

**WORKING WATERFRONT FESTIVAL
PRESS RELEASE**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**2010 WORKING WATERFRONT FESTIVAL TO FEATURE
PORTUGUESE AND CAPE VERDEAN CULTURES
Event to Explore Cultural Diversity of New England's Working Ports**

New Bedford, MA, August 16, 2010— Slated for September 25 & 26, the 2010 Working Waterfront Festival will present an expanded look at the ethnic diversity of the region's working waterfront communities with a program entitled *All in One Boat: the Cultural Mosaic of New England's Working Ports*. Immigrants from around the globe have settled in New England's port cities and helped shape these working waterfront communities which today include a rich mosaic of cultures.

The music, food, crafts and fishing traditions of Portugal, the Azores and Cape Verde will be among those featured at the event as many people from New England's working ports trace their roots to these places. Festival programming will include performances of traditional Azorean music by **GeraSons**, a Fall-River based ensemble. Fadista **Ana Vingare** and her ensemble will share this musical style which grew up in the port city of Lisbon. Active and retired Portuguese fishermen will share stories of their work and lives as part of a panel called *A Pescar* which will consider Azorean whaling, the "White Fleet" (Portuguese fishermen who fished the Grand Banks) and the contemporary groundfishing industry. Traditional Portuguese seafood recipes will be demonstrated in the Festival's Foodways Area and Portuguese-American fishermen will showcase their industry skills in various contests and demonstrations. Actress **Sylvia Ann Soares** will present *By the Sweat of Our Brow*, a series of first person narratives created from oral histories of Cape Verdean longshoremen. A musical program tracing the history of the Schooner Ernestina will include Cape Verdean music performed by **Candida Rose** and **Peter Arteaga**. From 1948 to 1964, Ernestina sailed between Cape Verde and the U.S. carrying cargo and passengers in both directions. Later, the Republic of Cape Verde presented the ship to the people of the United States. Schooner Ernestina has resided in New Bedford since 1982 and is the Official vessel of the Commonwealth.

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The **Working Waterfront Festival** is a project of the **Community Economic Development Center of Southeastern MA**, a non-profit organization. The FREE festival, a family friendly, educational celebration of New England's commercial fishing industry, features live maritime and ethnic music, fishermen's contests, fresh seafood, vessel tours, author readings, cooking demonstrations, kid's activities and more. It all takes place on working piers and waterfront parks in New Bedford, MA, America's #1 fishing port, on fourth full weekend in September. Navigate to us at www.workingwaterfrontfestival.org.

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