WELCOME TO AHA! NIGHT

Made in New Bedford | November 12, 2026

Each AHA! Night is a celebration of art, history, architecture–and community! Use the activity listings below and the map on the back to explore all the creativity that New Bedford has to offer on this magical AHA! Night.

GO EXPLORE, CREATE, & HAVE FUN.

1. 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

NEW BEDFORD WHALING NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK VISITOR CENTER
33 WILLIAM ST

Celebrate 30 years of People, Places, & Possibilities by making a one-of-a-kind New Bedford keepsake. Until 8 pm, pick up a 30th Anniversary Collector Card, paint with watercolors, then get your card stamped from the park and partner sites through October 2027.

4-7 pm Make leaf rubbings, a wearable pin, or other crafts to celebrate the fall foliage with the Trustees' Mobile Adventures team. Look for the green Adventure Van.

4-5:30 pm At the Junior Ranger Station, step back in time and create your own Victorian-inspired bonnet with the 1850s Ladies to wear at the park's anniversary celebration.

5:30 pm Enjoy a slice of cake to celebrate!

6-7:30 pm Join the Iñupiat Heritage Center for traditional Iñupiat dancing, a presentation on how the Iñupiat hunted whales, & a Q&A about life in Utqiaġvik, then and now.

2. THE NATHAN AND POLLY JOHNSON HOUSE

21 7TH ST., 5-6:30 PM

As part of the National Park's anniversary celebration, **the Nathan and Polly Johnson House will be open to guests, courtesy of the New Bedford Historical Society**.

Nathan and Polly Johnson, prominent African American abolitionists in New Bedford, sheltered many people escaping slavery. It was here, in September 1838, that Frederick Douglass found freedom, a new name, and, with his wife Anna, his first home in freedom.

Bring your Collector Card to get it stamped! The house will be closed to visitors after this event, except by appointment, until spring.

3. AHA! ARTISAN MARKET AT THE STAR STORE

715 Purchase St., 5-8 pm

AHA! Artisan Market: nearly 50 local artists and makers fill the Star Store. Hear music from WNB One Radio, enjoy hands-on demonstrations with the Star Store's ceramics and printmaking studios, & visit the gift wrapping station, sponsored by First Citizens' Federal Credit Union.

See ***Salty Stitches***, a protest art exhibition by Cheryl Deane, including a free embroidery station where you can sit and embroider.

Join the closing reception for the ***American Dream Exhibition***, featuring work by 10 New England artists exploring the tension between collective myths and individual experiences of the American Dream.

AHA! Moment: The Art and Language of Food. Rhonda Fazio shares samples of delectable desserts and hot, soothing drinks. Take home a recipe!

AHA! NIGHT WALKING TOUR AT 6 PM

Explore downtown's rich culture, public art, and historic architecture, with stops along the way to take in some of the evening's live experiences. **Tours begin at 6 pm** by the AHA! welcome table at the Star Store. "Hop off" to further enjoy various AHA! Night experiences.

4. NEW BEDFORD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY
613 Pleasant St., 3-5 pm
Decorate your own apron and browse the Friends of the Library Book Sale. While supplies last.

5. BRISTOL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
800 Purchase St., 4-8 pm
All are invited to share their personal stories and traditions. Attend with family and **use guided prompts to record your story at a storytelling station**. Oral histories will be featured in a mini-documentary to be shown at a later date.

6. NEW BEDFORD RESEARCH & ROBOTICS
1277 Purchase St., 4:30-6:30 pm
See What's Made in NB at the NBRR Lab! Watch industrial robots create, design, & innovate using cutting-edge technologies.

7. 3RD EYE YOUTH EMPOWERMENT
230 Union St.
4:30 pm Drop by this community incubator for an evening of **creativity, connections, and community conversations**, with hands-on activities from Livity Tree Art, South East Recovery Learning Community, & Clear the Lens, plus "Inspired Looks," a live modeling event in the Window Gallery with the Circular Threads youth cohort. The door is kept locked; knock to enter.
7-9 pm Anomaly Poetry open mic goes until the poems run out!

8. PILGRIM UNITED CHURCH HOME
634 Purchase St., 5-7 pm
Make your own leaf lantern & enjoy live music by Dan and friends. Plus, see the Booker T. Washington Mural on the side of the building.

9. NEW BEDFORD ART MUSEUM
608 Pleasant St., 5-8 pm
Celebrate Made in NB with FREE admission, including two new exhibitions - ***Intuitive: A Survey of Visionary Art*** and ***Morocco, Seen Closely: Photographs by Laurie Bullard***, plus, ***agriCultural: A Biennial Exhibition*** continues.

You can also take part in a **scrimshaw-inspired soap carving activity, and a self-guided scavenger hunt**.

10. INTERWOVEN ARTIST GALLERY
634 Pleasant St., 5-8 pm
Kim's Myth: **Kim Smith performs original music,** plus demonstrations by the Sustainabubble Project on the storefront stages, and massage chairs.

11. HOUSE OF GAMBOA & LUISA EDIT
121 Union St., 5-8 pm
Enjoy **children's books and community activities** with author Eldric R. Abreu, New Bedford Public Health, and the Foster Parents Program, and enter for a chance to win $75 and $250 gift certificates.

12. WATERFRONT CARD SHOP
752 Purchase St., 5-8 pm
Visit the interactive art station where children and adults can **make origami whales, whale-themed coloring pages, and clay sculptures**, with a whale conservation theme. Waterfront Card Shop is a new trading card/collectible shop downtown.

13. GALLERY X
169 William St., 5-8 pm
Shop the Artist & Vendor Market with about a dozen local artists and vendors, plus discounts on art supplies in the gift shop! While there, view ***Radiance***, a solo exhibition by Tammi J. Meehan dedicated to the memory of Lorin Roche.

14. NEW BEDFORD FISHING HERITAGE CENTER
38 Bethel St., 5-8 pm
Free admission! Plus, shop local this holiday season at the **Local Artisan Showcase**, featuring fishing- and maritime-themed clothing, jewelry, art, and handmade goods.

15. SERLINGPA MEDITATION CENTER
514 Pleasant St., 5:30-7 pm
Open House: take a shrine tour, enjoy refreshments, and browse the bookstore in this beautiful space. At 6 pm, join for a gratitude talk and guided meditation.

16. ZEITERION SPEAKEASY
684 Purchase St.
6-8 pm AHA! Night Jazz Jam with sax player Emmanuel "Manny" Escobar and musician/educator Mwalim DaPhunkee Professor. The first 30 minutes are dedicated to young people. (Doors at 5:30pm)
8-10 pm Wamptronica's AAAHHHhhh After Dark Deep Afro Jazz House Jam.

17. NEW BEDFORD HARBOR HOTEL
222 Union St., 6-8 pm
Enjoy some speakeasy jazz from the Buttonwood Brass Band, on every AHA! Night.

18. SANGHA YOGA NB
693 Purchase St., 7-9 pm
The Art of Ecstatic Meditation: learn the four stages of **OSHO Active Ecstatic Meditation**–shake and dance to become aware–with opening and closing circles. Doors open at 7 pm; opening circle at 7:30 pm. Barefoot, alcohol-free, and fragrance-free.

19. BENTO'S
555 Pleasant St.
8-10 pm AHA! After Dark: Karaoke Night with DJ Big Chan.

20. THE POUR FARM TAVERN
780 Purchase St., 8-11:30 pm
Grab a bite or a pint and listen to **Electric Blues & Rock with the Neal McCarthy Trio.**

21. PLAY ARCADE
34 Union St., 8 pm-midnight
Belt out some tunes with karaoke, food, fun & games! 21+

AHA! AFTER DARK

AHA! After Dark features AHA! Night activities that begin or continue past 8 pm! After Dark activities are noted with a crescent moon icon!

This month's AHA! Night is supported in part by:

BayCoast BANK

Thank you to our ongoing supporters

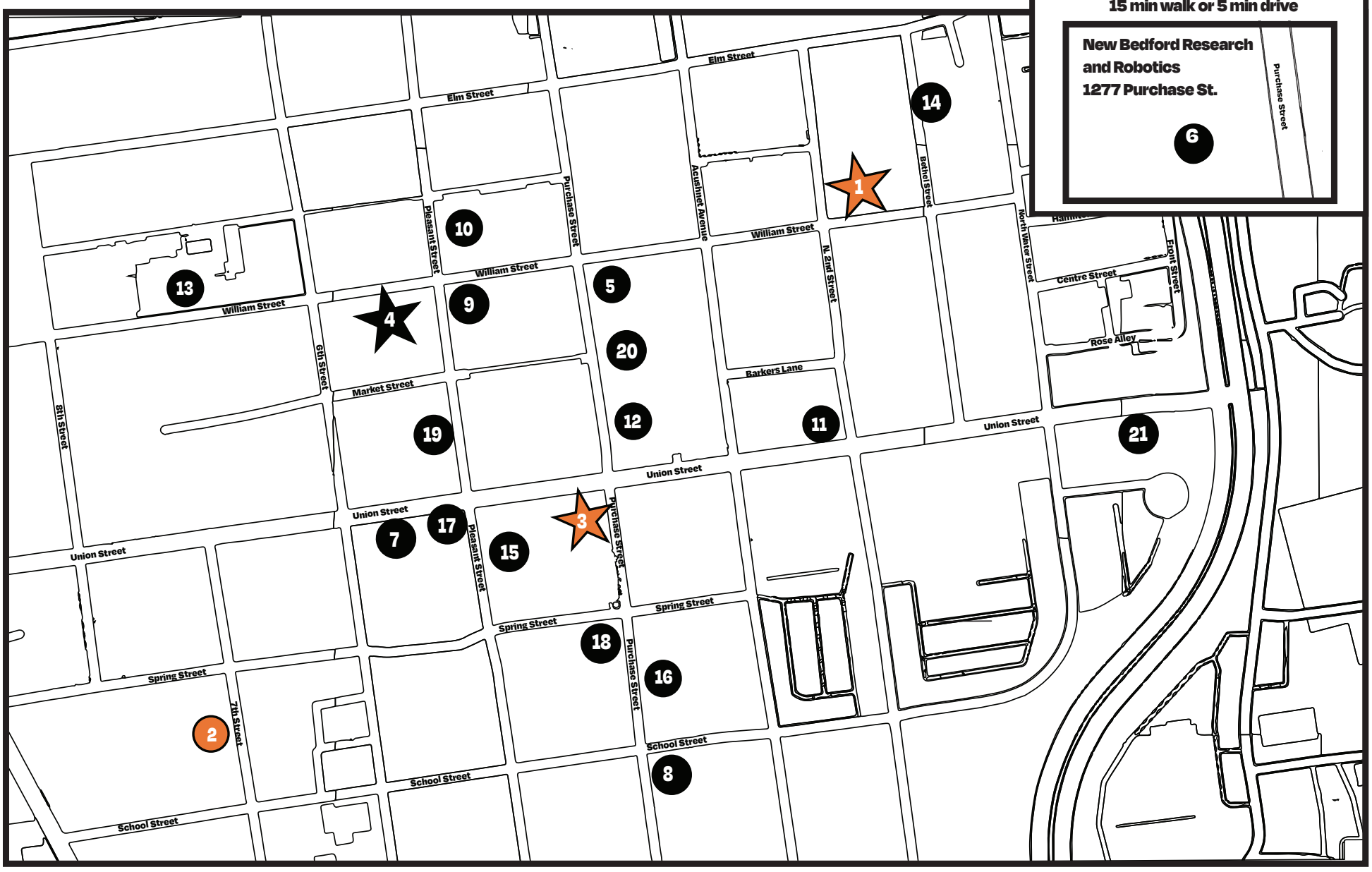
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AHA! NIGHT DOWNTOWN MAP

Numbered spots indicate program locations.

STARRED LOCATIONS HAVE PUBLIC RESTROOMS (Public Library, National Park Visitors' Center)



...and close by

15 min walk or 5 min drive

New Bedford Research and Robotics
1277 Purchase St.
6

Purchase Street

Shopping & more

Ambiance Settings Home Boutique 65 William St.
Unique home decor and furniture
The Art Box Frame Shop 246 Union St.
Custom frame & preservation shop with original art
Aviary Books 22 William St.
Quality used books in most genres
Beauty Union 338 Acushnet Ave ▪ Hair Salon
The Bedford Merchant 28 William St.
Home decor, farm chic and antique replicas
be jeweled 26 Centre St. ▪ Eclectic mix of modern jewelry
Boulder Union Rock Climbing 174 Union St.
Climbing and fitness center
Bushwood Tailor Opp Shop 763 Purchase St.
Slow fashion tailor shop
Calico 173 Union St. ▪ Stylish womenswear boutique
Carters Clothing 55 William St.
High end footwear and work gear
Celia's Boutique 111 William St.
Upscale women's fashions
Cojo Toy World 104 William St. ▪ Vintage toy store
Hewn 760 Purchase St.
New and secondhand clothing and accessories
House of Gamboa 121 Union St.
Home & party decor, handmade gifts & unique pieces
Indigo Spa 26 S. Water St. ▪ Massages and facials
JNSQ Home 58 Spring St.
Curated consignment & interior design
Local Blooms 200 Union St. ▪ Plant and flower shop
Luisa édit Boutique 121 Union St.
Curated fashion, gifts, and more, featuring Wendy Bauer Apparel, handmade sustainable fashion
MadLila 741 Purchase St.
Eclectic vintage and preloved clothing
Moby Dick Nauticals 27 William St.
Nautical jewelry, souvenirs, and gifts
NB Barber Shop 98 William St. ▪ Appt. only barber shop
New Bedford Fiber Arts 753 & 761 Purchase St.
Yarns, notions and classes
New Bedford Tattoo Company 82 Front St. ▪ Tattoo shop
Painting at Splash 772 Purchase St. ▪ Painting studio
Salt & Sol 30 N. Water St. ▪ Unique, locally sourced gifts
Salt77 N. Water 77 North Water St.
Skincare, makeup & nail services
SANGHA New Bedford 693 Purchase St. ▪ Yoga studio
Serlingpa Meditation Center 514 Pleasant St.
Meditation center with classes
Shimmer 187 Union St.
Skincare, makeup, and clean beauty shop
Solstice Skateboarding 801 Purchase St.
Quality skate shop and apparel
Stepping Razor 747 Purchase St.
Traditional American barbershop
U7 Shoe Store 102 William St.
Gently used, designer sneakers and streetwear
Waterfront Card Shop 752 Purchase St.
Trading card, collectible, and hobby shop.
Yum Yum Tiger 767 Purchase St. ▪ Asian mini market

Restaurants, bars, and bites

222 Union Restaurant & Bar (Harbor Hotel) ▪ 222 Union St. ▪ New England fare and craft drinks at night.
The Baker ▪ 562 Pleasant St. ▪ Artisan baked goods, breads, sandwiches, and coffee highlight this small-batch bakery. (Until 2 pm on Thursdays)
Bento's Bar & Grill ▪ 555 Pleasant St. ▪ Apps, entrees and dessert. Full bar.
BesTeas Bubble Tea Room ▪ 498 Pleasant St. ▪ Casual teahouse offering a variety of bubble tea drinks, macarons, cookies, and now ice cream!
The Black Whale ▪ 104 Co Op Wharf (State Pier) ▪ Contemporary bar & eatery serving innovative seafood dishes & raw shellfish amid harbor views.
Bomb Dog New Bedford ▪ 79 N. Water St. ▪ Takeout hot dogs, chips, drinks, snacks and ice cream. (Until 6 pm)
Brick Pizzeria Napoletana ▪ 163 Union St. ▪ Wood-burning brick oven pizza, sandwiches, and salads. Beer and soda.
Café Arpeggio ▪ 800 Purchase St. ▪ Cozy cafe offering smoothies, plus micro-roasted coffee, pastries, and breakfast and lunch sandwiches. (Until 4 pm).
Candela Cucina ▪ 72 N. Water St. ▪ Upscale Italian in the historic Candleworks Building
Coastal Bubbles + Wine Bar ▪ 1 Johnny Cake Hill, Unit 4 ▪ Champagne + wine bar with a curated selection of wines, sparkling beverages, and beer, with educational wine classes on select dates.
Cork Wine & Tapas ▪ 90 Front St. ▪ Tapas, full entrees, dessert, fresh seafood, expansive wine and cocktail menu.
Cultivator Shoals ▪ 35 Union St. ▪ Fresh apps, entrees and dessert. Craft cocktails.
Delicias de Anita ▪ 285 Union St. ▪ Cozy eatery with Salvadoran, Guatemalan, & Mexican meals, including pupusas.
Destination Soups ▪ 149 Union St. ▪ Hot & cold soup, salads & sandwiches, with many vegetarian options. (Until 7 pm on Thursdays)
Green Bean ▪ 740 Purchase St. ▪ Bright, colorful cafe offering coffee drinks, pastries & wraps, including vegan options. (Until 4 pm on Thursdays)
Ground Floor Coffee ▪ 61 Merrills Wharf ▪ Coffee, pastries. (Until 5 pm)
Izzy's ▪ 72 Spring St. ▪ Cozy, family-friendly eatery offering Cape Verdean fare such as cachupa & refogado. (Until 7 pm)
Last Round Bar & Grille ▪ 908 Purchase St. ▪ Casual hangout with food specials and events such as dancing, karaoke, and trivia nights, plus sports on TV.
Merrill's on the Waterfront ▪ 36 Homer's Wharf ▪ Harborside restaurant dishing up local seafood in an upscale setting with waterfront views.
Ming's Sushi ▪ 774 Purchase St. ▪ Low-key restaurant featuring a wide-ranging Japanese menu plus all-you-can-eat lunch & dinner.
Miguel's Restaurant ▪ 253 Union St. ▪ Portuguese restaurant serving small plates for breakfast and lunch in a comfy environment. (Until 2 pm on Thursdays)
Minerva Pizza ▪ 280 Union St. ▪ Pizza, subs and more.
Moby Dick Brewing Co. ▪ 16 S. Water St. ▪ Creative pub eats & house-brewed beers in a rustic, relaxed setting.
The National Club ▪ 24 Union St. ▪ Contemporary and elevated Mexican cuisine.
New Beige ▪ 39 Union St. ▪ Local kitchen with a full lunch and dinner menu, along with craft cocktails, beer, & wine.
No Problemo ▪ 813 Purchase St. ▪ Colorful hipster-chic taqueria also serving beer, sangria & wine. Cash only.
PLAY Arcade ▪ 34 Union St. ▪ Arcade & rooftop bar offering scratch-made comfort fare & a selection of craft beers.
Port Royal ▪ 26 S. Water St. ▪ Casual bar offering craft beer, cocktails, and cigars in a cozy, charming setting.
Pour Farm Tavern ▪ 780 Purchase St. ▪ Craft beer, eclectic sandwiches & a rotating display of art on the walls.
Rose Alley Ale House ▪ 94 Front St. ▪ Polished tavern & bistro featuring high-end bar bites, flat screens in the bar & live music nights.
Sixes & Sevens ▪ 7 S. 6th St. ▪ Informal bar with a variety of craft beer, burgers, hot dogs, & other classic pub grub.
Spicy Lime ▪ 522 Pleasant St. ▪ Classic Thai dishes in a simple setting for dine-in or take away. (Until 8:30 pm)
Tia Maria's European Café ▪ 42 N. Water St. ▪ Family-owned breakfast & lunch spot with dinner some nights plus beer, wine & espresso drinks. (Until 2 pm on Thursdays)
The Vault Pub ▪ 791 Purchase St. ▪ Lively spot offering creative American grub, house-made brews.

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