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High School Research Fellowship Opportunity at Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory

For over 18 years, the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory near Bar Harbor, Maine, has invited talented Maine high school students to take part in our summer high school research fellowship program. With cutting-edge research projects, expert mentors, small labs, and a vibrant community of student-researchers, MDIBL is uniquely equipped to teach the next generation of Maine scientists.

It's my pleasure to announce the 2010 Maine High School Research Fellowships Program and to ask for your help in identifying qualified applicants. We are asking Maine high school science teachers to nominate students to apply to our program. We are seeking to diversify the group of high-achieving applicants, and with your help, we hope to also reach those students who may be ready to participate, but are unlikely to apply on their own for reasons of socio-economic status, family history of higher education, race, or ethnicity.

Please consider your students and nominate the one or two who you think would flourish in an intensive, residential research experience at our campus in Salisbury Cove. All student nominees will receive an application packet and an opportunity to apply to the program. All students must be nominated to apply. ***The nomination deadline is Friday, January 8, 2010.*** Early nominations are encouraged; this gives your student more time to complete his or her application.

A research internship at MDIBL can be a life-changing experience for a budding scientist. High school students at MDIBL use unique marine organisms like dogfish, skates, and a variety of invertebrates to answer questions in the areas of physiology, environmental health, genomics, and bioinformatics. Perhaps best for high school students is MDIBL's informal and natural campus, situated on Frenchman Bay. It's an environment where young learners flourish, and where the next generation of Maine scientists make their first scientific discoveries.

Up to eight fellowships will be awarded to Maine high school students. Fellowships cover all expenses, including dining, laboratory fees, and a stipend. Accepted students who live too far away to commute are provided residential accommodations including full room and board and a live-in residential advisor (RA). Scientific aptitude and maturity are important factors to consider when inviting students to apply. The 8-week program begins on Monday, June 14 and ends Friday, August 6, 2010. Nomination forms are available online at http://www.mdibl.org/high_school_students.php.

All nominated students must apply by Friday, February 5, 2010. A panel of MDIBL scientists makes admissions recommendations, and final selections are usually made by mid-March. I'd encourage you to discuss this opportunity with your most promising science scholars and suggest they visit our website to learn more about the Laboratory. You, the students, or their parents should contact me directly with any questions

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