Kent Island 2016 (May 30 to July 30)  
Spend Your Summer Doing Science or Art  
in one of the World’s Most Beautiful Places  
Don Dearborn, Director & Dre Gager, Assistant Director

Timeline
Now: Develop project topic; touch base with Don Dearborn (and with off-island mentor if applicable)
Before Feb 15: Email a brief ‘intent to submit’ to Don Dearborn, at ddearbor@bates.edu
Feb 29 by noon: Email your full application as a PDF to Don
Mar 16: Decisions will be conveyed to students via email

How to Choose a Science Project
Approach 1: Choose from the list below and develop the idea further in discussions with Don. This is the most common approach.
Approach 2: Work with a Bowdoin professor (or with Don) to develop your own idea that’s not on this list. Recognize that this approach takes additional initiative on your part, but we encourage and support you.

How to Choose an Art or Writing Project
Consult with a Bowdoin professor to develop a focus for your work and a possible way for her/him to provide support and feedback during the summer. Do some background research to understand the Kent Island environment and how it can inform/inspire your proposed work.

Kent Island Cook
We need a cook to prepare dinner for the group 6 days a week. This is a fellowship position that involves part-time work as a scientist or artist/writer. If you’re potentially interested, contact us right away for details.

Contact Info
Director: Don Dearborn – on sabbatical from Bates College, currently in Ireland and the UK, but available by email at ddearbor@bates.edu
Assistant Director (and previous cook): Dre Gager currently in Ireland and the UK, but available by email at abgager@gmail.com
Potential Science Project Ideas (ask us for details)

Mate-searching behavior by Leach’s storm-petrels
Storm-petrel recognition of predator vocalizations
Pathogens of storm-petrels in relation to MHC
Coordination of egg incubation in storm-petrels
Host plant specificity of spittlebugs
Inbreeding depression in irises
Ontogeny of vocalizations in yellow warblers
Ecological responses to the eradication of snowshoe hares
Factors affecting reforestation success in coastal field habitats
Abiotic stressors of low tide in the Basin
Intertidal community: effects of removing rockweed and periwinkles
Spider web characteristics and capture success
Eider ducks: nest success and/or adult relative abundance and sex ratio over the summer

“I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach, and not, when I came to die, discover that I had not lived. I did not wish to live what was not life, living is so dear; nor did I wish to practise resignation, unless it was quite necessary. I wanted to live deep and suck out all the marrow of life, to live so sturdily and Spartan-like as to put to rout all that was not life, to cut a broad swath and shave close, to drive life into a corner, and reduce it to its lowest terms.”

— Henry David Thoreau, Walden: Or, Life in the Woods

“You need three things to become a successful novelist: talent, luck and discipline. Discipline is the one element of those three things that you can control, and so that is the one that you have to focus on controlling, and you just have to hope and trust in the other two.”

— Michael Chabon