



## From the Education Department

**By Jeana Ganskop, Education Director**

It's wonderful to see the museum campus busy with people again! We welcomed hundreds of students to the museum from mid-May through mid-June. With our talented museum interpreters as guides, the students participated in the Set Sail demonstration, sang sea chanteys, toured the Fowler-True-Ross House, examined primary sources, and made paper boats, lighthouses, and more. A big thank you to our field trip staff: Faith, Camden, Nate, Willa, Naomi, Sherry, Pen, Megan, Felix, Ciara, Ember, Malia and our fabulous volunteer Anne!

Last Saturday, we enthralled visitors with exciting stories from the sea during our Midsummer Stroll. Costumed roleplayers stationed throughout our campus shared their stories, such as:

- *1906 - After Kidd's Hoard* - Captain Kidd was a British privateer who hunted down enemy vessels in the late 1600s. What happened to his loot? Was it buried along the coast of Maine? Possibly even here in Searsport?!
- *1921 - Basketball Team Adrift* - When the Searsport school basketball team played nearby towns, the simplest way to get there was sometimes by boat. One evening in 1921, Coach Wilson and the team were motoring to Islesboro when the engine broke!
- *1961 - Sardine Boat is Sunk in Fog* - In the fog between Bailey's Mistake and Quoddy Head, the sardine carrier KENNETH D. struck a cliff in 1961. The captain and his deckhand escaped in a nine-foot punt.

If you missed Midsummer Stroll last week, you have one more chance to come to PMM today from 10am–1pm, included with Museum admission. Or look for our spookier version, the Twilight Tours, in October!

Looking into July and beyond, we have a full calendar of special programs for different audiences. New this summer, [Family Fun Days](#) are a great way to get a little more out of

your museum visit and have fun with your whole family. We're also very excited to offer Free Children's Admission on Wednesdays thanks to support from Central Maine Power, an Avangrid company. Wednesdays in July also have Jr. Adventurers drop-in programming! We're a bit biased, but we think you should plan a trip (or a few trips) soon! Family Fun Days and Jr. Adventurers has been generously sponsored by Camden National Wealth Management. [See our full calendar of events here.](#)

Behind the scenes, the Education Department is preparing and looking forward to collaborating with the RSU 20 (Searsport/Stockton Springs) Summer School program. There are eight visits scheduled on our calendar! While working on literacy and presentation skills, some of the students will learn to lead parts of the Set Sail demonstration, the Fowler-True-Ross Tour, and hands-on activities, which they will present to their families and the community later this summer.

If it's too hot or you're too far away to come to the museum, don't forget you can find us online. Check out our [YouTube channel](#) where you can find newly uploaded recordings of our spring speaker series. Try out the ["Explore" tab of our new digital museum](#). Or like and share on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#).

### **Meet our new interns!**

#### **Geiger Museum Exploration Intern Malia DeGracia Beadling**

Malia will be going into her senior year at the Ecology Learning Center in the fall and is very passionate about the ocean and its vast history. This summer, she will be interning at the Penobscot Marine Museum as one of the Geiger Museum Exploration Interns, where she will assist with exhibit research, manage children through historical education, and lead guided tours for visitors. She spends much of her free time working, reading, and playing with her three younger siblings. Malia hopes to go to college and pursue a future career in environmental architecture.

#### **Geiger Museum Exploration Intern Ember Burns**

Ember Burns is a rising high school senior from the Ecology Learning Center in Unity, Maine. Originally from Virginia, Ember enjoys archaeology, herpetology, and learning about their new home state of Maine. They spend their free time crocheting, reading, and drawing scientific sketches of rare and interesting flora they discover in nature and through research. Ember is looking forward to learning more about the museum and participating in the events henceforth.

**Museum Project Intern Willa Bywater**

Willa Bywater (any/all) is currently a History major at Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania, with a particular interest in early American history, the formation of national identity, labor history, and of course, Maine history. In her spare time, she enjoys reading more books about history, but for fun. Please ask her about the Aroostook War.

**Museum Education / Interpretation Intern Ciara Caines**

Ciara Caines, a graduating senior at UNC Chapel Hill, is a dedicated student of Anthropology with minors in Food Studies and Studio Art. Growing up in Eastern North Carolina, she developed a love for maritime traditions while climbing the Outer Banks dunes and fishing along the Tar River. Her research delves into how food history and local folklore intersect with cultural livelihoods. Beyond her academic and professional pursuits, she is an avid fan of sea shanties, a musical theater enthusiast, a cat mom, and a proud member of the False Profits (an improv group).