Barbara Edmond’s Closing Remarks

Alas, it has been a great day and our time together is rapidly coming to a close. I sincerely hope that you have arrived at this place in the day having developed some fresh knowledge, made some new connections and generated some new thinking.....all bringing you further along on the path to synergy.

Let us share this one more video (Casteller – Human Towers) of inspiration to help send you on your way.

- Preparation
- Diversity of age, of color, of strength
- Support for one another
- Balance
- You have to endure the climb;
- Not only go up but gracefully and cautiously come down
- Be willing to Fail
- And try, try again,
- Sometimes it hurts
- but victory is sweet;
- And when it works ...its perfect synergy.

What a great metaphor for the team work we’ve modeled today and what we hope philanthropy in Maine will continue to strive for every day moving forward.

Speaking of triumphant teamwork...a big congratulations to our winning Philanthropy Trivia Team today. Each member of the team has won a pair of tickets to a Sea Dogs game, compliments of Country Kitchen Bakery. So team members, please be sure to come up to the stage at the end of the program to pick up your tickets.

And now for the grand prize.....As the planning committee thought about what would be a fitting prize for the day, we thought about the fact that the room would be filled with dozens of nonprofits from across the state. Each one of you is working hard to make sure that your efforts and the philanthropic dollars entrusted to you are being used the most effectively and having the greatest impact. So while the Trivia competition may have provided us with a means to an end, the prize is really not about Trivia. It represents something much bigger and much more intentional. It’s about working together and supporting each other with trust and confidence. (like the Casteller tradition of Barcelona)

It’s a way for all of us to lift up one of our own and send you off on your journey to even greater synergy and accomplishment with the extra boost of $1000 for your organization. We have asked all members of the winning trivia team to put their names tags in this basket – nonprofits and funders alike. If the name selected is from a funder, they will have the opportunity to choose a nonprofit of their choice.

In addition to this small financial synergy boost, the winner will also be featured as a Spotlight Program on the Maine Philanthropy Center Website and enews this summer.

Drum Roll Please. And the winner is Cathy Ramsdell $1000 to Friends of Casco Bay. We will all be eager to learn in the months ahead what kind of a boost this prize gave you.
Just A Few Closing Notes:

We can’t leave without thanking our sponsors again
- Maine Health Access Foundation
- Nellie Mae Education Foundation
- Harpswell Capital Advisors, L.L. Bean, Inc., the Maine Community Foundation, the Sam L. Cohen Foundation, and US Representative Chellie Pingree and Donald Sussman
- As well as the John T. Gorman Foundation and Northeast Delta Dental.

A special shout out to Gerry Hill and the chefs and staff at Point Lookout for taking such good care of us today

I again want to thank our fabulous co-chairs, Kathy Savesky and Harris Parnell and our wonderful planning committee. Today was really their doing, let’s again show them our appreciation. (applause) Thanks to L.L. Bean and MPC Board member Janet Wyper, we will be presenting each member of the planning team one of these special edition L.L. Bean canvas totes embroidered with the MPC and 2014 conference logos. Committee members: Please make sure you each come up to the stage and see Dana before you leave.

Also a quick mention to our fantastic MPC staff team (Dana Baldwin & Christina Foster)

As we say good-bye, our thanks to all of you for being here today. We have one more favor to ask and that is for you to give us your feedback. Awaiting you in your email when you get home, if you don’t have it already, you will find a conference evaluation. Please take a few moments to let us hear what you think and make future conferences even better. And then, please don’t be a stranger. Stay tuned through our enews and website for the many MPC programs and opportunities available throughout the months and year ahead. If you are not a member, we invite you to join so you don’t miss out on the fun, connections and learning. All membership details can also be found on the website.

But most of all, thanks for all you do each and every day with the philanthropic dollars entrusted to us…..all hard at work independently sound but more importantly interdependently strong.

Remember Today ... Remember 1+1 =3 : The Magic of Synergy. Remember the challenges put forth today: “If not us, who? If not now, when?” — John F. Kennedy

Thank you everyone and safe travels everyone and thank you for being part of the 2014 Maine Philanthropy Centers Philanthropy Partners Conference.