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**CITY OF NEW BEDFORD**  
**Jonathan F. Mitchell, Mayor**

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## PRESS RELEASE

### New Bedford Cable Network Wins 5 Awards in Competition Spanning New England and New York

**New Bedford, MA** – New Bedford Cable Network (NBCN) won five awards at the annual ceremony recently held by the Northeast Chapter of the Alliance for Community Media.

The highest honor coming back to New Bedford is a first-place award in the About Access & Community Media category to Dana Debarros and Suzanne Richard for the “Ask Peg” video, an educational piece on how city residents can engage with NBCN.

“The talented team at New Bedford Cable Network delivers outstanding programming,” Mayor Jon Mitchell said. “Being honored among the best in New England and New York is certainly no surprise to City residents who have seen their first-class productions over the years.”

The Northeast Region of the Alliance for Community Media held its annual awards ceremony in Burlington, Vermont, on Nov. 16. New Bedford Cable Network winners included:

- About Access & Community Media, first place: “Ask Peg” Dana Debarros and Suzanne Richard
- Arts & Theatre, second place: “NB Creative” Dana Debarros
- PSA/Short Program, second place: “Sleep on It” Suzanne Richard and New Bedford Public Schools
- General Talk Show, second place: “In the Toy Box” Charlene Rocha Arruda, Matthew Arruda, Kevin Belli
- Sports Programming, third place: “Schvitz’n with Norm” Suzanne Richard and Norm Meltzer

#### **About New Bedford Cable Network**

The New Bedford Cable Network (NBCN) operates the City of New Bedford’s Public, Educational and Government Access television channels. For New Bedford residents,

Government Access is Channel 18, Educational Access is Channel 9, and Public Access is Channel 95. Professional staff have been filming and producing original programming at NBCN for 20 years. The network has received national awards for several of its productions.

**About the Alliance for Community Media National and Northeast Regional Awards**

Each year, the Hometown Media Awards honors and promotes community media, and local cable programs that are distributed on Public, Educational and Governmental (PEG) access cable television channels. Awards are presented to creative programs that address community needs, develop diverse community involvement, challenge conventional commercial television formats, and move viewers to experience television in a different way. The mission of the Alliance for Community Media is to promote civic engagement through community media.