

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Gilbert Bartlett Today's date 3/25/26

Mailing Address: 22 KinStone Lane

Your city/town: Trenton Zip Code: 04605

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s)? Michelle

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

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:

- 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.)



2020

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.*

Gibby worked hard on this and took extra time to make sure it was worded correctly.

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.

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

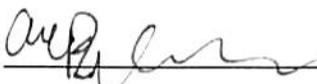
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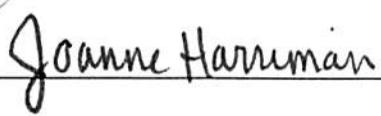
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- I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- I have identified five high school or college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

Teacher 

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 Essay

Gilbert Bartlett

Don't you want to explore every day and teach others about animals and landscapes, well that's the job of a tour guide? Understanding and remembering details, history, and interesting facts about different locations. Being a tour guide involves a huge memory of facts and different locations. This is vital because the whole job is teaching and showing others and my memory, especially around facts about areas is great.

Through teaching, tour guides help protect the environment and national parks. I think I'd be good at it because being a tour guide involves a huge memory of facts and different locations. This is vital

Don't you want to explore every day and teach others about animals and landscapes, well that's the job of a tour guide. I would like to do this because I have loved animals and wildlife from a young age. And love to educate others. I also love going to new areas and exploring.

In this paragraph I will explain how I love animals and how it involves this job. I have a huge passion for animals of all kinds. I have multiple pets

and take care of them very well. This is extremely important to the job because it involves learning about animals and making sure the animals and people stay safe like distance and volume and keeping their home clean.

In this paragraph I will explain my passion for being in new areas and learning history. I love to explore all the time whether it's hiking trails or finding new places to fish and going to new places is extremely important as a tour guide as they have to go to different areas such as open plains or forests. Next we have history. I love learning the history and how things happened so I would be great. Being a tour guide involves educating others on the history of land and animals.

In this paragraph I will explain my love for teaching others and explain how it's important to the job. I love teaching others facts and information and being the center of attention. That's why this part would be great for me. Educating others is the most important part of this job. The job is to inform others about the land there and how it was formed.

Public speaking is very important, it helps develop my conversation skills and is overall good for this job. Spanish is important because I need to know other languages and be able to have conversations with others

and tour guides aren't just in one country. World history is important because I need to know knowledge on areas that I'm teaching others about, I can also teach religion to tourists and routine and beliefs of the natives. Geography is important because I will know the area so no one will get lost and can show people famous monuments and land forms. Drama will help develop story telling skills and creative presentation.

I interviewed a tour guide and found out that tour guides don't just get to call out of work, they have to be at the job. They have to learn what the group is interested in. If they like ghosts they tell ghost stories or farmer stories. In conclusion, I love all these things and think I would be great at this job. I love education, learning and animals. Tour guides are like fun history teachers.

Colleges to attend:

International Tour Management Institute . ITMI specializes in tour directors and tour guide training.

25 words about my favorite number

My favorite number is the number one ive worn multiple numbers but my favorite is number one. My favorite NBA player worn the number 1.

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Saniya Pate Today's date 3/17/26
Mailing Address: 5A Molly Way
Your city/town: Trenton Zip Code: 04605
Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Kanchan Pate Vijay Patel
What school do you attend? Trenton Elem. What grade are you in? 16th
Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Mrs. Harriman



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Saniya is a very serious student and she worked hard on this assignment. She just learned English within the past few years, too! So this is amazing. 😊

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Grade 4

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Grade 6

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Signed:

Student

Samiya Patel

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.)

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Aspiration Essay By:Saniya Patel

My goal is to become an interior designer when I grow up. Three important responsibilities of interior designers are designing and decorating homes to make them into beautiful houses, using skills like math and art in their work and planning their schedules to have a successful day by managing budgets and deadlines. I would like to be an interior designer because of my love of working with numbers, drawing, designing spaces, and scheduling my day effectively.

In my own life I have some passions for the kinds of tasks that fall within the workload of interior designers. I keep my own personal spaces organized and efficient. I like to plan ahead and work with timelines/deadlines because planning ahead and pacing things out helps me get work done on time without feeling stressed. I spend a lot of time right now planning my schedule and listing my "to do's" for the week. Finally, I love working with numbers. One of my favorite subjects is math, so managing budgets and making spreadsheets look neat and clear really sounds like a lot of fun.

One of the important responsibilities that interior designers have is to design and decorate houses. Personally, I love designing spaces and especially designing with natural materials like wood and stone because it connects the indoors to the outdoors. And I love creating spaces because it expresses my personality through color, texture, and light. When I had my first ever room to myself, I designed it how I wanted it to be and I picked the wallpaper, the theme, the colors of my walls and the layout to make it feel more comfortable. Also I love decorating spaces with all the different types of furniture and adding cute, meaningful details. Decorating is my favorite part because decorating makes the room feel very cozy and personalized. It also brings the final look of the room together.

My favorite subjects are math and art, which are some good skills that interior designers use in their work. I love school, especially art. Art is my favorite subject in school. I love everything about art when I am feeling down or just having a bad day. I will start painting or drawing for hours and not know what is happening around me. When I am drawing or just doodling I feel more calm and feel like I am peaceful around and near art. Some of my favorite types of art are sculpture, clay, pop art, abstract art, and painting stones. Another subject I love in school is math. Most kids hate math but I love it especially working with numbers. Multiplication, division, addition, and subtraction all are my favorite parts of math. Math teaches the skill of problem-solving not just in math but also in real life, one example is when you are cooking, you will need to know measurements and will need to know ratios. Another example is when you go grocery shopping you will need to know how to manage budgets. In short,

problem-solving is an important skill to learn. Also, I like math because it challenges me by focusing me to think harder and find the solution.

Paragraph of my Courses

The 5 courses that I picked to help in my career are Design, CAD, Architecture, Geometry, and Psychology. I think that design can help me in my career of being an interior designer because it will help me understand color theory. I also think that CAD (Computer-Aided Design) will help me create floor plans and 3D models. I will need Geometry to map out rooms, calculate, and help me understand shapes and structures of rooms, such as corners, angles, and ceiling types. Psychology will help me to understand clients' preferences and their behavior. The last course I picked was Architecture, which will help me understand Structure Knowledge. Colleges that will provide a degree in Interior design are New York School of Interior Design (NYSID) and Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD).

During my research, I read an interview with Kristina Baker who is a Lead Designer at HOK. She taught me that there is a big difference between just joining materials together rather than actually learning how things are made. Whether it's a birdhouse or furniture, always learn how things are made, not just join materials together.

In conclusion, becoming an interior designer includes designing and decorating houses, using math and art in their work, and a lot of planning. By studying hard in high school, I know I can eventually be an excellent interior designer.

My Favorite Number

My favorite number is thirteen because I was born in 2013 and I turn thirteen this year. And also, Taylor Swift's lucky number is thirteen.

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship



Name: Yiyian Goddard Today's date 3/2/2026

Mailing Address: 76 Hadley point Rd

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

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Anna Monte

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

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



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- First National Bank
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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

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Vivian Goddard

Teacher Comment:

To say that Vivian is a hard worker is an understatement. She has an eye for detail, is very organized, and puts forth her best effort on every task. She is also extremely creative, and I believe this is a valuable trait for a teacher to have. She would, no doubt, make her classroom an inviting, beautiful, and comfortable space for learning. She goes out of her way to make everyone feel included. Her patience and passion for learning would be invaluable to a career in teaching.

Parent Comment:

I am so excited to learn that Vivian aspires to become a teacher as she gets older. I was especially moved to read that I was part of her inspiration to become a teacher and that she wants to go to my alma mater. I will help guide her as best I can so that she can achieve these goals as I know that she can. Viv can do anything she sets her mind to!

Expectations Checklist

Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship, 2026

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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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Grade 3

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Grade 4

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Grade 6

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

Signed:

Student Virian Goddard

Teacher

Kerry Taylor

Finding My Purpose

By Vivian Goddard

My favorite number is 76. I see it every day when I get home and back into my driveway, 76 is staring right at me.

I have had my eyes on teaching since I noticed my mom teaching lots of kids in my class. She might not be teaching the whole class, but she still inspired me to become a teacher. For my future, I want to be a teacher. My mom teaches 6th through 8th grade, but I want to teach little kids because of how much energy they have for activities, so I think it is right for me to be a preschool teacher.

After I saw a video of my 4-year-old cousin singing the alphabet, I was so happy. I kept replaying it and thinking about how proud I was that she had learned that. In fact, I have been thinking about my cousins for a long time. Something I don't think many people know is that when I left my cousins' house that summer, I had been waiting for the next summer to come. I love hanging out with my cousins. When I went there, I noticed they sometimes watched live animal videos, and my aunt would say the animal's name and tell the kids to repeat it. I also asked about different colors, and I would see if they knew the color. I enjoyed quizzing them on shapes and trying to teach them their names; it was pleasant working with them. This is what led me to believe I should be a preschool teacher.

I want to be a teacher because I like caring for kids. I can prepare for teaching by going to my cousins' house. Another way I can prepare for handling kids is by babysitting. It is not my favorite because of what I might want to do in my free time, but I think it will really help me handle different types of kids and situations. In high school, I can take the class in the baby room, which is the daycare at the high school. I can also take online classes in education and human services. These are some of the ways I can prepare for my job in high school. But for college, I will be going to New York to attend Cornell University.

I know Cornell has a 8% exception rate, but I can get in. It may not be easy, but I will try my best. The reason why I want to go to Cornell is that my mom went there. If I were to get in, I would be a legacy. If you are wondering what a legacy is, it is when a parent has attended the same college that you attend. What I love about going to Cornell is their big campus life; my mother also added that they have lots of gyms, which I also love. But what I am most excited about is the number of options for classes. I would major in human development and minor in education. I would take classes that will allow me to teach a variety of kids. One of the classes I will take is Research Methods in Human Development.

This class teaches the basics of research in the study of human development. Another class to take would be Behavioral Neuroscience Laboratory. This class provides the neural basis of behavior and hormonal control. This college will help me get a clearer picture of my future as a teacher, and I am already excited about it!

To get more information on my job, I interviewed Ms. Gilman, who teaches 6th grade. She told me that to become a preschool teacher, I will have to earn a degree in education, pass certification tests that show my knowledge of teaching, get a license, and apply for a job. Then she listed all the reasons why teaching is awesome. She said, "You help people learn new things every single day", which means I get to teach young kids new songs and rhymes, read them new books, and, for me, that sounds like a dream. She also told me that you get to be creative with the things you teach. I am hyped for this because I like seeing my ideas come to life. I can also learn new teaching techniques by talking with other teachers, and that will help me plan out lessons so that the day can go smoothly with no interruptions. That way, a sort of routine can form. You also must be organized with your work and clean up the classroom, which I don't mind at all; I like being organized. All of the things you have to do to be a preschool teacher, I am interested in, and I am getting ready to start. All that Ms. Gilman told me about being and becoming a teacher has really helped me get a look into the life of a teacher, and this makes me ready to start my walk to teaching.

"He can never tell where his influence stops". – Henry Adams

I know a teacher who says they are teaching the future, and now I think that is exactly what I want to do, too. I'm ready to start my journey and pursue my dreams of being a teacher. This is why I will get through all of the hardships of preparing to become a teacher, so that one day I can apply for a job at a school as a preschool teacher, and then I can greet my students at the door with a big smile and say, "Good morning." And the first day of class, I will be ready to blow my kids away with new and interesting things to learn about the world. Thank you for reading my paragraph!

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: AIRYANA MCINTIRE Today's date 3/2/2026
 Mailing Address: PO BOX 664
 Your city/town: NORTHEAST HARBOR ME Zip Code: 04662
 Parent(s) or guardian's name(s)? BROOKE KEARNS
 What school do you attend? MDES What grade are you in? 6
 Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? MS. KERRY TAYLOR



MD9

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2026

Future of Eastern Maine

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Airyana McIntire

Teacher Comment:

Airyana is very committed to the cats she cares for with her mother. She has been involved with rescues and re-homing cats for several years, and she finds joy in the company of animals. In this way, she is already working toward her choice of career. Once Airyana is invested in something, she puts a lot of effort into it.

Parent Comment:

Airyana has always been passionate about helping animals so it makes sense that she would want to be a vet. She has always been a great help with dfcc and is always excited to do so. We love to hear her aspirations and goals regarding helping animals and what she wants to do with her life moving forward. Her essay was a great picture of the caring person she is and what she wants to be. We are very proud of her for having so much pride in helping animals and caring so much.

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Signed: Student Airy and Sky McIntire

Teacher Kerry Taylor

My Dream Is Made

By: Airyana McIntire

My favorite number is 2 because it is the first even number. I also love the numbers 22, 222, because I love to write twos.

I love cats, and over the years, I have always had cats, and so has my mom. Ever since I was five almost six, I have been part of Downeast Feral Cat Connections, also known as DFCC and they are a local organization run by volunteers. They try to save and fix as many cats as possible. Because of my experiences with DFCC and working with cats, I should be a vet.

“Every kitty deserves a chance.♥” by a Wise Women

Once when I was seven, somebody called us saying that they went on a hike and opened up their backpack to put their cat on the leash, and the cat ran away on the mountain. It also was in the middle of winter, and the cat's name was Enzo. And the cat had its harness on, so we were afraid that it would get stuck in a tree because of the harness, so my mom and I searched every day and night for the cat. We climbed the mountain almost every single night looking for it. So we ended up finding the cat 3 months later because he was eating at somebody's house, and that person reached out to us and told us that he was at her house. And to this day, we still like that mountain, and we hike it a lot. This is one of many animal stories I have.

"Time spent with cats is never wasted." by Sigmund Freud

I would love to be a vet because taking care of animals is so fun. And before I can go to college, I'm going to keep working with cats and help my mom as much as I can with DFCC. I will fix and trap cats because that is how we save them. In high school, I would focus on math and science classes. One of the science classes I can take is Anatomy and Physiology. In this class, I will learn about parts of the body. And I could job shadow. These are just some of many things I can do now, and in high school to be a vet.

“I love my cats because I enjoy my home; and little by little, they become its visible soul.” by Jean Cocteau

The college that I could go to is University of Maine at Orono because it has classes that I would need to take. This is a good college for me because I want to stay close

to home so I can keep helping DFCC. And the Program is called Animal and Veterinary Sciences. One of the classes I would take is Animal Diseases, so I can learn about all the diseases and what causes them. Another class I will take is Animal Nutrition, where I will learn about “biochemistry of nutrients.” At the end of my studies, I will get to intern in a vet's office and see what it actually is like to be a vet. Overall, I think that this is a good college for me.

“If animals could speak, the dog would be a blundering outspoken fellow; but the cat would have the rare grace of never saying a word too much.” by Mark Twain

I interviewed Dr. Toothaker, who is the veterinarian I bring my cats to. Dr. Toothaker said that you need four years of veterinarian school plus an additional 2 or 3 years to become a Veterinarian. And his dad was a vet and Dr. Toothaker used to help him on the farm. He said, “I have known that this is the job that I want since I was 5.” And every other vet that he knows loves being a vet. In his opinion, there's no better job. And then I asked him, “What does a day look like being a vet?” And he said, “My favorite thing about being a vet is that everyday is totally different.” And one of his favorite things is that he gets to handle the cutest puppies and kittens, too. And if you want to be a vet, you have to be intelligent. You have to have good grades in math and science. With his help, I understand a lot more about being a vet.

“In the middle of a world that had always been a bit mad, the cat walks with confidence.” – Rosanne Amberson

In conclusion, I believe that a vet is a good job for me. I enjoy helping animals because I never want them to suffer. Helping prevent that would be amazing. I think the University of Maine would be a good college for me because they have all the classes that I would need to take and it's a good size for me. So many animals are suffering because nobody will save them, and I don't want more animals to go through that. If I'm a vet, I will help all animals, especially since I work for Downeast Feral Cat Connections, which help mostly cats. If I own a vet office, I would help ALL animals, not just cats.

“The best doctor in the world is a veterinarian. They can't ask their patients what's the matter—they just know.” by Will Rogers

Thank you for reading my essay!

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Teddy Bishop Today's date 2/6/26

Mailing Address: 1444 Tremont Rd.

Your city/town: Seal Cove Zip Code: 04674

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s)? Eliza and Billy Bishop

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

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

2026

TMI

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Teddy Bishop

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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

Teddy Bishop

Teacher

[Signature]

Future of Maine College Aspirations Scholarship

School: Tremont Consolidated School, Tremont, Maine

Student: Teddy Bishop

Teacher: Elizabeth Holbrook-Rabasca, Middle School ELA

Teacher Comments:

Teddy consistently sets a high bar for excellence within our sixth-grade classroom. Teddy possesses a blend of intellectual curiosity and disciplined focus; he is a natural self-starter who approaches every academic challenge with a "can-do" attitude and a sharp, bright mind. That same drive translates seamlessly to the basketball court, where his identity as a committed athlete shines through.

Parent Comments:

Teddy's very focused on basketball, is talented and works hard at it! That's his first love, and has been his top career aspiration for years.

He's also really engaged with music, design, and nature. He's a very social guy and a natural leader, so it's easy for me to picture him in a career working with, or coordinating, people. I see him having a great liberal arts college experience, academically and socially- he likes to be part of a community.

Teddy has lots of curiosity about the world, and is an intrepid traveler. I imagine he'll do some real exploring as a young adult (and beyond)!

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

My favorite number is three because Allen Iverson's number was number three, and I look up to him as a basketball player and a person.

My Second Home

Ever since I was a little kid I have loved to watch and play basketball. When I was about seven my father was watching the Milwaukee Bucks versus the Boston Celtics. I watched the whole game with my dad and then asked him for three days straight to get a basketball hoop. When he finally did, I played every day for hours and hours. Still today, I try to play for as long as I can every day. This is why I want to be a professional basketball player or coach, though not specifically in the NBA.

I love to play basketball on my school team and my travel team and it makes me proud because I love to play it more than anything in the world. My aspirations for the future are to play basketball professionally. Not specifically in the NBA, but possibly overseas. However, it would be great to be a coach too.

I will definitely need a lot of training to pursue my dream of becoming a professional basketball player, so I will be taking private training lessons. I would like to go to Brigham Young University (BYU) because they have a very good basketball program. I want to major in English and play for the BYU's basketball team.

These are the classes at BYU that I would like to take:

- American Literary History
- American Literature After 1800
- American Literature Before 1800
- British Literary History 1
- British Literature Before 1800

For my interview I did AJ Dybansta. He is a star player on the BYU basketball team who will likely enter the NBA draft next year. AJ said that before quarantine in 2020 he was a decent player, but after that summer he had grown five inches and was practicing every day. And that was at the point when quarantine was over and he finally started getting recognized. AJ says he has wanted to play basketball professionally ever since he was a teenager.

AJ's workout includes...

- Box jump
- Weighted walking lunges
- Weighted goblet squats
- Healthy foods
- Russian twists

He says he enjoys playing basketball very much, and that his greatest accomplishment was his third gold medal.

His day-to-day life consists of...

- Wake up at 6:20
- Morning Routine
- Drive to practice with teammates
- Workout with trainer
- Breakfast
- Study hall
- Short shift at McDonalds
- Lunch and dinner
- Go to bed

In the future, I plan to go to college for two years and then play basketball overseas or in the NBA (whatever comes first). My life will be full of practices, games, and extra training. I will use the \$100 on basketball equipment to pursue my dream. I hope that one day in the future you will see me on T.V. playing basketball against NBA superstars such as AJ Dybansta.

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Lucas Smith Today's date 2/6/26
Mailing Address: Po Box 5 Bass Harbor 04653
Your city/town: Bass Harbor Zip Code: 04653
Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Brittany Smith
What school do you attend? Tremont What grade are you in? 6th
Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Ms. Rubasca

2026

TM 6

\$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	<u>6</u>	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	<u>6</u>	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	<u>7</u>
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	<u>6</u>	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.*

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.

Please see attached.

* 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.

Lucas Smith Date: 2/13/26

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.
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Grade 5

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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

Zuca Smith

Teacher

[Signature]

Future of Maine College Aspirations Scholarship

School: Tremont Consolidated School, Tremont, Maine

Student: Lucas Smith

Teacher: Elizabeth Holbrook-Rabasca, Middle School ELA

Teacher Comments:

Lucas is a remarkably motivated and dedicated 6th grader who consistently strives to be the best version of himself in every endeavor. He approaches his studies with a rigorous work ethic, viewing every assignment not just as a task to complete, but as an opportunity to achieve excellence. This internal drive for success is paired with a genuine passion for growth, as Lucas is never satisfied with the status quo and constantly seeks feedback to refine his skills.

Parent Comments:

My son has always been a compassionate person, even from a toddler. Lucas has showed a deep caring for others, so it is no surprise that he would be interested in helping people.

Lucas is always trying to figure things out; he yearns to know how everything works. His willingness to learn and sympathy for others would take him far in the medical field.

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

My favorite number is fourteen, because I was born on April fourteenth, 2014. I wear fourteen, or numbers that make fourteen, on my sports jersey.

The Doctor's Dream

I would play doctor with my pets a lot when I was younger. They were bad patients, though. They wouldn't hold still or listen. I have wanted to work in the medical field since I was 4. I didn't know what I wanted to be in the medical field, but I knew I wanted to be something. Not a lot of my family is in the medical field. It has always felt right to pursue my dream and be one of the first in my family to be in the medical field. As I was getting older around age 7, I wanted to be a surgeon. At 9, I wanted to be a plastic surgeon. Now I want to be a Family Medical Doctor. Who knows what I will want to be in 2 years or so, but for now I want to pursue a career in the medical field.

I love watching medical shows, and Doctor Mike who is a Family Medicine Doctor on YouTube. He made me like the idea of being a Family Medicine doctor. I have learned some medical advice from him, but you can't trust everything you see on YouTube. I make sure to look up if what he is saying is true, but it always is. I use sites like the American Medical Association. Also in my free time at home I love to read medical books, like *When Breath Becomes Air* by Paul Kalanithi. I have read that about 5 times. It's amazing!

My aspirations for the future is to go to medical school In Denver, San Diego, or San Jose and become a family medicine doctor. I want to do this because I want to help people from every age group. I know this will be hard, but you can do anything if you put your mind to it. I will be one of the first in my family to work in the medical field. I want to do this because I like it. No, I love it.

I will need to do four years of undergrad, and get my Bachelor's degree. I will take Integrative Biology. After I do my four years of undergrad I will have to take the MCAT if I have not done it

yet. Then I will have to do Med School for four years. I will go to Med school at the same college. I know a lot of people go to a different college for Med school, but I want to because that means I have a higher acceptance rate if I stay. The reason is because they know who I am, I have a reputation, connections, and specialized in early assurance programs. Then I will have to do 3 years of residency at a hospital. Then I will not need to be supervised by an attending physician. I will do independent practices, and supervise other doctors in residency as their attending physician.

I would like to go to the University of Colorado in Denver. I would like to go there because I love Denver. They have beautiful mountains, nice seasons, and a great medical program. The acceptance rate is 73%, which is pretty good. I have always wanted to live by mountains and Denver has plenty of them.

As an Integrative Biology major I will need to take Medical Microbiology which will provide an "understanding of the relationship between pathogenic organisms and their host." I will take General Genetics, "which introduces molecular, population genetics, and classical development." I will take Human Genetics, which will emphasize on "understanding diagnosis, and treatment of a genetic disease and the impact on molecular biology on human genetics." Developmental Biology, which will cover "gamete development, fertilization, and embryo development, including establishing body axes, tissue, differentiation, and organ formation." Finally, General Cell Biology, which will cover "the structure and function of the cell, including bioenergetics, membranes, secretion, respiration, and the cell cycle."

For my interview I contacted my Family Medicine Doctor, Dr. Daniel Lomelin, but he has a very busy practice and was unable to do the interview. Instead, I watched a video made by Dr.

Jennale, a Family Medicine doctor in Seattle. Dr. Jennale's favorite part of medical school was meeting the people and making connections. She first wanted to be a surgeon, because she likes working with her hands. When she got into med school she did not like the lifestyle that a surgeon lived. She had to wake up at 4 A.M. and she would get back to her dorm at 10 P.M. Dr. Jennale loved that she could connect with her Family Medicine patients more than other doctors could, because she sees them more constantly, and she loved that.

When I graduate high school I will go to the University of Colorado in Denver. I will do four years of undergrad. When I'm done with my four years of undergrad. I will apply for med school at the University of Colorado in Denver. If I get accepted I will do four years of med school. When I finish med school I will do 3 years of residency, I don't know what hospital I want to do it at. I know I want to work and live in Denver for the rest of my life.

It will be the last day I see my family before I go to college. There will be tears from my family and me as I move over 2,000 miles away from home. This will be hard, because I'm from a small town in Maine, never going out of state without my family. Let alone moving over 2,000 miles away and to a big city. I will be excited to go and my family will be too, but I know if I want to chase my dream this is what I have to do. They know it too. My grandma to my mom, the quote my mom tells me. " Sometimes you have to leave the people you love, to become successful." It has stuck to me even to this day and I know it will for the rest of my life.

MDI

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Lucy Rowell Today's date 3/26/26

Mailing Address: PO Box 541

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

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s)? Megan Rowell and Ben Rowell

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

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Bonnie Norwood



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Schools:

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- Mount Desert Elementary School
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- Pemetic Elementary School
- Trenton Elementary School

Aspirations Partners:

- First National Bank
- Machias Savings Bank
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To the applicant:

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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:

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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.*

Lucy is such a hard worker and will make an excellent teacher! She is caring, thoughtful, kind, and has a strong work ethic... recipe for success! I am proud of her!

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.

Lucy Rowell

21 Forest Avenue, Southwest Harbor, ME 04679

Pemetic Elementary School

Sixth Grade ~ Teacher: Bonnie Norwood

March 26, 2026

My favorite number is 22, because it's one of my favorite basketball player's numbers. This player is Caitlin Clark, and she's my favorite WNBA player.

Lucy Rowell
21 Forest Avenue, Southwest Harbor, ME 04679
Pemetic Elementary School ~ Grade 6
Teacher: Bonnie Norwood
March 26, 2026

Let Me Teach You About Teaching

Imagine a colorful, laughter-filled place that just feels nice to be in. For me, that's a Pre-k classroom. And that's where I want to be. I am interested in this career because it is the foundation of the rest of their lives. Think of a house. Before you put up the walls, or the ceiling, or the windows, you need the foundation to build on. The foundation sets the house up for success. That is what Pre-k is all about. I hope you enjoy my essay.

A Pre-K teacher does many important things, such as early vocabulary development and cognitive and motor skills. They also teach children daily routines and good habits. Teachers need good classroom management, creative ideas, and most of all...patience (all teachers need patience). The kind of personality that is needed for this job is a patient, empathetic, and energetic personality, to keep up with the little children.

The education that is required for this job is at least a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education and a State Teaching License. I researched several colleges and universities, and I believe the University of Maine at Farmington (UMF) is the best fit for me. I am interested in UMF because they have a very good teaching program. One of the things that they offer is a hands-on teaching experience. All students in this profession get to go to a classroom and teach the class for a while, which is essential to develop the skills that a licensed educator needs. Both my parents went there, and it is pretty close to my home (less than 3 hours away), which is very important to me. Also, it has a high acceptance rate, along with pretty inexpensive programs. A bachelor's degree takes four years of full-time study, which is what I will need to become a qualified teacher. Some courses that I will need to take in college are Child & Adolescent Development, Early Child Special Education, Diversity, Early Childhood (Math, Science, Language and Literacy), Creative Arts, Psychology, Methods of Teaching, and some more extra courses.

One talent and interest that I have that connects to this career is babysitting. I love children, and people say that I have a knack for having fun with little kids. I have experience taking care of children, and I love it. This career will make a big difference because it is setting kids up for the rest of their lives, especially their childhood. I also worked in a Pre-k classroom in 5th grade every Friday. I helped them pack up their things, and by doing this, I learned that Pre-K'ers have lots of energy. Their classroom is filled with lots of colors, and it is a very nice environment to be in. I also did an interview with Jen Dunbar, a former first grade and third grade teacher. She said that her favorite part about being a teacher was watching her students grow, and seeing how far they've come. I feel like that is what my favorite part about teaching will be, because I just want to see them grow and have fun learning. She also went to UMF, which is where I want to go. She got her bachelors degree in Early Childhood Education, which is exactly what I want to do.

In conclusion, I would be a great Pre-K teacher because I love young children and want to set them up for success at an early age. Again, Pre-k is the foundation of many years to come, and I want to help them grow, not just academically, but also in a way that makes them have fun during school. Even though it's the very beginning of their childhood, it's still a very important part, and I want to be a part of it.

March 14, 2026

Dear Scholarship Committee,

It is my pleasure to recommend Lucy Rowell for your scholarship program. I had the privilege of teaching Lucy in the fourth grade, and she left a lasting impression on me as a student of exceptional character and promise.

Lucy is a thoughtful, respectful, and responsible individual who consistently demonstrates a genuine care for others. Even at a young age, she showed a natural inclination toward kindness—whether it was helping a classmate who was struggling, offering encouragement, or simply leading by quiet example. Her level-headed nature allows her to approach challenges with maturity beyond her years, and she reflects on her experiences in order to grow and improve.

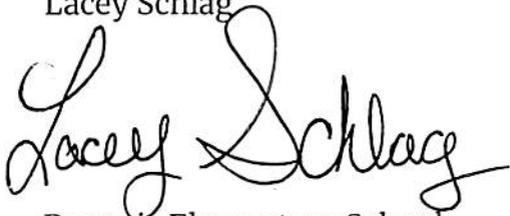
What stands out most about Lucy is her sincere desire to make a positive difference in the world. Her aspiration to become a pre-kindergarten teacher feels like a natural fit for a student who possesses the patience, empathy, and gentle leadership essential to early childhood education. I have no doubt that she will create a nurturing and supportive environment for young learners, helping them feel valued, safe, and inspired.

Lucy is the kind of student whose warm nature and exceptional character stay with you long after you've had the pleasure of working with her. I am confident that with continued encouragement and opportunity, she will achieve any goal that she sets.

Thank you for considering Lucy Rowell for this opportunity.

Respectfully,

Lacey Schlag

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lacey Schlag". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with large, connected letters.

Pemetic Elementary School

Lucy Rowell

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.
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Grade 5

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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 Lucy Rowell

Teacher Bonnie L. Nowell

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

2026

Name: Beatrice Libby Today's date 3-10-26

Mailing Address: 43 Ledge Lane Ave

Your city/town: Bar Harbor Zip Code: 04609

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Seth Libby, Simon Libby

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

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

CEZ

\$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
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Aspirations Partners:

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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.

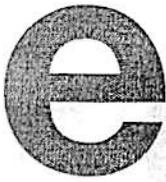
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Grade 5: Your College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses 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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To the parent or other adult mentor:

...and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Beatrix is a kind and curious learner who truly enjoys helping others and making a positive difference. She has always been fascinated by science, especially nature and how the human body works. As an active member of the Science Olympiad, Beatrix has relished diving into events like Anatomy & Physiology, Disease Detectives, Entomology, and Dynamic Planet, where she has built both knowledge and confidence. Because of Beatrix's strong interests, we always imagined she might pursue a path in research or medicine, and were pleasantly surprised when she shared her goal of becoming an anesthesiologist. Through these experiences, Beatrix is beginning to shape a future where she can use science to care for and support others in meaningful ways.

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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Grade 4

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Signed:

Student

Beatrice Liberty

Teacher

[Signature]

My pursuit of becoming an anesthesiologist

My favorite number is 7, I was born on the 7th. There are 7 letters in my name, and there are 7 letters in unicorn.

Anesthesia. That's the stuff you receive when you have surgery to be put to sleep — and who manages the anesthesia? An anesthesiologist and that's what I want to be when I'm older. Since I was a little girl I always wondered how the body works. The thought of all these little systems working in our body at the same time to move, to think, to live was so interesting to me. I knew I wanted to be in the medical field, but I had no idea in what role. So when I played a round of Kahoot last winter about anesthesiology, it sparked my interest in the subject. Being an anesthesiologist seems so intriguing to me. The job is so unique, technical and important, I would enjoy doing it.

I think being an anesthesiologist would be a great fit for me because I love learning and I like to help people. So, helping sick or injured people feels good to me. I know being an anesthesiologist requires a lot of studying so I'm starting early. I'm currently a member of the Science Olympiad at my school, one of my events is Anatomy and Physiology, and Disease Detectives, among others. These topics give me exposure to learning more about the human body. I'm learning about the systems of the body such as digestive, endocrine, nervous, etc., and about diseases and how to stop the spread of germs (which is great for me to learn because I expect to work in an operating room in the future.) In high school I will continue to take hard sciences such as Biology, advanced Biology, Honors Anatomy and Physiology, Algebra I or Honors Algebra, Geometry, Physics, Chemistry, and Biomedical Sciences at Hancock County Technical Center (HCTC). Because I think it's important to be well-rounded, I will continue to do extracurricular activities.

After I graduate from high school, I plan on going to the University Of Connecticut (UCONN). UCONN is a great school for me to attend as an undergraduate because it offers a broad array of classes for my major such as Organic Chemistry and Microbiology but also plenty of liberal arts

subjects like Chinese and Creative Writing. At UCONN I hope to major in biochemistry and take classes such as; Organic Chemistry II, Core Biochemistry, Biology, Physics I and, Chinese, Asian American Studies, Pre Calculus then, Calculus II. Since I am part Chinese I would like to take Chinese and Asian American Studies as a way to further my understanding of my culture, while pursuing my future career.

UCONN also has a medical school, and residency of anesthesiologists so after college I can attend their medical school, and after that I can do residency at UCONN.

I interviewed my aunt and my uncle who are both physicians. We discussed the different types of medical doctors, the rigors of medical school, working in a hospital, and the satisfaction of helping people. Even though they warned me about the length of time of being in medical school, I am still determined to follow this path.

I watched a recorded interview with Dr. Micheal Dishard an anesthesiologist at Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania. I appreciated him sharing his experience. I was able to see a typical day in his life as an anesthesiologist. His daily duties consist of supervising patients under anesthetics" and circulating in between 2-4 operating rooms at a time. He spoke about how he enjoys being around all the different types of physicians and nurses. Maybe someday I will make a video to inspire future middle school students as well.

In conclusion, I want to be an anesthesiologist because I want to help people, save lives, and learn new things. I like the idea of working in a caring place like a hospital. If I win the scholarship I would use it to buy medical textbooks or pay for an online learning course. I believe this would help me in my path to my future career.

3/25/26

Bea was a student in my Thinking Skills classes as a primary student and this year she joined the Science Olympiad team. All of her Science Olympiad events are core events in which participants are given a set of topics which they are expected to research. Mastery is demonstrated at tournaments by taking a paper-pencil, station, or computer test. Factual mastery is important but event supervisors give more weight to answers that show an ability to analyze and make predictions about the information.

Bea brings both her academic skills and her interpersonal skills to our team meetings. She provides leadership to younger team members and positivity to the group in general. At the regional tournament (Harvard University) she successfully competed in the following events: Anatomy & Physiology with a focus on the nervous, special senses, and endocrine systems; Disease Detectives with a heavy emphasis on probability and statistics; Heredity (answering questions, solving problems, and analyzing data on classic and molecular genetics); and Entomology which required identification of insects (mature & immature) by indicated taxonomy (order, subclass, or family), answer questions, and use or construct a dichotomous key. She did this with a substitute teammate as her regular partner had a medical emergency.

In April, Bea will compete in the state tournament at the University of Maine, Orono. We are so fortunate to have her on our team.

Bea has my full support in applying for this scholarship.

Mary Mackay
Gifted & Talented Specialist
Science Olympiad Head Coach
Connors Emerson School

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Zara Reaso Today's date March 10
Mailing Address: 9 Hemlock Lane, Apt 313
Your city/town: Bar Harbor, Maine Zip Code: 04609
Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Aida Reaso & Michael Reaso
What school do you attend? Conners Emerson What grade are you in? 6th
Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Emilie Ginn

2026

CE7

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Future of Eastern Maine

Aspirations Scholarship

2020

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Please see attached letter.

To the parent or other adult mentor:

Zara has always shows strong interest for fashion designing at a young age. She always shows keen interest in colors, fabrics and mixed and matching her clothes. she enjoys exploring fashion trends, watching designing tutorials, cutting her old clothes like her old jeans to make a summer shorts. she loves to draw girls with her ideas designed and accessories. As a parent, I am proud to support her aspiration and encourage her to follow her interest. i believed that with guidance, practice and hardwork, she has the potential to turn her passion for fashion into a meaningful future career.

Expectations Checklist

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Signed: Student Zara Reaso

Teacher Emilie

Sketching My Dreams

My favorite number is 16 because it is the date of my birthday. It reminds me of the start of new beginnings and personal growth.

When I was younger, I would always dream about being in a Vogue magazine posing on a red carpet with many people wearing my designs. I would always be sketching designs and getting my notebook away from me at school. I would also get teased by my appearance since I looked really different from other girls in my grade, I would be called names or just get different treatment based on looks. So I was really determined on making people feel pretty in their own way inside and outside. I really want people to stop teasing people because I have gotten teased and I didn't like it. I want to be a fashion designer to make a change, a change to make the world a better place.

To be a fashion designer, I would need to take art classes, join the fiber arts club & the Mdi Investors Club and Spanish. These classes help me with designing, making clothes with different materials, and trying to sell my designs and to practice speaking to other people. The things that I am doing now to prepare for the future is teaching myself how to make clothes from scrap and to start knitting again.

Once I graduate I really want to go to the Fashion Institute of Technology, which has a 53%- 58% acceptance rate. If I don't get accepted, then I would go to the Maine college of art and design which has a 77% acceptance rate. I would like to live in New York or Maine because I'm near my parents. The courses I would take in FIT are Footwear and Accessories AAS,BFA, and Fashion Design BFA , Fashion Business Management BFA, Entrepreneurship, and Fine arts. These classes teach me how to design patterns and make accessories with fabrics and many materials and how to sell my designs. To get a bachelor's degree, I would need to finish the AAS to apply for the BFA. The college looks really big on the inside and has a lot of designs to look at for references. I think college is great for me because I'm near my parents and I mostly go to New York all the time so im am used to the weather and how things work.

I found an interview online of a fashion designer named Layla L'obatti. She is an Entrepreneur and a fashion designer, She designs loungewear and sleepwear for women. She went to FIT and has a 4 year BFA degree and got many job recommendations after she was done with college. She spends her work days working on her blog, promoting her stuff on social media, and packing shipping orders. She works 12 hours a day, but she says it doesn't feel like work because she gets to design and draw most of the time. She loves fashion designing because she gets to be in a fashion industry and see the process of making new designs. She gets a feeling of when she wakes up she gets really excited to build new stuff.

To sum up what I've said, I think that being a fashion designer would mean a lot to me, because I have always wanted to be a fashion designer. Owning a fashion business would be hard but I would need to try to know what I can improve to get better. I would use my money for some fashion programs, to save up for college, or to get more equipment for designing clothes. Thank you for putting my application to consideration.

Fashion is the armor to survive the reality of everyday life.

- Bill Cunningham



HEATHER WEBSTER
PRINCIPAL

MICHAEL FOURNIER
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

CONNERS-EMERSON SCHOOL

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

March 20, 2026

Maine College Circle
P.O. Box 1112
Ellsworth, Maine 04605

To whom it may concern:

I had the pleasure of teaching Zara Reaso when she was new to our school community. She had come in the spring of the previous school year from halfway around the world. It was such a huge change, but you would never know that she had not been with this group of students for years. She found her friends, tried new things, and never backed down from a challenge. One area she shone in was narrative writing. Writing class allowed her to express her creativity and share her voice with others.

I am so proud to see Zara's thoughtful reflections and considerate goals for her future. I think her global background will only help her create even more impressive looks ready for the red carpet! I know she has the passion and strength to make these goals come true, and I cannot wait to see it happen. For these reasons, I think she would be a great candidate for your scholarship.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Meggie Curtis'.

Meggie Curtis
4th Grade Teacher
Connors Emerson School

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Scarlet Sandin Today's date 10-3-2026
Mailing Address: 604 Crooked Road
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

CE12

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2020

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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.

Scarlet's interest in becoming a lawyer is entirely on point for her. She has a curious and analytical mind and seems to genuinely enjoy "making her case" and trying to bring other people around to her point of view. Since CES does not currently have a debate club or team, she is preparing to create (or revive) one so that she can learn more about persuasive speech and improve her skills.

* *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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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.
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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.
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- 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

Scarlet Gaudin

Teacher

Amir

Bickering or Business?

My favorite number is 3 because there are three kids in my family, and my sister is three years older than my twin and me.

From the moment I was born, I've been viewed as, well, a grump. But where others say grumpy, I say argumentative. I love to argue. With my parents, with my sisters, about anything from my bedtime to who gets the last cookie to why my older sister should have to brush her teeth before me. I'm also a bit of a perfectionist, but that means I pay attention to the small details, which everyone knows are the most important. This is why I know that being a lawyer would be a good fit for me.

I want to be a lawyer because as a lawyer I would get paid to argue! This sounds perfect for me because it means my nature is part of my job. To prepare now I could participate in a debate club, but my school doesn't currently have one, so I want to start a debate club. I will participate in debate club through middle school and high school, and once I get to high school I will also join the Student Council. Another course that would be good for me is Drama, because it can help with public speaking and could help me be more convincing. In addition, I could sit in on cases at the local courthouse.

I would like to go to Brown University for my undergraduate degree because they have courses in other fields that interest me, and good pre-law advisory. Then I want to go to Harvard Law School for my JD. If I can get into Brown I will probably have a better chance at being accepted into Harvard, but since both schools have low acceptance rates, I also have a backup plan. The University of Maine offers good courses in my other interests, and boasts an acceptance rate of over 90%. As for the University of Maine School of Law, it has an acceptance rate of around 37% and I could participate in the 3+3 program, an accelerated course of study that would allow me to combine my last year of university with my first year of law school. Because I am interested in Criminal Justice specifically, I would take courses such as Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure: Investigation, and Criminal Procedure: Adjudication, as well as more advanced courses like Comparative Criminal Law: Fair Trials and Criminal Justice Institute: Defense Theory and Practice.

I interviewed Carolyn Connors, an environmental lawyer for Dupont. While her career is slightly different from what I want to do, she was still able to give me lots of great insights. For example, she said that "Going to school later in life was one of the best decisions I ever made for myself." I thought

this was very interesting and helpful, because I had always thought about college as something I would do directly after high school, which can seem unachievable. She shared that while she loved the flexibility of her job, an attorney at a law firm would have much less predictability and longer hours. She also said that it could be hard to understand the PhD scientists she sometimes works with, which reminded me that it is important to learn about other fields. Finally, she recommended that I “volunteer at a law firm or a clinic and really get a good feel of what it is like working in the legal world.” All in all, I got lots of good information and am even more excited than before.

To conclude, I think being a lawyer is right for me because it would make use of my argumentative nature. If I won the scholarship I would use it to fund my college career. I would love to become a lawyer with *or* without a scholarship, but thank you so much for considering my application!

Renee Quebbeman

ELA Teacher | Conners Emerson School
Bar Harbor, Maine

March 25, 2026

To the Selection Committee:

I am delighted to recommend Scarlet Sandin for the College Aspirations Essay Contest. Scarlet is the kind of student who stays with you long after the school year ends — and for all the right reasons.

Scarlet possesses a rare combination of qualities: a sharp, highly analytical mind paired with a wonderfully dry sense of humor that makes her a joy to know. She is not a student who merely completes assignments — she approaches academic challenges as if they are puzzles to be conquered, diving in with an infectious competitive energy and refusing to stop until she has truly mastered the material. Whether tackling a complex text, an unfamiliar concept, or a creative task, Scarlet approaches it with intensity and focus that sets her apart.

What I find most remarkable about Scarlet is the way she thinks. She is genuinely outside-the-box in her reasoning — she sees angles and possibilities that others miss, and her contributions to class discussion consistently open up new directions for everyone. She is deeply insightful in ways that feel entirely her own, not derivative or predictable. Getting to know how her mind works has been one of the genuine pleasures of my work this year.

Scarlet's combination of intellectual rigor, originality, and memorable personality makes her an ideal candidate for this opportunity. An essay contest asks for a student with a distinct voice and a genuine perspective — and Scarlet has both in abundance. I miss her presence in our learning community and look forward to seeing where her remarkable mind takes her.

She has my wholehearted recommendation.

Sincerely,

Renee Quebbeman



ELA Teacher, 5th Grade
Conners Emerson School | Bar Harbor, Maine

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Caroline Paul Today's date 3.10.25

Mailing Address: 30 Stony Brook way

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

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s)? Suzanne + Bear Paul

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

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

2026

CE 17

\$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
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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.)



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.*

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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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.

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Signed:

Student

Caroline Paul

Teacher

[Signature]

Writing My Life

By Caroline Paul

My favorite number is 42 because this was Jackie Robinson's number. My dad loves baseball, which is a connection with his dad before he died.

I want to write a book. A novel. I want to make something for people to enjoy, a world in which I can be who I am. Because writing is more than just words on a page, it is opening a portal to another world where anything is possible and where I am free. I love the *click, click, click*, of the keys, as I use words to bring my imagination to life. This is my art. This is **me**.

I believe that writing comes from a place of loving people for who they are, and wanting to be heard. For me, writing is a way to go through my feelings, and express myself.

For my career, I want to be a creative writer. I am very creative, empathetic, and observant. I believe that these are important qualities of a writer. I am currently writing a short story for a writing contest. I write short stories for my school's newspaper, and I try to write as much as I can in my free time. I plan to go to MDI High School. I will take Introduction To Creative Writing and Advanced Creative Writing, and College Prep Freshman English, College Prep Sophomore English, along with other things.

After high school I want to go to Kenyon College, which has an acceptance rate of 31%, and get an English major with an emphasis in creative writing. I will take Introduction to Fiction Writing, Introduction to Literature and Language, Creative Writing: A Multi-Genre Workshop, Writing Fiction, Nonfiction and other Narrative Forms, and 19th-Century Novel. Kenyon College also has something called The Kenyon Review. The Kenyon Review is a well known and well regarded journal and many people, who aspire to be authors, go to Kenyon just for the Kenyon review. They take submissions in September and have contests for youth poetry in

November, nonfiction in December, and fiction in January, giving me opportunities to share my writing.

I interviewed a family friend named Caitlin MacDougal, who is a marketing writer for her job, but she is also a creative writer in her free time. Some helpful things that she told me were: "Make a habit of writing, and keep reading." Some other things that she said were: the biggest challenge is when you write something out and realize that it sounded better in your head, and that to be a writer you should probably go to college and get an MFA, Masters in Fine Arts.

In conclusion, I think that this would be a good career choice for me because I am creative, empathetic, and observant. I love to write and make stories. And it is a way for me to express myself. I also never get bored of writing because there are endless possibilities. If I won the scholarship I would put it towards the latest edition of the Merriam-Webster Dictionary or books, because books are also an important part of writing. Thank you for considering my application.

Since she was a baby, Caroline has always had a high level of curiosity about people and emotional intelligence, coupled with a high degree of sensitivity. She is a brave kid who can join new groups of people and usually find her way. While always an avid reader, writing did not come easily to her at first and she spent many early elementary school years avoiding it. In the last two years she has fallen in love with writing and formed an identity around being a writer. She often spends her free time reading and writing letters to camp friends, working on stories that are just for her, and dreaming up ideas for new stories. She recently submitted a story to the Frenchman Bay Conservancy's writing contest, and we are so proud of her for setting a goal and working hard to put her ideas together. We think Caroline will flourish in college with so many opportunities to learn more about language, writing, and communication.

Recommendation for Caroline Paul

I have known Caroline for three years and have had the pleasure of being one of her specials teachers and getting to spend some time with her in other capacities. She is an incredibly thoughtful, empathetic human whom I am honored to know. Caroline has deep connections to her family and family history, and loves sharing stories about them. While aware of the things happening around her, she also has a deep sense of self which carries into all of her interactions with others, as well as her writing. Her empathy really does influence her creativity, showing that she can see a situation or story from many perspectives. I wholeheartedly recommend Caroline for this scholarship.

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Piper Nicholson Today's date 3/10/26
Mailing Address: 7 Phantom Heights Lane, Bar Harbor, ME
Your city/town: Bar Harbor, Maine Zip Code: 04609
Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Peter & Christina Nicholson
What school do you attend? Conners Emerson What grade are you in? 6th
Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Emilie Ginn

2026

CE22

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2026

Future of Eastern Maine

Aspirations Scholarship

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See attached.

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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

Piper Nicholson

Teacher

Erin

Diving To My Dreams

-

Splashing Into The Future

-Piper Nicholson-

*My favorite number is “**nineteen**” because it rhymes with “**birthday**”.*

(Ha! - those don't rhyme...)

*My **birthday** is April Nineteenth*

(...AND I like to be silly).

The sound of splashing in the water, the feeling of your stomach before a race, the thing I have loved for as long as I can remember: the sport of swimming. I fell in love with swimming when I was a little kid. I took swim lessons, swam at local pools, and I couldn't get out of the water. I had an interest in joining the swim team when I was around four years old. I had wanted to compete and step up a level in the sport, so I joined the MDI YMCA SHARKS swim team. I started to place high and ranked nationally in races and at the same time.

I also loved playing teacher with my sister. We used to wake up in the morning, run down the stairs, and set up “our school”. Our mom has been a teacher for many

years, so we have always had a great role model. I want to combine the two things I truly love, teaching others and swimming together and become a swim coach.

I want to be a swim coach who teaches kids from when they first learn to swim the life long skills about swimming. I think that this career would be best for me because I truly love sharing my talents and skills with others. My plan is to go to Mount Desert Island High School where I will take an *Education class* which will help support my teaching skills. Additionally, I would like to take the *Team Sport* class which will emphasize teamwork, sportsmanship, and cardiovascular fitness through competitive games and drills, fostering both physical health and leadership skills. I will also take the *Physiology* class to learn about how muscles work and develop training cycles. I plan to get a job as a life guard and volunteer on the pool deck. I will attend college, then my plan is to take my coaching skills to the next level and coach young kids along with high school kids. If I am then interested, I will coach a college swimming program. These jobs and volunteer work will help guild me to pursue this career, building strong coaching skills along the way.

I have always dreamed of going to the University of Florida. I love the swimming program, the campus, and all of the stories that my mom has told me about her time there. To pursue this career, I will want to take the *Health and Wellness Coaching Class* which will provide the skills and knowledge needed to help me reach my goals and dreams. Another class I would take if I go to the University of Florida is *Sports Management*. This class will help me to apply sport management concepts and theories to the area of sport. This course will also come with a certificate that will allow me to select upper-division courses that pertain to a specific career focus in sport management, and I will want to take an education minor to help support my teaching concepts.

I chose to interview Matt Reed, who is the head coach of the Mid-Maine Dolphins swim team, Jim Willis, who is the head coach of the MDI Sharks, along with Peter Casares, who is the head coach of the Bates College Swim Team. In the interview with Jim, he gave me some helpful advice and he said: "It is something that you have to love, you have to love the kids, you have to love the sport, you have to love the journey." In the interview with Peter, he told me to be curious, to be passionate, yet interested, and to do what I love. He said that his coaching career is all swimming. He spends all of his time at the pool and planning practices, which is what I love to do: think about swimming. Matt told me to persevere through challenges and to always keep my mind open. I chose these coaches because they have all impacted my life in many valuable ways, such as: swim clinics, camps, practices, and meets. More than that, they have shown me how to believe in myself and how to set strong, achievable goals. These are the people who helped make me who I am today and help me be proud of myself. Someday I would love to be a coach like this for other swimmers.

In conclusion, swimming isn't just a thing I love, it's my future. It's something that pushes me and makes me the person that I am today. Coaching the sport of swimming is my dream. It's something I love and want to consider doing for the rest of my life. I want to pass on the skills and self confidence to others, and be a role model to other swimmers. This would truly be the best career for me because I can teach others while being on the pool deck. If I won the scholarship, I would use it to go to a swim clinic to see how coaches provide coaching and to learn different swimming techniques.

Thank you for considering my essay. I enjoyed exploring how I can one day live my dream of helping swimmers achieve their goals as their swim coach.

March 2026

Dear Future of Maine Scholarship Review Committee,

Please allow us to introduce you to our daughter, Piper, through comments she has shared with her swim team, coaches, and classmates:

“Wow! Look at the time you dropped - that was a powerful swim!”

“It’s ok to be nervous. I get nervous, at most meets. When you have butterflies, that means you are about to do something that is important to you.”

“Sometimes I feel tired before swim practice, too. If you decide to go, we can get ready together.”

“Thank you, Coach, I learned a lot today. I especially liked how much faster I felt off the wall in those drills.”

Piper is a talented swimmer. At a young age she took to the water. As a member of the MDI YMCA’s Sharks swim program, she delights in the practice and feedback of drills, races, and technique work. Piper has represented the state of Maine at the Eastern Zone Swim Championships, and her strong races have had visit and revisit the podium for her places. Piper’s excellence as a youth swimmer is not all that makes an impression, rather it is her dedication to her teammates, swimmers from other teams, coaches, officials, and volunteers that makes her a stand out swim community member.

As Piper considered her collegiate and professional endeavors through the Future of Maine application process, we have been tickled to learn she is considering becoming a swim coach. What a match! Piper’s enthusiasm for the sport of swimming and her eagerness to support and encourage others provide her with the awesome natural talents in the area of coaching.

Swim feeds Piper! Her drive is met with new goals as she explores new techniques, her desire to connect with others is fulfilled as she builds relationships with fellow swimmers and cheers them on, her thirst for adventure is rewarded as she attends new meets and tries new adventures.

Piper recognizes the joy and gratification which competitive swimming brings to her life, and this application process helped shine a light on how she may one day share this joy with others as a swim coach. Piper delighted in interviewing three swim coaches she admires. The opportunity to learn first hand information about these influential people, and their journeys, fueled Piper's interest in the world of coaching. What incredible insight! Piper recognizes how these coaches have encouraged and supported her love of the sport - and she is eager to ignite this spark within others.

Piper is a strong athlete and a strong competitor - but her deepest love of swimming is sharing the experience with others. Our family adored watching Piper's curiosity and interest in her future sprout through this application process - and we look forward to continuing to nurture her growth as she explores how she will share her strength, positivity, encouragement, creativity, thoughtfulness, and passion with her community as she grows up.

Thank you for inviting Piper to consider the awesome potential of her future. She enjoyed looking at prospective colleges online, pondering what type of team she'd like to coach, planning to volunteer her time as an assistant coach on deck with younger swimmers, and organizing her investigations in her essay. What a powerful kickstart in exploring the teen and adult she aims to become one day! Your time and consideration is appreciated while reviewing Piper's exploration of future pursuits. We highly recommend our daughter, Piper Nicholson, as a College Aspirations Scholarship Recipient. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions at cnicholson@mdirss.org and peter.nicholson@thefirst.com.

Warm Regards,



Christina Nicholson

Peter & Christina Nicholson



HEATHER WEBSTER
PRINCIPAL

MICHAEL FOURNIER
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

CONNERS-EMERSON SCHOOL

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

March 23, 2026

Dear Scholarship Review Committee,

It is with great pleasure that I recommend Piper Nicholson for the Future of Eastern Maine College Aspirations Scholarship. As Piper's 3rd and 4th grade teacher, I have seen her incredible commitment to swimming over the past several years, as well as her extraordinary commitment and thoughtfulness in her work and her interactions with classmates.

I closely follow Piper's swim career, and am struck by her strong leadership, sportsmanship, and athleticism. While these are all strengths of Piper's, what impresses me even more is her humility. She is genuinely humble, quick to encourage and cheer for others. She celebrates her team's accomplishments more than her own personal triumphs.

Piper's chosen career as a swim coach and her goal of attending the University of Florida are a perfect match. Her essay clearly outlines her plan to make these dreams a reality.

Piper is a well-deserving applicant for this scholarship. Thank you for considering her for this opportunity.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Meryl Sweeney".

Meryl Sweeney
Grade 3 Teacher
Connors Emerson School

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Max Megavitt Today's date 3/10/26
Mailing Address: 168 Bluff Rd Bar Harbor Me
Your city/town: Bar Harbor ME Zip Code: 04609
Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Kelly Megavitt
What school do you attend? CEA What grade are you in? 6th
Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? MS. Ginn



CE 27

\$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
Pemetec 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.)



2022

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.*

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.

Max loves opportunities to travel, see new places and experience new things. Along with that he loves a fun hotel experience and it seems his love for that has led to his future aspirations to join the hotel industry!

* 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 MAK MPOURITR

Teacher [Signature]

Making my Dream.

My favorite number is 22 because it is always my number in sports and I just think it sounds cool. That's why I love 22.

One of the things I love doing is playing in baseball and soccer games. I love playing baseball games because I love the feeling of getting a really good hit and soccer because it feels really good to get a goal. When I'm in college I want to play either soccer or baseball.

I also love traveling with my family and I love staying in hotels. For example, the Holiday Inn is really fun to stay at because they always have pools and I really like the breakfast. So when I have my own hotels I can make them however I want. When I grow up I want to own a business because I could make a lot of money. One business idea I have is to start a hotel chain like the Holiday Inn.

Like I said, I love staying in hotels with my family and traveling out of the state and country. If I had my own hotel chain I could make my own hotels however I want. My dad owns a construction business so that is one of the reasons I want to own a business. In high school I will take business classes. In my hotels there will be free breakfast and infinity pools on the roof. And that is why I want to own a hotel chain.

When I grow up I want to own a business. In college I will go to UNC and major in business and take these classes: Strategic Management, Legal & Ethical Environment of Business, Principles of Marketing, Corporate Finance and Leading and Managing. Taking the class Strategic Management is going to help me because it is about managing a business and that is what I will be doing when I grow up. I want to go to college in North Carolina because it will be warm in the winter and won't be too hot in the summer.

I interviewed Jacob Megquier. Some of the questions I asked him are. How did you get started in this current career? And he said, "In high school I did jobs related to

the business I'm interested in." Another question I asked him was, What kind of education or training did you need for your career, and he said, "High school and college courses related to business management" and one last question I asked was, What advice can you give someone looking to pursue this career, and he said " Do good in school and take college seriously. And those are my questions.

I'm really excited to own a hotel so I can give people a cool place to stay with free breakfast and infinity pools. If I win the scholarship I will put it towards paying for college or college supplies. Thank you for taking the time to read my college 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 Scholarship Review Committee,

It is my pleasure to recommend Max Megquier for the Future of Eastern Maine College Aspirations Scholarship. I have known Max since the beginning of his sixth grade year. As a literacy interventionist for Connors Emerson School, I have worked with him this year in his English Language Arts class.

I believe Max's vision to own a hotel chain would be a great fit for him. Being such a kind and polite person, Max would lead his team to success, treating guests and staff with the utmost respect. He would lead the way in the travel industry with his clear plan for building beautiful hotels that feature rooftop infinity pools and free breakfast.

Traveling with his family and staying in hotels has given Max a great vision for his own business. Inspired by his father's construction business and his own love for sports like baseball and soccer, Max has what he needs to make his dream a reality!

Thank you for considering him for this scholarship.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth A. Gilman".

Elizabeth A. Gilman
Literacy Interventionist
Connors Emerson School

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Jacob Howe Today's date 3/10/26
Mailing Address: 113 Highbrook Rd. Apt 111
Your city/town: Bar Harbor Zip Code: 04609
Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Fina Palermo
What school do you attend? Conners Emerson What grade are you in? 6th
Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Ms. Ginn



CE 32

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Schools:

Conners Emerson School
Mount Desert Elementary School
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Aspirations Partners:

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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.

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.*

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.

Ever since Jacob was a toddler he has always been fascinated w airplanes & helicopters. He was just 4 yrs old when he took his 1st helicopter ride & absolutely loved it! I made sure to save enough money to make sure he got up in the air at least once a year until COVID stopped us for a few years. After moving to ME 3 yrs ago and having Scenic Flights right here I have been able to get him up in the air again twice! He knows the exact name of every plane he sees almost like he was a pilot in another lifetime. I love knowing he has known his passion in life since such a young age and knowing he will follow his dreams makes me so proud of him!

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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.

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

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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

Jacob Howe

Teacher

Gnic

Flying into the Future

My favorite number is 14 because it is my baseball number. 14 gives me good luck. I love playing in the right field and shortstop.

Since I was a little kid, I always went on helicopters down at the Jersey Shore. On the boardwalk, there was this helicopter tour for 10 minutes, and it was \$60.00. When I was walking on the boardwalk, after going on a lot of rollercoasters and doing arcade games there was this sign that said helicopter tours. My mom had just enough for the tour before we went home, so I asked if I could go on it and she said yes! I was so excited, so then we went on the tour. My mom gave him the money for me to go on the helicopter. Then he brought me to the inside of the shop and gave me headphones. They were pretty big and tight so I could hear the pilot talking. The headphones were for the helicopter then he-loaded me on this shiny blue helicopter, they shut the doors and the loud engines turned on and the helicopter was really shaky. Then they had to turn on the control buttons, and we were good to go. We lifted off the ground and we were in the air, bright blue skies. It was just so pretty. Ever since then I knew I wanted to be a pilot.

I want to start flying because when I went on my Florida trip on a Boeing 737 MAX-8 aircraft the take off was very fast and felt very fun to experience. I could feel the take off pulling 1.3 GS and while we were in the air there was some turbulence and shaking but it was so fun being on a plane during Christmas. You could see the snow in Maine then the next 3 hours in 75 degree weather with no snow at night. This felt a little weird since I wasn't out of state in a while; the heat felt so good since it wasn't cold. We arrived at the airport at 11PM, and we were taxiing to the jetway which is the thing you walk on to go to the inside of the airport. We walked into the airport and grabbed our luggage then we called a taxi to be outside of the airport. We walked to the taxi pickup and our taxi was there. We put our luggage in the trunk and got in the car. Our hotel was an hour away from the airport. This experience makes me want to become a pilot because I felt something and it stuck with me.

What I have to do to prepare for being a pilot is flight school, building functional knowledge about the aircraft, controls, landing gear, checklists, and I want to go to school at UMA (University of Maine Augusta.) which offers a bachelor's degree with flight training. A I want to work for Delta Airlines. Some of the classes I will take in college are Private Pilot Ground/Flight, Instrument Rating, Commercial Pilot training, Aviation Weather, and Flight Instructor training. These courses will help me be a better pilot because I will study aircraft knowledge and things that will help me fly a plane.

I will build functional knowledge by going on a plane to Florida during April break. I will go and ask the pilots facts about the plane and what to know about it. I will also write them a note saying I am studying about planes and give them the note and see if I can get jumpseat which is in the front of the plane in the cockpit. I will sign up for a program called Civil Air Patrol which is in Trenton that offers a training program that would be good for me because it will help me learn about planes and flying better.

I was able to watch an interview of a pilot. He talked about what you have to do to be a pilot. You have to take notes and study about planes and their parts in pilot school. He also talked about how much he liked it. After watching the video, I feel amazing about being a pilot.

I would love to be a pilot because it sounds very fun to me. If I win this essay contest, I would use the money to help me pay for the Civil Air Patrol. Thank you for taking the time to read my essay and I hope you have a good day.



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 Scholarship Review Committee,

It is my pleasure to recommend Jacob Howe for the Future of Eastern Maine College Aspirations Scholarship.

I have known Jacob since the beginning of his sixth grade year. As a literacy interventionist for Conners Emerson School, I have worked with him this year in his English Language Arts class. When we returned to school from the Aspirations Fair in December, Jacob excitedly shared with me that he had been able to talk to a pilot, and that he planned to write his essay about becoming one. His enthusiasm at that point was evident to me.

It is clear that Jacob has a heartfelt passion for becoming a pilot. In his essay, he shares memories from his childhood that have fueled his love for flying- from riding helicopters to flying on commercial airplanes. He transports his reader to the sky with strong imagery that showcases exactly why he wants to be a pilot.

In my time with Jacob, I have seen that when he is locked into a task, he is a lovely, polite, and deeply capable young man. I can absolutely see Jacob becoming a pilot someday, and I have full faith he will pursue this dream. Thank you for considering him for this scholarship.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth A. Gilman".

Elizabeth A. Gilman
Literacy Interventionist
Conners Emerson School

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Ella G Pagan Today's date 3-10-26
Mailing Address: 26 Degregoire Park
Your city/town: Bar Harbor Zip Code: 04609
Parent(s) or guardian's name(s)? Emily Pagan Joe Pagan
What school do you attend? Coners Emerson What grade are you in? 6th
Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Emilie Ginn



CE 37

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Schools:

Conners Emerson School
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Tremont Consolidated School
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Aspirations Partners:

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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.

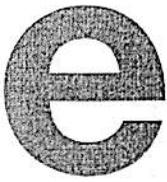
1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite number and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

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.

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:

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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.

Ella has a strong passion for hair and beauty. Whenever we visit Walgreens, she eagerly asks to buy products like nails, hair dye, and other hair care items. For Christmas, she received a nail art set, which she enjoys using to design nails before applying them. During her tech time, she often watches a variety of videos focused on beauty techniques and styling. When I discussed the possibility of pursuing this field with her, she showed a great deal of interest in making it part of her future.

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

Expectations Checklist

Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship, 2026

To be completed by the student

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

I even spelled my teacher's name correctly.

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

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

I am quite sure.

I think.

I am not sure.

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

Choose one.

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

I worked fairly hard on this application.

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

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

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

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

I have a fun and engaging first sentence.

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

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

Grade 3

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

Grade 4

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

Grade 5

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

 Teacher Gina

Styling my dreams

My favorite number is 52 because it's my basketball number, and it makes me happy. When people don't know my age I say I'm 52.

Over the years I've loved to do things relating to beauty. Including nails, hair, and makeup. My most favorite is styling hair. I've liked beauty because it gives me something fun to do and something I am passionate about. I feel like when I do what I love it makes me feel rewarded and inspired. Sometimes I do my friend's hair or nails, when I do that I feel like I am getting closer to the people who share the same interests in me. If I follow the path I love then I hope I will get the job I've always wanted to do.

For these reasons, being a cosmetologist will be rewarding and inspiring because I get to do things that I love like styling and cutting hair. I like how you can see the transformation change along each and every step. I think that this career will be fun for me because styling is my favorite. This is a passion I've always wanted to do, I always style my own curly hair and it is fun to see the shrinkage from when you cut it till it dries. Right now I am getting ready for this career by studying different hair styles and letting my imagination run wild. Another big thing is that I am watching videos related to my subject of people doing hair and how they do layers and different techniques.

In high school I will need to study science, art, math, social studies and English language arts. In high school I will also do HCTC. I will take business leadership and hospitality at HTCT in the mornings. The purpose of business in school is because we are going to be working hands on with people and I will need to be professional. Science's purpose is so that if I mix the hair chemicals wrong it will probably turn out very bad so we need to learn how to measure properly and make sure it is almost exact. The school that I am planning to go to is the Elevate Salon Institute - Miami Beach Florida. I think this would be a good fit for me because I love living on the coast. To get a cosmetology licence I will need to do 1,200 hours of learning cosmetology and once I'm done I can take the state board exam and if I pass I will get my licence.

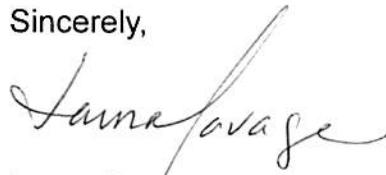
For my interview I did a pre-recorded interview with Dale Moore who is a cosmetologist. He told me about his day and the goods and bads of being a cosmetologist. He said " some customers will be tough, but most of them are kind." He also said to "get to know the people you're going to be studying with." I learned that you don't have to please everyone. I also learned that it's okay to make mistakes. I like how I get to express myself in many different ways, I also like how I can do what I love and explore different hair types. He told me to work on what I love. I would like to do cosmetology because if i do things right i get to put smiles on peoples faces.

I think being a cosmetologist would mean a lot to me because I have been experimenting with my curly hair for a long time and I've always loved it. Having a job would make everyday an adventure. What I would do with the scholarship is I would either save it for something I can use to improve my hard work, for example I could use the money to get more styling products to help me understand my hair better and understand other peoples hair types. Thank you for taking the time to read this essay and take my application into consideration.

Future of Maine- 2026
Aspirations Scholarship Application
March 23, 2026

I am honored to write a teacher letter of recommendation for Ella Pagan. Ella is a student with the motivation and mind set to reach her goals. I was very pleased to learn that Ella is interested in pursuing a career in cosmetology. Ella has mapped out a plan of course work that includes the arts, sciences, math, business and public relations to help her develop the skills to be a strong and successful stylist. Cosmetology is a field that will allow Ella to express her creative side and while helping others feel confident. So it is with great pleasure and high admiration that I recommend Ella Pagan be considered for the Aspirations Scholarship.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura Savage". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Laura Savage
Special Education Coordinator
Connors Emerson School
Bar Harbor, Maine.

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Leo Wilhelm Today's date 3/10/26

Mailing Address: 80 W/B Nest Lane

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

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Sophiz Wilhelm Marc Wilhelm

What school do you attend? CE5 What grade are you in? 6

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



CE42

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Schools:

Conners Emerson School
Mount Desert Elementary School
Tremont Consolidated School
Pemetec 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.*

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.

Leo is an amazing creative kid. He builds Lego's very often. What is interesting is that he builds a new set by plan. After he is finished, he takes it apart and builds multiple different realistic designs based on pictures of similar items.

He understands how things work together.

He is very curious and loves to solve problems.

He loves to play pool and has the understanding how angles work. He always wants to improve things and does not accept status quo.

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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. *kind of*

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.
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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 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

Bob Wilhelm

Teacher

G. M. ...

Mechanical Engineer

My favorite number is 4 because when I was 9, I got a jersey from my cousins that had the number 4 on the back.

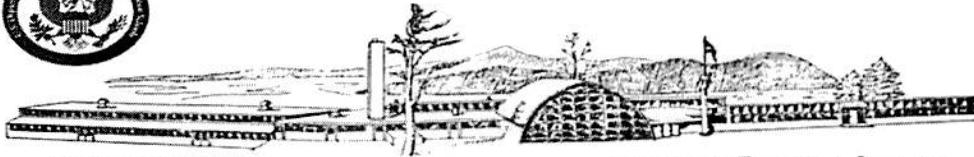
Ever since I was little, I always wanted to be a mechanical engineer. I was always building with my dad and helping him out with problems, like fixing the mower, deconstructing and rebuilding, and solving problems. I helped him build when he asked for help, but now when he asks for something I do it by myself. I'm starting to get more creative on fixing problems and building. I learn from my past mistakes, and I will do better next time. I love doing that, it's never boring and full of excitement when you figure out the problem.

I will be a good mechanical engineer because I can solve problems efficiently and quickly. One example is yesterday, my mom lost her earring down the drain in the sink and I had to get it back out of the pipe. So I first took off a piece of the pipe, where all the water went into a bowl. I looked in the bowl, and there was the earring inside. To prepare to be a mechanical engineer, I will go to MDIHS and take physics, mathematics, and 3D Design. I will also join the robotics team so it is easier to work with problems, and to know more information about my field. I will also volunteer at a S.T.E.A.M camp.

I want to go to M.I.T and take mechanical engineering as a major. I want to go to M.I.T because it has some of the best courses for mechanical engineering and because it is one of the best engineering schools in the world. As courses I will take, Introduction to Engineering Design for International Development, Robotics Science Systems, Artificial Intelligence, and Machine Learning For Engineering Design. I will get a Bachelor's degree and try to get a patent so people see me as an experienced mechanical engineer.

I interviewed Tyson. He works as a mechanical engineer, at a robotics research group called, the Institute for Human Machine and Cognition. He develops solutions for complex robotics problems and builds robots. He says that you usually work under tight deadlines, and irregular hours but it is most rewarding when your design comes together. Some recommendations that Tyson said, is that you want to be curious on how everything works, and try to take things apart and put them back together. Try to take on a project where you build with your hands, so it's more fun.

In conclusion, I think I could be a good mechanical engineer because I always try new ways to solve problems and try to get better at doing it. I believe that my talent can make the world a better place with my creations and improvements. Being a mechanical engineer would mean a lot to me. Thank you for reading and considering my essay.



HEATHER WEBSTER
PRINCIPAL
MICHAEL FOURNIER
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

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

3/15/26

Dear Future of Maine College Aspirations Scholarship committee,

It is with pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation for Leo. I have had the privilege of working with Leo in Physical Education classes and as the Athletic Director at Connors Emerson School.

Leo is a thoughtful, hard working and determined young man. He loves sports and is a leader by example. Whenever you see Leo in my class he is always on task and doing his best. He includes others in team and group activities and asks great questions. As an athlete Leo carries himself with pride and is a perfect example of what we want in a student/athlete. He cares about the quality of his work and how he treats others. Leo worked hard on his application and has expressed why he wants to be a mechanical engineer.

I encourage you to strongly consider Leo for this scholarship. Leo, is a curious, hard working, kind and thoughtful young student/athlete with big dreams. If you would like to further discuss Leo's abilities, please do not hesitate to call me at (207) 460-1218.

Sincerely,

Bryan Dionne

Athletic Director/Physical Education teacher

Connors Emerson School

11 Eagle Lake Road

Bar Harbor ME 04609

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship



Name: Cedric Skelly Today's date 3/10/26

Mailing Address: 107 Norway Dr

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

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Bothroy Dumont, Daniel Skelly

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

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

CE47

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Schools:

- Conners Emerson School
- Mount Desert Elementary School
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Aspirations Partners:

- First National Bank
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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.

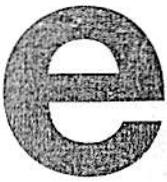
1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite number and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

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.

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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.)



2026

Future of Eastern Maine

Aspirations Scholarship

To the applicant:

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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
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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.*

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.

Cedric has always been a builder. He got his first LEGO set when he was three and hasn't stopped creating since. These days he's making huge Minecraft builds and dreaming up wild Rube Goldberg machines. He picks things up fast and naturally thinks about how things should look and fit together. With his love of building and his strength in math, architecture just makes sense for him. He's been set on that path since Kindergarten and hasn't wavered.

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Designing To A Master Level

My favorite number is the number 11 because it is my age, but also if I multiply it by 2 it makes my birthday date.

In the future, I would like to be an architect. I have the right skills, and I have a plan, a plan to become an architect. I would enjoy a career in architecture, and it would fit both my math and drawing skills well. To become an architect I would first go to high school and take classes that would prepare me for becoming an architect. At high school, I may also do a couple of activities that I would enjoy. Then I would go to college at the Paris School Of Architecture, and take their architecture curriculum. All of this would bring me a lot closer to my dream of becoming an architect.

To prepare for my career I would go to MDI High School. The classes I would take would be Art 1, Geometry, and Architecture & 3D design. I may also take French classes, which would prepare me for when I go to France for college. These classes would help me refine my skills, although I would like to take some other classes just to learn more. A couple of activities that I might do would be the math team or the Vex robotics team. These would help with my career, but not as much as the classes. But they would still be fun to do, and I think I would enjoy them. This would all help me achieve my dream of becoming an architect.

To better prepare for being an architect, I will go to college. My plan for college is to go to the Paris School Of Architecture for 5 years. At Paris School Of Architecture I would take their architecture curriculum, as well as a program that would teach me French. I would need to take this class since I don't speak French well, and would probably need to learn it for day to day business. Another unique thing about the Paris School Of Architecture is the way they grade. The way they grade is unique because they only have people fail or pass, so there is no inbetween. This college would be a good fit for my skills and I would enjoy it, plus I would get to know a new place, with some of the best architecture everywhere.

For my interview, I watched a prerecorded interview with Mike Sealander, an architect. In this interview I learned that drawing and virtual models are a big part of architecture, and that he probably spends about 30% of his time drawing and planning. Another thing I learned is that, at least for Mike Sealander, there is more commercial work than residential work. He also says that only about 20% of his work is residential and the rest is commercial. Another thing I learned is that architects create groups of experts who design buildings, like they might recruit a plumber to design pipes. The architects are mainly the leaders of these groups, and oversee the work that is being done. This interview with Mike Sealander helped me a lot, and even gave a couple of recommendations for becoming an architect.

I think being an architect would be a good fit for me because I have the right skills and I have the right plan. My plan was to go first to high school, and then to go to college. I would really enjoy being an architect, and designing buildings, then watching them be built before my eyes. That would be what I want to do when I grow up. Lastly, if I won I would use the money to help pay for a 3d printer to design mini buildings. Finally, I thank you for reading this essay.

Schuyler Mann
5th Grade Math Teacher
Conners Emerson

Scholarship Selection Committee
Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Dear Members of the Selection Committee,

I am pleased to recommend Cedric for the Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship. As his math teacher last year at Conners Emerson, I had the opportunity to work closely with Cedric during his 5th-grade year and observe his growth as a student and problem solver.

Cedric is an exceptional math student who consistently demonstrates curiosity, determination, and a strong work ethic. What sets him apart is his inquisitive nature—he not only seeks answers, but strives to deeply understand the “why” behind concepts. This intellectual curiosity drives him to engage thoughtfully with challenging material and push beyond expectations.

One of Cedric’s most impressive qualities is his perseverance and stamina. I have seen him spend multiple days working through multi-step, complex math problems, refusing to give up even when the solution was not immediately clear. Through persistence and careful reasoning, he ultimately arrived at the correct answer. This level of dedication and resilience is rare at his age and speaks volumes about his character and potential.

Cedric has also expressed a strong interest in becoming an architect, a goal that aligns perfectly with his strengths in mathematics, logical thinking, and creative problem-solving. I am confident that his perseverance and intellectual curiosity will serve him well as he continues to pursue this path.

In addition to his academic abilities, Cedric is a hardworking and thoughtful student who approaches challenges with a positive attitude. He is well-respected by his peers and consistently demonstrates integrity and focus in his work.

I strongly recommend Cedric for the Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship. He is a deserving candidate who will undoubtedly continue to grow and achieve great things. Please feel free to contact me if you need any further information.

Sincerely,
Schuyler Mann, schuyler.mann@mdirss.org
5th Grade Math Teacher

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Joderkens Eloi Today's date 3/10/26
Mailing Address: 8 Crooked Road #415
Your city/town: Bar Harbor Zip Code: 04804
Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Jonas Eloi Judith Eloi
What school do you attend? CES What grade are you in? 6
Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Emilie Ginn

2026

CE 52

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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.

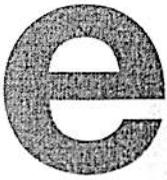
1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite number and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

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.*

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.

Joderkens is an enthusiastic student who has a wonderful work ethic, a great sense of humor & is a great friend to all.

Julie Sutton Kelly

* 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

Joderkens Eloi

Teacher

[Signature]

Kicking My Dreams

Seventeen is my favorite number, my sports number and I think of it as a combination of Ronaldo and Messi which correlates with my goal.

This is my story so far as a soccer player. I'm not a pro yet, but soccer is my favorite sport and it's my passion. The first reason is because ever since I moved to Maine all of my friends play soccer, so I joined them one day and I was okay at it. Eventually I got better and better until I was one of the best players in our friend group. This year I joined the school B soccer team and we were undefeated. I was the second highest scorer on our team! Because of my love for soccer I want to do it when I grow up. Not only will I get paid, but I will do something that I love.

Because of my desire to make soccer my career I will play soccer throughout middle school and high school all the way up to college. I plan on playing school soccer and club soccer but not at the same time. I also would like to coach little kids at the YMCA in soccer as soon as I'm old enough. Some of the classes that I plan on taking in high school will be physical education classes such as Foundations of Fitness, PE Games, Weight Training, and Team Sports. Other classes I'd be interested in would be a foreign language class like French. I will also take the core classes like math, English and science. These activities will help me to develop team building skills. It is also good to know multiple languages. Professional soccer players travel all over the world, and the more languages I'm able to speak the better I'll be at understanding the game and players. Helping to coach younger players will help me to understand the game better. If I know the game better, I'll be able to help my teammates, too.

After high school I would like to attend the University of Maine at Orono. I will need to play division one soccer at a school like the University of Maine. While I am in college I would like to study things like business administration, sports management, kinesiology, exercise

science and communications. These classes will help me to learn about the business of professional soccer. If I start getting offers from pro soccer teams, I will need to know what a good offer is. Sports management classes will teach me how to know what to do in the professional sports world. Making sure that players get to games, that players get proper treatment if they get injured, keeping the stadium and lockers clean are a few of things that I will learn about. In exercise classes it will help me know how to be better with my body and keep me fit so that I can play pro soccer.

I interviewed Noelle Maughan, she has been a soccer coach for Acadia Fire League, Downeast Soccer League, GPS Soccer and has also done some private coaching. She used to play for the Utah Stars, a semi professional league, and Idaho State.

I asked what kind of diet I should have to play soccer. She said that to play soccer you need to have a well rounded diet for an active lifestyle. You need to focus on having protein, fruits, carbs and vegetables at every meal. She told me to improve my soccer skills. I should get touches on the ball every day. This is done by kicking the ball against the wall and practicing different ways to receive it, over and over again. This is also a good way to practice on your own. She also recommended watching professional soccer on tv because it increases your knowledge of the game. I asked her if it was hard to play soccer in college, and she said that time management was the hardest part of being a student athlete. You have to balance your academics, and the amount of time you spend playing. I asked if it was fun to play soccer in college, and she said it was intense and very challenging, but she loved it

In conclusion, this is my plan for the future and I'm going to stick to it! I will continue to work hard in school and on the soccer field.. If I do win a scholarship I will use it to buy a mini goal so I can practice at home and improve my skills. Thank you for reading my application!



HEATHER WEBSTER
PRINCIPAL
MICHAEL FOURNIER
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

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

3/20/26

Dear Future of Maine College Aspirations Scholarship committee,

It is with pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation for Joderkens. I have had the privilege of working with Joderkens in Physical Education classes and as the Athletic Director at Connors Emerson School.

Joderkens is a hard working, energetic and dedicated young man. As you can tell by his essay he loves soccer and has dreams of playing both in college and perhaps one day as a professional athlete. Joderkens is thoughtful and works well with his peers. He is a joy to teach and coach as he works hard and listens to instruction.

I encourage you to strongly consider Joderkens for this scholarship. Joderkens has very big dreams and goals for himself as a young student/athlete. If you would like to further discuss Joderkens abilities, please do not hesitate to call me at (207) 460-1218.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bryan Dionne". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being significantly larger and more prominent.

Bryan Dionne

Athletic Director/Physical Education teacher

Connors Emerson School

11 Eagle Lake Road

Bar Harbor ME 04609