

GENEROSITY BOOST ~ NEW, LAPSED, AND INCREASED GIFTS DOUBLED UP TO \$4,000



Dear Friend,

This year we will celebrate 25 years of Kismet Rock Foundation. In the summer of 1999, founder Mike Jewell wanted to do his part to enhance the lives of youth who had few opportunities. His expertise was rock climbing, something that changed his life. Because of his actions, and the support of many, it has changed the lives of over 350 students throughout the years. One student wrote to Mike, "...it inspires me that you had the smallest idea and it developed into this truly wonderful program."

In honor of this milestone year, Trustee Jim Torpey wants to celebrate by matching your support of Kismet. New, lapsed, or increased gifts will be matched up to \$4,000.

"Kismet is an extremely important part of my life. For the 3 years I have been in person I have learned so many life lessons. I have made so many friends and I will never love anything the way I love Kismet. It has its own unique place in my heart." – '23 Graduate



The Kismet journey is one of grit, empathy, and love. It is powerful to witness, but more importantly to hear it from the students. From the moment a student is welcomed, they become enveloped in the fabric of Kismet. After four years of participating in rock climbing and being immersed in a positive, safe, and loving environment, the students feel empowered and know they are part of something they are proud of and that will remain in their hearts forever.

~ Excerpts from letters of Kismet graduates ~

"Kismet is a life-saving, one in a lifetime experience! ...Kismet came into my life at a point where I desperately needed something like it. It pulled me out of a dark hole. Kismet changed me for the better. I became happier and healthier..."

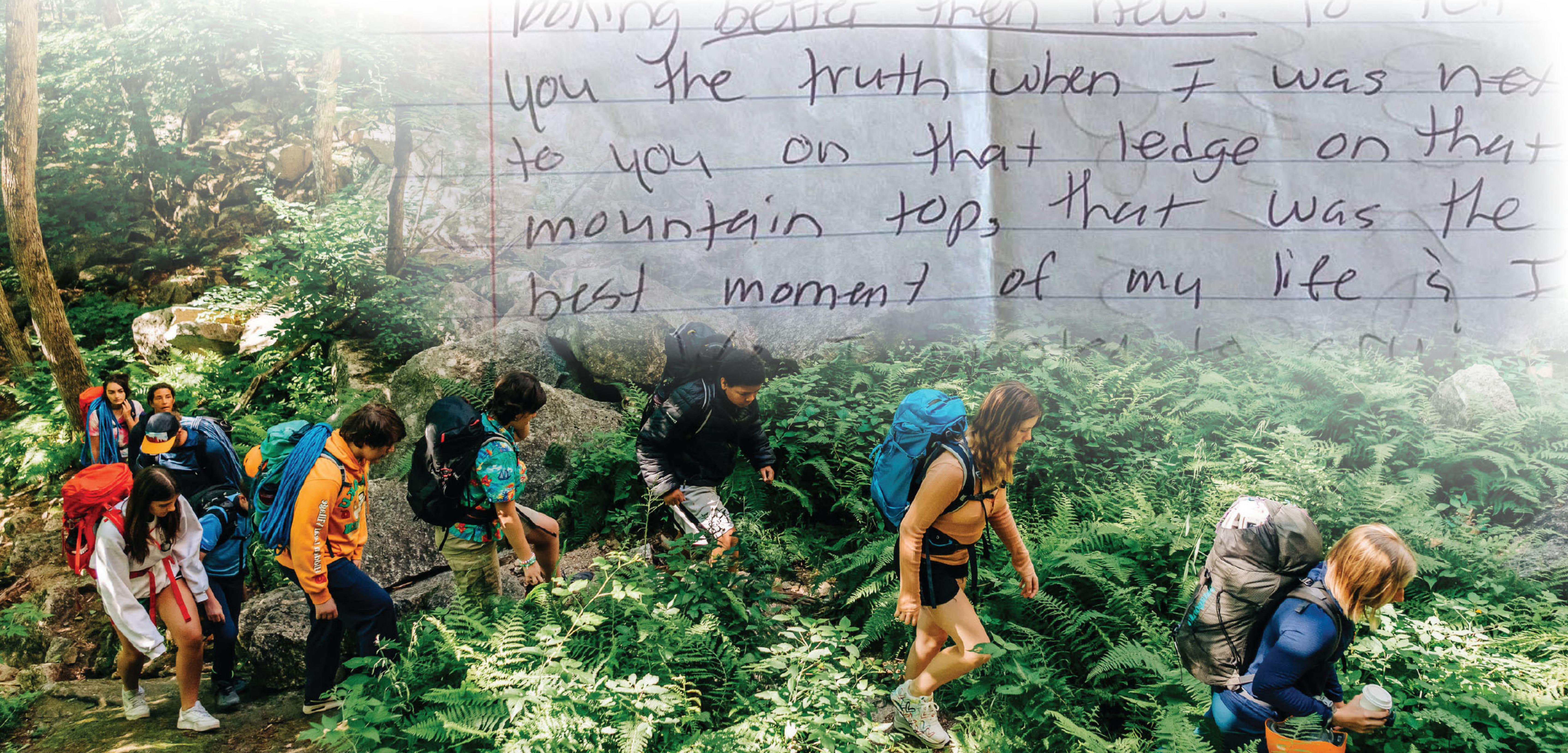
"Kismet to me has been so perfect to a point where it seems unreal... The program united me with the most important people I believe I will ever meet."

"...on that ledge, on that mountain top, that was the best moment of my life..."

We are all part of the Kismet fabric and we hope you will consider Kismet in your year-end giving to make a difference for years to come.

Thank you,

Krissy Fraser
Krissy Fraser
Executive Director



Excerpts from a letter written by 2018 Kismet graduate, Bryanna Alley, who continues to be involved with Kismet as a house staff.

I grew up in a difficult and abusive home. My mother’s death when I was six years old was just the beginning of a long series of challenges I have faced. After her death, my father’s anger issues manifested...this abuse caused my siblings and me to be placed in foster care. As an 8th grader, already having to face the struggles and difficulties of middle school, this was crushing. **But, in middle school, I was lucky enough to attend the Kismet presentation - something that would change my life forever.**

Kismet is near and dear to my heart. It sparked a confidence in me and gave me a feeling of worth - things I did not have as a child. It was a place I felt most supported and cared for. It was an escape from the reality of life. It’s my happy place. Kismet has taught me so many things about life, but most importantly about myself.

Growing up...I did not believe in myself. Kismet, in many ways, changed that for me. Climbing taught me many things and provided me skills I use every day. **By pushing myself and completing harder climbs, I proved to myself that I was capable of more than I thought.** This has helped me in my life because I have been able to continue pushing myself and growing.

I have built friendships that will last a lifetime at Kismet. The bond that my group has is one that will never break...I know that at any point in my life, I can call anyone I have met through the organization and they will be there for me. That’s just how it is.

I believe my most important takeaway from Kismet is the confidence I grew there. It taught me what being happy and feeling love is truly like. Kismet is one of the most important things in my life, and I cannot wait to spend my summers on the other side - **helping and changing lives through Kismet, just like it did for me.**

Bryanna was recently invited to share her story and educational journey, on behalf of the Mitchell Institute in Maine, in front of over 600 attendees - including Maine's Governor Janet Mills and Senator George Mitchell. Bryanna chose to highlight and honor Kismet as an influential educator in her life.



Photo credit: Nathan Katsiarcas



Photo credit: Corey McMullen

YES! I want to provide a life changing opportunity for underserved youth!

For your convenience, please use the enclosed envelope or go to www.kismetrockfoundation.org



\$1,000 _____ \$500 _____ \$250 _____ \$75 _____ \$50 _____ Other amount _____

Name: _____ This gift is in honor/memory of: _____

() Check here if you prefer to have your gift remain anonymous. If this box is not checked, your name will be recognized in the 2024 annual report.

Address: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Please charge my card:

(Circle One) Visa/Mastercard/Amex/Discover

Exp. Date: _____ CSV: _____

Kismet Rock Foundation is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization (EIN # 02-0516308). Your donation may be tax deductible.

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