

**WORKING WATERFRONT FESTIVAL
PRESS RELEASE**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BAKER BOOKS TO HOST AUTHOR TALK AND SIGNING
Featuring *Voices from the Waterfront: Portrait of the New Bedford Fishing Industry*

New Bedford, MA, February 24, 2010—Baker Books, an independent bookstore, will host an illustrated talk and book signing with the authors of *Voices from the Waterfront: Portrait of the New Bedford Fishing Industry* on Thursday, March 4th at 7:00 PM. Photographer Mark Starr and Co-editors Kirsten Bendiksen and Laura Orleans will talk about the process of creating the book. In addition, some of the individuals profiled in the book will be on hand to answer questions about New Bedford's fishing industry.

The 80-page book is based on interviews conducted over a five year period with 43 individuals from the New Bedford/Fairhaven fishing community. Their voices provide a rare first hand accounting of life and work in the port. Those interviewed include retired and active fishermen, lumpers, auctioneers, shoreside business owners, fisheries scientists, a tug boat captain, fishing family members and others. Oral history excerpts are accompanied by black and white portraits taken by photographer Markham Starr.

Baker Books has been involved with the Working Waterfront Festival since its inception, coordinating author appearances and operating an on site bookstore at the event. Baker Books is located at 69 State Road in Dartmouth. For more information visit www.bakerbooks.net or call 508-997-6700.

The Working Waterfront Festival is an annual educational celebration of commercial fishing culture which takes place on the New Bedford waterfront on the fourth full weekend of September. The event was established in 2004 with a threefold mission: to **celebrate** the commercial fishing industry, to **document** the culture of the working waterfront and to **educate** the public about that culture through programming which presents, interprets and explores its' many facets. In addition to producing the annual festival, project staff present a variety of public programs, develop curriculum materials, offer school-based and out of school programs for youth including a summer camp, provide professional development for teachers and conduct oral history interviews with members of the working waterfront community.