



Maine Sea Coast Mission

EdGE Update

Fall 2006

EdGE Honored as #1 in Maine!

The EdGE was selected as the outstanding afterschool program in Maine by the Maine Afterschool Network. The EdGE was selected out of 37 afterschool programs that received state funding. The Mission received the Exemplary 21st Century Learning Community Afterschool Program for 2006 Award from Susan Gendron, Commissioner of the Maine Department of Education, at the Hall of Flags at the State Capital in Augusta on October 12, 2006.



Debra Chase representing the Afterschool Network, Senator Michael Brennan, Charlie Harrington, EdGE Director, and Susan Gendron, Commissioner of Education, share the spotlight.

EdGE Happenings

- 4-H Super Sitters Course
- EdGE robotics team will compete for the third time in the state competition on Dec. 2
- EdGE students are working with Scott Shaw to build bridges along the trails at Weald Bethel.
- Field Trips to Maine Maritime Academy, University of Maine at Orono, Farnsworth Museum, Maine Discovery Museum, and Cole Transportation Museum

To visit the EdGE Program, please contact Wendy Harrington at 207/546-4466 or wharrington@seacoastmission.org



EdGE Open to 4th Graders



7th and 8th graders getting to know each other at the new Ed Greaves Center.

This year, EdGE is open to all 4th through 8th graders. The addition of the 4th Grade was made possible because of the wonderful addition of the Ed Greaves Center. Age appropriate programs have been developed for the 7th and 8th graders at the Ed Greaves Center and for the younger students at their schools.

7th and 8th graders are filling the Ed Greaves Center with their laughter and excited voices. When you visit you will see smiling faces and new friendships being developed. The youth are involved in challenging skill building activities that are geared to 7th and 8th graders. During the first week, 25–35 students have been in attendance each day. That represents 40-50% of all students. Addison tops the group with 22 out of 25 students attending.

Summer Camp

Seventy seven youth participated in one or more of the eleven summer camps offered over 4 weeks at the Ed Greaves Center. The camps gave children in grades 4 through 8 the opportunity to be with other children, have fun and participate in drama, archeology, kayaking, biking, hiking, robotics, ropes course, photography, printmaking, and craft activities. One very special camp this summer gave children an opportunity to work with Sean Harris, a professional photographer from Portland and Elizabeth Jabar, a Maine College of Art printmaking professor. Elizabeth and Sean became interested in the EdGE three years ago during the first Maine College of Art / Tim Rollins workshop. They have continued to work with EdGE since then in Portland and Cherryfield. They are great friends and supporters of the EdGE program.



Trust building activity.

Fred and Billy

Fred, who lives in Downeast Maine, heard about EdGE and offered to help. Fred is one of those wonderful people who shows up and asks to give back to the community. He asked to tutor and the EdGE had a youngster who needed his help. Billy needed both a tutor and mentor; Fred was a superstar at both. They worked together for four months and the difference was noticeable and measurable. Billy maintained his grade in math and improved in language arts by a full grade. At the end of the year, in front of his peers and their families, Billy thanked Fred.

New Staff Profiles

We are very excited to have the highly qualified new staff identified below join our veterans, Jordan Clark at Milbridge, Allison Ouellet at Ella Lewis School in Steuben, and Isaac Marnik at D.W. Merritt in Addison.

Covey Richards – Covey is from Utah and traveled to Downeast Maine to take an AmeriCorps position at the Harrington Family Health Clinic. Service has been a large part of Covey’s adult life. He volunteered at an orphanage in India and during his year of AmeriCorps service, he volunteered regularly at the EdGE program in Harrington. Covey graduated from Salt Lake Community College. He lives in Harrington and works at the Cherryfield Elementary School.

Elizabeth Jackson – Elizabeth is a graduate of Dennison University with a major in environmental studies and education. Her experience includes work in afterschool programming as an AmeriCorps member with Habitat for Humanity. Liz comes from New York and is living in Harrington and working at the Harrington Elementary School.

Melissa Tenney – Melissa is a teacher at the Columbia Falls Elementary School. She worked with the afterschool program at her school last year and agreed to become the part-time site coordinator at Columbia Falls this year.

Filmmaking Course

Martha Almy, a professional filmmaker, is teaching a filmmaking course this year to the EdGE students. This course is offered in collaboration with *A Company of Girls* in Portland and funded by a Maine Arts Commission grant.

Upcoming Events

October 20-22

EdGE Open Tennis Tournament

Sixteen teams, sponsored by area businesses, will be competing in the EdGE Open Tennis Tournament at the Ellsworth Tennis Center. A total of 128 players from Downeast Maine will be competing. Proceeds support the EdGE program.

October 27

Haunted Trails III - Pirates of Downeast

Haunted Trails is an annual family Halloween event that is held at Weald Bethel in Cherryfield. Events include, a haunted trail, storytelling around the fire, a parade in Cherryfield, refreshments, and games for young children. Proceeds will help families through the Mission’s Downeast Crisis Program.

November 16

Lights on Afterschool

A Lights on Afterschool open house will be held at the Ed Greaves Center. Over 8,000 events will be held nationwide to highlight the benefits of afterschool programming.