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**Students learn to climb through Kismet Rock Foundation's 12<sup>th</sup> summer program**

*North Conway, NH – July 6, 2011* – Beginning July 17, 54 students from Boston, Massachusetts, Portland, Maine, and Bartlett, Gorham, and Manchester, New Hampshire will learn to climb in the White Mountains through Kismet Rock Foundation's summer program.

“Rock climbing is a very transformative activity,” explains Brian Post, Chairperson of the Board of Directors. “Our students develop athleticism, analytic skill, good judgment, focus, team awareness, relationship skills, patience, compassion, honesty, humility, and an immense respect for themselves and the outdoors. We have students from diverse backgrounds and geographic areas coming together to share this unique experience.”

The organization serves economically underprivileged students who might otherwise ‘fall through the cracks’ of their highly stressed public school systems. By developing their potential, Kismet prepares students to contribute to their communities and their culture throughout their lives.

Kismet serves seven public schools in New Hampshire, Maine, and Massachusetts, offering students one week per summer of programs for up to four years. The first group of students arrive in North Conway on July 17<sup>th</sup>, with programs running through August 28<sup>th</sup>.

Valuable contributions from the Evenor Armington Trust, the Great Circle Foundation, The Gibson Woodbury Foundation, the Kendall C. and Anna Ham Charitable Foundation, the Nelson Charitable Foundation, the Robert and Dorothy Goldberg Foundation, the Stare Fund, and a community of individual and business donors make the program season possible. Kismet also thanks the following businesses for 2011 program support: Black Diamond Equipment, Mountain Hardwear, Nike, Inc., SOLO and Sterling Rope Co., Inc.

After the summer programs wrap up, Kismet Rock Foundation’s fall calendar includes the Annual Kismet Cliff Run on September 18<sup>th</sup> and *Caliente! A Night of Salsa Dancing to Benefit Kismet Rock Foundation* on November 5.

For more information about these events, to make a donation, volunteer or learn more about Kismet Rock Foundation and its climbing programs for New England youth please visit [www.kismetrockfoundation.org](http://www.kismetrockfoundation.org), email [info@kismetrockfoundation.org](mailto:info@kismetrockfoundation.org) or call 603-730-2715. Kismet Rock Foundation is a nonprofit 501(c) 3 and all donations are tax deductible.

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