know that when scholarship committees read a lot of essays from one class and they all start with the same sentence and they follow the same format the scholarship committee usually isn't happy. The boy who wrote an essay about his true desire to save dugongs won a scholarship.
- 6.** Small **DETAILS** make a big difference. They often demonstrate that you know what you are writing about. If you wanted to become an automotive mechanic, you could mention 20 parts of a car that you know. If you wanted to become the next Taylor Swift and you listed your ten favorite songs by her, those small details might make the scholarship committee want to give you a scholarship so much that they just wouldn't be able to Shake It Off.
- 7.** There is no need to be fancy or use big words. True, honest, heartfelt, and **YOU** is better than any fancy word or idea. Simplicity and clarity can work very well.
- 8. A GREAT FIRST SENTENCE** is a great idea – something fun, something that engages the reader right from the start, something that makes the reader want to read the essay. But, make sure the first sentence actually connects to the rest of the essay. The reader should want to get more information from the rest of the essay to clarify the first, fun, short, engaging sentence. You may need to spend a lot of time and **EFFORT** just on the first sentence. "Freeze!" might be a good first sentence for an essay by someone who wants to become a policeman or a detective, or maybe a refrigerator repairman.
- 9. The LAST SENTENCE** should lead the reader off the page, beyond the essay, and into the future. The last sentence should remind the reader of what he or she just read and then help the reader see how you will have a positive impact on the future. The last sentence really matters because it is the last thing the reader is likely to remember. You want to end on a high note and

headed uphill and into the future. You may need to spend a lot of time and **EFFORT** just on the last sentence.

- 10.** Unless you have a very cool name, **DON'T** begin your essay telling us your name and what grade and school you are in. We already know that, and it is a kind of boring start. (See #8.)
- 11.** We are hoping to hear your **VOICE**. Scholarship committees spend a lot of time talking about **VOICE**. They can hear your **VOICE** when you tell stories about yourself and you share how you personally feel about something and you use your own language. Your writing style can be much closer to how you would talk with your friends than a dictionary or a thesaurus or how your parents might talk or what you might read in some fancy magazine.
- 12.** Except for a few of you who are aspiring rappers, most of you have a last name. If you just put your first name and not your last name at the top of your application and your essay isn't about becoming a rapper, we think you didn't try very hard and you didn't care much. We care about **EFFORT**.