



# **New Yurt at Fiddlehead School of Arts and Sciences Provides Creative Outdoor Learning Space for Students**



Nestled in the campus green area at Fiddlehead School of Arts and Sciences in Gray is a new yurt,



serving as a unique outdoor learning space for students. For the school, it also represents something more: the power of creativity and community.

“Lovingly crafted by the local artisans at Your Community Carpenter LLC in Bridgton, this hand-built structure reflects the spirit of collaboration that makes our school so special,” said Fiddlehead School founder Jacinda Cotton-Castro.

This summer, Fiddlehead School was on a tight deadline to get the yurt up before the start of the 2024-2025 school year. As a result, community members volunteered to help by sanding down boards for the yurt’s floor and then lifting the structure into place.

“We were honored to bring this unique space to life, knowing that it would soon become a canvas for the imaginations of our students,” said Cotton-Castro. “We are also very lucky to have incredible families and volunteers who help us in many different ways.”

The yurt serves many purposes throughout the school week as a flexible environment. On Mondays and Tuesdays, it hums with the sounds of young artists at work, painting, drawing, and engaging in hands-on projects that let their creativity soar. The yurt’s circular design fosters a sense of togetherness and curiosity during expressive Spanish classes. There’s also time for students to have quiet reflection. Even after the final bell of the day has rung, the yurt is a lively hub of choice and exploration where students come together to collaborate, dream, try, and grow as part of Fiddlehead School’s after-school enrichment program. Whether students are running outside of the structure or working on



projects inside of it, the yurt gives them the freedom to learn and play in ways that feel meaningful.



Excitingly, the yurt isn't meant just for Fiddlehead School students. It will also be used as a gathering place for the wider community, hosting local authors for story readings, art auctions, and other events that celebrate the creativity and talent within the wider community.

Above all, the yurt is more than just a building; it's a new chapter in Fiddlehead School's story—one to be written by the students, families, and community members who are helping to bring it to life.

“We look forward to the connections, creativity, and shared experiences that will unfold within its walls,” said Cotton-Castro.



*Information for this article was provided by the Fiddlehead School of Arts and Sciences. To submit good news from your school, fill out our good news submission form.*

Posted on October 22, 2024

Posted in Good News from Schools, Outdoor Learning, Regular Newsroom Notice

---

Previous

**PUBLIC FEEDBACK – RULE CHAPTER 115:  
THE CREDENTIALING OF EDUCATION  
PERSONNEL**

---

Next

**ST. CROIX REGIONAL TECHNICAL  
CENTER CELEBRATES INSTRUCTOR  
LAUREN REMINGTON AS A 2024 MARCIA  
LOVELL AWARDEE**

---

**SUBSCRIBE HERE**

---

---

**BROWSE BY CATEGORY OR MONTH**

---

▼

---

**BROWSE BY DATE**

---

▼

---

 **PRESS RELEASES**

- 
- Wiscasset Elementary School Teacher Becky Hallowell Named 2025 Maine Teacher of the Year  
October 10, 2024
  - 2025 Maine Teacher of the Year State Finalists Announced  
August 28, 2024
  - Maine Teacher of the Year Semifinalists Announced  
July 2, 2024



---

## NEWSROOM ARTICLES

---

- Nominations Open for Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching  
October 25, 2024
- Applications Due November 15 for Extended Learning Opportunities Expansion 2.0  
October 24, 2024
- Maine DOE Launches New Project to Expand the Impact of the Rethinking Responsive Education Ventures (RREV) Initiative  
October 23, 2024

---

## GOOD NEWS FROM SCHOOLS

---

- Nominations Open for Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching  
October 25, 2024
  - Applications Due November 15 for Extended Learning Opportunities Expansion 2.0  
October 24, 2024
  - Maine DOE Launches New Project to Expand the Impact of the Rethinking Responsive Education Ventures (RREV) Initiative  
October 23, 2024
- 

---

## STAY CONNECTED

---



---

## SHARE YOUR SCHOOL SUCCESS STORY

---





**SHARE  
YOUR  
SCHOOL  
SUCCESS!**

We want to hear from you!

---

## Maine DOE X Feed

---



ME Dept of Education  
@mdoenews

Follow



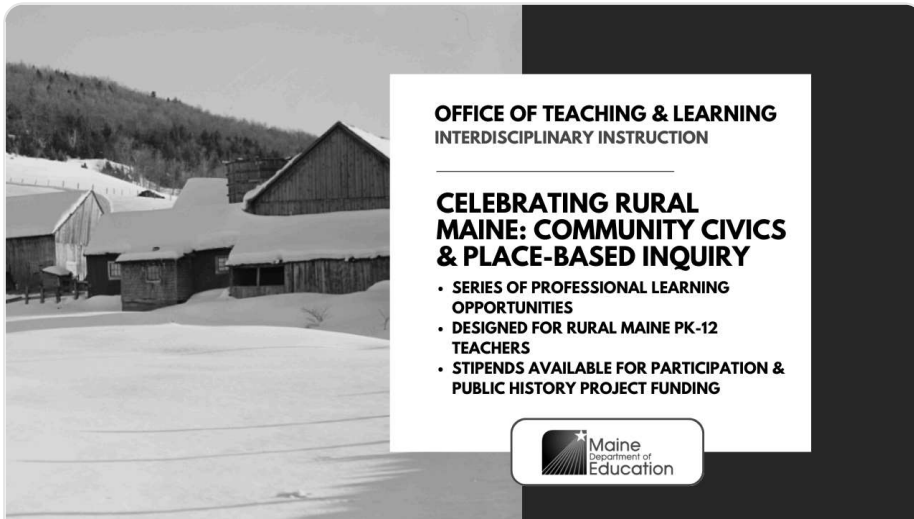
Tweets 8.7K Following 637 Followers 5K



ME Dept of Education  
@mdoeneews Oct 21



Registration is NOW OPEN for "Celebrating Rural Maine"! Join us in exploring how to design and implement engaging civic inquiry projects that honor our rural heritage. Sign up today and enhance your teaching toolkit! To learn more, visit the DOE Newsroom: <https://t.co/dz6AzwyvDC>



Maine DOE Awarded Funding for Interdisciplinary Civic Inquiry Projects  
The Maine Department of Education (DOE) has received \$99,149 from the Library of Congress' Teaching with Primary Sources program to support the "Celebrating Rural Maine: Civic Inquiry Place-Based" project. This...  
[mainedoeneews.net](http://mainedoeneews.net)

## Maine DOE Facebook Feed



Maine Department of Education  
October 24 at 12:16pm

There are two weeks left before the 14th annual Maine PBIS conference, and there is still time to register! The conference is a chance for Maine Positive Behavior Interventions... See more





**Reminder: Register NOW for the 14th Annual Maine PBIS Conference!**

Join the Maine Department of Education (DOE) Office of Special Services and Inclusive Education for the 14th Annual Maine PBIS Conference! Thursday, November 7, 2024 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM  
Augusta Civic Center The conference is a chance for Maine Positive

---

## **Subscribe to Our Podcast: What Holds Us Together**





# WHAT HOLDS US TOGETHER

HOSTED BY COMMISSIONER  
PENDER MAKIN



**A PODCAST HIGHLIGHTING  
VOICES FROM MAINE SCHOOLS**

Subscribe on Spotify Podcasts  
Subscribe on Apple Podcasts

