Welcome to the 2016 Philanthropy Partners Conference: “Engaging the Many Voices of Maine”

There are indeed many voices of Maine—people from rural and urban areas, older and younger generations, with varied interests and experiences, from different communities, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds. We feel strongly that to truly make our state a better place to live, work, and play, we need to draw on the experiences, skills, and creativity of all those voices of Maine.

Today, we ask you to consider what would be possible in our work if we were really hearing from and understanding one another.

As you go through the day, listen to each other. Be open to new perspectives and views that may be different from your own. We hope you will be challenged, and we hope you will leave with ideas, connections, and next steps that can inspire your work in the weeks and months ahead.

Thank you for joining us,

Megan Shore  Brenda Peluso
Elmina B. Sewall Foundation  Dietel Partners
2016 Conference Co-Chairs
Day at a Glance

8:00 AM  REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

8:45 AM - 10:15 AM  OPENING PLENARY
  KEYNOTE
  Akaya Winwood, Islesboro Ballroom

10:15 AM - 10:30 AM  BREAK/MOVE TO SESSIONS

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM  MORNING BREAKOUT SESSIONS

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM  LUNCH BREAK + NETWORKING
  The Pavilion

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM  AFTERNOON PLENARY
  KEYNOTE
  Vu Le, Islesboro Ballroom

2:30 PM - 2:45 PM  BREAK/MOVE TO DISCUSSIONS

2:45 PM - 3:30 PM  MOVING TO ACTION DISCUSSIONS

3:30 PM - 3:45 PM  GATHER FOR CLOSING PLENARY

3:45 PM - 4:30 PM  CLOSING PLENARY
  Islesboro Ballroom
Leadership often asks us to reach across differences—crossing boundaries of sector, race, class, age, and ideology. How can we listen more deeply to each other to do this work? How do we handle the challenges that so often emerge when we confront difference? What do we stand to gain when we make these leaps?

Akaya Windwood is president of Rockwood Leadership Institute, the nation’s largest provider of transformative leadership trainings for nonprofit and philanthropic organizations. Windwood leads trainings nationally and internationally and has been a featured speaker at the Stanford Social Innovation Review, the Independent Sector Conference, and Grantmakers for Effective Organizations. She is the recipient of an Ella Award from the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights and a Transformative Leadership Award from the Seasons Fund for Social Transformation. She currently serves on the advisory board of Destiny Arts Center and the advisory board for the National Progressive Leadership Campus.
A.M. Breakouts

3. SPEAKING OF CAPACITY BUILDING...

GROUP A: MARSHALL POINT ROOM
GROUP B: THE PAVILION
Carol Kelly, Pivot Point, Inc.
Carole Martin, Complex Community Change Consultant

Nonprofits need to be strong to do their work well, and building their capacity is often a goal for both funders and nonprofits. But do funders and nonprofits have the same idea of what ‘capacity building’ means? Where does each see the need? How does each imagine the solution? This is an opportunity to have an open conversation about what’s needed and how funders and nonprofits can work together to build the capacity of Maine’s nonprofit sector.

4. THE POWER OF PERSPECTIVES: ENGAGING MANY VOICES FOR COMMUNITY CHANGE

GRINDLE POINT ROOM
Charley Martin-Berry, Community Caring Collaborative
Rilwan Osman, Maine Immigrant and Refugee Services
Delilah Poupore, Heart of Biddeford
Julia Sleeper, Tree Street Youth
Marjorie Withers, Community Caring Collaborative

How do you bring together a wide range of people and perspectives to make community change? If you do, will your results be different? Many community goals—tackling poverty, improving health, fostering a culture of education—are too big, or too complicated for any one organization to address on their own. It takes a broad-based group of players with sometimes widely different interests to create a shared solution. But this can be hard. What have other groups done? What was their process? What challenges arose?

5. ENGAGING NEW ACTORS IN MAINE’S ECONOMIC FUTURE

SEAL HARBOR ROOM
Martha Bentley, Maine Accelerates Growth
Rob Brown, Cooperative Development Institute
Tae Chong, Coastal Enterprises, Inc.
John Dorrer, Jobs for the Future
Charles Rudelitch, Sunrise County Economic Council

Join us for an active discussion of the shifting dynamics in Maine’s economy and communities. How can we boldly respond to these changes by bringing together new voices and stakeholders to build on Maine’s assets? What roles are nonprofits, funders, entrepreneurs, investors, and workers playing in this shift? This session will explore innovative ways to make the most of our natural, cultural, and human resources and build thriving economies and resilient communities. Explore the challenges and opportunities for involving new participants in Maine’s future.

6. CANDID CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN FUNDERS AND NONPROFITS: TRADING PLACES TO ENHANCE UNDERSTANDING

GRINDLE POINT VERANDA
Tory Dietel Hopps, Dietel Partners
Mary Swann, Preble Street

Back by Popular Demand! Take on new roles in this fun grantmaking exercise, playing the parts of funders and grant applicants. This session will help you to better understand potential barriers, whether perceived or real, that get in the way of partnerships between funders and nonprofits. We promise you will laugh and leave with tools and suggestions.
Amid humor, Game of Thrones references, and photos of baby animals, Vu Le will discuss how funders and nonprofits perpetuate inequity. In what ways are grant applications increasing the divide between the haves and have nots? Is trickle-down community engagement any more successful than trickle-down economics? And finally, what awesome things are nonprofits and funders doing to engage diverse voices that we should all be excited about?

Vu Le is a writer, speaker, vegan, Pisces, and the Executive Director of Rainier Valley Corps, a nonprofit in Seattle with the mission of bringing more leaders of color in to the nonprofit sector. He is the writer behind the blog nonprofitwithballs.com and the humor writer for Blue Avocado. He was recently recognized by the Chronicle of Philanthropy as a “Writer with Attitude.”

**MOVING TO ACTION DISCUSSIONS**

Having been challenged by Vu Le, explore how equity and inclusion do or do not exist in critical issue areas across the state. Why or why not? What actions can you and your organization begin to take? What can funders and nonprofits do together?

Please choose a discussion group that most closely relates to your work or interest:

**HEALTH:**
- **PAVILION**

**EDUCATION:**
- **GRINDLE POINT ROOM**

**HUMAN SERVICES AND STRENGTHENING FAMILIES:**
- **MARSHALL POINT ROOM**

**ARTS AND CULTURE:**
- **MARSHALL POINT VERANDA**

**COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**
- **GRINDLE POINT VERANDA**

**ENVIRONMENT, RECREATION AND AGRICULTURE:**
- **DUCKTRAP ROOM**

**CLOSING PLENARY**

**ISLESBORO BALLROOM**

Reflect on the day and what’s next with our keynote speakers, Akaya Windwood and Vu Le.
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Megan Shore, Elmina B. Sewall Foundation

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The Maine Philanthropy Center provides leadership to promote philanthropy and increase its impact in Maine. MPC builds connections between the philanthropic and nonprofit communities to make Maine a better place to live, work, and play.

Thank You

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