Exploring Paul Cuffe: The Man and his Legacy

A Public Symposium
Saturday, October 3, 2009
8:30 AM – 5 PM

New Bedford Whaling Museum
18 Johnny Cake Hill, New Bedford, MA
Event is free of charge and open to the public.

In commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the birth of Paul Cuffe (1759 – 1817), a symposium of local and national scholars will explore the many aspects of Captain Cuffe. Each session will include a panel discussion and time for questions and comments with a focus on:

- Paul Cuffe and relationships with the black and white community
- Cuffe’s entrepreneurial and philanthropic ventures
- Sierra Leone - Rise to be a people
- Contemporary relevance of Cuffe and his legacy

Sponsors: New Bedford Historical Society; New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park; Westport Historical Society, Old Dartmouth Historical Society; Rotch-Jones-Duff House and Museum; University of Massachusetts Dartmouth.

8:30 – 9 AM Coffee and Registration
9:00 – 9:15 Welcome and Introduction
9:15 – 9:45 Opening Keynote by Lamont Thomas, author of Rise to be a People: A Biography of Paul Cuffe.
9:45 – 10:00 Panel Discussion, Q & A
10:00 – 10:15 Break
10:15 – 11:00 Local relationships and Cuffe

Marion Kilson, Scholar, Museum of African American History, Boston, author of Kpele Lala: Ga Religious Songs and Symbols
Paul Cuffe’s Social Networks and Economic Success
Richard Kugler, former Director of New Bedford Whaling Museum.  
The Collaboration of Captain Paul Cuffe and Captain Isaac Cory of Westport

11:00 – 11:15  Panel Discussion, Q & A

11:30 – 12:00  Ray Rickman, former president of the Rhode Island Black Heritage Society and was secretary of the Rhode Island Historical Society and is a dealer in rare African American books.  
Reading Paul Cuffe

12:00 – 1:30  Lunch

1:30 – 2:15  In the Time of Cuffe -  
Julie Winch, University of MA-Boston, is the author of a Gentleman of Color; A Biography of James Forten.  
“Thou Art Often the Companion of my Mind”:  
Cuffe, James Forten and the Portrait of a Friendship

Struggles for Freedom in Seacoast New Hampshire

2:15 – 2:30  Panel discussion, Q & A

2:30 – 2:45  Break

2:45 – 3:30  Rise to be a People - Sierra Leone
David Cole, former Lecturer on Economics, Harvard University, author of Between a Swamp and Hard Place: Developmental Challenges in Remote Rural Africa
Overcoming Incredible Odds: Paul Cuffe and Sierra Leone

Kevin Lowther, former director of Africare, author of The African-American Odyssey of John Kizell  
Sierra Leone: If Paul Cuffe had Lived

3:30 – 3:45  Panel discussion, Q & A

3:45 – 4:30  Closing keynote

For additional information Please contact the New Bedford Historical Society at www.nbhistoricalsociety.org or the Westport Historical Society at www.westporthistory.com.
Paul Cuffe Symposium Pre-Registration Form

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18 Johnny Cake Hill
New Bedford, MA 02740

Cost / Fees
This Public Symposium is FREE of charge and open to the public.

* Pre-registration is advised as space is limited.

What is Your Information?

Name

Address

City / State / Zip

Home Phone or Cell

Email

Organization

Position / Grade Level / Subject

Hotel Information

If you are traveling to the Symposium and would like to stay in our local area, we recommend the following hotels:

- Hampton Inn, Fairhaven
  1 Hampton Way
  Fairhaven, MA 02719
  1-800-Hampton or 508-990-8500
  * Ask for the PCS room rate

- Paquachuck Inn (Bed and Breakfast)
  2056 Main Road
  Westport Point, MA 02791
  508-636-4398

- Davenport House (Bed and Breakfast)
  124 Cottage Street
  New Bedford, MA 02740
  508-999-1177

- Captain Haskell’s Octagon House (Bed and Breakfast)
  374 Union Street
  New Bedford, MA 02740
  508-999-3933

Please Submit This Form To:
Lee Blake, President
New Bedford Historical Society
21 Seventh Street
New Bedford, MA 02740
Email: nbhistory@verizon.net

For more information and updates on the symposium visit:
www.nbhistoricalsociety.org
www.westporthistory.com