

WORKING WATERFRONT FESTIVAL PRESS RELEASE



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FREE Children's Activities:

A Boatload of Fun in Store for Children at this year's Working Waterfront Festival

New Bedford, MA, September 4, 2009-- The FREE Working Waterfront Festival is definitely a family affair. The Festival's Kid's Activity Tent offers a boatload of make and take art activities including fish prints, shell decorating, paper boat making and more. Hands-on marine and fisheries science activities are presented by the Ocean Explorium's WOW Mobile and SMAST (School for Marine Science and Technology at the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth). The Kid's Area also features family friendly performances by **Sue and April Grant** and **Good Old Plough**. Cartoonist **Steve Brosnihan** (author of *Cartoonagrams*) will teach kids to create cartoons of sea creatures using the letters of the alphabet. Children's author **Martha Zschock** will read and sign her book *Journey to Cape Cod*. Farm related children's activities presented by **Sharing the Harvest Farm** of the Dartmouth YMCA will take place at the State Pier Farmers Market.

Kids of all ages will enjoy learning about the different types of fishing vessels first-hand by getting on board one or more of the vessels offering dockside tours and talking with the crew. Vessels offering dockside tours include: a trawler, a deep sea clammer, a scalloper, an off-shore lobster boat and a tug boat. In addition, a Coast Guard lifeboat and a Coast Guard Patrol Boat will be available for tours as well as Schooner Ernestina, a 108' traditional schooner, the official vessel of the Commonwealth.

The Working Waterfront Festival is an award winning, family friendly event celebrating the history and culture of New England's commercial fishing industry. The free festival presents all that goes into bringing seafood from the ocean to the table in a way that is hands-on, educational and fun and features: live music, children's activities, cooking demonstrations, vessel and harbor tours, fisherman's contests, author readings, film screenings, local seafood, festival bookstore, maritime artisans marketplace & more. While continuing to focus on commercial fishing and other port industries, the 2009 *Working Waterfront Festival* will consider connections between fishing and farming communities. Plans for this special program include an open air market featuring local produce and fresh seafood and cooking demonstrations highlighting traditional community recipes; panel discussions, author readings and film screenings which explore common issues; and occupational demonstrations of fishing and farming skills. This year's Festival dates are September 26th & 27th. Complete details at www.workingwaterfrontfestival.org