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## **Gowrie Group Supports New England Science & Sailing's New London Outreach Program**



(Photo: Students and teacher from Bennie Dover Jackson Middle School on the dock at NESS with Whitney Peterson, Carter Gowrie, Mark Zagol, Cindy Nickerson, and Mary Ann Horrigan)

New England Science & Sailing New London STEM Leadership Program, which serves students attending the Bennie Dover Jackson Middle School in New London CT, is proud to announce that Gowrie Group has signed on as a significant financial sponsor. This exciting program for middle school students promotes interest in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) through hands-on experiential learning using sailing, kayaking, marine science and adventure sports. Now in its second year, New England Science & Sailing's (NESS) outreach program has served 140 middle school students through weekly field experiences throughout the school year. *"We're grateful to Gowrie Group for supporting our New London STEM Leadership Program. Their gift makes a difference to this important education initiative for New London students,"* said NESS President Spike Lobdell.

Carter Gowrie, CEO of Gowrie Group stated, *"We're very proud to support NESS's exemplary program of providing innovative after-school education empowering students to consider careers in STEM related fields."* Whitney Peterson, Gowrie Group's VP of Marketing shared, *"Using sailing and adventure STEM education to help underserved children is such a smart idea. Gowrie Group is very proud to support the important community outreach that NESS is focusing on students in New London."*

The NESS New London STEM Leadership Program was one reason why US Sailing named NESS the 2013 Outstanding Community Sailing Center in America. NESS Executive Director Cindy Nickerson elaborated, *"NESS provides opportunities for students to embark on their own personal journeys of self-discovery while actively exploring and connecting with our ocean environment."* In 2013, NESS served 2,700 participants through its experiential hands-on

science and sailing programs. Of these, more than 900 were sponsored by scholarship gifts and grants for underserved regional school children.

**About Gowrie Group:** Gowrie Group, Always on Watch. As one of the nation's Top 100 independent insurance agencies and the largest independent marine insurance group in the US, Gowrie Group provides total risk management services to individuals and organizations with complex insurance needs. Gowrie Group offers comprehensive insurance solutions matched with trusted advice and a commitment to service excellence. Gowrie Group's portfolio of offerings includes commercial, home/auto, equine, and yacht insurance, as well as employee benefits solutions and safety services. The company's 1450+ professionals service clients across the US from offices in Westbrook CT, Darien CT, Newport RI, North Kingstown RI, and Marshfield, MA. Gowrie is endorsed by US Sailing, the national governing body for the sport of sailing. For more information visit [www.gowrie.com](http://www.gowrie.com) or call 800.262.8911

**About New England Science & Sailing:** NESS is a year round nonprofit 501(c)(3) adventure education organization dedicated to inspiring individuals to discover themselves through the enjoyment of the sea. Marine science, adventure sports, and sailing are catalysts for building teamwork and self-reliance and teaching respect and responsibility for the sea. Need-based financial aid enables programs to be accessible to all. For more information on the programs or to register for a class, please visit [www.nessf.org](http://www.nessf.org) or contact NESS at 860.535.9362.