JOBS FOR MAINE’S GRADUATES

24th Annual Career Development Conference

MARCH 29, 2016 • THOMAS COLLEGE
Welcome to JMG’s 24th Annual Career Development Conference! Thank you for participating in this day-long celebration. And, congratulations to the Class of 2016 for making this past year exciting and rewarding.

Guests are encouraged to visit the Career Association Marketplace and the Career and College Expo. Please enjoy the many competitions we are offering, and thank you for sharing this special day with the members of JMG’s Career Association.

Every year, in the spring, Jobs for Maine’s Graduates hosts its Career Development Conference (CDC). This event involves nearly 600 seniors and juniors from JMG programs around the state, 60+ volunteers, and the entire staff of JMG.

CDC gives the soon-to-graduate seniors an exciting jump start on the “real world” by offering mock job interviews, a Career and College Expo showcasing Maine employers and postsecondary educational institutions, and a number of competitive and fun events. The juniors get a taste of what is in store for them in a year’s time. The competitions provide the Career Association members an opportunity to celebrate their year-long achievements in community service and distinction in career readiness. The students are recognized for excellence in resume writing, public speaking, problem solving, and teamwork.

A highlight of the conference is the involvement of many Maine businesses. These businesses provide volunteers who judge competitions and provide an opportunity for Career Association members to interact with Maine employers. JMG appreciates all of the businesses and volunteers participating today!
TODAY’S ACTIVITIES

8:30 a.m. – 9:10 a.m.
Opening Ceremonies (Alfond Athletic Center)
- Opening Remarks, Craig Larrabee, JMG President & CEO
- Presentation of Colors, Nokomis Regional High School JROTC and Maine Public Safety Pipe and Drum Corps
- National Anthem performed by JMG student Flora Butterfield, Penquis Valley High School
- Alumni Address - Ryan Wheaton, JMG Graduate and Thomas College Professor
- Welcome - Laurie Lachance, President Thomas College
- Presentations: Maine State Chamber of Commerce Scholarships and Procter & Gamble Scholarships

9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Career & College Expo (Spann Commons)

9:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Student Networking Area (Ayotte Center, 1st Floor, AU 104)

9:30 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.
Competitions (Various Locations)

11:00 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.
Lunch (Spann Commons)
- Regions 1 & 4 – 11:00-11:45 a.m.
- Regions 2 &5 – 11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- Regions 3 & 6 – 12:30-1:10 p.m.

1:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.
Closing Ceremonies (Alfond Athletic Center)
- Sponsor Recognition
- Career and College Expo Raffle Drawings
- Golden Brick Award
**COMPETITIVE EVENTS**

**CAMPUS QUEST – Ayotte Center, 2nd Floor, Lounge Area Near Stairs**
In this scavenger hunt-style competition, teams of 2-3 students use clues to find specific locations on campus and work together to complete challenges.

**CAREER ASSOCIATION MARKETPLACE – Alfond Athletic Center (Field House)**
A creative showcase of students’ year-long accomplishments in the JMG program with their Career Association.

**COLLEGE ADMISSIONS SKILLS – Alfond Academic Center, 1st Floor, Admissions Office**
Junior JMG students from each school sit through a simulated college admissions interview with a member of the Thomas College Admissions staff.

**COMMUNICATIONS – Alfond Academic Center, 2nd Floor, Rooms 202, 208, 209**
A novel exercise in structured communications using Legos®.

**EMPLOYMENT INTERVIEW SKILLS – Alfond Academic Center, 1st Floor, Library and Rooms 116, 117, 140, 143, 144 and 145**
Representatives from the business community serve as the interviewers in this competition, where students take part in a mock job interview.

**GROUP CHALLENGE – Ayotte Academic Center, Mahaney Gymnasium**
This competition tests teamwork, problem solving, and communication skills as teams of 3-5 students work together to complete a building project based on a set of directions and materials. The groups then pit their creations against one another to determine the winning school.

**KNOWITALL – Ayotte Center, 1st Floor, Room 126, and 2nd Floor, Room 225**
A lively competition where a team of two students challenges their peers from around the state to a knowledge quiz, testing their understanding of JMG’s curriculum. Technology is incorporated into this event, which uses a web-based, game-style program called Kahoot.

**PITCH IT! – Ayotte Center, 2nd Floor, Rooms 221, 222, 223, 224, 226, 227 and 228**
A competition that tests creativity and presentation skills, as a team of 3 students pitches a concept to a panel of judges.

**PUBLIC SPEAKING – Alfond Academic Building, 2nd Floor, Rooms 227, 228, and 229**
Demonstrates students’ communication, self-confidence and poise when speaking to a group. This year’s topic is “How JMG has impacted my life.”

**RAT RACE – Ayotte Center, 1st Floor, Rooms 121, 123, 124, and 128**
Teams of 5 students work together to navigate through a “maze” laid out on a floor mat using non-verbal communication only.
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Abigail “Abby” Dyer
is working toward a Bachelor’s Degree in Environmental Science at Husson University in Bangor. Upon graduation, she hopes to work for the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife or elsewhere in the field of wildlife conservation. Abby says of school, “College is completely different than high school; you live on your own and have to balance school and a job in order to get by. The homework can be overwhelming, but as long as you stay focused, you’ll do fine!” In addition to her schooling, Abby works 20-30 hours a week for ESM, Inc., as a direct service provider for individuals with disabilities. She played field hockey for Husson her first semester, but decided not to pursue the sport so that she has more time for her studies and work. “Winning the Chamber Scholarship has allowed me to go to my ideal school and fulfill my dreams,” she says.
**CHAMBER SCHOLARSHIP**

**A LOOK BACK . . .**

This year’s Chamber of Commerce Scholarship recipients will be announced during the Opening Ceremonies. In the meantime, here is what last year’s winners are up to.

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**2015 Maine State Chamber of Commerce**

**SCHOLARSHIP WINNER**

**ADAM POULIN**

**2015 JMG GRADUATE**

**CARRABEC HIGH SCHOOL**

**SPECIALIST: CORY PAQUETTE**

Adam Poulin is majoring in Psychology at Bates College, working toward a Bachelor of Arts degree. His future plans include learning to speak German, traveling the U.S., and obtaining a job in the field of marketing.

In his spare time, Poulin is involved in Bates’ Outing Club, German Club, and the Discordians, a campus board gaming club. “The Chamber Scholarship is allowing me to attend my first choice school that will in the future help me to acquire a job in my desired field,” says Poulin, “and for that I am so grateful to everyone at the Chamber. They are the ones who helped me get into my dream school, and I know that has set me up on course for success in anything I wish to do.”
This year’s Procter & Gamble Scholarship recipients will be announced during the Opening Ceremonies. In the meantime, here is what last year’s winners are up to.

2015 Procter & Gamble SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

VICTORIA BOONE
2015 JMG GRADUATE
SHEAD HIGH SCHOOL
SPECIALIST: TARA POOLE

Victoria Boone is enrolled at the University of Maine at Machias, studying psychology with a goal of working with kids with disabilities and mental illnesses. In addition to school, she also works on campus in the UMM Admissions Office. She says the transition from high school to college life was a bit of a shock. “I am living in the dorm so I have to buy my own books, food, toiletries, etc.,” she says. “It is stressful at times trying to balance a job to pay for all those things, plus going to school full-time.” Victoria credits winning the Procter & Gamble Scholarship with putting the impossible within her reach. “No one in my family ever went to college, and they didn’t really encourage me to go, either,” she says. “I am just proud to say I am going to college, and I know my future has some great things in store. I am very thankful to be a recipient of the P&G Scholarship.”
PROCTER & GAMBLE SCHOLARSHIP
A LOOK BACK . . .

This year’s Procter & Gamble Scholarship recipients will be announced during the Opening Ceremonies. In the meantime, here is what last year’s winners are up to.

2015 Procter & Gamble SCHOLARSHIP WINNER
OAKLEY STEWART
2015 JMG GRADUATE
SPRUCE MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL
SPECIALIST: BARBARA JEWETT

Oakley Stewart is attending Central Maine Community College, working towards an Associate’s Degree in Applied Science/Electromechanical Technology. He is also working as an engineer apprentice at Lepage Bakeries in Lewiston. He hopes to continue working there after his graduation. “Receiving the Procter & Gamble Scholarship helped me by assisting with the often stressful process of paying for school,” says Oakley. “During high school, I did not have many people to talk to about things both personal and educational, and JMG gave me a place in the school to be able to be myself and ask others for help as well as offer help to others. I would not be where I am today if not for JMG and my Specialist, Mrs. Jewett.”
JMG relies on the support of businesses and organizations to fund our student events all year long. From all of us at JMG, thank you for helping us make these events positive, meaningful experiences for our students!

CAREER AND COLLEGE EXPO SPONSORS

- Back Cove Yachts
- Cianbro
- Dead River Company
- EJ Prescott
- General Dynamics/Bath Iron Works
- Kennebec Valley Community College
- Maine Air National Guard
- Maine Department of Transportation
- Maine General Health
- Maine Masonry
- Maine State Police
- Sabre Yachts
- Sheridan Construction Corporation
- Southern Maine Community College
- The Landing School
- Thomas College
- U.S. Army
- Universal Technical Institute
- University of Maine at Augusta
- University of Maine at Machias
- University of Southern Maine
- Washington County Community College

Raffle Prizes Provided By:
Southern Maine Community College, Thomas College, University of Maine at Augusta, University of Maine at Machias and Washington County Community College

Audio - Visual Support:
Nokomis Warrior Broadcasting Team
Bronson Communications

CDC Program Designed By:
Kristy Chase Klaiber
CONGRATULATIONS
to the Photo Contest Winners

Foxcroft Academy JMG
Congratulations to the JMG students at Foxcroft Academy in Dover-Foxcroft and their Specialist, Kathy Richards! Their creative Facebook cover photo took first place in this year’s CDC Photo Contest. Richards says of the photo, “Foxcroft JMG students and Specialist created this display as a visual depiction of JMG’s mission statement.”

Windham High School JMG
Their Specialist, Dave Berrang, says, “Windham JMG students chose this concept because it captures the dynamic nature of JMG and a key component of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). The photo itself has movement and a nice balance of the JMG colors. The caption relates to the four pillars of JMG. The four pillars are the elements of the JMG experience and are represented as such through the chemistry metaphor.”
Jobs for Maine’s Graduates, Inc. (JMG) is a private, non-profit organization established in 1993 by the Maine State Legislature. Our mission is to identify students who face barriers to education, and to guide each one on to a successful path toward continued education, a meaningful career, and a productive adulthood. Our vision is to be a champion for all Maine students who face barriers to education. We understand Maine’s future will be a reflection of what we commit and contribute to our youth.