

**FESTIVAL PERFORMERS TO VISIT AREA SCHOOLS**  
**Performers to share sea stories, fisher poetry and maritime music**

**New Bedford, MA, September 12, 2011**— Fourteen authors and performers, who will be featured at this year's Working Waterfront Festival, will arrive early to share their talents with some 1,500 area students. Thanks to funding from the **Target Foundation**, programs will take place in eight schools on Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The youngest students (grades pre k-2) will enjoy original stories presented by authors Joanne Leech (*Little Ocean Annie and her Clam Dog*) and Daisy Nell (*The Stowaway Mouse*). Nell and her partner Stan Collinson, better known as "Captain Stan," will also present maritime music. These programs will take place at St. James St. John School and Alma del Mar. Fisher poetry and music are on tap for high school English classes at New Bedford High School and Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School with a program presented by fisher poet Geno Leech of Astoria, Oregon and songwriter Jon Campbell of Narragansett, Rhode Island. Students from Quinn Elementary School and Our Sisters School will learn about the history of the Chesapeake Bay oyster fishery from Calico Jack, a duo who hail from that region. The Northern Neck Chantey Singers, a group of retired menhaden fishermen from Northern Neck Virginia, will present their unique tradition of African-American work songs for students at Carney Academy and Global Learning Charter Public School.

The **Working Waterfront Festival** is a project of the **Community Economic Development Center of Southeastern MA**, a non-profit organization. A FREE, 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 September 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>. Navigate to us at [www.workingwaterfrontfestival.org](http://www.workingwaterfrontfestival.org).

**Working Waterfront Festival School Programs  
Friday, September 23, 2011**

**Stories and Songs of the Sea with Joanne Leech and Daisy Nell & Captain Stan**

10:00-10:45 St. James St. John School

1:15-2:00 Alma Del Mar

**African-American Chanteys from the Menhaden Fishery (Northern Neck Chantey Singers)**

8:45-9:30 Global Learning Charter Public School

10:00-10:45 Carney Academy

**Fisher poetry and Song with Geno Leech and Jon Campbell**

9:15-10:00 New Bedford High School

1:00-1:45 Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School

**Chesapeake Songs and Stories with Calico Jack**

12:00-12:45 Quinn Elementary School

1:00-1:45 Quinn Elementary School & Our Sisters School (at Quinn)

**Photos and bios of authors and performers available upon request**

**Working Waterfront Festival**

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Navigate to us on the web at: [www.workingwaterfrontfestival.org](http://www.workingwaterfrontfestival.org)

2011 Festival Dates: September 24 & 25