ANNOUNCING

The Barney Hallowell Scholarship Fund

In honor of Barney Hallowell’s service to Hurricane Island over the past five years, the Board of Directors has established the Barney Hallowell Scholarship Fund. This fund is already seeded with more than $30,000 in gifts that will provide more students with the opportunity to participate in programs on Hurricane Island and in our year-round initiatives. Please join us with a gift today to honor Barney and to give a boy or girl the chance to have an extraordinary experience at the Hurricane Island Center for Science & Leadership!

Learn more and register today!
www.hurricaneisland.net
207-867-6050 • info@hurricaneisland.net

Bo Hoppin
Executive Director

Barney Hallowell

Students from the Vinalhaven School at the High Cliffs.

Inspiring Great Questions --
What Makes a Periwinkel Meriwinkel?

During my first week on Hurricane Island, high school students in our Advanced Marine Biology class generated their own research questions, developed a hypothesis, designed a research strategy, collected data, analyzed data, drew conclusions, and defended their results in front of an audience. Students interviewed professional scientists, used sophisticated research tools, and - most importantly - explored Hurricane Island’s resources in a way that inspired more questions about science and sustainable systems.

I have learned much during my first month of what I consider my dream job. Perhaps the most important lesson is the power of the island, and our staff, to provide unique experiences that inspire questions, curiosity, a love of learning, and a process to explore difficult research questions. Along the way I witnessed students practicing leadership skills to tackle the environmental challenges of the future.

It is a committed group of stakeholders that has come together to make the Hurricane Island Center for Science and Leadership possible, not the least of which is my predecessor Barney Hallowell. His leadership has helped us become a thriving, field-based, educational institution. He has championed a unique vision for engaging student leaders in the work of practicing scientists and utilizing the magical ability of Hurricane Island’s resources to teach and inspire.

Barney has passionately articulated the need for all students to have access to Hurricane Island. In response, our Board of Directors established the Barney Hallowell Scholarship Fund. I invite you to learn more about this exciting opportunity to recognize Barney’s legacy through reaching students from all socio-economic backgrounds.

One Hallowell-inspired student scientist discovered that seaward facing parts of rocks on Hurricane Island “made a periwinkle meriwinkel.” Let’s inspire that curiosity for many more budding scientists seeking answers to their great questions.

Hurricane Island Receives $50,000

The Hurricane Island Center for Science & Leadership has been selected as a second-tier winner of the United Laboratories Innovative Education Award (ULIEA). ULIEA is a collaboration between UL and the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) and champions excellence and innovation in nonprofit youth programming that uses environmental education as a pathway to STEM learning. The $50,000 gift will help us continue to expand our work surrounding sustainability and experiential, STEM education programs. “This is an amazing honor and the benefits go far beyond the cash award,” says Hurricane Island’s Director of Education, Dr. Jennifer Page. We are excited about collaborations with other award winners and will leverage the funding to enhance educational opportunities within our local community and beyond.

Students in our Sustainability program pose with vertical gardens they constructed.
Thank you, Business Partners!

We thrive on the support from our community and partner with these businesses to continue to deliver critical STEM education programs. Each one of our partners helps us get closer to fulfilling our mission by contributing to our effort to close the achievement gap, ensuring that students can access our year-round, hands-on field experiences. We thank our current partners for their generous support, and look forward to forging many more partnerships in the future with businesses that share our interest in providing educational experiences with enduring impact.

New Programs on Hurricane Island

In partnership with Jesse Watson of Midcoast Permaculture, we hosted Introduction to Permaculture Design. Participants learned how to design home gardens for sustainability using methods and techniques for creating resilient human habitats while increasing ecosystem health.

In partnership with the Apprenticeshop and Outward Bound, we formed the Penobscot Bay Leadership Collaborative. Eleven boys ages 13-14 began with three days of seamanship, boatbuilding, and engineering with the Apprenticeshop. They continued with four days of experiential science on Hurricane, and then spent four days aboard an Outward Bound pulling boat. Put them all together, and it was magic!

In partnership with Boothbay Sea & Science Center, we launched Women Of The Sea. Maine high school girls were divided into two groups, each spending one week on Hurricane and the other aboard Vela, a 50-foot sloop, spending 2 days mid-program on Hurricane Island for teambuilding and leadership activities. At the conclusion, students united for a presentation of their findings at Bigelow Laboratories for Ocean Research in East Boothbay.

For our first-ever Family Weekend, we welcomed multigenerational families from across New England. For some, it was a return to a place they held deep in their hearts, and for others it was their first time exploring the island’s shores, rocks, mosses, and all that is Hurricane.

Science & Research Update

We’re wrapping up the fifth year of the Midcoast Maine Collaborative Scallop Project! We have been working in partnership with scallop fishermen from Tenants Harbor and Friendship as well as scientists at UMaine, UMass Dartmouth’s School of Marine Science & Technology, and others, to test the effect of an industry-designed closed area on the resident scallop population. We are planning to publish our results to date later this year.

Featured Donor Pam MacBrayne: “Why I Give”

Pam MacBrayne is no stranger to the Hurricane Island community. Her affiliation with Hurricane began over 40 years ago when she helped develop an off-campus center for the UMaine system. Her experience fostered an appreciation for the natural world and a passion for experiential learning. She was thrilled to learn from Peter Willauer of Hurricane’s latest incarnation as the Center for Science and Leadership: “The Center and its mission naturally resembled everything that I am passionate about!” For the past seven years, she has helped in whatever way she can, and encourages others to do the same. “Being involved as a volunteer and a donor leaves me hopeful and reassured!” She appreciates the shared experience the organization offers to everyone it touches: how the community that exists on Hurricane is inquisitive and drives pertinent conversations about the future of our environment. She believes that those who are involved are truly engaged with becoming change leaders, helping to create a sustainable future for all of us. Today, Pam’s passion for Hurricane Island continues, strong as ever. She is a member of our Hurricane Society annual giving circle. We are forever grateful for her support and enjoy her ceaselessly lively spirit.

BEETLES Partnership News

We are pleased to share news about our ongoing partnership with BEETLES (Better Environmental Education, Teaching, Learning, and Expertise Sharing) of UC Berkeley that gives us access to professional learning resources designed for program leaders to use with field instructors. Our Director of Education, Dr. Jenn Page and our Lead Educator Robin Chernow have been selected to participate in the December BEETLES Leadership Institute in Petaluma, California. This ongoing partnership provides us with a conduit to share best practices with regards to the delivery of experiential learning with other dedicated science experts and STEM-focused organizations from across the country!