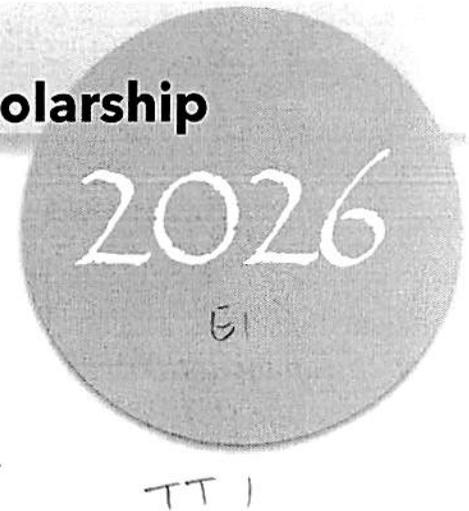


Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: John Pratt Today's date 3/26/26
Mailing Address: 715 Oak Point Road
Your city/town: Trenton Zip Code: 04605
Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Jasmine and Brian
What school do you attend? Trenton Elem What grade are you in? 6
Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Mrs. Haviland



\$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.

Schools:

Connors Emerson School
Mount Desert Elementary School
Tremont Consolidated School
Pemetic Elementary School
Trenton Elementary School

Aspirations Partners:

First National Bank
Machias Savings Bank
Bar Harbor Bank & Trust

Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **March 27, 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 number 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 that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses 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, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses help you? 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 Eastern Maine

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

5.5

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.*

John is a terrific writer with a lot of energy. I loved seeing how excited he was to work on this.

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.

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.

sorta → 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 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 John Pratt
Teacher Joanne Harriman

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 College 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 spell a lot of words wrong, it doesn't look too 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**.

Aspirations Scholarship Essay

By John Pratt

I want to be a game warden when I grow up because you get to enforce hunting, fishing, and trapping laws, conduct search and rescue operations and regulate recreational vehicles and safety. I love fishing and I'm interested in hunting and trapping, I love to be outdoors in all seasons and I love to show others the outdoors and I hope to be a game warden because you have to know the outdoors, and enforce hunting, fishing, and trapping laws and conduct search and rescue operations which I know a good amount already.

Enforcing hunting, fishing, and trapping laws is important. I have always loved fishing since I was four. It is still my favorite hobby today and now I want to go hunting, fishing, and trapping and learn the laws of these sports. If I trap an animal I'll release it unless it is against the law, too. And if I catch a fish I'll let it go. I want to go hunting because I want to get my first deer and I like wild meat. I love fishing, hunting, trapping and treasure hunts which is a very low stakes search and rescue operation.

Once I hooked a pickerel in a spot where it sadly might die and somehow I saved it and I was using a treble hook. I love to search for stuff and rescue animals. That's one of the reasons why I want to be a

game warden in Maine. I love treasure hunts, which is a low stakes search and rescue mission because you search for the treasure. Now I want to learn more rules for stuff like ATVs, snowmobiles, and watercraft because I want to own those.

Regulating Recreational Vehicles and Safety means to make sure people that are on water and land are following the rules and being safe like on ATVs, snowmobiles, and watercraft. I like to learn the rules of nature and make sure people are being safe so they don't hurt nature and other people. I like to protect wildlife and nature because I love animals, mountains and the ocean. That's where some of my favorite animals are also in fresh water.

Biology or Ecology Wardens are first and foremost stewards of natural resources. You need to understand the life cycles, habitats, and identification of Maine's fish and wildlife. If MDIHS offers Marine Biology or Environmental Science, take those. You'll need to identify everything from Brook Trout to Black Bears and understand how different ecosystems function.

Physical Education & Wellness You must pass the Maine Criminal Justice Academy's Physical Fitness Test (PFT) just to apply. This includes a 1.5-mile run, sit-ups, and push-ups. Don't just take the minimum PE requirements. Use these classes to build the endurance and strength needed to meet the 50th percentile fitness standards required for Game Wardens (which are stricter than standard police requirements).

English Composition or Public Speaking A common misconception is that wardens just spend time in the woods. In reality, a huge part of the job is writing detailed legal reports and testifying in court. The hiring process includes a timed essay and an oral board exam. Taking courses that focus on clear, persuasive writing and confident public speaking will give you a massive edge in the competitive application process.

Hancock County Technical Center (HCTC) - Law Enforcement MDIHS students have access to the Hancock County Technical Center in Ellsworth. Their Law Enforcement program is one of the best ways to get a head start. **Government or Civics** Game Wardens are law enforcement officers with the power of arrest. You need a rock-solid understanding of the U.S. Constitution and the Maine legal system. You'll get an introduction to the Maine Criminal Justice system, search and seizure laws, and basic hand-cuffing or defensive tactics. This foundation makes the 18-week Basic Law Enforcement Training Program (BLETP) much less intimidating later on.

Some good colleges in Maine for game wardens include Unity Environmental University, offering specialized conservation law enforcement training, and Husson University, which features a four-year conservation law degree. Other top options include University of Maine (Orono) for wildlife ecology, University of Maine at Machias for an associate degree in conservation law, and Central Maine Community College.

What I learned from interviewing a game warden is you can learn how they manage high-stress encounters (like confronting armed poachers) without immediate backup. One morning might involve tracking a nuisance bear, while the afternoon is spent performing a technical dive for a recovery or coordinating a massive search and rescue (SAR) for a lost hiker. Many wardens work with specialized K-9 units. An interview can reveal how these dogs are trained to find everything from spent shell casings to human remains or lost children.

In conclusion, I really want to be a game warden because it's fun and they make good money, the benefits are good and I just love being outside and I hope other people get inspired by this to be a gamewarden in Maine.

My favorite number is four because that is the age when I got my forever fishing license and when I caught my first fish ever.

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Reese Ford Today's date 3/17/26

Mailing Address: 35 Mary K Ln

Your city/town: Trenton Zip Code: 04605

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Ashley, Patrick Ford

What school do you attend? Trenton Elem - What grade are you in? 6

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



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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 number 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 that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses 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, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses help you? 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.)



2020

Future of Eastern Maine

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.*

Reese has worked very hard on this essay. He has asked a lot of questions about this career and has incorporated his knowledge into his writing.

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.

Reese has been a year round athlete since he was 6 yrs old. Basketball being his favorite sport. Anytime he can get out on a court to shoot around, alone or with others, is where he wants to be. Reese wanting to own his own gym to train and teach others is pretty amazing. If this is what he decides to do in the future, I know he will do it to the best of his ability.

* 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 _____

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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.
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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.
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Grade 6

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- 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

Reese Ford

Teacher

Jeanne Harman

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.
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- 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.
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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**.

Reese Ford

College Aspirations Essay

I would like to become an owner of an Indoor Basketball Gym. Important Tasks of the Career: Create a safe environment and provide safe equipment for the sport. Create a schedule that works for clients. Train other people how to play basketball. I love indoor basketball gyms. Why would I be good at this? I can play basketball anytime if I'm the owner and operator of my own indoor gym. I am organized and reliable. I like to teach other people about the game.

This paragraph is about creating a safe environment and providing safe equipment for the sport. When I was about 8 years old I started to play competitive basketball with a lot of 8-9 year olds and I was really challenged and that has made me better to this day and I still want to get better and that is why I want my own indoor basketball gym so I can train myself and other people to get better. These two reasons are important to this career because I have been playing basketball for a long time and I love basketball. Every day I want to get better and get other people better at the game of basketball and work harder every day. And be a better basketball player.

This paragraph is about how I am reliable and organized with my indoor gym. 1 reason why I choose this is because I can have a reliable schedule for my clients so people don't show up at the same time when there is no room in the gym so I will have a reliable schedule. Another reason is that I will keep a safe environment and safe in the gym so people don't have to worry about injury and keep the floors clean so people don't hurt themselves and ankle so I will keep it safe. Finally, I will keep everyone safe in the gym so people don't have to worry about getting hurt in the gym. another is that I

am reliable and with my schedule so a whole bunch of people come at the same time and it does not cause bickering and fighting.

This paragraph is about how I keep people that come into my gym safe and not cause injury on my court. Next is I excel at basketball because I have been playing since I was two and ever since then I have loved it and to this day I still love it. Then I first fell in love with it when I watched my sisters play. I would go to their games and when it hit half time me and my dad would shoot and since then I HAVE LOVED BASKETBALL.

In conclusion, it is important to my career. First I have loved basketball for a while and still do to this day, and second I will always keep people that come to my gym safe and they don't have to worry about injury when they are playing on the court.

Math, Science, Visual Arts, Computer Science, and English Language

These five courses can help me in my own indoor basketball gym with running the business all by myself. First is math, math can help me with accounting, because I will make money and be paying for stuff like equipment, bills, the building, and the bills for the place. Second is Science. I have to learn about the human body so I know what would be hard on their body to make them better. The three main things are biology, anatomy, and physiology that are important for science that I need to know for the human body. Third is Visual Arts, Visual Arts is like an ad (advertisement) for my business like put in a newspaper, online, so people know about the business and can learn about people and the games can be played here. Fourth is Computer Science. I could use Video Analysis to use platforms like Hudl to record, analyze, and break down film to improve player technique. Another is Shot Analysis to Implementing shot-tracking technology to visualize shooting percentages from different areas of the floor.

Lastly is the English language, which is helped by Marketing and Customer Acquisition To attract players, teams, and parents, you must craft an "irresistible value proposition". Clear English communication in your branding, website, social media, and marketing materials is necessary to reach your target audience and build a reputation. Also Building Community and Culture The success of a gym often depends on the culture you create. You need to communicate with coaches, parents, and athletes to build a welcoming atmosphere. And some of the colleges I want to go to are University of Maine (Maine Business School), Husson University, and Thomas College.

ADVICE FROM NICK:

One thing I learned is that it takes time to open your own business, and it says "You can't reach high revenue levels without being a good CEO who understands profit margins and staff development." And one thing I liked is that Nick uses Technology to enhance the customer journey, and not replace it. I liked it because I will use technology when I become a business manager and open my own basketball gym.

Thank you Nick.

25-word favorite number

My favorite number is ten, because my sisters first wore it when they played basketball and ever since then it's been my favorite number ever.

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Calliope Ranco Today's date 3/4/26
Mailing Address: 1085 Bayside RD.
Your city/town: Trenton Maine Zip Code: 04605
Parent(s) or guardian's name(s)? Kristina Ranco Justin Ranco
What school do you attend? Trenton Elem. What grade are you in? 6
Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Mrs. Harriman



\$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.

Schools:

Conners Emerson School
Mount Desert Elementary School
Tremont Consolidated School
Pemetic Elementary School
Trenton Elementary School

Aspirations Partners:

First National Bank
Machias Savings Bank
Bar Harbor Bank & Trust

Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **March 27, 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 number 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 that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses 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, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses help you? 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 Eastern Maine

Aspirations Scholarship

2020

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.

Calliope worked very hard on this essay and took extra care thinking of anecdotes from her life to convince you!

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.

Calliope has always been the kind of kid to truly apply herself when she is interested in what she's doing. At a young age she took an interest in Dinosaurs and as she got older she became interested in Paleontology. She put forward some tremendous effort in this essay and deserves to be recognized for it!

* 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.

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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 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

Calliope may Ranco

Teacher

Graine Harriman

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 College 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 spell a lot of words wrong, it doesn't look too 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**.

Aspirations Scholarship Essay

Calliope Ranco

I would like to be a paleontologist when I grow up. Some of the most important things that paleontologists do in their work are field work and fossil excavation, laboratory analysis and communication, and research and scientific publication. I want to be a Paleontologist because I can collect dinosaur bones, and research them, and I can help people understand the Earth's past, so I can share things I love with people.

I have always wanted to find a dinosaur bone since I was little! When I was little, my parents had me watch "Land Before Time" and ever since then I have been on a lifelong mission to find a real dinosaur bone. I still hope I do.

I think it would be cool to work with the bones of an animal from millions of years ago. A few years ago, I was with my cousins and we were walking on the beach and discovered a moose carcass that had washed up on the beach. It made me really excited like my dream was coming true. My mom eventually brought a shin bone from that moose back to the camp.

Another time when I was with my cousins at camp we were climbing up in the neighbor's woods and went up in the road by the woods and we came across a steep ledge and I climbed down second—behind my eldest cousin—because she was making sure everything was safe. Her little brother was in front of us waiting for us to say it's ok. But my cousin squealed because she had almost stepped on a DEAD PORCUPINE! It had not fully decayed, but we could see some of its bones, like its ribs. I picked it up with a stick to get a better look, and then I took a picture of it with my phone and sent it to my best friend just for fun. If I had proper materials I could examine fossils carefully, and find out when—and maybe even how—they died.

Finally, I have always wanted to work with chemicals and experiment with animals(dead), liquid, and food in science instead of just writing and reading packets about the things we are learning about. I personally like biology, chemistry, and a little bit of astrology, but mainly, biology. Which is good because the work of biologists and paleontologists are VERY similar.

I have a few reasons why I like biology and chemistry. The high school course I need to take is Biology, Geology/Earth Science, Chemistry, Physics, and Calculus. I really like biology because I like to go

out and see things first hand, not just watch someone else do it for me, And as for chemistry I have always found it intriguing, working with chemicals. I like discovering things and learning their structure and behavior. I don't mind learning about geology but I'm not a huge fan of it but it's ok, I do like collecting rocks sometimes though. Earth science, I don't like learning about earth science, I have not had a very fun time with it. Calculus is like my opinion on geology. I don't really like math but it can be fun. I think physics is cool because it explains how things work, and why they work.

And following that, some colleges I would like to look into are Yale, University of Chicago, University of Michigan Ann Arbor, and University of California Berkley. I read an interview about Dr.Nielsen, he said that the reason he became a paleontologist was because he wanted to be the first person to see that particular bone in the field. He also talked about high school courses, He said chemistry,Physics,geography, and the secret which is english/writing. Luckily most of those are in my high school course plan! He said to get a four year degree in geology or evolutionary biology, he also said to spend my summers at dig camps. I don't really like the outdoors. But I don't mind it, I once again really like

biology and not a big fan of geology. So in conclusion, being a paleontologist is the job for me and I'll do whatever it takes to be one and make a small change in the world.

My favorite number is 14 because I was born in the year 2014, And even numbers are my favorite kind of number, and that's why.

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Lucian Leonard Today's date 2/20/26

Mailing Address: HO

Your city/town: Mount Desert Zip Code: 04860

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Kirste Osier

What school do you attend? MDES What grade are you in? 6

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Ms. Korry Taylor



MDS

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Aspirations Partners:

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Maine College Circle

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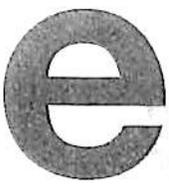
1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite number and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

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 that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses 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, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses help you? 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 Eastern Maine

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.

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Lucian Leonard

Teacher Comment:

Lucian is a quiet, thoughtful person who works hard to apply himself to schoolwork. Lucian gets along with everyone. Although quiet, he is sought out by many students as a confidante and friend. Everyone feels comfortable with Lucian, and he would be great at helping people with their tech issues. He would be a good listener and is a deep thinker, so problem-solving would come easily to him. Lucian worked very hard on this essay, as he does with all school tasks.

Parent Comment:

I think that cybersecurity would be an amazing job for Lucian! He has always been interested in what my brother (his uncle) does for work and he's always had a thing for computers and technology. Like he said he helped build a computer with his uncle and he is currently working on making a video game on his computer. So I think he's off to a great start. and he couldn't have picked a better role model.

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.
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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 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 LUCIANO LEONARD WILLIAMSTeacher Kerry Taylor

The Tech Protector

By Lucian Leonard

My favorite number is seven. I like the number seven because it is usually a lucky number. Sometimes I feel like I need some luck.

I like working with computers. I built my own computer by buying the parts that I wanted and putting them all together. My uncle works with computers, and I have grown up watching him and learning from him. Coding is very interesting to me as well because I get to make my own games and program things the way I want them. Thinking about these two things makes me feel like a good career choice for me would be cybersecurity.

When I built a computer with my uncle, I spent the night there and the whole day building it. I enjoyed seeing all the parts and how they work and learning their role in the computer. The hardest part was fixing the messy wiring. The next morning, I could play on it, and the graphics were better than I had imagined. I had a lot of fun working on this project, and it got me interested in a career with computers. This is just one example of how I find computers interesting.

The job I want to do is in cybersecurity. What I'm doing right now to be prepared is coding and doing all sorts of tech stuff on my computer. What I can do in high school is I can do HCTC programs in cybersecurity so I can learn more about it. I can also watch interviews online to learn more about this career.

I am considering the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, located in Cambridge, Massachusetts. MIT has really good cybersecurity programs. MIT has a Computer Science and Engineering degree that I am very interested in because it is a good path towards a career in cybersecurity. One class I chose is Fundamentals of Programming, which is an introduction to basic ideas to help develop skills in programming languages. Other classes I would take are Database Systems and

Introduction to Algorithms. I like the idea of attending this college because it is close to Maine, so I'm not too far away from my family. I also like spending time in Boston and think the community would be a good fit for me. Even though MIT has a lower acceptance rate than other colleges, I am willing to work hard to reach my goals and be a part of the MIT community.

I interviewed my uncle, Chris, who works for a cybersecurity company, monitoring software and systems for personal and professional programs. I asked him what he finds challenging about this career. He said things change constantly, like new attack methods and new software; hackers are always trying to steal important information to sell. The things he finds rewarding about this career are keeping people safe. He does this by protecting government information and personal information. What I learned from this interview was that cybersecurity is more than just computers. His advice is that college is an important part, but the biggest thing is to play around with stuff. Interviewing my uncle Chris has got me more excited for this career, and I love the thought of working in cybersecurity.

So, I think cybersecurity is the right career for me because I like to work on computers and keep people safe, and I want to follow in my uncle's footsteps. I love to build things. It is super fun, especially making 3d models on my computer and seeing what I can do. Seeing how things work and learning to build them is interesting for me. I'm doing all sorts of things with my uncle, like making our own game by coding. I'm learning by experimenting, and when I get lost, my uncle helps me figure it out. Thank you for reading and considering my essay.

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Atticus Park Today's date 3/2/2026
 Mailing Address: 72 Beechland Road
 Your city/town: Elsworth ME Zip Code: 04605
 Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Timothy Oh (Dad) Andree Park (Mom)
 What school do you attend? MDES What grade are you in? 6th
 Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Ms. Kerry Taylor



MD10

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Aspirations Partners:

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1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite number 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 that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses 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, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses help you? 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 Eastern Maine

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.

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Atticus Park

Teacher Comment:

Atticus is a gifted athlete. He plays many sports and excels at them, but soccer is by far his favorite. It is a pleasure to behold him playing on the field, maneuvering between opponents, kicking the ball to teammates, or into the goal. He is in his happy place when playing this sport. Atticus is also very kind to others. He is sensitive and caring, and these traits would certainly help with coaching. Add to that a love for soccer, and you have the makings of a great coach.

Parent Comment:

I finally got to see how serious Atticus is about his passion for soccer and his desire to be a soccer coach. He connected his amazing physical aptitude and his ability to connect with others through compassion and communication. I am touched to see the growth in him as I was reading his rough draft and helping him with the essay. He further explained verbally about his love and commitment for soccer with such excitement. We made plans together in how we can aid his body to be healthy, strengthened, and develop more skills for playing soccer.

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.

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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."

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Grade 3

- I have written about my aspirations for my future.
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- 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.
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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.
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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.
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Signed:

Student

Atticus Park

Teacher

Kerry Taylor

Dribbling Toward My Dream

Atticus Park

My favorite number is 10. The best soccer player in the world (Lionel Messi) wears jersey number 10 and I want to be like him.

One of the biggest things I have passion for is soccer. It's a thing that I can do that takes me away from my own thoughts. I'll play any position: striker, defender, or on the wings. I love it all. Playing any sport is better than sitting on a couch all day playing video games. I love everything about soccer: the foot-eye coordination, how quick you have to be, how committed you have to be, and I love the way at the last minutes of the game, your adrenaline starts to go bonkers. I think being a coach would really be a good job for me because I know a lot about soccer, and I want to pass my skills to future generations. I would also like to study kinesiology because I think that knowing how the body works would help me as a soccer coach.

"Tactics are important, but determination is everything". (Pep Guardiola)

I have loved soccer for as long as I can remember. I also remember one of my school games against Trenton. I was booting the ball all across the field on defense. In that same game, I stepped up for a corner kick, and it sailed across the goalie box, and I scored. I love the sound when you shoot the ball perfectly in the net. At the end of that game, even though we had won, I still felt sad because I wanted to keep playing. Because I'm a good soccer player and I am patient when I communicate, I think that coaching little kids would be a good job for me.

"If you don't believe you can win, you have already lost." — José Mourinho

To help me get started in my future job, I will get better at soccer and try to get into as many soccer clubs as I can. I will try to lock in on my future and try my hardest in high school. Something I could do right now to ensure my future job as a coach is to pay close attention to how my coach guides and helps my team improve our skills. Also, I could volunteer for the Neighborhood House and help little kids as an assistant coach. I will keep a close eye on all the little players, and I will speak in a way that each of them can understand. I believe in good communication where I can transfer valuable information clearly with lots of encouragement. I can pass on skills and passion by role modeling. If I do all of this, I will be successful and satisfied.

"Football is played with the head. Your feet are just the tools." – Andrea Pirlo

I have been looking at the University of Maine in Orono. I think that this school would be good for me because it has all the programs that I need to succeed, and it's close to my parents' houses, so I can still visit them. I am going to get a major in Kinesiology and a minor in Coaching. The Kinesiology program has four different focus areas, and out of the four, I like Exercise Science. These are some of the classes that I need to take: Anatomy and Physiology,

Exercise Prescription and Leadership, Prevention and Care for Sports Injuries, Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, and Nutrition for Sports and Exercise. For studying Anatomy and Physiology, I would learn about the human body and its functions. And in Exercise Prescription and Leadership, I would learn how to plan exercise programs for people with different abilities. As you can see, these are some very good reasons why this college would be good for me.

"The pain you feel today will be the strength you feel tomorrow." — Unknown

I interviewed my PE teacher, Coach Norwood. He has been a PE teacher for a long time. He wanted to do this career since he was a senior in high school. He told me to get into as many soccer teams as I can and any chance I get to coach, to take it. In college, he studied Anatomy, Kinesiology, and Exercise Physiology. He said his favorite part about his job was when kids from high school come back and tell him all the cool things that they loved to do in PE class. Interviewing him made me more excited for this career.

"Losers complain, winners train." — José Mourinho

In conclusion, I believe that being a coach is the right aspiration for me because I like soccer and I want to help unlock a kid's talent. I like the feeling when your adrenaline is going crazy at the last minute of a game. I love how strategic you have to be. I love how you have to work as a team to win. I also would enjoy the opportunity to teach kids a sport like this. Between passion and patience, I think I would make a good soccer coach. Thank you for reading and considering my essay.

MDI

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Alistair Black Today's date 2/6/26

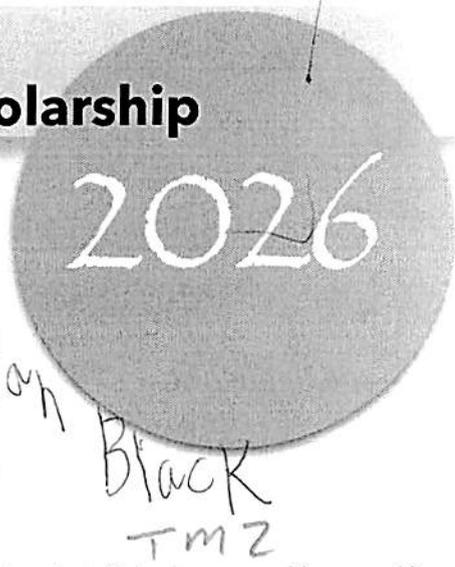
Mailing Address: PO Box 47

Your city/town: Seal Cove Zip Code: 04674

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Megan Bennoch and Morgan

What school do you attend? Tremont What grade are you in? 6

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Ms. Rabasco



\$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.

Schools:

- Conners Emerson School
- Mount Desert Elementary School
- Tremont Consolidated School
- Pemetic Elementary School
- Trenton Elementary School

Aspirations Partners:

- First National Bank
- Machias Savings Bank
- Bar Harbor Bank & Trust
- Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **March 27, 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.

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2026

Future of Eastern Maine

Aspirations Scholarship

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Please see attached.

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Please see attached.

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Alistar Black

Expectations Checklist

Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship, 2026

To be completed by the student

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I even spelled my teacher's name correctly.

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Grade 3

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Grade 5

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Grade 6

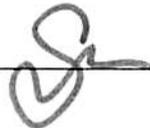
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- I have identified five high school or college courses that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- I have interviewed a professional and have written about what I learned.

Signed:

Student

Alistar Black

Teacher



Future of Maine College Aspirations Scholarship

School: Tremont Consolidated School, Tremont, Maine

Student: Alistar Black

Teacher: Elizabeth Holbrook-Rabasca, Middle School ELA

Teacher Comments:

Alistar is a diligent, dedicated student who is always looking to improve. He approaches every lesson with a steady determination and a sincere desire to grow. He has had to overcome personal and learning challenges and puts his best foot forward anyway. His enthusiasm for and dedication to law enforcement is inspiring.

Parent Comments:

Becoming a police officer is a dream that never fades for Alistar, he has spent most of his life aiming to wear the uniform. Alistar truly appreciates and strives to learn and understand all aspects of what it takes to be a police officer.

Whether it be movies, videos, books, magazines or anything of the like - if it pertains to law enforcement, Alistar is interested! He has a never ending collection of military and police action figures and vehicles that he meticulously sets up and plays out scenes and re-enactments with.

Alistar likes a consistent schedule and routine and puts a great amount of attention to detail. His memory is amazing and has often been the one to remind me of important times and dates. Alistar is extremely devoted and dedicated to anything he puts his mind to, especially if there is a problem to solve. The thrill and excitement of investigating an issue or problem has always gained Alistar's attention and he won't stop until he gets to the bottom of it and finds a solution.

He is a great friend, to a fault, as he carries his heart on his sleeve and sometimes puts his full thought and emotion into a situation. He has great respect for his peers, teachers and family and it shows in his every day actions. I know one day he will make an excellent police officer for any community. I am proud of our community for having such amazing officers - such as Officer Roulet - who truly care about our children and their future. I know, when the day comes, Alistar will be in good hands with any of our island police departments.

1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite number and why?

My favorite number is 24 because my birthday happens. It makes me feel really special and it's my lucky number, so it always protects me.

How I Become a Cool Cop

"This is the police! Get down!" That's what you would have heard if you were in my room when I was 5. I have always wanted to be a police officer ever since I was 5. I would watch videos of police officers and I would always play cops and robbers with my mom and older brother. They would be the robbers and I would push open the door and scream, "Police! Get down on the ground!" When I put them in handcuffs, I would say, "You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say or do can and will be used against you in the court of law. You have the right to have an attorney present during questioning. If you cannot afford an attorney, one will be appointed to you." Those words I would never forget. I even spent all my mom's money on cool police stuff. Let's just say my mom was not too happy with me.

Today I still enjoy and love practicing being a cop. I also still enjoy playing cops and robbers today. I even spent more of my mom's money to get fake money for the cops and robbers, but this time she isn't mad at me because I asked this time. I still love using fake money, fake handcuffs to arrest my mom and older brother when we play cops and robbers.

It would make me proud today because now I know and have more of an understanding about how to be a police officer and what you have to do to be a police officer and about all of the training you need to go through to be a police officer.

In order to become a police officer, I will need to attend the Maine Criminal Justice Academy. To be able to join the Maine Criminal Justice Academy I need to be 21 unless I have gone to college, in which case I can join at 20.

I would like to go to Thomas College in Waterville, Maine. The reason I would like to go to Thomas College is that it has a really good criminal justice program and teaches you a lot about law enforcement. I would also like to go to Thomas College because it is really close to home and I like being close to home and being close to family. I like how Waterville is like a small area and I have been there before and I think it is very beautiful up there.

My first course I will take is Policing in America and with this course I will learn about how to be a really good police officer and how to deal with serious situations like if there is a robbery or a hostage situation.

- Criminology will be my second course that I will take. In this course I will learn about the scientific study of crime. I will “learn about criminals, criminal behavior.”
- Criminal Law will be my third course. In this course I will learn that “criminal law is the study of the system of laws dealing with crimes and their punishments, designed to regulate behavior deemed injuries to society as a whole. It defines offenses - ranging from misdemeanors to felonies- and establishes penalties like fines or incarceration.”
- Criminal Investigation Procedures are learning about the “systematic, lawful methods law enforcement use to discover, collect, and preserve evidence to identify, arrest, and prosecute suspects.”

- Multicultural Issues in Criminal Justice means I will be learning about “the challenges, biases, and complexities that arise when a diverse society interacts with a justice system that may not adequately reflect or understand different cultural, racial, or linguistic backgrounds.”

I interviewed Officer Roulet. She is the School Resource Officer for Tremont School. I learned that she got started in this current career by living in a rough neighborhood with Child Protective Services. The police were always at her house and never had a good environment at home. Then one day a police officer came and took her with her sister and after that she was like wow. I want to be like that and save people while helping out the community. She always wanted to do this, but doubted herself. First, she went to the army and then she started to trust her instincts again and left the army to go and be a cop. The hardest part of being a cop was being away from family and not being used to your routine and now you have a stricter routine, so you have to get use to that routine. Officer Roulet said that the physical training for a police officer is very hard and requires conditioning. The education and training is that you need military experience or 60 college credits and you need to be accepted into police academy. She loves the work of helping kids and the community out. Being the school's resource officer is about helping kids out, so that's why she is the school's resource officer. The best achievement she said was that she is a really good cop and a really good cop mom. A typical day in her job is that you never know what's going to happen on scene of a 911 call, or you don't know what someone might have in their car at a traffic stop so every day is a surprise and you need to rely on your training and rely on your mental training and handle lots of paper work stuff. She said some advice for someone who wants to pursue this career is to be smart about the law and keep up to date with the law and the bills that are passed by the law, but you also can't have a criminal record. You really just need

to stay out of trouble and you won't have a criminal record. If you stay up to date with the law, then you won't violate the law. Some things that you need to do is be fair, treat everyone with fairness and you won't have any problems.

In the future, I plan to head to my favorite college and then head off to the police academy. The \$100 will help me when I go to college. It will help me buy supplies for the courses I will have to take. My life will be super full and busy in Maine. I will always be doing something on the job whether that is responding to busy 911 calls and when I am able to be a police officer I will achieve my dream of becoming a police officer. You will probably see me in the Town of Tremont patrolling in my cruiser. Wait, no. You definitely will see me patrolling in my cruiser in a couple years.

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Nira Smullen Today's date 2/6/26

Mailing Address: Po Box 16

Your city/town: Bernard Zip Code: 04612

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Moriah Duffy

What school do you attend? Tremont What grade are you in? 6

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Ms. Rabasca



TM7

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2020

Future of Eastern Maine

Aspirations Scholarship

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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 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

Nira Smullen

Teacher

[Signature]

Future of Maine College Aspirations Scholarship

School: Tremont Consolidated School, Tremont, Maine

Student: Nira Smullen

Teacher: Elizabeth Holbrook-Rabasca, Middle School ELA

Teacher Comments:

Nira has undergone a remarkable transformation over the past year. Nira has come to view seeking help not as a hurdle, but as a strategic tool for success—a realization that has unlocked her ability to tackle complex tasks. This shift in mindset has fostered a level of confidence that extend far beyond any single assignment. Through this process of writing this essay, she advocated for her own learning and allowed her passion and personality to shine through.

Parent Comments:

I can safely say that Nira's interest in equestrianism is nothing less than a personality trait. Ever since she was little she has been drawn to horses. She has studied and memorized everything she can about the anatomy, training, riding and care of horses. She can name any breed and part of a horse you point to. After years of asking for riding lessons, we were finally able to set up riding lessons at a local therapeutic riding center close to home. In 2024 Nira's biological dad had passed away and her confidence took a hit. Willowind saw her need and her talent and have helped her refine and shape it. They are so impressed at her skill that they worry that her talent will outgrow them.

I know that Nira can accomplish anything she puts her heart into, and I see her future in equestrianism.

25 Words

1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite number and why?

My favorite number is thirteen because my birthday is January third. Confusing, but the one represents January, and the three represents the third of January.

You Can't Control a Horse's Spirit

“You can't control a horse's spirit” is what I wish I could say to every equestrian out there, every beginner, and every equine specialist. And what do I mean by that? I mean for there to be good horsemanship we need to listen to our horses, communicate, and love them. You don't need tack, “bridle, saddle, etc.” to communicate with your horse. I see people all the time saying I can control my horse, but why? Why control and not communicate? Why not listen? I have loved horses ever since I was 4 and have been riding since I was 6. I have also been into photography and have been an artist since I was 7. I also make model horse tack and I've been doing that since I was nine. I have been drawing horses almost all my life. Let's face it - I LOVE HORSES.

It all started with my best friend Kate; Kate has been here for all my life. When she used to babysit me, there was one day she brought me to one of her horseback riding lessons. I asked to get on a lesson horse and that's when it all began. To this day, Kate owns three horses and lets me visit them anytime.

Every Saturday, I ride at Willowwind in Bar Harbor. At each lesson, I take care of the horses, tack them up, and ride. And you might think, "Oh that's easy!" It's not. You have to know the horse's mood, their anatomy, their patience, their EVERYTHING, all the things you have to remember that your trainer tells you to be able to advance and be left alone with the horses and to be trusted. It doesn't just take a week. It takes years and years and YEARS. And it's not just horses doing all the work, it's the rider and the communication with the horse. Lots and lots of people assume that the horse is doing all the work and that it's easy, because let me tell you it's

not. Confidence gets lost, things happen you fall once or twice but you **get back on** that horse and you **DO NOT** give up, you **KEEP RIDING**.

I have no experience with photography, but I am very interested in it. I also have quite a bit of experience with model horses. When I get older I want to be an equine trainer, dressage rider and I want to fix peoples perspectives of riders. I want to do photography and I want to photograph horses and boats. Also want to be an artist, and I want to draw, guess what? **Horses**. I also want to make model horse dioramas to either sell or to post online, maybe both!

For photography and equine specialties I want to go to Johnson and Wales University in Rhode Island. For my major I will do Animal Science and there I will have to study Animal Disease and Preventative Health, Principles of Animal Behavior and Training, Animal Welfare, Health and Wellness, Principles of Animal Nutrition, and Domestic Animal Anatomy and Physiology. For my specialization classes I want to do Horsemanship, Training and Welfare, Collegiate Horseback Riding, and Equine Health and Sports Therapy. I will also take art and photography classes including Foundations of Digital Photography.

I interviewed Rachel. She is a riding instructor at Willowwind. I asked Rachel how to get started in a career working with horses. Rachel told me, "immerse yourself deeply in horse until you have to make a decision to go to college. All of the unromantic parts of horses; the manure, the health care, weather, different types of equine jobs like farriers, veterinarians, equine assisted psychotherapists, riding styles. By the time you are ready to make a decision for long term education (or not), you'll know what specialty you'd like to pursue."

I'm not 100% sure on what I want to spend the \$100 on if I win, but I have an idea. I want to put it towards riding clothes and maybe a lesson. When I do photography, I'm not sure how I'll do it, but I know ONE DAY I will get a call saying, "Hi Nira I was wondering? Could you photograph my horse?" I just love it! There is just something about equine photography that makes me tingle to do it. I want to start photography at 17 and get my own camera when I can afford one. But I want to start off small with plants and animals in Maine. Someday I want to change people's perspective of equestrians, and make people really understand that horses aren't just a thing and riding horses isn't just a sport. It's a lifestyle.

MDI

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship



Name: Logan Maag Today's date 3-26-26

Mailing Address: 16 McEnroe Rd

Your city/town: Southwest Harbor, ME Zip Code: 04679

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s)? Amy and Eric Maag

What school do you attend? Pemetic Elementary School What grade are you in? 6th

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



P4

\$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.

Schools:

- Connors Emerson School
- Mount Desert Elementary School
- Tremont Consolidated School
- Pemetic Elementary School
- Trenton Elementary School

Aspirations Partners:

- First National Bank
- Machias Savings Bank
- Bar Harbor Bank & Trust

Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **March 27, 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 number 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 that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses 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, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses help you? 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.)



Logan

2026

Future of Eastern Maine

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.*

It has been a pleasure working with Logan on this project! The more he "dug in" the more excited he became about becoming an actor! He has been a great addition to our class and we will miss him

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.

see attached recommendation

* 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.

Lights Camera Actoin

Logan Maag
16 McEnroe Road
Southwest Harbor ME 04679
Pemetic Elementary School, Grade 6
Teacher: Mrs. Norwood
March 26, 2026

My favorite is exactly 25 word (*don't count the title*)

My favorite number is 12 because 12 is spelled a cool way by being spelled twelve. I like the way it looks as well (12).

Lights Camera Actoin

Logan Maag
16 McEnroe Road
Southwest Harbor ME 04679
Pemetic Elementary School, Grade 6
Teacher: Mrs. Norwood
March 26, 2026

Have you ever just wanted to laugh out loud? I have felt that way many times and this is why I want to be an actor. I am interested in acting because I want to make people laugh, feel calm, or even help them to remove stress. People attend live shows or performances or go to the movies as entertainment. For at least a little while, they can escape to another place, another time, or even another adventure. Acting is **soooooo** fun that you can entertain people with your imagination.

Actors can choose to work in film or on the live stage. I am interested in acting because when I was a kid or just when I was younger, I wanted to be on a TV screen. At the time, I thought it would be soooo cool to be someone like Spiderman swinging around in a city. The skills that are needed for acting are memorization, character development, voice control, movement, and understanding character roles. A person who would like to be an actor needs to be an empathetic and emotionally expressive person. It is a good thing to have because you can be connected and understand the character you are playing.

Many people go into acting without formal education, but you can go to college to learn the skills necessary to pursue a career in acting. The college I want to go to is New York University (NYU Tisch School of the Arts), in New York City. Some of the classes I'd like to take are Stage Combat for learning skills for fighting scenes, Voice Lessons to learn how to talk when acting, Physical Acting to learn how to express yourself, and Stone Street Screen Acting for teaching me how to act in film. If you go to college for an acting career you can go up to 1-3 years in the college of your choice. There are many more colleges available to further your career and some people will get a master's degree.

My dad is in the USCG (U.S. Coast Guard) and has been recently transferred to Texas. In a little over 6 weeks, I am moving to Corpus Christi, Texas. Moving to a bigger place will open up opportunities and give me more chances to become an actor. I will also be closer to California where there is a major hub of actors like Leonardo DiCaprio, Tom Hanks, and Angelina Jolie. There are also popular movies even in Texas, The Texas Chain Saw Massacre and Selena. Gunnar Hansen was the star of the Texas Chainsaw Massacre and actually lived on Mount Desert Island, where I live now!

Lights Camera Actoin

I am interested in acting because I like watching movies and shows and it would be cool to be in one. There are many ways acting will make a difference and one of them is by improving someone's day by watching a funny movie. A second way is movies or shows create entertainment for people.

Acting is the absolute career for me! I am excited to think about it and make plans for my future. My goal is connected to this job because actors make people smile and feel calm in their acting. I will start working towards that goal by doing theater, acting classes and by working hard in school to go to a college. I hope my new school will have theater and something that will help with my future. I hope in the future I will be living my dream happily.

A quote that inspired me to do shows and forward my career "*Tell me and I'll forget. Teach me and I remember, involve me and I learn.*" **Benjamin Franklin**

Pemetic Elementary School



327 Main Street
PO Box 255
Southwest Harbor, ME 04679

Phone: (207) 244-5502
Fax: (207) 244-0367
Interim Principal: Carolyn Todd

March 20, 2026

To Whom it May Concern:

I am pleased to write this letter of recommendation on behalf of Logan Maag, who is applying for the Future of Maine Aspirations scholarship. I first met Logan in the fall of this school year when I accompanied his class on a three-day class trip. At that time, I was impressed by his calm and kind demeanor and the way he interacted with peers and adults alike.

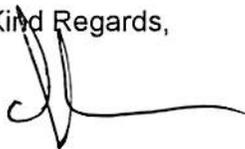
Though I am not his teacher in a formal way, I have spoken with him about his love of acting. As a former aspiring professional actor myself, I can see in him the glowing spark of passion that is so critical for anyone seriously considering this path. As the only child of a member of the U.S. Coast Guard, he has moved quite a bit, which has impacted his ability to engage in formal acting, but this has not slowed him down.

Logan often spends time outside of school, with or without his friends, making videos using whatever equipment they can – mostly smart phones. Through this, he has discovered a safe place for himself and has shared that he often feels safer on camera than in person, with people. Though he works alone when no friends are available, he enjoys the sense of community found in working with others, and especially thrives in the co-creative process that unfolds when working with like-minded people. It seems to me that he has found a home on camera – a place where he can more fully realize himself. He aspires to create that sense of safety for his future audiences as well.

Logan will be moving to a much larger city soon and is excited about having far more acting opportunities than he has now. He is hoping to find a movement class, or maybe a class that helps people learn to memorize lines quickly. I hope that he might do this with some extra money in his pocket, and as such, it is my privilege to recommend him to you for consideration of this scholarship.

Thank you for your time and please let me know if I can be of further service.

Kind Regards,



Cameron Frothingham
Special Educator
Pemetic Elementary School

Logan

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 that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
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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 Lozan MangTeacher Bonnie L. Norwood

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Aubrey Wellman-Clouse Today's date 3-10-26

Mailing Address: 2 Shannan RD, Bar Harbor ME

Your city/town: Bar Harbor Maine Zip Code: 04609

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s)? Laurie Wellman

What school do you attend? Connors Emerson What grade are you in? 6th

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Emilie Ginn



CE 3

\$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.

Schools:

Connors Emerson School
Mount Desert Elementary School
Tremont Consolidated School
Pemetic Elementary School
Trenton Elementary School

Aspirations Partners:

First National Bank
Machias Savings Bank
Bar Harbor Bank & Trust

Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **March 27, 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 number 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 that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses 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, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses help you? 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.)



2024

Future of Eastern Maine

Aspirations Scholarship

To the applicant:

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Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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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.

Parent or other adult mentor:

on a separate sheet of paper.

Alongside her passion for riding, Aubrey has a strong interest in science—particularly anatomy—which has given her an academic foundation to further deepen her understanding of and connection to horses.

When she began at Williwind, a local stable, she quickly stood out for her leadership around the horses and was named The Ambassador by the owner. Eager to grow, she pursued lessons in both English and Western riding, continually building her skills.

Expectations Checklist

Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship, 2026

To be completed by the student

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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)

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Grade 4

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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.
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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

~~_____~~ AUDREY WELLMAN CLOWE

Teacher

Gini _____

Sky's the Limit

My favorite number is four because my birthday is March 4th and instead of three times a charm, it is always four times for me.

When you were little, what was the first thing you wanted to be when you grew up? I have loved horses ever since I learned to talk. They were these big majestic animals. When I was six years old I finally got my first horse riding lesson. I was super nervous, but soon that anxiety turned into excitement. Even when the horse was just walking I felt like I was flying. Little did I know that this lesson would turn into a life long dream to work with horses.

I want to pursue a career based on Equestrian sports. Equestrian sports includes show jumping, barrel racing, eventing, western pleasure, endurance and polo. Although the sports are all different, they all take patience, hard work, hours of training, and lots of money!

I have volunteered at Willowwind (which is a therapeutic horse riding center) in the past and can continue to do that. Although I am familiar with grooming and taking care of horses, working at Willowwind will keep me involved in doing what I love. I can prepare for this career by continuing to horseback ride and trying to enter and qualify for horse shows.

After high school I plan to go to an advanced equine college. This college for me is William Woods University in Fulton Missouri. I am going to obtain a four year degree in Equestrian science. I will need to take classes in equine medicine and Foundations of Equestrian Teaching and Learning. For the riding part I'll need to take Issues of Riding which is just riding and doing shows and learning new techniques. My required class is

Adapted Physical Education. Last but not least is Vet Sciences and Med. These classes will all help me reach my goal of becoming an Olympic rider.

I interviewed Tyra Paynes. She is a dressage coach/trainer and rider. She is also an IEA coach (Interscholastic Equestrian Association). For my first question I asked, "What is rewarding about this career?" She told me that many things are rewarding on many different levels. She also said she loves building relationships with horses and having them trust her. Ms. Paynes used to be a full time teacher and from that she turned her dream into a reality. She owns her own Equestrian center called Tyken Bay Acres. I want to do something similar to this, but I also want to be a vet and horsewoman. My next question was what does a typical day look like in your career. She said that it's mostly teaching riding lessons and working with client horses. She sometimes judges at horse shows. My last question was what does the path of an olympian look like. Ms. Paynes said that it is working your butt off, training hard on and off the horse, being focused and determined. She told me that you need to have a lot of riding experience and you need to know how to move with the horse. Interviewing Ms. Paynes made me excited about the future. It made me think that anything is possible when you put your mind to it and work hard.

In conclusion, I want to work with horses and be a professional Equestrian. Maybe even be a real life horse whisperer. "Horses are our silent partners. When we learn their language this partnership gets stronger"- Monty Roberts. Horses are who I am. They make me feel complete and they make me happy. I want to be able to show and teach that bond and heart connection.

Thank you very much for considering my application.

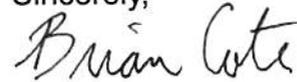
March 23, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

It is with pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation for Aubrey Wellman Clouse. Aubrey was a 5th grade student in my middle school science classroom last year at the Conners Emerson School in Bar Harbor, Maine. During her time here, Aubrey tackled general science topics including the scientific method, ecology, water quality studies at The Bar, geology, astronomy, high pressure water rocket engineering, and a genuine inquiry project. In 5th grade, Aubrey showed a very high interest in animal sciences and human anatomy. Aubrey self engaged with a skeletal system project all on her own and found great success. Aubrey's high executive functioning skills, strong work ethic, and well developed organizational skills allowed her to create memorable works in the science room.

Aside from Aubrey's passion for animal sciences, she is a phenomenally kind and caring person who cares deeply for those around her. I see Aubrey as a very motivated student with a very respectful approach to all that she encounters. As Aubrey leaves 6th grade this year, I have no doubt that she will seek out more opportunities to explore veterinary science and the equestrian world. I have no doubt that Aubrey will continue to be a positive asset to the world around her. If you have any questions about Aubrey Wellman Clouse, don't hesitate to contact me at bcote@mdirss.org.

Sincerely,



Brian Cote
CES Science Teacher

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship



Name: EVERETT HAMOR Today's date 3/12/26
 Mailing Address: 34 GECIACO RD
 Your city/town: TOWN HILL Zip Code: 04609
 Parent(s) or guardian's name(s)? SAMANTHA BRENT
 What school do you attend? CONNERS EMERSON SCHOOL What grade are you in? 6
 Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? EMILIE GINN

CEB

\$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.

Schools:

Connors Emerson School
 Mount Desert Elementary School
 Tremont Consolidated School
 Pemetic Elementary School
 Trenton Elementary School

Aspirations Partners:

First National Bank
 Machias Savings Bank
 Bar Harbor Bank & Trust

Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **March 27, 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.

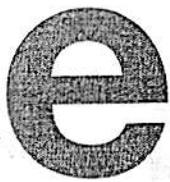
1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite number and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

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 that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses help you? And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

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2026

Future of Eastern Maine

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

Everett has always loved sports. Since he was a little boy, he has wanted to play as many sports as he can. Everett's love of sports has extended to wrestling so much. This is something that he sees himself doing for the rest of his life. Everett's dedication and excitement for sports extends to people that he knows. If he's doing nothing he's playing a sport if he's watching nothing he's watching sports and if he's talking to certain people all he's talking to sports. Everett's essay I think embodies exactly what he wants for his 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

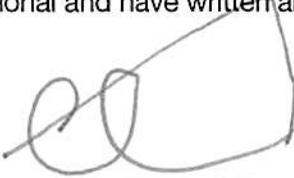
- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college courses that will help me pursue my aspirations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

 EVERETT

Teacher



Pinning My Dreams

130 is my favorite number because that is the weight class I wrestle in. I love wrestling because of all the moves you can do.

The whistle blew and the ref said third period, and I was down by 14 points, one more point, and I would lose by tech fall. I walked off the mat thinking that I was done for. I walked to my coach, I said "what do I do now" and then my coach gave me a speech. It worked, then my coach told me to do a double leg takedown. I ran to the mat, the ref blew the whistle and I fumbled but I lifted her up and slammed her to the mat, I heard one two three. I got up and the ref raised my fist and that's when I knew I wanted to be a wrestling coach.

I think I would be a good wrestling coach because I like helping others and I like sharing my knowledge. Furthermore, I already help out with PE classes for first grade here at my school. I started my career at a young age, and I will proceed all my life till I reach my highest goals. I am so determined to achieve my goals. Although my school doesn't have a wrestling team, I am so driven that I am wrestling as an independent for Ellsworth. But I love wrestling, and I will do anything to succeed. I will never give up on my dreams, and I know one day I will get to my highest point if I never give up.

To be a wrestling coach, I will go to Penn State and study kinesiology. The classes I will take are Physiology, Anatomy, Lab Chem, Trigonometry, and lastly Calculus. I will wrestle in high school and college to get more familiar with the sport. I will apply for Blair academy in New Jersey to be a PE teacher and try to coach wrestling.

I interviewed Bryan Dionne who is a PE teacher in my school. Although he wasn't a wrestling coach, he is very athletic. He coached so many sports, so I thought he would help me learn to be a good gym teacher. I asked him why he picked a gym teacher for a job. He said I love being active, and he loves helping others. He went to the University of Maine, and he got a Master's degree in physical education. I asked him if he had any advice for me. He said work hard, believe in yourself, and get good grades.

In conclusion If I won the money I would put it to wrestling camps to get better and better at the sport. I think I would be a great PE teacher and a coach because I am dedicated, passionate and hard working. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely Everett



HEATHER WEBSTER
PRINCIPAL

MICHAEL FOURNIER
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

CONNERS-EMERSON SCHOOL

11 Eagle Lake Road
Bar Harbor, Maine 04609
(207) 288-3631

March 17, 2026

Dear Future of Maine Scholarship Review Committee,

It comes as no surprise to me that Everett is considering becoming a wrestling coach! I was Everett's 4th grade teacher and he brightened our classroom every day with his enthusiasm. It is my pleasure to recommend Everett Hamor for the College Aspirations Scholarship.

Everett is an active member of our CES community. He is always playing at recess; whether it is basketball, 4-square or kickball he is there playing hard and encouraging others.

Wrestling is not the first sport Everett has participated in outside of our school and community. He also traveled for basketball and baseball. When he is passionate about a sport, or a school project, he really gives it his all. This perseverance and dedication are qualities that will make him a great wrestling coach.

In 4th grade, he persevered on school work with the same dedication. I will never forget his research project on the Rainforest. He not only wrote an insightful essay, but he also created a diorama to further show his understanding of the biome.

Everett's dedication to his learning in the classroom and his experience in different sports in and outside of our school, are traits that will serve him well as a wrestling coach. I highly recommend him as a College Aspirations Scholarship recipient. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions at hdority@mdirss.org.

Regards,

Heather Dority
5th Grade Math Teacher
Conners Emerson School

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Clover Sandin Today's date 3/10/26

Mailing Address: 604 Crooked Road, Bar Harbor, ME

Your city/town: Bar Harbor, ME Zip Code: 04609

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Courtney Bittenbring, JR Sandin

What school do you attend? Conners Emerson What grade are you in? 6th

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Emilie Ginn

2026

CE 13

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Maine College Circle

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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 number 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 that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses help you? And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

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2020

Future of Eastern Maine

Aspirations Scholarship

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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
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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.*

Please see attached.

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.

We are entirely in support of Clover's vision of becoming a librarian. We are grateful to the local librarians who have inspired her. Her love of reading and desire to share what she knows, along with her drive to find answers that she doesn't already have, make her well suited to this role. We are curious to see whether a broadening worldview will expand her vision into larger applications of library or information science, and we will help her see those possibilities, but most importantly we will encourage her to find her own place.

* 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.

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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.
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Grade 4

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Grade 5

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- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
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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.
- 3-4 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

Claver

Teacher

Wini

The Heart of the School

My favorite number's 3. There are a few reasons, some being that I'm one of 3 children and my sister's 3 years older than me.

My actual number prompt is up there, but I'm going to give you my original version because I had to cut ten words from an already conservative paragraph.

My favorite number is 3. There are a few reasons for this, some being that I am one of 3 children and my sister is 3 years older than me. Also I just like 3.

That's still not everything I would like to say, but it's better.

I've never really known what I want to be when I grow up, and I still don't fully know. My sisters have wanted to be things like scientists, chemists, or astrophysicists for years, while I've just sat around with no real interests. The closest I've come to an aspiration is thinking that it might be interesting to be a librarian. Every morning, for the first ten minutes of school, I go down to the library and read or sometimes talk to Ms. Ryan (the librarian). She tells me about what she's doing in her classes or what new books she wants to get for the library. I always think "*Wow, that sounds really fun.*"

Being a librarian probably interests me because of all the cool librarians I'm commonly around in my school's library (Ms. Ryan, who is a very good and interesting conversationalist and also happens to be the mother of one of my friends, giving me all the more reasons to befriend her) and at the Jesup Memorial Library (Abby and Autumn, who are super nice and accommodating and are always ready to give a book recommendation). I think that being a librarian would fit me well because I love being around and reading books and organizing them is really fun. During high school I plan to volunteer at the Jessup Memorial Library, just to get the feel of how a library works.

I want to go to an ALA (American Library Association) accredited school, so I did some hunting around and found McGill University in Montreal, Canada. Only 6 and a half hours away. Because I have to get a Bachelors degree in a subject similar to the course I want to take at McGill to apply, I will first go to University of Maine at Augusta and get a Bachelors in Library and Information Sciences. When I get to McGill University, I will take Information and Library Sciences to get a Masters degree, and get a Masters degree in Education. I plan to major in English, and I will also do student teaching. This should qualify me for being a school librarian or a public librarian.

I interviewed Siobhan Ryan, our school librarian, and when I asked her what a typical day as a school librarian looked like, she said chaos. A constantly changing schedule, and working alternately with kindergarteners, colleagues, and everyone in between. Honestly, that doesn't sound too bad, having the same schedule every day sounds a little boring. She told me what it takes to become a school librarian (so much college), but it sounds worth it to have a job that I will love. Someone once told Ms. Ryan that: *"The library is the heart of the school."* That has stuck with her, and now it will stick with me.

I think that being a librarian would be a good choice for me because I love sharing books. I always get a sense of pride when I get my friends hooked on a book series I suggest. It's like seeing my children grow up. If I won the scholarship, I would use the money to expand my collection of books so that I could introduce them to others and show them how amazing books can be. Thank you for considering my application, and in case I don't see you: good morning, good afternoon, and good night.

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship
On Behalf of Clover Sandin
Conners Emerson School

I read through Clover Sandin's essay on why she would like to be a librarian, and I don't think she has been nearly kind enough to herself. Clover Sandin is a student with wide interests and big questions. I think one of the reasons she may be interested in librarianship is because so much of the world does interest her. The connections she makes from experiences, literature, and conversations have driven years of interesting conversations and connection.

As Clover continues to learn about the world, she will be a pathmaker, whether as a librarian or just a really funny, kind, and interesting human being. I am glad to be a participant in her journey.

Siobhan Ryan
Library/Media Specialist
Conners Emerson School
March 2026

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Amaya Mitchell Today's date 3/10/26
Mailing Address: 30 White Deer Circle, Bar Harbor, ME
Your city/town: Bar Harbor, ME Zip Code: 04609
Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Sarah Mitchell, Ross Mitchell
What school do you attend? Conners Emerson What grade are you in? 6th
Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Emilie Ginn

2026

CE 18

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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.

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Grade 6: Your College* Pathway and Beyond. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses help you? 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 Eastern Maine

Aspirations Scholarship

2020

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.

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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.

Amaya was always a hard working student when she was in my class. She is also kind. These two things, in my opinion, are hugely important to reaching goals and being a member of society. Amaya would make an excellent coach and I look forward to seeing all that she can and will accomplish. -Mrs. Keene

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.

Amaya is passionate about softball. When she's not playing softball herself, she's studying the game and watching reruns of college softball games. She understands the game through and through and is a great player. Given her own experience and knowledge, she would be a wonderful coach and mentor someday for both children and young adults learning the game. She hopes to play softball for the University of Florida and beyond, and assume a coaching position once her own game is fulfilled.

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.

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Choose one.

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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

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Grade 6

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Signed:

Student

Amaya Mitchell

Teacher

[Signature]

Sliding Into my Future

By. Amaya Mitchell

Walking onto the pitcher's mound. The smell of the leather. The softness of the dirt. The sound of the bat hitting the ball. The nights pretending to be a teacher. Telling my parents, "Be quiet and keep reading!" This is all the stuff that I dreamed of doing. I remember walking onto the field my first softball game and everybody cheering for me and my team. I was so nervous. Also, I remember taking the picture of me and my mom in the dugout during my first game and that it is still hanging on the fridge. I remember telling my mom and dad the schedule of the day for playing teacher. Giving them math tests. Telling them to read. I dedicate a lot of my life and time to these things. This is the stuff I have been doing since I was 8 years old and I want to continue doing it.

My mom has been coaching me (for softball) for 4 years and it seems really interesting and worth your time to coach and help people improve at sports especially softball and I would like to try it but NOT for fun. To find out if this is really what I want to do. I would also like to continue softball because I have worked so hard over the years and don't want to give up, so I have been researching a league after college softball. It is called, Athletes Unlimited Softball League, (AUSL). If you enter this league, you can make 30,000-100,00\$. Also, from this league, you can enter the Olympics if you get offered too. My plan with this is I will enter this

league and see how it goes for a couple of years. Then, after a couple years, even if I still like the league, in my off/free time, I will prepare myself for coaching by helping out with coaching. I would like to coach 4-8 graders because I think I would have a good bond with the team and I think that I could teach the younger and new players about the game and help them improve. I also love hanging out with kids and teenagers and I love taking care of them. One of the courses that I will take in high school to prepare me for this is *Team Sports*. I think this is a good class for me because one of the main focuses is student participation, which is a wide variety of sports and one of them is softball.

I'm planning on going to the University of Florida and my back up college is UMO (University of Maine at Orono). I think the University of Florida will be a good college for me because I have already been looking at some courses and they seem like they will help me prepare me for my future. Also, when I go to the University of Florida, I am planning on playing softball for their softball team. I think this will be a good idea because it will prepare me for the Athletes Unlimited Softball League (AUSL) and improve myself at the sport. Also, I really want to continue my softball career. Also, this will help me prepare for coaching by learning some new skills. So one of the courses/certificates that I was researching was, *Sport Management Certificate*. Since this is a certificate, and I have to get 12 credits, I will have to take 4 courses. One of the courses to get this certificate is required. And that course is, *Introduction to Sports Management*. This course involves conducting sports programs, and introduces management (that is 3 credits). Then, I will get to pick three other courses that they selected. I think that this Certificate will be worth

trying to get because the courses to get the certificate will help me with my future coaching career. They involve management and conducting sports.

For my interview, I decided to interview Jamey Lewis. She coaches the Mount Desert Island high school softball team. One important thing that she said about preparing yourself for this future and taking classes in college is taking some leadership classes to help you prepare your future. Another important thing that she said about coaching softball is that you have to understand the game. She said that you have to always put in 110% and have patience and show the players that you care. Also, take care of the players first and the game will come. One thing that she said really inspired me. She said, "Study hard and want it". It inspired me because I asked, "Do you have anything else to say about coaching?" and when she said what she said, it told me that this is the right future for me. It told me that because I really want it and I will study hard.

To finish this off, I have been working towards these things for so long and I do not want to give up now. Also, I have grown and improved so much over the years and I want to keep going. I have also dreamed of teaching kids and teens about softball and helping them improve and I just love the game. Even though I haven't had any experience with teaching kids, I would still like to pursue my dream. If I won the scholarship, I would put the money towards college. I think it would be a good idea for me to go to college because it will help me prepare for my future. This job would be good for me because I am hardworking, caring, and I dedicate my life to these things. Thank you for considering my application.

My favorite number is 28 because I was born on the 28th of May. Also, I have had that number on my softball jersey forever.

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Vera Singuefield Today's date 3/23/26
Mailing Address: West Street ext. Unit 10
Your city/town: Bar Harbor Zip Code: 04609
Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Robyn Singuefield
What school do you attend? CES What grade are you in? 6th
Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Emilie Ginn



CE 23

\$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.

Schools:

Conners Emerson School
Mount Desert Elementary School
Tremont Consolidated School
Pemetic Elementary School
Trenton Elementary School

Aspirations Partners:

First National Bank
Machias Savings Bank
Bar Harbor Bank & Trust

Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **March 27, 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.

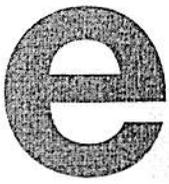
1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite number and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

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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 that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses 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, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses help you? 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

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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.

Vera has wanted to be a teacher since she was very young. She has a charismatic and joyful personality that will make her future students feel special and loved. She gets along with people from all backgrounds and all abilities. She will be an amazing teacher.

* 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

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Signed:

Student

Veta S.

Teacher

Gini

Socially Teaching
Made by: Vera Sinquefield

My favorite number is 17, because I find luck in it. It is my birth number, and 17 is a number that I often see.

I've always wanted to have a career as a teacher. That's always been an aspiration that gets bigger as I grow older. When I was little, I had a teacher's kit that I had gotten for Christmas. It had Abc letter blocks, a teacher's desk, a fake grading sheet, etc. I would go over to my grandma's house and play teacher in front of all my favorite stuffed animals. That's where I truly got my dream to be a teacher.

I think this is a promising career for me because it is my true passion. I've thought about other job options, like a veterinarian, or even an artist. But the idea of becoming a teacher stands out to me and I think it would make me happy. I am a social person that likes talking to people, and loves helping with younger kids. I enjoy "buddies" that I do every Tuesday morning at school. Buddies is a homeroom activity that involves going down to the lower building to read to the younger kids. I love talking to the younger kids and getting to know them better as we go through the year. I decided I wanted to be a teacher because teaching, and being social with little kids is a fun thing for me.

To prepare myself to be a teacher, I am starting to babysit. I am going to babysit pre-k through 4th graders. Not only would this help me as a person and help me learn how to take care of kids, but it would also help me learn what it would be like to become a teacher.

I will attend MDI high school. The classes I will take to support this are: World Languages, English, Social Studies, including U.S. History, Math, Science, PE, Health, Fine Arts, and Life Skills.

I decided on taking these classes because some are required, and some are things I enjoy. English, Social Studies, Math, Science, Health, and Life Skills are all required for MDI high school. World Languages is something I have wanted to do in high school for a while now. I would like to learn more about speaking French, as my mom is fluent and I have some family culture in Europe revolving around France.

And with English, I think that could be important as I would help the possible future students I would teach with my knowledge of all the different kinds of literature in the world.

In college, my plan is to go to Eastern Maine Community College (EMCC)

to study so that I can prepare to go to one of my dream colleges, College of the Atlantic. I would only be able to afford to go to COA for two years, so going to EMCC for two years would allow me to finish my studies in four years.

I chose COA because it is five minutes away from my house, and that is an important factor for me. If I went to college in Canada (like I originally planned), it would be less expensive, like the cost of living in dorms, and generally paying for it. But I couldn't bring myself to do it, as it is so far away from home. If I go to COA, I could still live at home. And I want to make my time at home with my family as long as possible, especially as I grow older.

In COA, I would like to take education classes. The only degree you can take in this college is Human Ecology. Human Ecology is the study of the interdisciplinary study of the relationships between humans and their social built environments.

I think being a teacher would best support me as a person. I think there are colleges I could go to and there would be fun things to study there. I interviewed Meggie Curtis, a 4th grade teacher, who was an ELA teacher in the past. She advised, "*Learning is important but socially, too. If nobody went to school you wouldn't actually know how to act.*" I think she is correct, as it is not just learning that helps support students. It's the entire idea of school being social.

I also interviewed Renee Quebbeman, a 5th grade ELA teacher. She supported the idea of me becoming a teacher. She thinks to be a teacher you have to have diversity, accept all kinds of personalities, and have a lot of patience. She also said that I see strengths in all kinds of different people. I think based on my personality that I see in myself, and other people who would pay attention, too, that a teacher is a good fit for me. I took a career quiz, and out of all of the jobs, 85% were related to being a teacher. Whether it was working in special education, to elementary school, to high school. This brings me to know in my mind that being a teacher is a great fit for me.

Being a teacher is one of the most social jobs. I look forward to learning more about this career as I grow older over the years. I love teaching and talking to people generally. If I am lucky enough to get the scholarship money, I will use it to go toward my college fundings as I mentioned earlier because I won't have enough money to pay for it myself.

Thank you so much for considering my essay. I think this is one of the best opportunities I can get for my future.



HEATHER WEBSTER
PRINCIPAL

MICHAEL FOURNIER
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

CONNERS-EMERSON SCHOOL

11 Eagle Lake Road
Bar Harbor, Maine 04609
(207) 288-3631

March 19, 2026

Dear Scholarship Review Committee,

I am pleased to write this letter of recommendation for Vera Sinquefield, whom I had the pleasure of teaching as a third grader at Connors Emerson School. During that time, I witnessed her amazing growth as a student and as an individual.

Throughout her schooling, Vera has always been friendly and kind to everyone, creating a welcoming and positive environment wherever she goes. She enjoyed partner and group projects, working well with others and helping bring out the best in her classmates. At recess, she loved playing and socializing with friends, building strong connections and lasting friendships. In the classroom, she participated often, eagerly sharing her ideas and staying actively engaged in her learning.

In addition to her outgoing social qualities, Vera is a hardworking and determined student who never gives up, even when faced with challenges. She is always willing to take on something new, approaching each assignment with perseverance and a positive mindset. She is dedicated to completing her work, as she consistently puts in the time and effort needed to do her best.

In summary, I strongly recommend Vera for this scholarship so she can pursue her teaching career in college. She has shown the dedication, passion, and character needed to succeed, and I have no doubt she will make the most of this opportunity. I am confident that she will go on to do great things in her future and become an incredible teacher one day.

Marianne Tripp

Third Grade Teacher

Connors Emerson School

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: West Phillips Today's date 3-25-26

Mailing Address: 43 Desjardins Park

Your city/town: Bar Harbor Zip Code: 04609

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Ryan Phillips Hilary Phillips

What school do you attend? CES What grade are you in? 6

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Emilie Ginn



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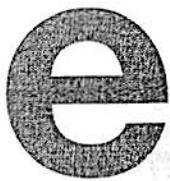
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Parent:

Westy interviewed Mac Shea, who is a college basketball coach. I think this would be his ideal career. Westy is truly a gifted basketball player, but he is also a leader in life on and off the court. I could absolutely see him inspiring athletes one day, with his passion, skills, and charm!

To the parent or other adult mentor: Teacher:

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

Westy is the most electric student in his grade. His ear to ear smile lights up every room, and his comical demeanor lightens the mood of everyone as he is around. As an athlete Westy is a natural. He is a star in every sport he plays, especially basketball. Westy loves basketball as much as a 6th grader can love a sport, talking hours with Westy is always a highlight of my day. Even before reading Westy's essay, I've always known he has the ball knowledge and attitude to be a phenomenal coach in the future.

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Grade 6

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- 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

Westy Phillips

Teacher

Mrs. [Signature]

Road to the Court

My favorite number is 2 because that is my basketball number and I like that it is a small number. I like how it looks.

Ever since I was little I have been playing basketball with my brothers in our driveway. Now I am older and play on multiple basketball teams, and my love for basketball has grown. In order to keep playing basketball for the rest of my life, I want to become a basketball coach when I am older. I have had great coaches that inspired me to be a coach. They make me excited to come to practice and I want to give that feeling to others when I coach. They make me want to get better because they put the time in to coach me so I want to get better to win games for them.

What would make me a good coach is when I am in high school I could help coach for my community service hours, and help coach at CES or the YMCA and I can play on more teams to get to know more coaches so I can decide what coaching styles I like. What would make me a good coach is I am fun. I would sign my team up for fun tournaments. And I am knowledgeable and can coach my players well. In high school I will take these classes: Weight training, Team Sports, Adapted Physical Education, Foundations of Fitness and PE Games. In Weight training I will learn how to teach my players to get stronger. In Team Sports I will learn how to create team culture. In Foundations of Fitness I will learn how to use a gym and all the exercise equipment. My volunteer work and classes make a good coach.

I interviewed Mac Shea, he is the basketball coach of Husson University. Some of the questions I asked him are: How did you get started with your career? He said when he was watching his little brother's game he saw that the head coach had no assistant coach so after the game he walked up to him and asked if he could be the assistant coach and the head coach said yes. The second question I asked him was " Was this career what you always

wanted to do?" He said " No, when I was a freshman in college I wanted to be a mechanical engineer but after a while I realized it was boring and I didn't really like it." But then his friend told him that he could major in sports related stuff so he majored in physical education and he said

he liked that a lot more. The third question I asked him was “ What kind of education or training did you need for this career” He said “ You need a Bachelor’s Degree” The 4th question I asked him was “ Do you enjoy your work”? He said YES. The 5th question I asked him is “ What does a typical day in your career look like? He said he recruits players, then he has team practice and calls other coaches to talk about new players and recruits. What I learned from my interview was that he said to be confident. He said “You’re going to make mistakes but you grow from them so when you’re in the same position next time you will know what to do. And he said you have to be really confident. He said you have to believe in yourself. And he was talking about how you have to know if your players are in a good mood like he said “ When he asked his players how are they one said I’m good, but Mac knew he wasn’t by the way he answered. And he also talked about how he would rather recruit a player that averages 15-20 points and has an amazing attitude and everyone likes him than recruit someone who averages 30 and has a horrible attitude and everyone hates him.

In conclusion, I want to be a basketball coach because basketball is my favorite sport and I want to be involved with it when I am older. I think that the University of Michigan would be a great place to study and give good information about coaching. If I win this scholarship what I would do with the money is buy stuff for me to train like. Weights for me to get stronger to get better at basketball, And more stuff for me to train. Thank you for reading my application

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Blake Parsons Today's date 3/19/26
Mailing Address: 15 Kief Farm Road
Your city/town: Bar Harbor Zip Code: 04609
Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Angela Jonathan
What school do you attend? Coner Emerson What grade are you in? 6
Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Emilie Ginh



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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.

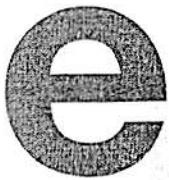
1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite number and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

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2026

Future of Eastern Maine

Aspirations Scholarship

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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.

Blake would like to help people by making them happy. The person he interviewed and talking to his dad he knows their jobs as an electrician makes people happy. This has inspired him to become an electrician as well as run his own electrical business.

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Expectations Checklist

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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.

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I have a fun and engaging first sentence.

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Grade 4

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Signed: Student Blake Parsons
 Teacher Gini

My Electrician Dream

My favorite number is 6 because when I was 6, I went to Disney and it holds so many memories for me in my heart.

When I was around 9, my dad took me to his workplace, G and G Electric. He showed me all the different kinds of wires they use. Wires come in many shapes and sizes and some have different materials in the middle, like copper. Different wires are used for different kinds of jobs. He also showed me the many different tools he uses. I thought this was very interesting. I want to follow in my dad's footsteps to be an electrician and make my own company when I grow up. I am planning to work with my dad at his job if they let me when I get older. I want to own my own business and the reason is because my dad influenced me and showed me why it can be a good job to do.

My dream is to be an electrician and own my own business. My interest can lead to many things in the electrical field. I learned that a good part of being an electrician is making people happy. To earn my high school diploma I would attend MDI high school. To help me prepare for owning my own business, I will take Accounting 1 and 2, Business Management, Financial Management, and Spreadsheets. The reason I will take this class is because it will help me manage my company and help me make decisions that will help my company grow.

For college I will go to Eastern Maine Community College for my Electrician's Technology program and business. For Electricians Technology I will take intro to Electricians Technology, Math for Electricians, Basic Electricity and Electricity Controls. For Business I will take Intro To Business, Accounting 1, Business Math and intro to Psychology.

The person I interviewed for my college essay is Josh. Josh is an electrician at Portofino Island Resort. He said one of the best things about his job is making people happy. He works from 7 to 3:30. I think that this would be good for me because I could also work with my dad and go to college at the same time. He learned a lot from people that he worked with and he continues to learn new things almost every day. I learned that some of the downsides are that you can hurt yourself or others. You also need to learn about different electrical fields so you can be an expert in each one of them. He also said learning to read blueprints is important.

The reason I think an electrician would be a good choice is because I like helping people and I can provide them with their electrical needs. My father talks about how much he enjoys being an electrician and I think I would like to join the same profession. I am a good problem solver and persevere when faced with challenges. If I won the scholarship, I would put the money in the bank and let it grow to help pay for college. Thank you for reading my career dream and taking my essay into consideration.

March 17, 2026

To The Future of Maine Scholarship Review Committee:

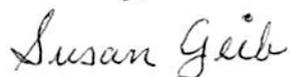
It is my pleasure to recommend Blake Parsons as a recipient of a Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship. For the past four years, in my role as an education technician at Conners Emerson School, I have witnessed his personal and academic growth.

Blake possesses a likable charm as well as kindness and respect for others. He is an active member of his school community, participating in band, swimming, and soccer.

He is a responsible student who comes to class prepared and focused on learning and works well with his classmates. Blake prides himself on his perseverance to work through challenges.

I believe those same qualities that make him an outstanding student and person will insure his success in his continuing education as well as in a career as a vital service provider and business owner.

Sincerely,



Susan Geib
Ed. Tech 3
Conners Emerson School

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Blixa Brann Today's date 2026

Mailing Address: Skarrows way

Your city/town: Bar Harbor way Zip Code: 04609

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s)? Dylan Sal

What school do you attend? Connors Emerson What grade are you in? 6th

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Ms. Emily Gihn



CE 38

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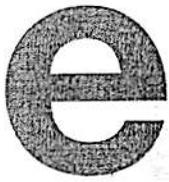
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Aspirations Scholarship

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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.

Blixa draws constantly and has a passion for giving artwork as gifts to loved ones for celebrations. Blixa makes stop animation videos that are colorful and creative. Blixa designs and makes and implements his own board games that we all get to enjoy at home and with his friends. And he can build anything in a video game during screen time! Blixa shares his gifts with the world in many ways.

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Signed:

Student

Bixa

Teacher

[Signature]

Drawing my career

I LOVE drawing and making stuff. It makes me feel accomplished every time I finish a piece of work and over time I get better and better. I started to make drawings for other people and made my own dr with new colors and mixing colors. I've been working harder and harder on my drawings and making them more detailed, because I knew that even though it was hard it would lead to better skills and a great job. I have been so excited to have a moment like this to actually have a chance to have it as a job too! It makes me really excited to make others happy, and to do that I draw for other people. This makes me really happy to see them look at art work and know it could tell a story or emotions.

I think this career will be great because this could lead to lots of jobs I want such as being an engineer and making inventions, artists with drawing and painting, or being an inventor and making stuff for others to use . I could prepare for this by doing art design classes for better understanding of art and doing art club for overall better skill. I have also been working on my tech skills so if being an artist fails I could be a game designer. And I'm doing small game design classes to get ready for everything else. This should be good for when I do college because I can understand easier on how it could lead to a successful career.

What I can also do to prepare for high school is study extra hard in tech class and art for more skills in understanding how to make games or how to do drawing classes or coding. robotics classes for more learning and understanding in tech and how to actually code things. I could also do art class so I can do better with how art is made or how I should do it. This will help out a ton with the college that I want to do, which is digipen because

digipen is really good with coding and art design, and the main place revolves around coding. Hopefully this will be nice with the choices that I made.

Tips from interview- artist :

Her name was Lou, she was talking about how being an artist is very time consuming which I am okay with when I make art because it feels like it flies by. Second she said that she works 30 hours a week and that I could get better at drawing by working on bargaining, drawing, and business. And that I can maybe make a website, I hope this helps me.

In conclusion I'm really excited for my career ahead. I hope that you take everything that I have said into consideration. If I got the money I would put it into my college funds so I can have that successful career and live the best life. I can thank you for giving me the patience to read my essay.

THE END kinda... not really.

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Niall Mahsolilli Today's date 3/10/26

Mailing Address: 101 Eagle Lake Road

Your city/town: Bar Harbor Zip Code: 04609

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s)? Samantha Parsch and Michael Mahsolilli

What school do you attend? CES What grade are you in? 6th

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Emilie ginn



CG 43

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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.

Niall has been fascinated with computers from an early age, especially game design and coding. He has spent time exploring how games are built, experimenting with basic programming concepts, and developing a strong curiosity for how technology works behind the scenes. As he has grown, this interest has evolved into a clear goal of pursuing a degree in computer science. He hopes to use that education to turn his passion into a meaningful career, creating innovative software or games that combine creativity and technical skill.

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- 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 wasn't putting in work when I should have

- 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 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

Niall Mighall

Teacher

[Signature]

There's a Bug in The System!

My favorite number is 23 because it used to be my basketball number and also it is the NBA player named Michael Jordan's number too.

Ever since I was about two years old I've been playing video games. I played games on my Amazon Fire Tablet. Since I was in elementary school I've wanted to be a game developer with my friends. My friends and I used to do this game coding program called code.org. We played about 30 mins per day in 5th grade. I think that I would be a good game coder and developer with my friend because he is good at art and I am good with tech.

I want to become a game designer and coder with my friend because that is what I think would be a fun job. My friend is very good at art and creativity and I am very good at technology and I'm trying to get better at coding. I can get better at coding by doing coding programs and doing robotics club at my school next year.

I would like to go to Digipen University for computer science and game development and take computer science classes in high school and multimedia design at HCTC. I also want to take high school math classes to improve my math skills because game coding includes lots of math.

I watched a prerecorded interview on youtube of a minecraft youtuber called Camman18 interviewing a representative from Mojang, her name is Anna Lundgren, one of the creators of Minecraft. She started with saying that some features should be rare but they want it to actually be used, and she also said to add things that kids can learn but also have fun fantasy additions.

What I would do with the \$100 is help fund a desktop computer to do computing programs. Thank you for taking the time to read my essay. Sincerely, Niall Mansolilli.

March 27, 2026

To Committee Members,

I am writing this letter of support for Niall Mansolilli. I have known Niall for 4 years now and have enjoyed getting to know him and to watch him grow as a student.

Ever since Niall was in my second grade class, I have noticed that when he is interested in something, he goes all in. Whether it was basketball or becoming a beekeeper, Niall went above and beyond to learn all that he could to be great at it.

Over the past few years, I have noticed that Niall has gained strong relationships with some students who share similar interests, such as video gaming. Watching Niall and his group of friends share their ideas and creative thinking has been a highlight for me at our school. I am so impressed by Niall's out of the box thinking and creativity, but most of all, the freedom in which he shares these ideas with his friends.

The fact that Niall wants to pursue becoming a game creator is no surprise to me. Niall's strong math ability coupled with his all-in attitude assures me in knowing that he will make his place in the gaming world.

I hope that you will strongly consider Niall and award him the money to help him buy a computer that could very well keep him on the path to realizing his game creator dreams.

Sincerely,

Patty Galeaz

ADI Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Dominic Barnhart Today's date March 9, 2026
Mailing Address: 25 Island Wood Rd
Your city/town: Bar Harbor, Maine Zip Code: 04609
Parent(s) or guardian's name(s)? Elizabeth Barnhart-Sweeney + Evan Sweeney
What school do you attend? Conners Emerson School What grade are you in? 6th
Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? MS. Emilie Ginn / MRS. Kim Gay



\$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.

Schools:

Conners Emerson School
Mount Desert Elementary School
Tremont Consolidated School
Pemetic Elementary School
Trenton Elementary School

Aspirations Partners:

First National Bank
Machias Savings Bank
Bar Harbor Bank & Trust

Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **March 27, 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.

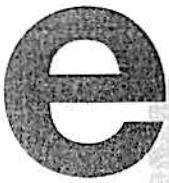
1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite number and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

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 that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses 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, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses help you? 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 Eastern Maine

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.

Dominic is a hard worker with a strong work ethic. He shows commitment to doing his best and continues to grow with practice. He is a thoughtful member of our learning community.

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.

Dominic is wonderfully curious, he loves to see how things work, why, and see the inner reasoning. He tries very hard to navigate the world with its unspoken rules. Through his neuro-divergent eyes. His sense of what is right is very strong and is passionate about everyone following the rules, being kind, helpful and honest. Dominic stands up for his friends at summer camp and is funny, spunky and cool! I know he will do amazing at whatever he chooses.

* 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

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 28 or 27 word response that is exactly 28 or 27 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.

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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.
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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.
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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 interviewed a professional and have written about what I learned.

Grades 3 - 6

- I spelled coll_ge correctly everywhere I wrote it on my application.

Signed:

Student



Teacher



My favorite number is 52 because it's just a number I like. I like the sound of it when someone says it. I like 52.

Imagine you come home one night and there's strangers in your home. What do you do? You call the cops immediately because you don't want to mess around. I think being a police officer is pretty cool because when you're a police officer you can enforce the law. When I think about my future I know I want to help my community. At school when it's snowing I shovel and salt to keep people from falling. I volunteered to help at the YMCA 5K race and I cheer on Runners with the American Pride flag. One career I have in mind is to be a police officer here in Maine, and there are programs that would help me do that.

I already have some of the skills needed to be a good police officer like working independently, thinking critically and wearing a uniform when needed. I would do my best in MDI highschool, So I can also attend Hancock County Technical Center HCTC. They offer a criminal justice program. Some classes I would like to take are the use of force Training including OC pepper spray and Taser training, handcuffing and searching techniques, traffic stops, drug identification, special weapons and tactics, felony traffic stops. These classes look interesting. They would make for a great school day and they would prepare me for the Maine Police Academy .

After High School I'm interested in attending the Maine criminal justice Academy. The size of the school that I want is large because large is better.

The school that I'm going to attend does offer the career path I'm interested in. Some of the qualifications that you need to enter the main criminal justice program are that you have to be 21 years old and in good physical condition and meet physical fitness standards. It takes 720 hours or 29 days. Skills I would like to learn include firearms, basic fingerprinting, and first aid skills. All of these things would prepare to be a good police officer.

On Friday, March 6th I interviewed Officer Elias who is the School Resource Officer at Connors Emerson School. He's always wanted to be a police officer since he was a kid. He got started as a military police officer in 2013 till 2018. After that he got hired for the Bar Harbor Police Department. His greatest accomplishment is becoming a school

resource officer because he gets to work with kids. I think I could be a good school resource officer too because I would like working with kids.

Being a police officer would be a good job for me because I like to help people. I know a lot about traffic lines and traffic control and how they keep people safe. I would like to learn more about police work. Winning the essay contest would make me feel more confident. The money would help me reach my goals. Thank you for listening and have a nice day.

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: IVY Butler Today's date 3/27/20
Mailing Address: 271 Knox Rd Bar Harbor ME
Your city/town: Bar Harbor Zip Code: 04609
Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Rachel + Lucas
What school do you attend? Conners Emerson What grade are you in? 6th
Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Ms Ginn



CE 53

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1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite number 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.

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2026

Future of Eastern Maine

Aspirations Scholarship

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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.

Joy is an absolutely lovely person. She will make an amazing photographer one day. Her quiet, calm demeanor will put clients at ease & her artistic eye will help her in this career choice.

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Beth Gilman



Expectations Checklist

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

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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.

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I am not sure.

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Choose one.

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Grade 3

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Grade 4

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Grade 5

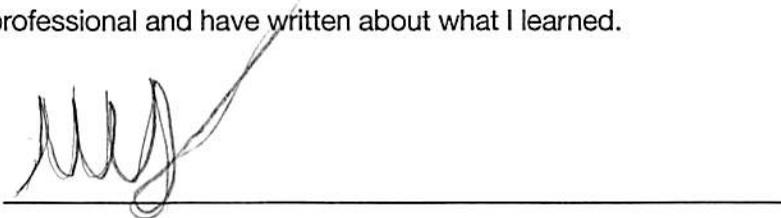
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- I have interviewed a professional and have written about what I learned.

Signed:

Student



Teacher



Photographer Dream

My favorite number is 143 because it means something to the band I like, and whenever I look at the clock that number comes up.

For a while I loved watching my mom do photography for people. She is really good at it too. It was kind of like it was her job. When I'm older I want to be like my mom, and do professional photography for famous people like celebrities, singers, actors, etc. but in order to do all of that I would need to get a camera and practice taking photos. Taking photos and looking at photos or paintings means a lot to me because it feels peaceful and calm. I feel good when I look at photos and paintings. I love seeing paintings and pictures.

This could be a promising career because I love taking photos. This could be a good choice for anyone who likes taking photos and wants a calm job. The stuff I am doing now that can help me towards the future is art and practicing taking photos. Steps to take in the near future are classes to take in high school, probably stuff like art and theater.

Classes that I will need to study are art, design, theater, photography, and making photographic images of landscape, portraiture, narrative and documentary subjects. UMA (University of Maine Augusta) classes.. ART 203 Art Photography Now, ART 219 Sculpture, ART 115 Drawing 1. ART 221 Painting, and ART 113 3-d Design. UMA seems good for me and I want to be close to home so I can come home when I get a chance for the holidays or weekends. It's only about an hour away from home so it's pretty close. I don't want to go so far that I would rarely see my family. I would rather be close to them. There are many classes to take at UMA for photography, art and other courses that I can take like design, sculpture, painting, drawing and theater.

I interviewed my mom and she talked about how photography is a good job for her. and she seemed happy to talk to me about photography. I learned new things. Like how much I'll get paid and how often I will need to take photos. I liked learning about different cameras. Something I disliked was the cost of cameras. I love how my mom told me about it. She has been a photographer for years and I'm excited for this career because photography is a calming and fun job.

I feel like this career is a good choice for me because I feel like photography is calm and cool and I want to be like my mom. My mom does photography for friends and family. She has been a photographer for 5 years. This matters so much to me because my mom does it and I think I would like it and my mom thinks I should do it. She shows me her camera and all the stuff she does. If I won the scholarship I would probably use the money to buy a camera for photography. Thank you for reading my essay.



HEATHER WEBSTER
PRINCIPAL

MICHAEL FOURNIER
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

CONNERS-EMERSON SCHOOL

11 Eagle Lake Road
Bar Harbor, Maine 04609
(207) 288-3631

March 25, 2026

Dear Future of Eastern Maine Scholarship Committee,

I am writing to support Ivy Butler's application for the Future of Eastern Maine Scholarship. I am Ivy's English Language Arts teacher this year. I have truly enjoyed getting to witness her creativity shine through her schoolwork.

Ivy is a good student who is working to develop strong work habits in sixth grade. She continues to demonstrate perseverance. She works hard to complete assignments and projects, even if it means finding additional time outside of class to complete them. She is committed to doing her best each day at school.

Ivy is reserved, but she doesn't hesitate to take risks and try new things in class. She is easygoing and works well with all of her classmates. I look forward to seeing Ivy's creative nature continue to grow throughout middle school.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any further questions.

Sincerely,

Emilie Ginn
6th Grade ELA, Connors Emerson School