



**CITY OF NEW BEDFORD**  
JONATHAN F. MITCHELL, MAYOR

August 17, 2023

City Council President Linda Morad and  
Honorable Members of the City Council  
City of New Bedford  
133 William Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

RE: Order to Accept Donation of a Mural from Artist Ramiro Davaro-Comas

Dear Council President Morad and Honorable Members:

I am submitting, for your approval, a proposed ORDER for the City of New Bedford to accept a donation of a mural to the Department of Parks, Recreation & Beaches from artist Ramiro Davaro-Comas, which will be placed in the Department's reception area.

Very truly yours,

  
Jonathan F. Mitchell  
Mayor

JFM/ndd

cc: Eric Jaikes, City Solicitor of the City of New Bedford



# CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

## CITY COUNCIL

August 17, 2023

---

**Ordered**, that the City of New Bedford accepts a donation of a mural to the Department of Parks, Recreation & Beaches from artist Ramiro Davaro-Comas pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, § 53A1/2.



# CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

## PARKS, RECREATION & BEACHES

*JONATHAN F. MITCHELL*



To: Mayor Jon Mitchell  
From: Parks Recreation & Beaches  
Date: July 27, 2023  
Re: Mayor's Papers, City Council Agenda for consideration on August 17, 2023

Dear Mayor Mitchell,

Attached please find the letter from the artist Ramiro Davaro-Comas. Ramiro would like to donate a mural that he created for the 2021 Seaport Art Walk, "Lighting the Way", to the Andrea McCoy Recreation Center. The mural depicts portraits of women as community leaders.

The mural will be mounted in the reception area downstairs to brighten up the space for youth and conference room users. The mural will add color and interest to the space and provide opportunities for thought and conversation.

We will work with DFFM to mount the mural appropriately on the wall.

The artist is donating the piece for our ownership and not as a loan.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Mary S Rapoza, Director

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES  
181 HILLMAN STREET, BLDG. #3  
NEW BEDFORD, MA 02740  
PHONE 508-961-3015

MAILING ADDRESS  
181 HILLMAN STREET  
Box #9, NEW BEDFORD, MA 02740  
FAX 508-991-6175

# Ramiro Davaro-Comas

March 17, 2022

Mary S. Rapoza, Director  
Department of Parks, Recreation and Beaches  
City of New Bedford  
181 Hillman Street, #3  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Ms. Rapoza,

I would like to donate an artwork of mine to the City of New Bedford to be displayed at the Andrea McCoy Community Center.

In 2020, I was one of the artists selected for New Bedford's Seaport Art Walk. I created a mural painted on 4' by 8' plywood called "Lighting the Way," which depicts 19 women illustrated together as a community of leaders. The inspiration came from the New Bedford Whaling Museum's "Lighting the Way" project. My stipend for creating this artwork was \$600.

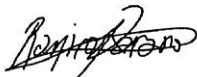
I'm attaching a photo of the work, a short biography, and an image key so you can see the names of all of the prominent women from New Bedford and the South Coast included in the artwork.

They include, in the order on the mural from top left to bottom right:

Noelle Houle, Rosetta Douglass, Jane C. Waters, Sister Aurora Helena Avelar, Lydia Grinnell Brown, Maria Alves, Cecil Clark Davis, Martha Bailey Briggs, Helen Elizabeth Ellis, Laura Keene, Elizabeth Taber, Elizabeth Carter Brooks, Belmira Nunes, Annie Holmes Ricketson, May Hudson Onley, Alice Howland Macomber, Sarah Rotch Arnold, Eliza Bierstadt, and Emma Hall.

I hope this will bring enjoyment and inspiration to the residents of New Bedford

Sincerely,



Ramiro Davaro-Comas  
www.ramirostudios.com  
@ramirostudios



**RAMIRO DAVARO-COMAS** is an Argentine/American artist with a background in public art and artist residency management. His passions for painting, storytelling, and community work have pushed him to travel throughout his career, collaborating with artists around the world. He is also the creator and served as a director of [Dripped on the Road](#), a traveling artist residency program from 2016 to 2022. He is currently co-directing [Super-Stories](#), consulting on public art projects, painting murals, and creating work for gallery exhibitions. When he isn't making art, Ramiro spends his time building things and skateboarding.

In the Seaport Art Walk, Ramiro created a mural called "Lighting the Way." It is a selection of 19 portraits of women illustrated all together as a community of leaders. In between some of the groups are phrases like "Lighting the Way," "South Coast" and "Vote."