



BOWDOIN
centennial campaign

MAINE MARITIME ACADEMY

A person wearing a red jacket and a hat is working on a white sail on a boat. The person is holding the sail, and there are ropes and a wooden structure visible in the foreground. The background is a bright, overcast sky.

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Exploring, sailing & training
for the next **100** years.



LETTER FROM PRESIDENT BRENNAN

I am proud of this institution and its mission. Founded for the specific purpose of training merchant mariners in our nation's time of need, Maine Maritime Academy (MMA) has evolved over the years. Today, we are a world-class, career-oriented college focused on marine transportation, engineering, technology, international business and logistics, and marine science. Our job is to empower students to assume leadership roles and succeed, in their careers and in their lives, in a global economy.

Because we are a maritime institution, the vessels we own and maintain in our training fleet matter tremendously to the success and safety of our students. One in particular and the matron of our distinguished fleet, Bowdoin, began making her mark on history almost 100 years ago when she was designed, built and launched for arctic and scientific exploration. Her rich history, including the years she spent in service to our country during WWII, led to her designation as the Official Vessel of the State of Maine in 1988 and to her recognition as a National Historic Landmark in 1989.

When MMA acquired Bowdoin in 1988 for the purpose of training future mariners, she was approaching her 70th birthday. Since then, and with the help of public and private donations, she has been maintained to the highest standards. In 2021, Bowdoin will proudly celebrate her first 100 years of service, and our goal is to have her in prime condition for her centennial celebration. With your help and support, her 30-year-old deck will be replaced along with a few other repairs that will be clarified once the old deck is removed. The cost of this important project is \$600,000.

We also believe that Bowdoin's long-term future will be determined by the strength of her endowment, and we are committed to raising an additional \$1,000,000 to ensure that she remains an active and historically preserved vessel in perpetuity.

As we chart her course forward, I hope you will join me in supporting the 1.6-million-dollar goal for the Bowdoin Centennial Campaign.

Dr. William J. Brennan
President, Maine Maritime Academy

BOWDOIN'S *past*

BOWDOIN HAS A RICH AND HISTORICAL PAST.

From an early age, Donald B. MacMillan dreamed of sailing to the Arctic region. During his early years of exploration, he realized that he needed his own specially designed vessel to facilitate his work in the high northern latitudes ... and so begins the story of Bowdoin.

MacMillan hired Naval architect William H. Hand of New Bedford, Massachusetts, to design the ship to his specifications, and the Hodgdon Brothers of East Boothbay, Maine, to build it. Financed by MacMillan and friends who bought shares at \$100 each, the total cost was \$35,000. In 1921 the schooner Bowdoin, named after MacMillan's alma mater Bowdoin College, was launched.

MacMillan sold Bowdoin to the U.S. Navy for use in World War II military assignments, including the Greenland Patrol. After the war ended, MacMillan bought the ship back for \$4,000.

Since her launch in 1921, Bowdoin has made almost 30 trips above the Arctic Circle, 25 of them before 1955 under the command of MacMillan. In 1959, Bowdoin was sold to Mystic Seaport Museum in Mystic, Connecticut; and, in 1968, the Schooner Bowdoin Association took over ownership.

She was completely rebuilt in the early 1980s at Percy & Small Shipyard, Maine Maritime Museum, Bath, Maine. Maine Maritime Academy acquired the historic vessel in 1988 for the purpose of using her as a sail training vessel. The ship was designated the Official Vessel of the State of Maine in 1988 and a National Historic Landmark in 1989.

1921

Bowdoin, named after Donald B. MacMillan's alma mater Bowdoin College, was built and launched by Hodgdon Brothers of East Boothbay, Maine

1921-22

First Bowdoin expedition and wintering on Baffin Island

1923

First shortwave radio transmissions from the Arctic originated from Bowdoin

1925

First natural color photographs of the Arctic taken by National Geographic photographers on expedition with Bowdoin

Bowdoin, in joint operation with the U.S. Navy and Richard E. Byrd, marked the beginning of polar aviation

1927 & 1929

Bowdoin supplied materials to establish the first school at Nain in Northern Labrador

1941-45

Bowdoin purchased by U.S. Navy for WWII military assignments, including the Greenland Patrol

1945

Capt. MacMillan purchased Bowdoin back from the U.S. Navy for \$4,000

1954

Capt. MacMillan made his final Arctic voyage aboard the Bowdoin

1959

Bowdoin is sold to Mystic Seaport Museum, Mystic, Connecticut

1968

Bowdoin is acquired by Schooner Bowdoin Association and restored by Jim Sharp in Camden, Maine

1980-1984

Bowdoin is 100% rebuilt in Bath, Maine by John Nugent and others



HER PRESENT

Licensed by the U.S. Coast Guard as a fully certified sailing school vessel and passenger vessel, Bowdoin benefits both students and the public at large.

Today, Bowdoin remains true to her deep maritime roots, acting as the key training ship for the men and women in MMA's Vessel Operations and Technology (VOT) undergraduate program and the Small Vessel Operations (SVO) undergraduate program. The Bowdoin also serves as the training platform for MMA's Sail Training Minor. As a traditional sailing vessel, Bowdoin provides every aspect of seamanship in its purest and most demanding form as well as the finest hands-on education there is for a career at sea.

When not in use for MMA's training purposes, Bowdoin's popularity and historical charm keep her calendar brimming with public and private tours, appearances, and excursions.

AS THE OFFICIAL VESSEL OF THE STATE OF MAINE, MMA TAKES GREAT PRIDE AND PLEASURE IN SHARING HER WITH AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE.

Whether you are a well-wisher in Castine as Bowdoin sets sail for another MMA training cruise, watching her in the Gulf of Maine as Bowdoin College faculty and staff immerse themselves in marine fieldwork, or waving dockside as she arrives in your coastal community, she is a beautiful and iconic image and loved by many.

1986

Bowdoin participates in OpSail in honor of the Statue of Liberty Centennial

1987-1988

Bowdoin leased by Hurricane Island Outward Bound School for educational, team-building programs

1988-1989

Bowdoin is acquired by Maine Maritime Academy and is designated as the Official Vessel of the State of Maine

Bowdoin is designated a National Historic Landmark

1990

MMA trip to Nain, Labrador under the command of Capt. Andy Chase for the first journey north since 1954 MacMillan trip

1991

MMA trip to Ilulissat, Greenland (first voyage to the Arctic since the 1950s)

2004

Schooner Crew, a student-driven club that encourages leadership and welcomes students to participate in sailing and vessel maintenance, is established at MMA

2005

First Auxiliary Sail Training Cruise (CR214) course trip to Newfoundland

2007

Bowdoin participates in Tall Ships Norfolk, Virginia

2009

Bowdoin is the featured vessel in the Capt. Bob Bartlett Festival in Newfoundland & Labrador

Present

Bowdoin continues to make her mark in history as she approaches her centennial in 2021

She serves as an ambassador of Maine's proud maritime heritage and is the primary vessel for the MMA sail training program, the only program of its kind

Bowdoin sailed as the lead vessel in the Parade of Sail for Tall Ships Portland 2015

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BOWDOIN'S *future*

For now and years to come, Castine, Maine will remain Bowdoin's home port. One thing is for certain: future generations of mariners, scientists and explorers will sail and train upon Bowdoin because of your generosity.

We invite you to help keep her story alive by supporting the Bowdoin Centennial Campaign.

WITH YOUR HELP, WE WILL RAISE THE \$1.6 MILLION NECESSARY TO KEEP BOWDOIN ACTIVE, SEAWORTHY, AND HISTORICALLY PRESERVED.

Your support will safeguard and preserve Bowdoin's maritime history, expand and improve her public accessibility, and strengthen and deliver the best hands-on traditional sail training program in the nation.

She is a proud vessel, serving with distinction, grace and always in full measure.

We are all drawn to Bowdoin for different, very personal reasons. Let's join together in writing her next chapter in maritime history.

Thank you and we are truly grateful!

The Bowdoin Centennial Campaign Cabinet

Co-Chair Capt. G. Andy Chase, Co-Chair Alexander Watson, Fred Atkins, Cam Brien, Capt. Bill Cowan, Capt. Cate Cronin, Capt. Dave Fenderson, Lawrence Kaplan, Matthew P. Murphy, Capt. Alec Schoettle, Capt. Heather Stone, and Capt. John Worth.

Honorary Cabinet Members

Former Maine Governor Kenneth Curtis, Dr. Pete Rand, Phineas Sprague Jr., Dr. Ed Morse, G. Baer Connard, Capt. Elliot Rappaport, and Merle Hallett.



Be a part of the legacy
that is **Bowdoin.**



LETTER FROM THE CAMPAIGN CABINET CO-CHAIRS

We are both very pleased to be a part of the Bowdoin Centennial Campaign.

For almost 100 years, sea captains have navigated brisk, sometimes arctic, blue waters and written their logs aboard this venerable schooner. Today, having surpassed her half-millionth mile, she still operates at full capacity. Explorers, scientists, future mariners, environmentalists, and those who simply want to experience her historical charm and splendor have sailed on Bowdoin.

As the primary training vessel for MMA's traditional sailing program, she provides the best hands-on educational experience in the nation. When not in use for educational purposes, Bowdoin is busy expanding her public profile. After all, the Official Vessel of the State of Maine should be visible and accessible whenever possible.

Bowdoin is as fine a vessel today as she was when first launched in 1921. The fact remains, however, that she is approaching her 100th birthday and, as with all historic tall wooden ships, caring for them is always demanding, challenging, and expensive.

To this point, Bowdoin is currently in need of a new deck replacement. This important capital project is expected to cost upward of \$600,000. In addition, \$1,000,000 is needed to increase her endowment in order to protect and preserve her in perpetuity.

The Bowdoin Centennial Campaign and its 1.6-million-dollar goal addresses both of these important initiatives and is dedicated to:

- Protecting Bowdoin's National Historic Landmark status and place in maritime history
- Delivering the best hands-on traditional sailing program in the nation
- Expanding academic, exploration and environmental opportunities
- Broadening Bowdoin's public-service profile

Please join us in supporting the Bowdoin Centennial Campaign. Your gift will immediately be put to work ensuring and protecting Bowdoin's next 100 years. We thank each of you for helping us reach the 1.6-million-dollar goal.

Capt. G. Andy Chase & Alex Watson
Co-Chairs, Bowdoin Centennial Campaign Cabinet

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**MAINE
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ACADEMY**

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