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Bangor Savings Bank Foundation Helps “Open the Doors” at Coastal Studies for Girls with a \$5,000 Grant

For Immediate Release
September 9, 2009

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Freeport, ME Coastal Studies for Girls is the recipient of a \$5,000 grant from the Bangor Savings Bank Foundation. This grant supports the “Opening the Doors” Capital Campaign and specifically provides funding for the ***Environmental and Marine Research Strand***, the foundation of Coastal Studies for Girls’ science education. Students will explore the coastal Maine ecosystem, giving them a foundation in environmental science and stewardship while providing hands-on experience in marine research.

“With our focus on marine science and leadership, this is an especially exciting area of our program and we are most grateful to Bangor Savings Bank for their help,” said Pam Erickson, Executive Director for Coastal Studies for Girls.

“This grant award from our Foundation to Coastal Studies for Girls signifies our commitment to improving the quality of life in the communities we serve by supporting programs like the *Environmental and Marine Research Strand* that inspires and prepares young girls for opportunities in the science field,” said Carol Colson, Senior Vice President and Director of Community Relations and Communications.

Coastal Studies for Girls is the country’s first and only residential science and leadership semester school for 10th grade girls. The school will open in

February, 2010 and is currently accepting applications for the inaugural class of pioneering girls.

The 16-week, fall and spring semester opportunity is located on 626 acre Wolfe's Neck Farm in Freeport, ME which serves as a natural laboratory. To take advantage of the wealth of marine science, research, and conservation resources in Maine, Coastal Studies for Girls will partner with other Maine-based organizations to offer students hands-on field experience. Students have the opportunity to earn a full semester of credit and excel in science and technology in a community defined by academic, experiential, and inspirational learning. In addition to a rigorous marine-science-based curriculum, core English, math, history and foreign language courses are covered. Future plans also include summer programming serving both students and teachers.

For more information, please e-mail info@coastalstudiesforgirls.org, visit the website at www.coastalstudiesforgirls.org, or call (207) 865-9700.

About Bangor Savings Bank Bangor Savings Bank, with more than \$2.2 billion in assets, offers retail banking and investment management services to Maine consumers as well as comprehensive commercial, corporate, payroll administration, insurance, and small business banking services to Maine businesses. The Bank, founded in 1852, is in its 157th year of service to the people of Maine, with 53 branches and on the Web at www.bangor.com. The Bangor Savings Bank Foundation was created in 1997. Together the Bank and its Foundation invest more than a million dollars per year into the community in the form of nonprofit sponsorships, grants and partnership initiatives.