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> Date: January 15, 2016 For Immediate Release

## PRESS RELEASE

## New Local Author Series at New Bedford Free Public Library Presented by the Library and the New Bedford Historical Society

Sessions will be held every third Tuesday of the month, free and open to the public

**New Bedford, Massachusetts-** The New Bedford Free Public Library and New Bedford Historical Society have partnered to bring a local author series to the community on the third Tuesday of each month. The first event will be held next Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Main Library in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor meeting room.

The sessions are free, open to the public and light refreshments will be served.

Eleanor Lopes Akahloun, author of "The Magic of Dreams: An American Diplomat's Journey" is the first author featured in the series. Her story is that of a retired American diplomat who served in the U.S. Foreign Service for forty-three years. Eleanor L. Akahloun, shares a remarkable personal and professional journey from humble, yet inspiring beginnings in her tightly knit Cape Verdean American community in Onset, Massachusetts. Her firsthand account of working with the U.S. State Department as a Foreign Service Human Resources Officer provides a peek into her colorful adventures and valuable lessons learned from her travels across all seven continents. This book is an affirmation that dreams are magical, that there is beauty—amidst challenges— in chasing them.

Akahloun has visited over fifty countries, traveled to the seven continents, and held overseas assignments in the Philippines, Morocco, Kenya, Tunisia, Canada, Uruguay, China, and Venezuela. She has two children and currently resides outside of Washington, D.C., where she enjoys writing, giving book talks, making presentations, traveling, practicing yoga, and engaging in volunteer work. For more information on the series, please contact Library Director, Olivia Melo at (508) 961-3044 or <a href="mailto:omelo@sailsinc.org">omelo@sailsinc.org</a>.

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