



NEW BEDFORD

Historical Society

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Dear AASLH Award of Merit Committee,

The New Bedford Historical Society strongly endorses Spinner Publications' *A Picture History of New Bedford: Volume Two ~ 1924-1980* for the AASLH's Award of Merit in acknowledgement of Spinner's outstanding accomplishment in thoroughly researching and recording New Bedford's local history in this noteworthy history book. *A Picture History of New Bedford: Volume Two* speaks directly about difficult historical social and racial issues without flinching from telling painful truths. However, the book doesn't preach. It leaves judgment up to its readers. *Volume Two* deals with sensitive subjects such as race riots in the 1970s and also includes stories about people of color who were significant contributors to music, politics and community life as well as ordinary citizens such as business owners, marching band members, city officials, students, fishermen, aviators and demonstrators.

The New Bedford Historical Society is dedicated to documenting and celebrating the history, legacy and presence of African Americans, Cape Verdeans, Native Americans, West Indians and other people of color in New Bedford, Massachusetts. Our members hope to preserve the legacy of our forefathers and mothers, who through their bravery, ingenuity and zeal advanced the cause of freedom.

Spinner's comprehensive *Picture History* supports this mission by incorporating the history of New Bedford's people of color into the overall city history, allowing for contemporary and future generations to understand its deep, rich and sometimes complicated cultural past. So often the communities that the Historical Society represents are left out of local history publications. We are always pleased with the level of inclusion and diversity that Spinner publications exhibit.

A Picture History of New Bedford Volume Two is exemplary in its forthright depiction of the ups and downs, trials and successes of a city striving to flourish and improve the lives of its community — New Bedford's rich diverse ethnic groups.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Ramos
Education and Program Chair

*Preserving and celebrating the heritage of African-Americans, Cape Verdeans,
American Indians, West Indians and other people of color in New Bedford, Massachusetts*
