

Penobscot Marine Museum

Student Boatbuilding Program

The boat building program was initiated in the fall of 2010, when our high school principal and several teachers approached the museum about working together to engage students who were not thriving in the traditional classroom and would be more motivated by a hands-on approach. Because of the area in which we live and its strong past and present maritime ties, wooden boat building was the chosen project. The school provided some initial funding through the Nellie Mae Foundation grant “Different Pathways,” and the museum donated space, utilities, organizational and administrative time, and expertise. The physical science and math teachers, along with museum staff, formulated an approach to integrating the traditional art of boat building with contemporary curriculum standards. For three years—January through May—high school students have come to the museum every other day for 2 ½ hour sessions. Each year they have successfully built two Joel White-designed Shellback Dinghies, complete with oars, masts and sails.



Program Statistics (Annually): (feel free to add more or alter statistics categories)

Number of Participants	8
Number Achieving Program Goal	8
Size of Budget	17,700
Number of Employees	6
Number of Volunteers	7

Organization Contact Info:

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Teaching with Small Boats Conference Participant
Mystic Seaport, Connecticut
October 15-18, 2013