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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Downeast Energy's Commitment to Youth Civic Involvement:  
Honored at KIDS Consortium Event**

**Auburn** – Downeast Energy & Building Supply was recognized for their generous support of the annual KIDS Consortium Student Summit at a special event in Portland on September 23.

Based in Auburn, Maine, KIDS (Kids Involved Doing Service-Learning) Consortium helps transform classrooms and communities through an award-winning educational model that has touched more than a quarter-million students across New England and New York. The mission of KIDS Consortium is to prepare young people to be active and responsible citizens by training and supporting educators, community organizations, and youth in best practices for service-learning. Through service-learning, K-12 students identify, research and address real community challenges, using knowledge and skills learned in the classroom.

Downeast and its employees have a long history of giving to community efforts. The company motto, "Because community is our bottom line," means that Downeast supports projects that benefit its employees, their families, and their communities. Community initiatives include sponsorship of annual events and ongoing support of organizations, including KIDS Consortium.

KIDS Consortium has been honored to have Downeast Energy & Building Supply as a major sponsor of its Annual Student Summit since 2003. The Student Summit is an event planned by and for students from around Maine and New England to share their service-learning projects with each other, learn new skills and be inspired to take action in their communities. #

Attached: Photo

Caption for Photo: Pictured at the KIDS Consortium September 23 Event at the Salt Institute Gallery in Portland are: W. Bumper White, KIDS Consortium President; Betsy Morrell, Downeast Energy Vice President; Dick Morrell, Co-Board Chair, Downeast Energy; John Peters, Downeast Energy President; Marvin Rosenblum, KIDS Consortium Founder; and Fran Rudoff, KIDS Consortium Executive Director.