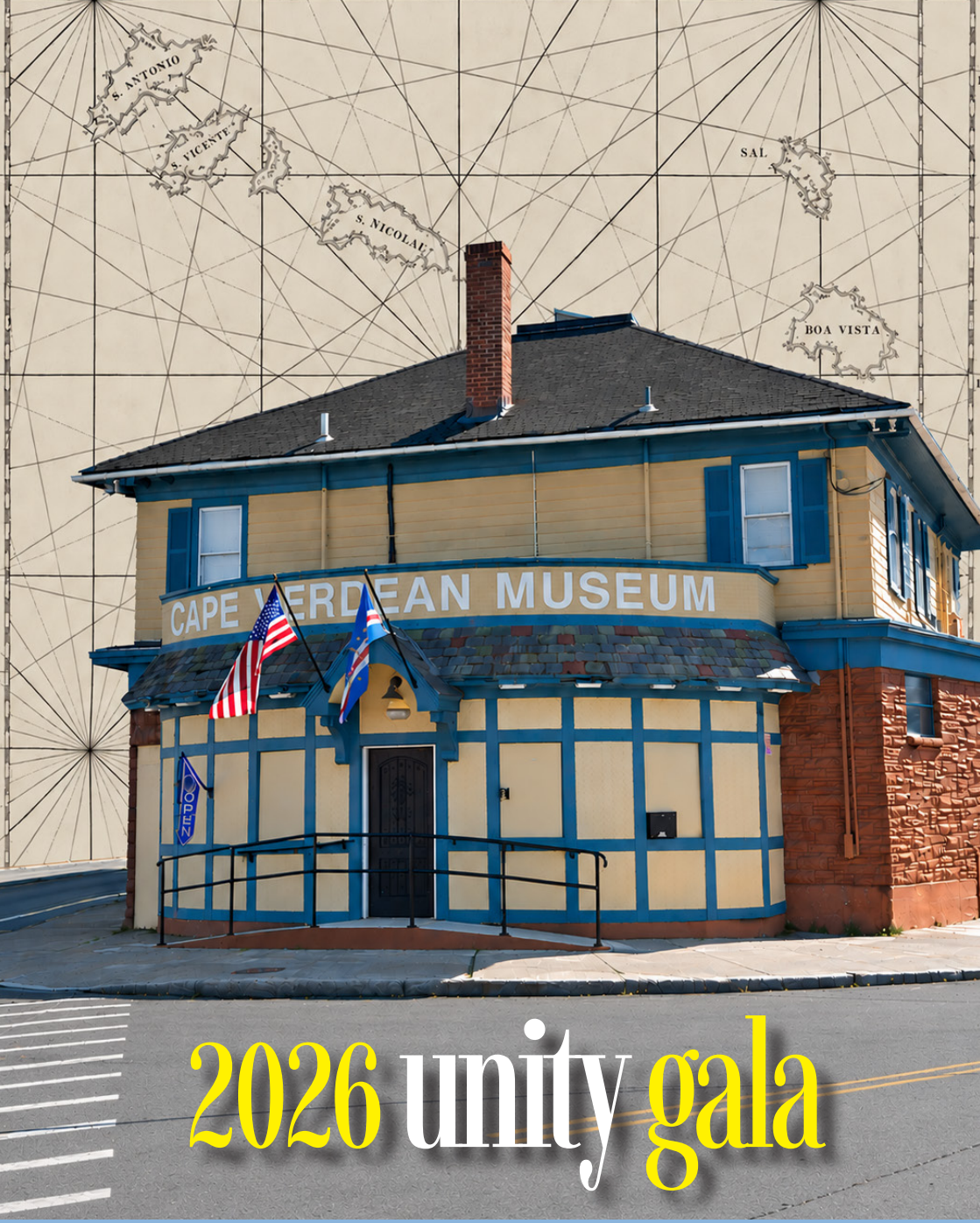


2026 unity gala

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

55 MEMORIAL DRIVE, PAWTUCKET, RHODE ISLAND

table of contents

02. WELCOME MESSAGE

03. TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

05. A TRIBUTE TO DR. ISADORE RAMOS





COMMUNITY BUILDER AWARDS 07.

EVENTS AT THE MUSEUM 09.

10. THE BLUE SHARKS

11.–13. PROGRAMS & VISITORS

14.–15. OUTREACH & PRESS





OUR MUSICAL GUESTS 16.

THE GERBERA DAISY 17.

TONIGHT'S SPONSOR 18.

welcome message

This has been an important year for our community. People from around the world turned their attention to Cabo Verde and Caboverdians in America because of the incredible talent of the Blue Sharks on a global stage. We also suffered the loss of people we deeply respected, particularly Dr. Isadore Ramos, who was an essential part of our museum's success for over two decades.

Tonight, we pay loving tribute to Dr. Ramos and recognize seven community builders who carry on his legacy through leadership, service, advocacy and mentorship. Through their selfless work, they are paving the way for future generations!

As you will see in the following pages, this has been a year of growth and excitement at the Cape Verdean Museum. Our calendar was packed with great events and we drew enthusiastic visitors from across the globe. Our volunteers have been essential in that success, and we thank them for all that they do!

We are also incredibly grateful for our donors. This is a difficult time for nonprofits in the United States and we could not survive without you. We hope that you are generous again in the year ahead as we continue to share the important stories of Cabo Verde and Caboverdians in America.

Thank you for being here and supporting us tonight!

- Jose DaMoura, Executive Director, Cape Verdean Museum

tonight's program

Masters of Ceremonies

Any Delgado

Ineida Rocha

6:00: Doors Open/Cocktail Hour

7:15: Dinner Service Begins

8:35: Welcome & Opening Remarks by

Consul General Octavio Gomes

State Senator Robert Britto

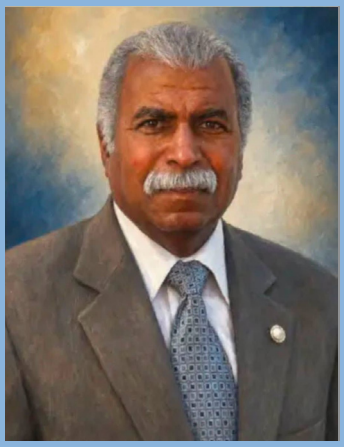
Mayor Donald Grebien

Our Title Sponsor, Centreville Bank

9:00: Memorial Tribute to Dr. Isadore Ramos

Moment of Silence

Speakers: Joseph Moniz, Corsino Delgado and Jose DaMoura



9:10: Community Builder Award Ceremony

Celebrating those who have strengthened our community and the mission of the Cape Verdean Museum

9:40 - 12:30: Live Entertainment



Tito Paris

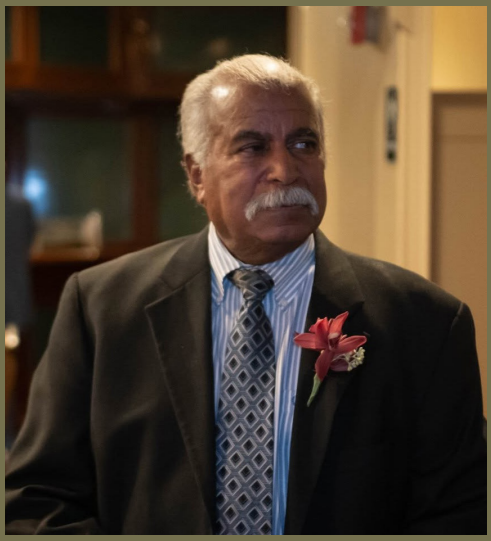
ZeRui

Fefe

Alex & Band

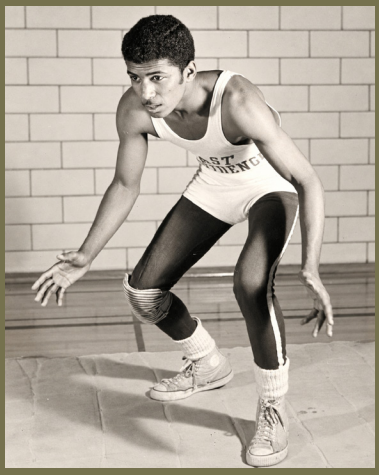
a tribute to Dr. Isadore Ramos

Dr. Isadore Ramos was a true Cape Verdean-American hero. Even before becoming the first mayor of an American city of Cape Verdean heritage, he had earned a reputation for being passionate about his community. For his efforts, he was deeply respected for his wisdom, charm and support of so many causes in his hometown of East Providence.



Born on April 20, 1937, "Izzy" was the son of Mochinho and Laura Ramos. He distinguished himself early on as a talented athlete. He spent 35 years in the service of the East Providence School Department, rising to the level of Assistant Superintendent there in 1979. He received Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in education from the University of Southern Illinois, and a certificate of administration from Rhode Island College. He also earned a certificate of advanced graduate study from the University of Connecticut and obtained his Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Administration from the University of Connecticut.

In 2002, Dr. Ramos won a seat on the East Providence City Council and, in 2006, was elected Mayor of the City of East Providence, becoming the first person of Cape Verdean heritage to achieve this position in the United States.





Izzy was an All-American wrestler at East Providence High School (left) and spent his life showing "townie pride" for his beloved hometown.

On June 10, 2014, the East Providence School Committee named the newly renovated East Providence High School gymnasium in his honor. In 2016, he was appointed to the Rhode Island Board of Elections and, in 2019, his portrait was unveiled at the East Providence City Hall. He served as president of the Cape Verdean Progressive Center, was inducted into the East Providence High School Hall of Fame and was involved in many other organizations both city and statewide.

Dr. Ramos was also a longtime supporter of the Cape Verdean Museum. He worked with founder Denise Oliveira from the museum's inception in 2003, and served as one of its first board members. He continued in that role for the next 23 years and very graciously helped us locate our first space, on Waterman Street in East Providence. Izzy led the museum board through its stages of growth and change, and helped envision our new home in Pawtucket, always offering sage advice and loving support. For his incredible work, he was inducted into the Cape Verdean Museum Hall of Fame.

Dr. Isadore Ramos passed away on July 27, 2026. Many people have since shared stories of Izzy's mentorship, friendship, leadership and passionate support of the causes closest to his heart. He will be profoundly missed by his many, many friends in the Cape Verdean community, in Rhode Island and beyond. We can take solace in the fact that his impact will continue to be felt for generations to come.

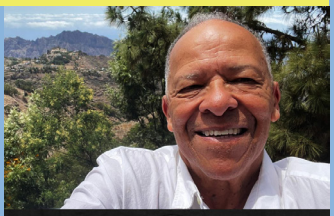
community builder awards





Tonight, the Cape Verdean Museum is proud to recognize individuals and an organization whose commitment to our community goes beyond words. The Community Builder Award honors those who have demonstrated through their actions a genuine dedication to strengthening our community, preserving our culture, supporting others and helping create opportunities for future generations.

Erik Andrade



Cabo Verdeans United (Genie Lomba and Tila Adams)



Donald A. Lopes



George Lopes

Jovino Peres



Donald J. Senna



thank you to our amazing volunteers, work-study students and hardworking board members!

- Gaby Santos, Head Docent
- Sheila Conway, Librarian & Docent
- Al Gomes, Community Outreach
- Eliezer LB, Video Production
- King Carvalho, IT Specialist
- Milton Spencer, IT Specialist
- Nilton Tavares, Volunteer
- Maria DaMoura, Volunteer
- Marilia DaMoura, Volunteer
- And Lily, our ever helpful printer!

Above: Corsino Delgado, chair of the museum board, Yvonne M. Smart, Albert Gomes, Gaby Santos, Sheila Conway & executive director Jose DaMoura. Below: Boston's Cape Verdean Language program.





events at the museum



From lectures to photography exhibits, from book talks to community get-togethers, we've had a very busy schedule of great events at the Cape Verdean Museum this year!

Top: exhibit on the legacy of Amilcar Cabral. Also above: "Easter Brunch on the Spectrum & Autism," organized by Kriola Events. Right: lecture on Cabral. Below, left: photo exhibit by artist Sonya Tanae. Below right: the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts and the Pawtucket Arts Commission's "Mix and Mingle: Artists & Arts Entrepreneurs" event.



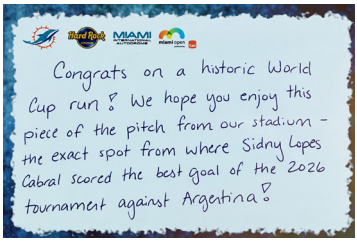




the blue sharks



The amazing success of Cabo Verde's soccer team put a spotlight on both Cabo Verde and the Caboverdeans in the United States. Representatives of the museum attended the Blue Sharks' official send-off party at Centreville Stadium, held a watch party at the museum and received a good deal of press coverage as Americans sought to learn more about our community.





As a result of these efforts, we were thrilled to receive a piece of the pitch from which Sidny Lopes Cabral scored the best goal of the World Cup. With the help of Brown University's Herbarium Department, we preserved this relic and added it to our sports exhibit on the Blue Sharks, which includes a signed ball.









educational programs



For the third year now, our summer music classes were a success thanks to Calu Di Guida and Kim Alves, and also Ronny Tavares and Valdir Cabral. Dr. Silas Pinto taught his Kriolu language class at the museum for the fourth year. Thank you, Dr. Pinto!

Above top: our children's music class (in conjunction with the Excel & Ready Community Program). Also above: Dr. Silas Pinto addresses educators from the Pawtucket School Department. Right: Dr. Donaldo Macedo, of UMass, Boston, led a scholarly discussion on poet Eugénio Tavares. Bottom left: storyteller Len Cabral on "Family Day." Bottom right: students in our adult music class, taught by Kim Alves.







our distinguished visitors



Since the museum opened in 2005, people from 38 states, two U.S. territories and 62 countries have passed through our doors. This year, we welcomed a wide variety of supporters, from the Consulate General of Cabo Verde to the Cape Verdean Club of Carver, Massachusetts.

Above: Taresa Fernandes. Right: Dr. Ramos hosts Minister José Luís Sá Nogueira. Bottom left: guests from California, Georgia, Brooklyn, Brockton and Rotterdam visit on the same day. Bottom right: Pawtucket CV Adventist Church Youth Group.







student tours



Over the past twelve months, the museum has hosted school groups from RISD, Connecticut's Norwich Free Academy (visiting us since 2007!), Met High School, Pawtucket's Shea High School, the Jewish Community Day School and the City of Boston's Cape Verdean Language & Culture Preservation program. The Pawtucket School Department also held a "Family Day" at the museum.

Above: a Pawtucket Public School student at the museum on "Family Day." Right: Nilson Silva's Shea High School students. Below: Leo Butler's Norwich Free Academy class. Below right: Jewish Community Day School of Rhode Island students.







community outreach



The *Ernestina* came to Providence! This historic event, arranged by the museum, drew several hundred people to India Point Park, where we showcased a special exhibit, "America 250: Many Stories, One Nation." We also launched our very own YouTube channel this year and released our first-ever documentary, "Cape Verdean Cranberry, The Fernandes Family Story." These are just some of the many efforts of the hardworking museum team in 2026.

Above: Corsino Delgado and others aboard the historic packet ship *Ernestina* in Providence. Below: "Cape Verdean Cranberry," a documentary produced by the museum. Right: Rhode Island College invited members of the museum for a symposium on Kriolu and Portuguese. Bottom right: officials from Rhode Island museums representing communities of color meet in our second-floor Virginia Gonsalves conference room.







press coverage

We received some very positive media attention in 2026, with coverage appearing on WPRI/WNAC, WBZ NewsRadio, RTC - Rádio Televisão Cabo-verdiana, Ocean State Media, ASBR Channel and the Really Charlie Podcast, as well as in the *Boston Globe* and Brown University's newsletter.





The Boston Globe

WORLD CUP

A history of living on hope: Cape Verdeans ready to watch their team surprise the world — again

The Cape Verdean Museum in Pawtucket, R.I., is hosting a watch party at the national soccer team tries beat the odds and advance in the World Cup

By Edward Fitzpatrick Globe Staff, Updated June 25, 2026, 5:55 a.m.









thank you to
our musical guests



tito paris, zerui, fefe and alex & band

the gerbera daisy



On the tables tonight, you will find the Gerbera daisy, which is the national flower of Cabo Verde. It reflects the country's commitment to preserving its natural environment and celebrating its vibrant landscapes. Its bright and colorful petals - ranging from red, orange, pink to yellow - represent the diversity and beauty of Cabo Verde's islands. The delicate structure of the flower also symbolizes the resilience and fragility of the nation and the people, highlighting the importance of environmental protection and sustainability.

The Gerbera daisy is more than just a decorative plant; it is a cultural emblem woven into Cape Verdean heritage, art and identity. It thrives in the islands' challenging climates, from the volcanic soils of Fogo to the green valleys of Santo Antão, demonstrating the nation's endurance and adaptability.

tonight's sponsor



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Thank you to Centreville Bank and everyone else who supported the Cape Verdean Museum this year for your incredible generosity!



One Community
One Culture
One Future

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