

2002

Urge Your State Legislatures to Support LD 1433

Cultural Affairs Council

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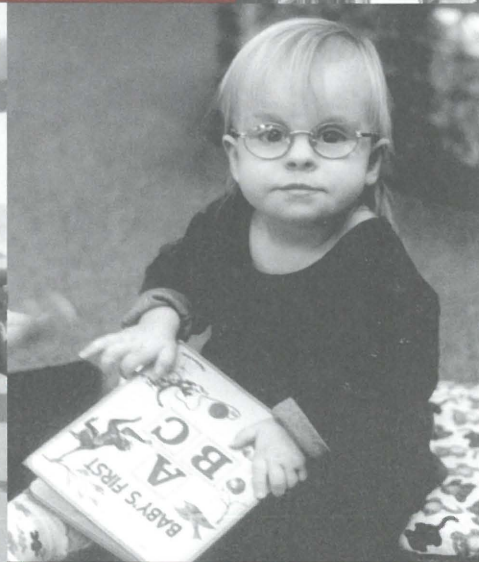
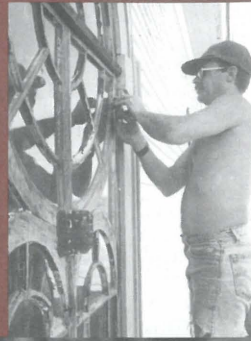
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Don't You Want Your Children to Love Maine as Much as You Do?

Urge Your State Legislators to Support LD 1433

The New Century Community Program



Continue Maine's Successful Program to Revitalize its Arts and Cultural Institutions

THE CHALLENGE

In 1998, the Maine Cultural Affairs Council developed the New Century Community Program to advance the state's economic and social development through the revitalization of its cultural institutions. The Council consists of seven statewide agencies – the Maine Arts Commission, Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Maine State Library, Maine State Museum, Maine Historical Society, Maine State Archives, and Maine Humanities Council.

The New Century program called for both matching grants and direct technical assistance to Maine communities to:

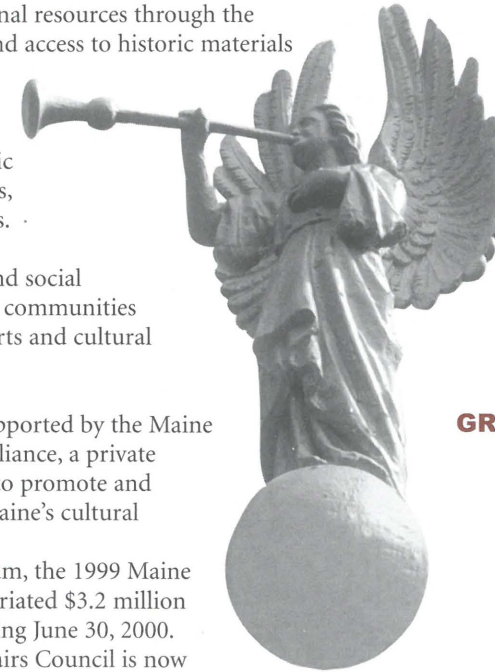
EXPAND access to educational resources through the promotion of literacy and access to historic materials and contemporary information.

PRESERVE Maine's historic resources – its properties, artifacts, and documents.

ADVANCE the economic and social development of Maine's communities by strengthening their arts and cultural resources.

The program was supported by the Maine Community Cultural Alliance, a private nonprofit organization to promote and increase awareness of Maine's cultural resources.

To initiate the program, the 1999 Maine State Legislature appropriated \$3.2 million for fiscal year 2000, ending June 30, 2000. The Maine Cultural Affairs Council is now asking the Legislature to continue and expand the program for the next two fiscal years with appropriations of \$4.3 million per year.



THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The \$3.2 million appropriated by the Maine Legislature for FY 2000 resulted in:

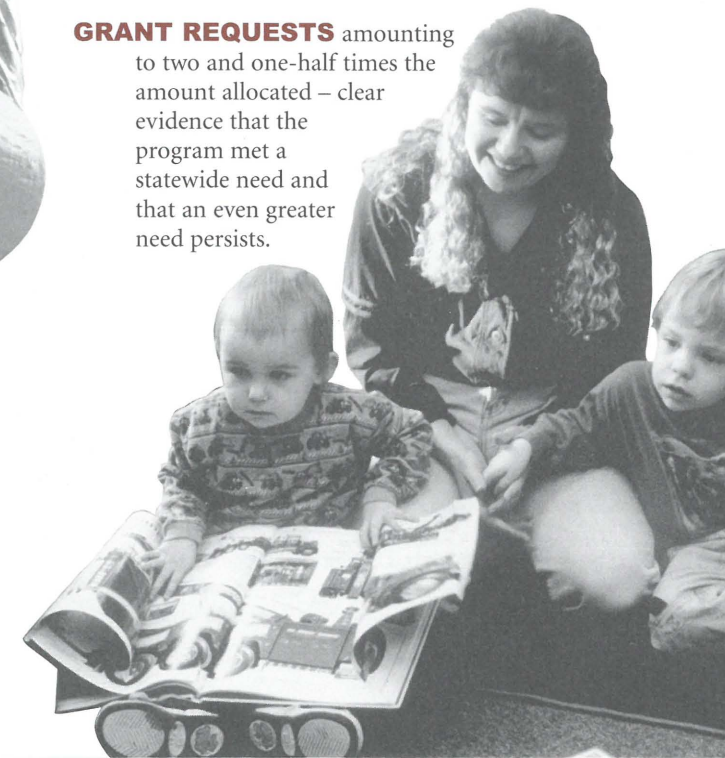
MORE THAN 420 GRANTS totaling \$2.3 million to communities in all areas of Maine.

EXPENDITURE OF \$859,000 for direct service and outreach programs to community institutions – libraries, schools, day care centers, historic sites, museums, archives, and other organizations – from Kittery to Madawaska.

SUPPORT FOR 780 PROJECTS in 183 communities in all of the state's counties. Two-thirds of these communities have a population under 10,000.

- Nearly \$9.8 million in matching funds and in-kind assistance from private donors and other public funders.
- Approximately \$1 million of the grants spent directly on construction-related projects involving local libraries and historic properties.
- Preservation of 60,000 historical documents and restoration of 38 historical buildings.

GRANT REQUESTS amounting to two and one-half times the amount allocated – clear evidence that the program met a statewide need and that an even greater need persists.



WHAT'S NEEDED NOW

The Maine Cultural Affairs Council, in LD 1433, is requesting the Legislature for appropriations of \$4.5 million each for FY 2002 and FY 2003.

LD 1433 WOULD PROVIDE STATE FUNDS FOR

COMMUNITY LIBRARIES Matching grants by the Maine State Library for critical construction and renovation projects and improvement of information and educational services.

READING AND LITERACY Programs sponsored by the Maine Humanities Council for Maine residents of all ages and reading levels.

THE MAINE MEMORY NETWORK A web-based virtual museum and educational resource developed by the Maine Historical Society to make the primary treasures of Maine history available over the Internet.

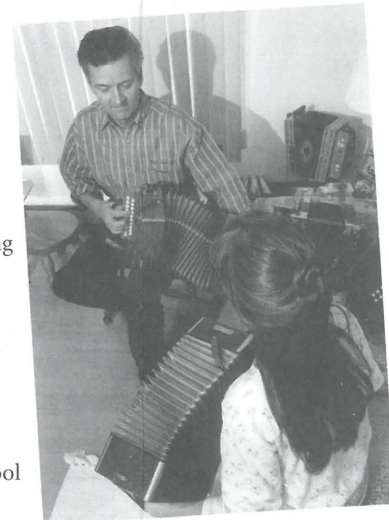
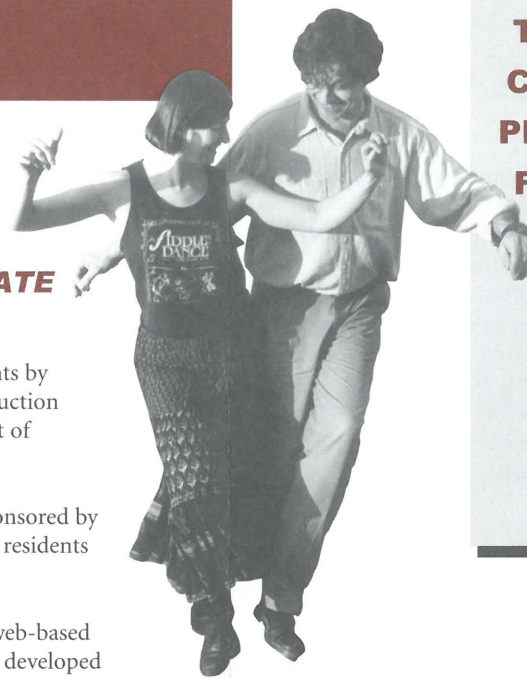
HISTORIC PROPERTIES Matching grants and technical support by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission to assist communities in preserving their historic and archeological sites.

HISTORIC RECORDS AND ARTIFACTS Matching grants and technical support by the Maine State Archives and Maine State Museum for the preservation of records, manuscripts, newspapers, photographs, artifacts, scientific specimens and architecture.

HISTORY AND HERITAGE Matching grants by the Maine Humanities Council to assist communities in exploring their history and heritage and developing interpretive events, conferences and in-school programs.

COMMUNITY CULTURAL PLANNING Matching grants by the Maine Arts Commission to assist communities in inventorying their cultural resources as the basis for their economic and social development.

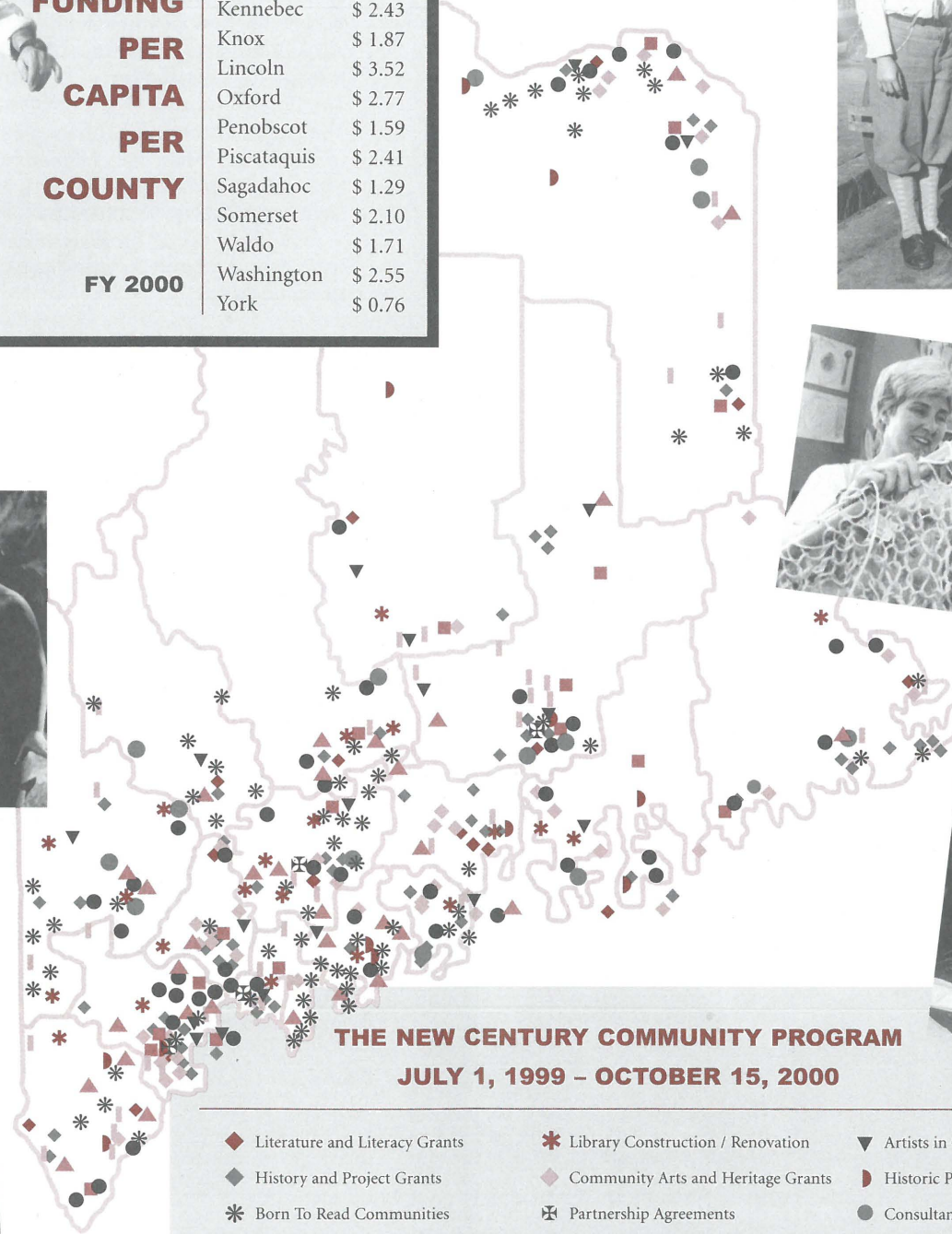
COMMUNITY ARTS INSTITUTIONS Matching grants by the Maine Arts Commission to help institutions enrich their programs and to help school systems develop arts-in-education programs.



THE NEW CENTURY PROGRAM FUNDING PER CAPITA PER COUNTY

FY 2000

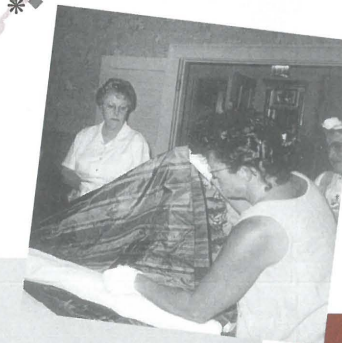
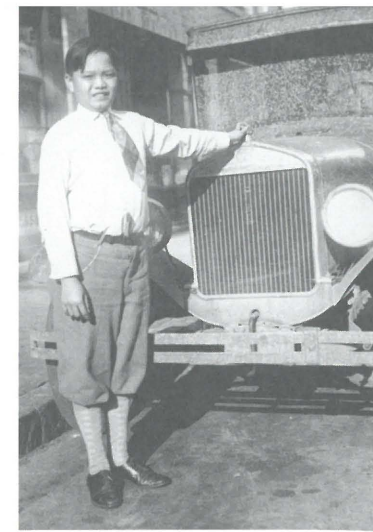
Androscoggin	\$ 0.78
Aroostook	\$ 2.20
Cumberland	\$ 1.79
Franklin	\$ 0.81
Hancock	\$ 2.38
Kennebec	\$ 2.43
Knox	\$ 1.87
Lincoln	\$ 3.52
Oxford	\$ 2.77
Penobscot	\$ 1.59
Piscataquis	\$ 2.41
Sagadahoc	\$ 1.29
Somerset	\$ 2.10
Waldo	\$ 1.71
Washington	\$ 2.55
York	\$ 0.76



THE NEW CENTURY COMMUNITY PROGRAM

JULY 1, 1999 - OCTOBER 15, 2000

- ◆ Literature and Literacy Grants
- ◆ History and Project Grants
- * Born To Read Communities
- ▲ Historic Preservation (Restoration)
- Preservation: Museum and Archives
- * Library Construction / Renovation
- ◆ Community Arts and Heritage Grants
- ⊠ Partnership Agreements
- Discovery Research, Infrastructure and Cultural Initiatives
- ▼ Artists in Communities Grants
- ▶ Historic Preservation (Surveys)
- Consultant Visits
- Community Library Grants



REASONS TO SUPPORT LD 1433

EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT. Maine needs to strengthen its educational resources to attract new industry and prepare its young people for employment. A solid education in the arts is particularly important for the training of skillful workers and innovative leaders. LD 1433 funds will not only strengthen school arts-in-education programs but also support literacy and other programs outside K-12 and higher education.

QUALITY OF LIFE. Maine is a state of small cities, towns and villages. These communities depend on their arts and cultural institutions to ensure a rewarding quality of life, protect their priceless historic resources, and enrich the educational opportunities for their residents.

ECONOMIC IMPACT. Maine's cultural institutions play a key role in the state's economy. More than 1,100 Maine organizations in the arts, culture, and humanities provide more than 6,000 jobs and have a total economic impact of \$150 million a year.

INDUSTRIAL GROWTH. A recent report by the New England Council, the country's oldest regional business organization, emphasized the importance of arts and culture in attracting new or expanded industry.

"ARTS AND HERITAGE" TOURISM. Tourism is the second largest industry in Maine, each year generating \$1.3 billion in direct and indirect expenditures and \$206 million in tax revenues. "Arts and heritage" tourism is one of the fastest growing and most profitable sectors, but attracting cultural tourists requires sustained investment in the state's cultural, historic and arts resources.

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP. LD 1433 would continue a coordinated inter-agency effort unprecedented in Maine and unique in the U.S. Because of its scope, the program has won the national attention of other state arts and cultural agencies.

If You Think Arts and Culture Are Important for the Future of Maine's Communities,

Urge Your State Legislators to Support LD 1433

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