

The Kabeyun Annual Fund

Fall, 2011

Dear Friends of Kabeyun,

With the excitement of the summer still warming our shoulders, camp has already weathered its first snow of the season, an unusual October storm that somehow gave way to 60-degree warmth just a few days later. Cabins are closed for the winter, the water is drained, boats are stowed, and Kabeyun lies dormant again. The embers of our closing Charcoal Ceremony, while they crackle and roar in our hearts and minds, have cooled.

2011 was a remarkable year at Kabeyun, in so many ways. All the same, our 88th season felt familiar, in that comforting way that summers on Lake Winnepesaukee echo those that came before. New and returning, young and old — we shared an experience that I am certain would have made those who preceded us nostalgic, wistful, and proud.

Already, we are at work preparing for next summer, repairing equipment, enrolling campers, hiring staff, and anticipating new adventures. The best part of the off-season is sharing in conversation with current, former, and future campers and staff, as well as parents and friends, thinking ahead to what next summer will bring. It's enlivening, knowing that so many of you are invested to the extent that you are, willing to take time out of your busy lives to share an idea, an article you found, or an experience that caused you to think of Kabeyun. This dialog is essential to reminding us of what we work to achieve — teaching kindness and good citizenship, encouraging independence and responsibility, building a strong community, and helping boys challenge their limits and accomplish more than they thought was possible.

Winter is our time to reflect, to consider where our strengths lie, and how we can grow. We are evolving, responding to the challenges of a busy and complicated world. While Kabeyun looks, sounds, and feels much as it ever had, it's the hard work of the staff, our alumni community, our board of trustees, and the campers themselves that make it so. Thousands of people have, at one time or another, connected themselves to Mr. Porter's camp, and it is their dedication and love that makes Kabeyun the sanctuary that we are so fortunate to enjoy.

Your continued involvement is fundamental to our efforts. Your contribution to Kabeyun's Annual Fund goes to work immediately, supporting every aspect of camp. By donating, you are helping to ensure that, in the coming summers, we can continue to provide campers with the best possible experiences.

- *Your support* helps us to attract and retain a talented and charismatic staff of counselors by providing competitive salaries and important training. 85% or more of our staff each summer are returners, and many grew up with us as campers.
- *Your support* allows Kabeyun to maintain top-quality facilities and equipment, enhancing safety and making new opportunities for exploration and adventure available to campers every year.
- *Your support* ensures that Kabeyun is available to families regardless of their ability to pay. Every summer, we award as much as \$60,000 or more in tuition assistance, a benefit that would not be possible without you.

If you have already sent your gift, please accept my gratitude on behalf of all those associated with Kabeyun for your practical demonstration of confidence in our mission and philosophy. If you have not yet, please remember that a contribution at any level is appreciated and is tax-deductible.

It is my sincere hope that you recognize how your support of Kabeyun, no matter what form it might take, is crucial to maintaining such a magnificent place, one where boys come to feel esteemed, challenged, inspired, celebrated, and loved.

Warm regards,



Ken Robbins
Director