



## Announcing Alicia Witham!



We are so pleased to announce that Alicia Witham will be joining the staff as our new Executive Director! After conducting an extensive national search led by board member Hannah Harter-Ives, the board and staff are united in our great confidence in Alicia. Our new executive brings to the Boat Shop a wonderful blend of practical experience in fiscal management, marketing, and strategy, combined with deep roots in transformational programming.

Alicia grew up in Portland and worked for the better part of two decades with Hurricane Island Outward Bound School. There she filled many roles, from leading multi-day expeditions in open pulling boats to managing international programming. Moving to the West Coast, she became the general manager of a large sailing school and charter company in the Bay area, before shifting north to manage operations of the Northwest Maritime Center. Alicia recently moved back to Portland to work for Sail Maine and live close to her family. She describes the opportunity to lead the Boat Shop as a calling that all her previous experiences have been building toward. She declares, "I will be proud to lead an organization with such a powerful sense of purpose and rich history while also carrying the organization forward into the challenging times we face."

Alicia will live on campus with her fiancée, Annie Fagan and their dog, Hobie. Annie, who herself spent

many years immersed in the community-oriented culture of Outward Bound, looks forward to participating in the life of the Boat Shop as she's able, while also pursuing her career in aquaculture.

Alicia will join the staff on May 3<sup>rd</sup> in order to overlap for a month with Interim Director Sarah Highland, the program staff, and the spring cohort of apprentices. Alicia will direct our summer programming, including our two [summer workshops](#), and Sarah will end her interim role, returning to the Boat Shop at summer's end to continue to teach. Please do plan to stop by or reach out to help us welcome Alicia and Annie to the Boat Shop!

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**The Carpenter's Boat Shop  
440 Old County Road  
Pemaquid, Maine 04558-4005**