MMM’s History

Maine Maritime Museum began in 1962 as a research society dedicated to preserving the maritime history of Bath, Maine, the “City of Ships.” The group began collecting artifacts and in 1964 formed the Bath Marine Museum to house the growing collections.

In 1975, the organization’s name was changed to Maine Maritime Museum, reflecting the trustees’ vision that the museum would serve all of Maine, cover all aspects of maritime activity, and be the fullest and most engaging expression of what a museum can be.

The museum’s mission today is to celebrate Maine’s maritime heritage and culture in order to educate the community and a worldwide audience about the important role of Maine in regional and global maritime activities.
Maine Maritime Museum is now ranked as one of the top 10 maritime museums in the world. It survives and prospers because people individually and collectively act to support it in significant ways. Being a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and a 509(a)(1) public charity, the museum is supported by a broad base of gifts, grants, and contributions from individuals, corporations and foundations. The museum does not receive state or federal support except for competitively awarded grants.

Contributions are tax deductible as provided by law. All donors receive a written acknowledgment of their gifts for their tax records.

The Compass Circle is made up of more than 100 individuals and couples who make unrestricted gifts to the museum totaling $1,000 or more in one year. The financial investments of these major donors support operations and staffing, which translates into scores of exhibits and special events, hundreds of educational programs, and thousands of hours dedicated to collections, stewardship, and research.

Compass Circle supporters receive frequent updates from the executive director, keeping them apprised of what is new, and they are invited to attend special events, previews, unique tours, and private receptions with museum trustees, fellow Compass Circle supporters, and other important guests.

Compass Circle supporters make their gifts over and above their annual membership support. Those who are not already museum members at a higher level receive a family-level membership that provides free admission and other benefits.

Joining the Compass Circle is easy
Mail a check or go to MaineMaritimeMuseum.org to the Support tab, click on Donate, then follow the instructions for online contributions. Your annual gift of $1,000 or more can be made easier via smaller recurring payments each month. Contributions of stock are also welcome.

Alternatively, fill out and mail the attached gift form.

With this gift of $_____________, I / we would like to invest in Maine Maritime Museum at the following Compass Circle level:

- $20,000 and above
- $10,000 – 19,999
- $5,000 – 9,999
- $2,500 – 4,999
- $1,000 – 2,499
- $500 – 999

NAME
E-MAIL ADDRESS
NAME(S) FOR PUBLICATION (OR SPECIFY ANONYMOUS)
ADDRESS
CITY STATE ZIP
TELEPHONE
SEASONAL ADDRESS
FROM _____________ TO _____________

☐ check enclosed, payable to Maine Maritime Museum
☐ stock
☐ recurring payments
☐ credit card: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Amex ☐ Discover

ACCOUNT NUMBER
EXPIRATION DATE
SIGNATURE (AS IT APPEARS ON CARD)

For stock transfer instructions or other questions, please call Director of Development Peggy Schick at 207-443-1316 x327.