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PRESS RELEASE
for Immediate Use
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**Maine SBDC Marks *EntrepreneurshipWeek USA* with
Workshops for Students, Nascent and Novice Business Owners**

Maine high school and college students are invited to participate in one of the upcoming business start-up workshops being offered throughout Maine by the Maine Small Business Development Centers (Maine SBDC) during *EntrepreneurshipWeek USA* (February 24-March 3, 2007). The workshops, led by Maine SBDC certified business counselors and Women's Business Center (WBC) staff, are also designed for nascent and novice small business owners.

"Entrepreneurship Week is set aside to reach out to students and young adults who are our next generation of leading entrepreneurs," said Maine SBDC State Director, John R. Massaua, "We hope that our workshops inspire young people to believe in their own entrepreneurial potential and meet their growing interest in learning about owning and operating their own business."

The Maine SBDC business start-up workshops introduce basic components of a formal business plan, market research, marketing and pricing, necessary financials and cash flow. An exercise to help students determine if they have the personal traits and qualities required to meet the rigors of business ownership is also included.

"Because more than 70% of young Americans envision starting a business or doing something entrepreneurial as adults," said Massaua, "we felt it was important for Maine SBDC to be a partner in national *EntrepreneurshipWeek USA* activities." Hundreds of activities targeting young people interested in small business are scheduled across the country from February 24 to March 3 as part of *EntrepreneurshipWeek USA*, sponsored in part by the Kauffman Foundation.

The length of Maine SBDC's upcoming workshops varies according to location and some locations require a small fee to cover facility rental or other costs. For more information about Maine SBDC's *EntrepreneurshipWeek USA* activities, go to www.mainesbdc.org or to www.mainebusinessworks.org, which features a comprehensive list of all business skills training opportunities statewide.

List of Maine SBDC *EntrepreneurshipWeek USA* Business Start-Up Workshops:

February 24th Saturday

1-3 p.m.
UM Cooperative Extension
63 Boggy Brook Road
Ellsworth

February 26th Monday

2-5 p.m.
York County Community College
112 College Drive
Wells

February 26th Monday

1-3 p.m.
Career Center
91 Camden Street/Suite 201
Rockland

February 27th Tuesday

1:30-4 p.m.
Northern Maine Dev. Corp.
11 W. Presque Isle Road
Caribou

February 27th Tuesday

6- p.m.
Eastern Maine Dev. Corp.
40 Harlow Street
Bangor

February 27th Tuesday

1:30-3:30 p.m.
Coastal Enterprises, Inc.
35 Water Street
Wiscasset

February 27th Tuesday

2:30-4:30 p.m.
Women, Work & Community
UMA - 46 University Drive
Augusta

February 28th Wednesday

4-6 p.m.
Curtis Memorial Library
23 Pleasant Street
Brunswick

February 28th Wednesday

6-9 p.m.
Maine Small Bs. Dev. Ctr.

68 High Street
Portland

February 28th Wednesday

R.W.Traip Academy
12 Williams Avenue
Kittery

February 28th Wednesday

9 a.m- Noon
Kennebec COG
17 Main Street
Fairfield

March 1st Thursday

9:30-11:30 a.m.
Wilton Career Center
865 US Route 2E
Wilton

March 2nd Friday

9:30-11:30 a.m.
AVCOG
125 Manley Road
Auburn

March 2nd Friday

Noon - 2 p.m.
MAGIC Office
70 Spring Street
Millinocket

About Maine Small Business Development Centers: *Maine Small Business Development Centers (Maine SBDC) and its tech-focus group, Maine Small Business & Technology Development Centers (Maine SBTDC) provide comprehensive business management assistance, training, resource and information services to Maine's micro, small and technology-based business communities. Business assistance is provided at no cost to business owners by professional certified business counselors who meet rigorous education and business experience standards.*

Maine SBDC/SBTDC is a partnership program of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) in association with the SBA/OSBDC, Maine Department of Economic and Community Development (Maine DECD), the University of Southern Maine (USM), and leading economic and/or community development hosting organizations, including the Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments (AVCOG), Coastal Enterprises, Inc. (CEI), Eastern Maine Development Corporation (EMDC), and the Northern Maine Development Commission (NMDC); with support from the Maine Technology Institute (MTI), the University of Maine (UMaine), and other contractors, allies and stakeholders.

Accredited by the Association of Small Business Development Centers (ASBDC) and administered by USM's School of Business, Maine SBDC/SBTDC operates a network of 11 service centers and a number of outreach offices located conveniently throughout the state.

More information about the Maine SBDC/SBTDC can be found at www.mainesbdc.org.