

## LIGHTHOUSE EDUCATION & NAUTICAL STUDIES



### News Flash 2024

It has been an extraordinary year of growth for Lighthouse Education & Nautical Studies (LENS). Our nonprofit organization provided incredible learning opportunities from hands-on challenges that sparked creativity and critical thinking to immersive, thematic adventures on the high seas. All programs cultivated curiosity and motivated teachers and students to explore and appreciate the wonders of science, ecology, and maritime history.

Fun and meaningful experiences on islands and at sea transformed ordinary lessons into extraordinary adventures - fostering collaboration, problem-solving, and a love of learning. In addition, we educated the public through stimulating presentations about the Boothbay region's lights and provided assistance to lighthouse organizations in need. We also continued our efforts to preserve and protect our nation's maritime history for future generations by conducting oral histories and archival research.

LENS is dedicated to continuing its mission of offering impactful educational services that wouldn't otherwise be available to Maine's teachers and the Boothbay region's school children. Our sailing and camp programs not only provided experiential learning at its best, but allowed participants time to decompress after the challenges of the academic year. These enjoyable opportunities renewed energy and enthusiasm for teaching and learning before returning to the classroom in September.



Burnt Island Pirates

#### Burnt Island Pirate Camp

In July, 75 young buccaneers embarked on a swashbucklin' quest for treasure on a remote island. Their three-day sessions included thrilling challenges, pirate lore, and fun hands-on activities. Every single day was a rousin' adventure for campers.

#### Campers' Quotes

"Camp was so much fun. I really enjoyed looking for sea glass! I found red sea glass!! One thing I thought was super fun was the treasure hunt. My favorite was the house tour. I loved looking at all the old stuff." Briar

"We all had such a good time at camp and sleeping over was so fun! We also saw the bioluminescence and it was amazing." Cora

"My favorite parts of camp were going to the beach and looking for crabs and looking for sea glass. I hope other people will have the opportunity that I had." Finley

#### Seafaring Adventures

A highlight of the year was the development and implementation of a pirate-themed curriculum used in programs on land and at sea. Thirty-one teachers enjoyed day-sails on *Alrischa*, while three others participated in a three-day workshop at the Ram Island Light Station.



"This workshop was one of the best professional development experiences I have had in my 29 years of teaching!" Jenn R.

**YOUR SUPPORT  
WOULD HELP US  
MEET OUR GOAL  
OF EDUCATING  
OTHERS ABOUT  
LIGHTHOUSES  
AND MARITIME  
HISTORY!**

## SERVICES PROVIDED BY LENS IN 2024



### SPONSORED THREE WEEKS OF "PIRATE CAMP" ON BURNT ISLAND

- Enrolled 75 campers within 48 hours of posting
- Planned to double the spaces in 2025 to meet the demand
- Trained four local teachers serving as camp instructors
- Developed pirate curriculum using STEM activities (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math)
- Paid fee for campers to stay overnight on Burnt Island



### TEACHER DAYSAILS & WORKSHOP

- Introduced Pirates of Mid-Coast Maine into the sailing program and overnight workshop on Ram Island
- Thirty-one participated in the day-sailing program
- Three teachers enrolled in a three-day workshop for recertification credits
- Learned about the Gulf of Maine and early explorers
- Pirate themed STEM activities included: maps, hat, spyglass, compass, cannon, boat, flag and pole
- Returned to classroom with renewed energy and fresh ideas of ways to introduce new lessons



### MARITIME HISTORY



Visitors learn about Bass Harbor Light at LENS's kiosk.

- Gave presentation on "Boothbay Region's Lights" at Yacht Club and Juniper Point Association
- Assisted Ram Island Light after winter damages
- Provided Bell Tower Display at Hendricks Hill Museum in Southport
- Maintained informational kiosk at Bass Harbor
- Assisted Bass Harbor Light's volunteer keepers
- Served as researcher and consultant for group applying for a CT lighthouse
- Researched at National Archives in Waltham, MA
- Conducted oral histories of keepers' children
- Shared historic photos and documents with lighthouse and historic preservation groups.



Cathy Copadis, daughter of Burnt Island Keeper Dana Hale

### **SWING INTO ACTION!**

**YOUR TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION WILL HELP SEND MORE KIDS TO CAMP & GET MORE TEACHERS ON THE WATER IN 2025.**

**EVERY LITTLE BIT HELPS!**

**Happy Holidays  
and Thank You  
for Your  
Support!**

**Please Send Check Donation To:**

**LENS, PO BOX 213  
W. BOOTHBAY HBR, ME 04575**

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