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For Immediate Release from the New Bedford Art Museum....

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## **NBAM Announces New Summer Exhibit**

### ***NEW BEDFORD THROUGH THE LENS: A Walk Through History***

A Photographic Exhibition Featuring Iconic Photographs of New Bedford  
From the Mid-19<sup>TH</sup> Century to the Late 20<sup>TH</sup> Century

**Diane Gilbert, Curator**

**June 8 - September 11, 2011**

**Thursday, June 9, AHA! Night - Walking Tour of the Exhibit  
with the Curator, DIANE GILBERT**

**Opening Reception, Saturday, June 11  
5 p.m. - 7 p.m. - Open to the Public**

**(NEW BEDFORD, MA)**—The New Bedford Art Museum is pleased to announce the opening of its much anticipated summer show, ***New Bedford Through the Lens—A Walk Through History***.

***New Bedford Through the Lens: A Walk Through History*** is about the history of New Bedford with an emphasis on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, as told through the lens of photographers and the point of view of curator, Diane Gilbert. Ms. Gilbert's last exhibition at the New Bedford Art Museum was a retrospective of local Fairhaven painter, Charles Henry Gifford [1839-1904], *An Artist's Journey*, during the summer of 2007.

This exhibition is the curator's tribute to New Bedford, with the city and its people as the main characters—supported by a cast of talented and brilliant photographers, all artists in their own right. Featured photographers representing the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries include the Bierstadt Brothers, T.E.M. White, Albert Cook Church, James E. Reed, photojournalists Arthur Packard and Milton Sylvia, at the local level, along with Walker Evans, the celebrated icon of modern documentary photography who photographed New Bedford in 1931, and the accomplished Jack Delano, hired by the FDR Administration [no relation] to document the United States during the depression, and who photographed New Bedford in early 1941, just before WWII.

With over 175 images on view, the show will bring to life the city's economic, cultural, and social history. "Visitors will be transported on a journey of discovery as they bear witness to the city's past glories and achievements, its travails and struggles, successes, large and small, adversity overcome in all its forms," according to Ms Gilbert. Museum-goers will be invited to delve into and celebrate the dynamic resiliency of New Bedford's people and their own heritage. The New Bedford identity is the quintessential American identity. The show is meant to inspire and motivate visitors of all ages, cultures, ethnicities, economic strata, and walks of life to take their own "walk through history".

"The New Bedford Art Museum continues to present engaging and innovative exhibits that captivate the imagination and inspire appreciation for all types of art. With its newest exhibit, "***New Bedford Through the Lens***," the New Bedford Art Museum will offer a unique opportunity to travel back in time and study our city's rich history beginning with the whaling era through to the modern day," said Mayor Scott W. Lang.

The New Bedford Art Museum will offer a robust summer lecture series, special education programs and events connected to the show. A companion catalogue will be available for sale.

The official opening of the ***New Bedford Through the Lens*** exhibit, and NBAM's second exhibit in the museum's Community Gallery, ***Time Has Left its Mark – The photographs of Pamela Calore***, is June 8 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. to coincide with the New Bedford Art Museum's summer hours. At 7 p.m. on Thursday's AHA! Night of June 9, the curator of ***New Bedford Through the Lens***, Diane Gilbert, will provide a walking tour of this wonderful exhibit. On Saturday, June 11, the public is cordially invited to the Opening Reception, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Refreshments will be served along with a cash bar.

***New Bedford Through the Lens*** is generously sponsored by: Fiber Optics, Island Foundation, Medium Studios, New Bedford Credit Union, Pimental Contractors, Reynolds-Dewalt Printing Services, and Spinner Publications.

***Photographic images from the exhibit will be furnished upon request by emailing kater@newbedfordartmuseum.org***

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*Hours: Tuesday - Sunday, 10 am - 5 pm. AHA! Nights, the 2nd Thursday of the month, 5 - 9 pm  
General Admission: Adults \$5, Students & Seniors \$3, Children under 18 & Members free.*

New Bedford Art Museum  
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