



Parent Welcome Packet, Summer 2019

Welcome to the Boothbay Sea and Science Center! We so very much appreciate the opportunity and privilege to welcome you and your child to the Center this summer!

At the Boothbay Sea and Science Center, our primary goal is to get everyone excited about the ocean! Fostering curiosity and respect for what lies between the surface and the seafloor, developing an understanding for the art and science of boating and sailing, and embracing our role as good stewards of the sea is what we're all about. BSSC prides itself on being safe, positive and fun! We believe that boating, sailing, seamanship skills, and an understanding of our marine ecosystem are important and useful throughout our lifetime.

This Parent Guide contains information about our uniquely integrated Sea and Science Program.

The Boothbay Sea and Science Center ... making a difference by helping our youth to develop independence, self-confidence, respect for others and the marine environment and a lasting love of the sea.

Sincerely,
Pauline T. Dion

Staff

Principal Instructors

Genevieve (Genna) Black

Session I: Gulf of Maine Fisheries

Heather Sinclair

Session II: Exploring Maine Aquaculture

Amy Palmer

Session III: Marine Technology and Marine Debris

Robert (Mason) Branch

Session IV: Art and Science of Sailing

Waterfront Manager

Brittany (Bridgham) Payne

Instructors

Gray Ferris

Anna Sirois

Mary (Becca) Ferguson

Nathaniel (Nathan) Graves

Ashlyn Royal

Alesha Gregoire

Kaitlyn Reny

Junior Instructor

Adam Sirois

Apprentice Instructors

Brooklyn Cone

Cedar Cannon

Grace Campbell

Policies

In an effort to keep your child safe and focused, the following requirements are in effect immediately. If you should have any questions, comments and/or concerns, please always feel free to email us at info@boothbay-seaandsciencecenter.org or call BSSC Executive Director Pauline T. Dion at 207-350-5357 (BSSC) or 207-315-6746 (office, beginning June 3, 2019) at any time!

Footwear

All participants are required to wear “closed toed” footwear. This footwear includes any “closed toed” sandal with a heel strap. **Unfortunately, flip-flops are not acceptable footwear.** Your child will spend time in the water exploring the rocky shore ... we recommend your child have a pair of “water shoes” or bring an extra pair of shoes.

Water, Sunscreen & Ticks

Sunburn and dehydration can ruin your child’s day and create health problems. Please be sure to include sunscreen (cream/lotion **not spray**) in your child’s backpack. At BSSC, keeping your child hydrated throughout the day is a priority. If a child arrives without a water bottle, we will charge parents \$2.00/day for the use of a BSSC water bottle. Ticks are on the rise. Fifteen species of ticks can be found in Maine. The two ticks of the most concern to humans are: Deer tick and American dog tick. BSSC will be vigilant about checking you child for “ticks” while they are at the Center. However, please be sure that you check your child for ticks when they return home.

Life Jackets

BSSC has a very strict lifejacket policy. All program participants, staff and volunteers are required to wear lifejackets at all times while shore side and on the water. It’s important that the lifejacket is the correct size for your child’s size and weight. According to the US Coast Guard, if a life jacket fits properly it will help keep your child’s head above the water. Too big, and the life jacket will ride up around your child’s face. Too small, it will not be able to keep your child’s body afloat. Life jackets designed for adults will not work for children! Try It on for size:

1. Check the manufacturer’s label to ensure that the life jacket is a proper fit for your child’s size and weight;
2. Make sure the jacket is properly fastened;
3. Have your child hold his/her arms straight up over their head;
4. Grasp the tops of the arm openings and gently pull up;
5. Make sure there is no excess room above the openings and that the jacket does not ride up over your child’s chin or face.

For the best fit, have your child try the life jacket in shallow water under safe and supervised conditions.

Cellular Telephones

During class time, your child’s cell phone will be kept in their backpacks. If you should need to reach your child during class hours, please call the Boothbay Sea and Science Center at: 207-315-6746 (office); 207-350.5357 (cell).

Please always know how very much we appreciate your understanding and support regarding these important policies.

Sincerely,
Pauline T. Dion
President, Executive Director

General Information

Welcome to the Boothbay Sea and Science Center's 2019 integrated Sea and Science Program. It is our hope that you and your child will have a wonderful experience here at BSSC. As parents, the need for information and feedback regarding your child's experiences and daily progress throughout the program is priceless. For these reasons, we've assembled this welcome packet. If you should have any questions comments and/or concerns or a need for additional information, please always feel free to call, email or meet with us at any time at BSSC at the Ocean Point Marina.

Important Telephone Numbers

Office: 207-315-6746 (beginning June 3, 2019)

Cell: 207-350-5357

Pauline T. Dion – President, Executive Director: 207-751-2999

Please be sure to call the office or cell any time your child will be absent from the Program.

Email Addresses/Website

Boothbay Sea and Science Center: info@boothbayseaandsciencecenter.org

Executive Director Pauline T. Dion: pacojoes2@aol.com

Website: www.boothbayseaandsciencecenter.org

Rain Gear & Sunscreen & Water

On rainy days, please be sure that your child wears a rain jacket with a hood or has a hat (rain pants are desirable but not required). We highly recommend that while out on the water your child wears **UVA/UVB Protection sunscreen lotion**. We leave product and SPF rating to your discretion.

Every day, please be sure your child has applied sunscreen before arriving and brings a full bottle of water, sunscreen, and 2 snacks.

Drop Off, Pick Up & Parking

All Drop off, Pick Up and Parking will be in the following locations:

- Ocean Point Marina in available "parking spaces." Parking is **not permitted** in the "marine travelift" area. At pick up time, please feel free to walk down to North Dock C to greet your child;
- Lobsterman's Restaurant: 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. only;
- East Boothbay Public Parking Lot, Church Street (up the hill on the left from BSSC)
- Route 96: designated parking spaces

Lunch Box Program

In collaboration with the East Boothbay General Store, BSSC is offering weekly boxed lunches. The cost is \$7/day (\$35/week). If you selected the "lunch" option when registering your child and have not completed the order, please do so prior to your child's first day.

Unfortunately, last minute orders cannot be honored.

Friday Cookouts

During this 2019 Summer Season, BSSC sailors and their families are encouraged to join us every Friday at the Ocean Point Marina at 12:00 noon for our traditional "Family Cookout."

Safety Guidelines and Procedures

At the BSSC, a system of constant supervision is in place

General Supervision Guidelines

1. Instructor is immediately accessible to all participants.
2. Instructor is alert to hazardous conditions and abnormalities, and is able to react immediately and appropriately with a cell phone or VHF radio.
3. Instructor is certified in First Aid, CPR, and AED
4. Instructor does not leave sight of participants, and participants are required to stay within sight of the instructor.

General Safety Guidelines

1. Instructor is aware of the capabilities of their participants.
2. Instructor uses the various resources at his/her disposal to maintain an awareness of weather.
3. Instructor checks the equipment used in the program on a weekly basis.
4. First Aid kits are available and easily accessible on large boats (20+ feet) and on the dock.
5. An additional individual able to render additional assistance will be monitoring the area or be available on VHF radio channel 16.

Emergency Procedures

In the event of an emergency, the following steps will be taken:

1. Instructor will immediately contact on-the-water or on-land support via VHF channel 16.
 - a. If the situation requires immediate assistance or is beyond the capabilities of the water or land support, the US Coast Guard will be hailed via VHF on channel 16
2. Instructor will immediately begin to make the situation safe by neutralizing any sources of immediate harm to participants.
 - a. i.e. assisting participants out of the water, maneuvering any vessels to a dock or to anchor, consolidating the group if participants are in multiple boats, administering first aid.
 - b. If the assessment is made that a participant is in critical condition, they will immediately call 911.
3. Executive Director, Instructor or persons rendering assistance will contact the affected participant's parent(s) or guardian(s) at earliest opportunity.
4. Instructor will remain at the location of the emergency until it is resolved or more qualified assistance arrives.
5. After the situation is under control instructor, involved individuals will complete incident reports.

Most Frequently Asked Program Questions

Q: What time should my child arrive at BSSC and when should I be there to pick-up my child?

A: Your child should arrive at 8:30 AM and be picked-up at 4:30 PM.

Q: Can I pick-up my child earlier than 4:30 PM.

A: Yes ... please be sure to notify the Principal Instructor, Executive Director and/or Instructor when you drop-off your child in the morning. Also, please note early pick up on the "Parent Whiteboard." If at all possible, a 24 hour advance notice is most appreciated.

Q: What does my child need to bring each day?

A: Life jacket, bathing suit, **sunscreen**, towel, a change of clothes, a jacket/sweatshirt/fleece, hat, **full bottle of water**, extra pair of shoes (recommended) and 2 snacks. Please be sure that all clothing is marked with your child's name.

Q: What should my child wear?

A: Lightweight, quick dry pants or shorts (please no jeans), t-shirt or long-sleeved shirt, jacket/sweatshirt, **closed toed shoes** (required). Please direct all questions concerning proper footwear to the BSSC Executive Director.

Q: Do we meet on rainy days?

A: Yes! We have lots of fun sea and science activities planned for rainy days including games, crafts, knot-tying, and dry-land skills and training!

Q: Do we always wear life jackets?

A: Yes! Everyone is required to wear their life jacket while near or on the water – no exceptions!

Q: To whom should I talk to if my child is having problems?

A: Please speak with the Executive Director and/or Principal Instructor.

Q: What weather conditions prevent the sailors from going out on the water?

A: If there is dense fog, heavy rain and/or the threat of thunderstorms, and wind speed beyond the capability of the boat and/or sailor (we will still meet shoreside and have fun!). **Boating time disclaimer:** We make every effort to provide your child with as much time boating on the water as possible. However, please note that safety concerns raised by local weather conditions may require us to emphasize land-based activities on some days.

Q: Will my child be in a boat by him/herself?

A: The Turnabout accommodates 2 – 3 sailors. The Sonar is a floating classroom for 6 sailors and an Instructor.

Q: What is the Swim "Test"?

A: The "Swim Test" is held every Monday morning for all newly arriving BSSC participants. This activity is done dockside under strict supervision with your child wearing his/her life jacket. Your child will enter the water from the dock and swim 25-30 ft. – exiting the water using the dockside ladder. This "test" gives the BSSC instructors the opportunity to evaluate how your child reacts to the "cold" Maine ocean water. Unfortunately, your child cannot attend BSSC's summer programs if he/she refuses to take the swim "test".

Q: Can children and their families attend special events that take place before or after their participation in the program?

A: Yes! We encourage all children registered to attend, with their families, all the BSSC special events - including one of the pre-season "Free Days" and the every Friday "Family Cookout"!

Q: My child will be having a boxed lunch from the East Boothbay General Store. How do I go about ordering his/her lunches?

A: Please complete the lunch form via your account on Active Network **prior to your child's first day in the program.** Unfortunately, the East Boothbay General Store cannot honor last minute requests.

2019 Staff Biographies

Principal Instructors

Genevieve Black (Session I: Gulf of Maine Fisheries)



This will be Genna's second summer teaching at BSSC. For the past three years, Genna has been a high school science teacher at Mountain View High School in Thorndike, Maine where she teaches biology, environmental science, ocean science, and anatomy and physiology. Prior to Mountain View High School, she worked at Mid Coast School of Technology. Genna graduated from Maine Maritime Academy in 2014 with a degree in Marine Biology. Her passion for fisheries science comes from growing up on a lobster boat in Belfast, Maine where her father still fishes. Since graduating college she spent a season working for the Maine Department of Marine Resources sampling lobsters around the state. Aside from lobsters and teaching Genevieve loves cooking and traveling whenever possible.

Heather Sinclair (Session II: Exploring Maine Aquaculture)



Returning to BSSC for her second summer, Heather Sinclair, a middle school science teacher at Wiscasset Middle High School, lives in Edgecomb. She has lived in Maine for more than 10 years and "never further than a mile from salt water". At Wiscasset Middle High School, Heather teaches life science and physical science. She believes in a modeling approach to science education - where students learn about natural phenomena before utilizing vocabulary and formulas to describe their new knowledge. She has taught every science class imaginable to all grades from 6th to 12th, including Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Environmental Science, Oceanography, Genetics, and Science Fiction. She has a BS in Biology and a Master of Arts in Teaching. She believes that hands on learning, science education, and advocacy is critical for students today. Heather agrees that Isak Dinesen said it best when she wrote "the cure for anything is salt water: sweat, tears or the sea".

Amy Palmer (Session III: Marine Technology and Marine Debris)



BSSC welcomes Amy back for her second summer of teaching. Amy started her career as a naturalist at environmental education centers from Ohio to California to Alaska. She studied sea turtles in Hawaii and experienced first-hand the "great Pacific garbage patch." Amy studied marine science at Moss Landing Marine Lab in California, focusing on lingcod migration using remote sensing technology. She then became a middle school science teacher on an island in Maine! "My most recent adventures include leading a middle school Lego Robotics team, teaching 2nd graders how to code, and creating a mini village powered by renewable energy with 4th graders using a 3D printer and lots of ingenuity". Amy is currently the K-8 STEAM teacher at the Saint George School in Tenants Harbor.

Robert (Mason) Branch (Session IV: Art and Science of Sailing)



Mason Branch is returning to the BSSC for his second summer. An artist and educator, Mason has taught at all levels, including AP studio art and art history. He has worked in public and independent schools in Washington DC, Philadelphia, Fort Worth and Austin TX. Currently he is teaching High School Art in New York City. He has received a BFA from the Art Institute of Boston and an MFA in painting from American University. Mason has been involved in all aspects of schools from chairing a Fine Arts department to leading students on overnight camping trips to coaching. During graduate school he spent time living and studying in Perugia, Italy. He was born during the summer in Boothbay and grew up sailing. He raced sailboats in High School and taught sailing for many years. He is a landscape painter and enjoys painting pictures of the Maine Coastline.

Waterfront Manager

Brittany (Brigham) Payne



BSSC is so very pleased to have Brittany back this summer as the Waterfront Manager. Whether sailing from Kittery on her father's boat or diving in Bonaire with her scuba club, Britt has always held a love for the Ocean. Hailing from the New Hampshire coast, she followed her passion to Maine Maritime Academy where she received Bachelor's degrees in both Marine Science, and Vessel Operations and Technology. It was at Maine Maritime that she was first exposed to teaching others, having served as Assistant Instructor for the scholastic sailing program, and it was through this work that she developed a passion for teaching others about sailing. Her maritime career has taken her from the Caribbean to Alaska, but educating children and instilling a sense of confidence in them is what is most important to her. "I believe that sailing not only builds lifelong skills, but also encourages children to explore the world around them and discover for themselves that wherever they want to go, there is a way." When not teaching on the water, she enjoys being outdoors as much as possible and loves camping, hiking and exploring with her husband, JM, and their dog Atlas.

Instructors

Gray Ferris



A founding staff member of the Boothbay Sea and Science Center, Virginia native Gray Ferris has been spending summers in Boothbay Harbor as long as he can remember. He began his sailing experience with his father on their Catalina 22 before participating in the Boothbay Harbor Yacht Club's junior sailing program. After turning 16, he began to work as an apprentice instructor, and in the following years, as an instructor and director of the program. In 2013 Gray began working with the BSSC and has been thrilled that his schedule has allowed him to return nearly every summer since. In addition to teaching sailing, Gray was a member of the University of New Hampshire's sailing team and active crew for GMORA sailing events. When not out on the water, Gray plays the french horn in the Orquesta Sinfonia Sinaloa de las Artes in Culiacan, Mexico. This will be Gray's fifth summer on BSSC's waterfront.

Anna Sirois



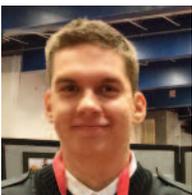
Anna will be returning to BSSC for her sixth year with the program and lives in Edgecomb, Maine. In the past summers she has worked to illustrate and publish BSSC's first coloring book to share with the public. She will be entering her third year at St. Thomas University, in New Brunswick, Canada with an Honors in Human Rights. She is an active member at her school among various different positions, including a Tour Ambassador, International Student Ambassador, a reporter for The Aquinian, and going to be a Residential Advisor for her second year. She will be completing Moot Court work this summer as well as competing in Moot Court this fall across the U.S. She is also part of the Global Brigades St. Thomas University Chapter and will be in Honduras end of April to May to work alongside local community members towards public health goals. She will be working with a team to help built eco-friendly stoves in households to prevent respiratory problems, cement floors in homes to decrease the spread of parasites in homes, and sanitary stations to promote clean washing and bathroom use. Anna is looking forward to seeing returning students at BSSC improve this summer as well to meet newcomers to the program!

Mary (Becca) Ferguson



This is Becca's third summer working at BSSC. "I'm very excited to be returning again as both a science and sailing instructor to BSSC"! Becca graduated from Bates College in 2018 with an honors BA in Environmental Studies, and a double minor in Chinese and Anthropology. She will be joining the program in the end of July when she returns from Taiwan where she spent the year as an ETA in Hualien on a Fulbright Scholarship. When she's not sailing Becca enjoys hiking, biking, skiing, running, singing, and playing guitar and piano. Although she doesn't know yet what she will be doing when the summer comes to an end, she's excited to be spending time back home in Maine close to family and friends."

Nathaniel "Nathan" Graves



This will be Nathan's second summer as a BSSC Instructor. Nathan was one of the 19 participants at the Center during its inaugural summer in 2013. Nathan's passion for the sport of sailing and interest in marine science goes far beyond his commitment to the Boothbay Sea and Science Center ... he crewed aboard Belle Adventure (an 84 ft. ketch built in 1929), was a member of the US Naval Sea Cadet program, raced on the Boothbay Region High School Sailing Team, and, during his senior year of high school, worked side-by-side with scientists at Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Science. Currently a student at Maine Maritime Academy, Nathan is a member of Navy ROTC and an apprentice at Cross Point Yachts. "I really like working with all of the staff and kids at BSSC. We always have a lot of fun and I like the fact that I'm helping kids be more positive and learn things they can use for the rest of their lives. Just look at what BSSC has done for me!"

Ashlyn Royal



"Hi, I am Ashlyn Royal! I am currently enrolled at Maine Maritime Academy and majoring in Marine Biology and Small Vessel Operations. I am also on MMA's Swim team." Ashlyn has loved the water and science for as long as she can remember and being able to study both has been "amazing". "When I was growing up my parents served in the military, I bounced around a lot. Because of that I was able to go to all around Europe, South Korea, and a lot of the states in America. It also grew my passion for traveling and taking photos of my adventures. I cannot wait to start a new adventure here at Boothbay Sea and Science Center this upcoming summer!"



Alesha Gregoire

Alesha is a rising junior at Maine Maritime Academy studying Marine Biology and Small Vessel Operations. “I have spent my entire life in Maine surrounding myself with the outdoors. I love to ski in the winter and be around the ocean in the summer, whether that is water skiing or being at the beach. Before my time at Maine Maritime, I played softball, competitively skied, and played the violin.” While at Maine Maritime, Alesha has earned her Open Water SCUBA Certification and plans to get the Advanced Open Water Certification in Fall '19. “After I graduate I plan to work on a research vessel as a mate and perform my own research.”



Kaitlyn Reny

“I’m Kaitlyn Reny and even though I have lived in Maine my whole life, this is my first summer at the Boothbay Sea and Science Center.” Kaitlyn is a sophomore at Maine Maritime Academy majoring in Marine Biology. “I am very excited to get the kids out on the ocean and instill confidence in their water skills, and most of all get them just as excited about science as I am through unique hands-on experiences.”

Junior Instructor

Adam Sirois



Adam is currently attending Lincoln Academy as a Sophomore. He has been sailing with BSSC since 2013. He started as a student at BSSC and throughout the years, he has become a junior instructor. Adam recently earned his US Sailing Level I Certification. Adam Sirois is also involved at the CLC YMCA in Damariscotta as a “Teen Leader”. Adam is on the varsity baseball team for Lincoln Academy and he has gone to multiple UMO prospect camps as a 3rd baseman. Adam can not wait to meet all the kids that come to the program this summer!

Apprentice Instructors

Brooklyn Cone



“I am starting my freshman year at The Derryfield School in Manchester, NH this fall.” This will be Brooklyn’s 5th summer at BBSC and she’s extremely excited to help teach sailing and marine science! Brooklyn also volunteers at a local school to help teach the ELL (English Language Learners) classes (1st-4th graders). “In my free time I love to read and spend time with friends and family and my three wonderful dogs. I love to play soccer and ski!” This will be Brooklyn’s second summer season as a BSSC Apprentice Instructor.

Cedar Cannon



This fall, Cedar will be a sophomore at Lincoln Academy High School in Newcastle, ME. Cedar is passionate about playing baseball as well as playing (bass guitar, cello, trumpet and piano) and listening to music. Cedar also loves science, sea creatures, and being on and in the ocean. Cousins who live in Maine, California, Florida and Nantucket (where he sailed last summer) have all inspired Cedar to respect and appreciate the ocean. “Inspiring and fun” is how Cedar best describes his experience at BSSC and he is excited to be back at BSSC this summer to learn more about sailing and marine science, to practice his leadership skills as well as to inspire younger campers to learn and love the ocean too.

Grace Campbell



Grace loves to learn! She is a student at the Boothbay Region High School and has participated in summer experiences at BSSC for the past three years. She enjoys observing, investigating, and exploring. She is an avid reader, writer and artist. Grace is a hard worker who gives 100% in all she does. She sets high expectations for herself and those around her. She has been a student leader in school, a student representative on the Parent/Teacher Organization and volunteers at local events, helping to make a positive impact in her community. Grace loves sailing and cannot wait to share her passion for the ocean with the students at BSSC! “Some of my favorite summer experiences have been at BSSC ... I love being on the open ocean.”



Boothbay
Sea and Science
Center

Discovering the ocean
through community
sailing and education

Boothbay Sea and Science Center's

"Family Cookout"

Every Friday!

Come enjoy hotdogs, hamburgers
and all the fixings



12:00 noon

See Pauline to sign up

Parking: Parking for the cookout is available in the East Boothbay Public Parking Lot on School Street (up the hill on the left from BSSC) or in a designated parking space along Route 96 **ONLY**.

NO PARKING is available at the Ocean Point Marina