



MONEY MOVES THINGS

We offer our profound and sincerest gratitude to the Evenor Armington Trust, the Nelson Charitable Foundation, the Stare Fund, and our family of business and individual donors for years of continued general operating support that makes it possible to now expand the reach of our mission.

Seed funding for this expansion initiative comes from **Brian and Carolyn Irwin, Alberto Alesina and Susan Adler.**

Direct support and scholarship funding for the 2008 program season, provided by **the Great Circle Foundation, the Robert and Dorothy Goldberg Charitable Foundation, the Nike Factory Store Community Grant Program, the Kendal C. and Anna Ham Charitable Foundation, the North Conway Rotary Club and the Manchester Rotary Club,** allows us to continue providing the quality programs we exist for while taking on this new direction.

THANK YOU!!

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Dear Friends of Kismet,

Kismet Rock Foundation is entering its ninth consecutive year of providing a wonderful education in technical climbing to now, over eighty children. This year, sixteen new students will begin their four-year program.

We are most happy to report that due to much hard work of our founder and Program Director, Michael Jewell, the loving support of dozens of dedicated volunteers and the broad based financial support of our donors, that this summer's five sessions are well supported and properly funded. Following this summer of Kismet sessions here in the Mt. Washington Valley, we will mark the total number of children attending Kismet programs of over eighty. Of this accomplishment we are very proud.

We are also thrilled to announce that our Board of Directors voted to contract the services of Janet Bergman to direct Kismet through a process of growth and expansion in the coming two years. Janet, a longtime volunteer and fundraising coordinator for Kismet, brings a full dose of passion and her own style of professionalism to the organization. We welcome Janet and offer her our support in preparing Kismet for further growth.

Again this year we were fortunate to hold our 4th Annual Jubilee. Held in May at the 10th Mountain Division building at Cranmore, we were able to thank our numerous volunteers and donors in attendance for their good deeds. We were also able hear live testimonials from three students and one of the schools counselors. They all attested to Kismet's grace and good will.

Thanks to everyone reading this for your continuing and unselfish support.

-Ted Wroblewski
Board President



2008 Program Season Schedule:

July 20-26	Beginner students
July 27-Aug. 2	Beginner students
Aug. 3-9	Returning students
Aug. 10-16	Returning students
Aug 17-23	Returning/graduating students

Many volunteers gave time throughout the planning and production of the 2008 Jubilee. We offer our sincerest gratitude to the following individuals in particular:

Ruthann Brown	Tony Iorfino	Sasha Johnson	Brian Post	Anne Skidmore
Tom Curren	Brian Irwin	Kristin Karl	Claudine Safar	Katie Smith
Clare Gardner	Carolyn Irwin	Dave Lottman	Carrie Scribner	Rob Vandegrift
Sarah Garlick	Zebulon Jakub	Donna McCluskey	Nickie Sekera	Freddie Wilkinson



Brought to you by:



Sixteen-year-old Kismet student Chelsea Laguerre welcomed the

crowd at Cranmore Mountain Resort on May 17 with a phenomenal solo singing performance. Played at the end of the cocktail hour, she silenced the room of about 120 attendees, who enthusiastically applauded her before dining on the White Mountain Cider Company's spread of delicious food.

"Chelsea's performance was one of the evening's highlights," said Brian Irwin, MC for the evening and also a Kismet Board member. "Her confidence on stage was incredible, as was her voice. We're very lucky to have such a passionate student in our program."



Kismet student Chelsea Laguerre's solo singing performance at the Jubilee. Photo by Brian Post

The event, sponsored by RE/MAX Presidential-Drummond & Drummond and Badger Realty, attracted climbers and non-climbers alike from as far away as Pennsylvania.

After dinner, Michael Jewell formally announced the organization's expansion plans.

"This year is a turning point for Kismet," said Irwin. "We're expanding our

curriculum, restructuring our organization to accommodate its growth and are more excited about the future than ever before. The Jubilee was the perfect place and time to make our new developments public to our most avid supporters."

'Volunteer of the Year' awards were presented to Ted Wroblewski, Brian Post and Ruthann Brown, all of whom have demonstrated outstanding commitment and passion for the Kismet mission. Ms. Laguerre and two other Kismet students, Sean Duda and Josh Lee, spoke of their experiences with the organization as did Gary Hunter, a long time Kismet supporter from Manchester, one of the organization's three service areas.

A successful silent auction including unique gift packages, flight tours, art work, climbing gear and more kept bidders busy, bringing in about \$4,000 for this summer's rock climbing programs.

The Kismet Rock Stars, consisting of Ms. Laguerre, Mary Bastoni, Molly Campbell, Zebulon Jakub, Mike Jewell, Alain Comeau, Tony Iorfino and Mitch Scher, then took the stage for a set of dance music that had everyone out of their seats.



Brian Post, Ruthann Brown and Ted Wroblewski (Left to right) accept Volunteer of the Year awards from Brian Irwin (far right), who presented on behalf of the Kismet Board of Directors. Photo by Anne Skidmore

Thank you, Jubilee sponsors and silent auction donors:

Anne Skidmore Photography	Frechette Tire Co.	Margarita Grill	Harrison Shull
Attitash Resorts	Front Side Grind	Maui Jim	Jim Siverts
Badger Realty	Finn Goodwin	Museum of Science, Boston	Snowflake Inn
Bear Notch Ski Touring Center	Jerry Handren	Nereledge Inn	Sterling Rope Company
Becca Van Fleet Pottery	Amee Hinkley	New England Aquarium	Stonehearth Open Learning Opportunities (SOLO)
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Chinook Café	Inn at Thorn Hill	Philbrick Photography	Urban Climber Magazine
Christopher Noonan Oriental Rugs	International Mountain Equipment/Rick Wilcox	Polartec LLC	Laura Waterman
Chuck Roast	Robert Irwin	Randy Rackliff	Clint Willis
Conway Historical Society	Isis	Ragged Mountain Equipment	White Mountain Artisans Gallery
Cranmore Mountain Resort	Laura Johnson	Kate Renner	White Mountain Puzzles
Creative Expressions	Julbo	RE/MAX Presidential-Drummond & Drummond	Wild Things, Inc.
Debony's Healthy Hair	Lupine Pet Collars & Leads	Rock & Ice Magazine	Wildcat Service Station
Dutch Bloemenwinkel	Mammut (Eric Seifer)	Saco Bound	

change is in the air!



Kismet student Josh Lee, with Mike Jewell at the 2008 Jubilee. "I would like to come back to Kismet as a volunteer to teach the kids everything I have learned and make sure they have a good experience at Kismet like I did." Josh now works at Vertical Dreams, a climbing gym in Manchester. Graduated students like Josh will soon have the opportunity to return to Kismet as instructors. Photo by Brian Post



Shamus is all smiles. Photo by Rob Vandegrift

Dear Friends,

As Ted mentioned, Kismet is entering a major transitional period in its history: We have hired Janet Bergman to restructure the entire organization over a two-year period.

Since the moment Kismet was created, my hope has been to see Kismet become independent of me. And during the last 9 years, I have witnessed each step in Kismet's maturation with delight and with a kind of awe. Now, as I see Janet step in to organize in ways for which my brain is not wired, I am elated.

This happiness does not emerge from a sense of freedom (my responsibilities will change but not decrease), instead, I am thrilled to see my "baby" prepare for adulthood.

But there is more: During the last four years, we have seen a wave of young, brilliant, and energetic people dedicate their efforts to Kismet. It is a testament to the strength of Kismet's mission and to the benevolence in the world.

So.... I am very grateful to everyone who has brought Kismet to its late teen years. And I'm particularly grateful to Janet for offering her energy and her creative and organizational intelligence. Together, she and I will bring Kismet to full maturity.

I've been asked if I mind surrendering centrality of influence and my answer is an unqualified "no". On the contrary -- my response is singularly one of gratitude.

*"He Who Bends to Himself a Joy
Doth the Winged Life Destroy
But He who Kisses the Joy as it Flies
Lives in Eternity's Sunrise"*
William Blake

-Mike Jewell

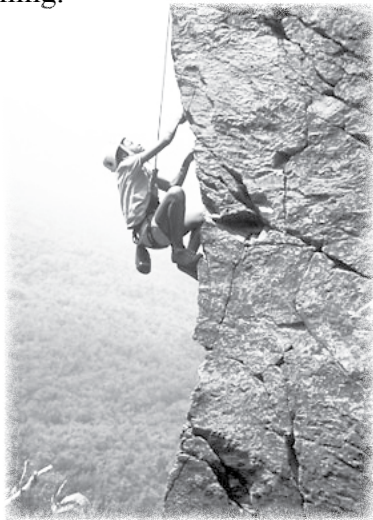
Founder and Director

So what does all of this mean?

We are working on media projects throughout the program season, conducting outreach, serving additional schools, expanding volunteer opportunities, overhauling our event offerings, involving our graduated students, establishing an advisory board and revamping the website and our graphic presentation.

...Stay tuned as we get to work, or roll up your sleeves and join us!

We are thrilled that Kismet graduate Alexandria Farrell (age 17) is returning as an aid to the live-in staff this summer. She will live with our 12-year old students to act as a role model and a liaison between the students and the adult staff. After starting at age 9 (!) Alexandria was a student with us for five years, during which time she became a much loved student of Kismet. It is fitting that Alexandria is the first participant in our leadership program since she was a part of Kismet from the beginning.



Alexandria climbing on Square Ledge



Alexandria with Don Mazel on Cathedral Ledge
Photo by Brian Post

Special thanks to Glen Oaks Inn for providing accomodations for Alexandria's family when they dropped her off!
www.glenoaksinn.com

Thank you,



All new ropes for 2008!

All returning students will receive two, 2-hour first aid courses through Stonehearth Open Learning Opportunities (SOLO) this year. “Numbers alone cannot tell the story, as Kismet has carefully focused its efforts on young people who are willing to take on the challenge of personal growth,” says Nickie Sekera, SOLO Assistant Director. “For these reasons, SOLO is proud to partner with Kismet to bring Wilderness Medicine education to the Kismet program. SOLO will be providing volunteer, veteran instructors to teach universal first aid skills as well as specialized wilderness and leadership techniques. By becoming proficient in Wilderness First Aid, Kismet participants will be better able to take responsibility for themselves and others, whether on the granite cliffs of New Hampshire or on their home streets.” The course, designed by SOLO, will be hands-on and will stress taking care of the “other”. Because we are a climbing school, the focus will be on responding to outdoor injuries (packing a victim in a litter, splinting a fracture).



Kismet Rock Foundation is, on the surface, a school that teaches a thorough curriculum in technical rock climbing to children of poverty. However, this curriculum is a mere vehicle through which all aspects of our students’ potential is developed. Following are the ways that our students are transformed by our program:

1. Climbing develops superb overall muscle tone and physical grace.
2. Climbing sharpens sequential problem solving skills.
3. Climbing teaches aspects of physics and mechanics.
4. Climbing demands the development and use of excellent judgment.
5. Climbing sharpens one’s capacity for critical analysis.
6. Climbing requires focus and presence in a way that few other activities require.
7. Climbing teaches students that real consequences ensue from their actions.
8. Climbing demonstrates that to live effectively we must honor our intuition but seek verification through analysis.
9. Safety in climbing depends on team effort and demands that students develop and maintain the highest standards of behavior and attitude in relation to partners. Students are required to express compassion and honesty in the face of fear.
10. Rather than experiencing pleasure in partners’ defeats, students are urged instead to contribute to, and even find satisfaction in, the success of others.
11. Climbing teaches humility in the face of fear and personal limitations.
12. Climbing illustrates that ethical behavior arises naturally out of concrete circumstances.
13. Education itself is the natural vehicle through which children can satisfy their hunger for development and education exponentially expands opportunity for further development of potential well into the future.
14. Education helps verify for children that they have effect and that they belong in this world. Through education, children gain the skill and knowledge required to contribute positively to others and thus gain access to a resulting sense of meaning and purpose. These are the ingredients of what is often called “self esteem.”
15. The vast beauty of the mountains is in itself, transformative -- especially for children who otherwise experience only urban environments.
16. Because of the personal character of climbing relationships, students of various backgrounds quickly learn to reach across the boundaries of age, race, and differing social experience. The compassion and empathy required to sustain a stable climbing partnership offers us an opportunity to gain greater understanding of the lives of others. At the same time, students are pressed to develop the humility and honesty required to allow others access to themselves.

2007 Donor Listing

Thank you for your support!

In memory of Danielle Connolly Marsha Rich and Steven Camerino In memory of Bob McCluskey Donna McCluskey In memory of Rand McNally Janet Bergman Ellen L. Gordon, Ellen L. Gordon Revocable Trust Nadeane LaCroix Dave Vaillancourt, Allied Pilots Association-Boston Domicile In memory of Phyllis Vogel Cheryl & Michael Rocheleau In honor of Dylan Cabral Cliff Cabral & Hollie Hazzard In honor of Janet Bergman KC Henry In honor of Mildred Turley Richard & Deb Sincere 2007 DONORS Alberto Alesina & Susan Adler* The Evenor Armington Fund* Angel Avila Steve Bamsey Henry Barber & Jill Flint-Barber John Barker, Barker's Plumbing & Heating Service LLC Jerome & Leah Bass Theresa Beals Chris & Brian Benoit Janet Bergman Andy Bergman Wayne Bergman, Action Coach Jane Biggio, Bamboo Mountain Movement Arts Laurel Bonds Robert Bowman & Lorie Tradewell Jeff Brewer Cliff Cabral & Hollie Hazzard Alan Chan & Florence Chin Bill & Lissa Chapin Gary E. 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Contributions from January 1-December 31, 2007. We apologize for any misprinted or omitted contributions; please contact us so that we can correct our records.

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Kismet Rock Foundation depends on the support of individual, business and foundation donors in order to operate. **Please consider making a contribution today!**

Name(s) _____ Organization _____

Address _____ Phone Number _____

_____ Email address _____

Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution of:

___\$50 ___\$100 ___\$250 ___\$500 ___\$1,500 (sponsorship of one student) ___other \$ ____

NOTE: Credit card donations are accepted online at www.kismetrockfoundation.org

___Please make my gift in ___honor/___memory of: _____

___Acknowledge the honor/memorial gift to (name and address): _____

___My matching gift company form is enclosed

___Please contact me about other giving options (event sponsorship, bequests)

___Please remove my name from your mailing list

THANK YOU for your support!

Kismet Rock Foundation is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. All contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.
PO Box 1744 North Conway, NH 03860 www.kismetrockfoundation.org

“[Going to Kismet] keeps me out of trouble. It strengthens my body. It helps me stop my bad habits.” –Josh



Kismet Rock Foundation

P.O. Box 1744
North Conway, NH 03860

*Programs running now through
August 23. See you at the cliff!*

Jubilee 2008

Images by Anne Skidmore



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We're growing!

The board of directors voted in May to initiate an organizational expansion process. In the coming two years we will be expanding the board of directors, establishing an advisory committee, securing new sending schools, hiring additional staff and revamping the fundraising program. **We'd like to have YOU**

involved! Please contact us to learn more: Janet@kismetrockfoundation.org or (603)986-9457

www.kismetrockfoundation.org

