



Press Release:

Centennial Celebration of the Teaching of Portuguese and Lusophone Cultures in North America

August 12, 2010

The year 2010 marks 100 years integrated teaching of the Portuguese language in the official North American system at the Espírito Santo School in Fall River, Massachusetts. The University of the Azores and the Portuguese World Language Institute (based at Lesley College in Cambridge, MA), in partnership with Bristol Community College (Fall River, MA) and the Grandes Festas do Espírito Santo of New England, is organizing a wealth of events to celebrate the teaching of Portuguese not only in the United States, but also in Canada, Mexico and Bermuda.

Some of the events include:

- The International Congress of the Teaching of Portuguese Language and Culture in North America at Bristol Community College, on August 27th. This congress will feature presentations about Portuguese in the education systems in the USA, as well as Canada, Bermuda and Mexico.
- A cultural parade put on by Grandes Festas do Espírito Santo da Nova Inglaterra on August 28th. The event will feature participation by schools and universities where Portuguese is taught in the USA, Canada, Bermuda and Mexico, and will be attended by thousands of visitors coming from all around the Portuguese-speaking world.
- The Portuguese Language Pavilion, where institutions, schools and universities can display their respective organizations and distribute materials such as pamphlets and course catalogs. A Portuguese language book fair will also take place in the pavilion, as well as activities for children.
- A tribute to institutions, students and professors of Portuguese to which the promotion of the Portuguese language in the USA owes much.
- Lunch featuring the cuisine of various Portuguese-speaking countries.

For more information regarding the celebration or events, please, contact Graça Castanho at celebracaocemanos@gmail.com or gcastanho@uac.pt.



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PROGRAM OF EVENTS

The Espírito Santo School in Fall River, Massachusetts, is celebrating the 100 years of their Portuguese language program integrated in Massachusetts system of public education. Recognizing the significance of this event, the University of the Azores, in partnership with the Portuguese World Language Institute at Lesley University (PWL/ LU), is organizing the celebrations by promoting a series of cultural events designed to promote the teaching of the Portuguese Language and Lusophone Cultures in North America and also recognize the many individuals who have dedicated their lives to support the teaching of the Portuguese language in this part of the world. The Great Feast of the Holy Ghost of New England, BCC Bristol Community College and Espírito Santo School are other parties collaborating in this project.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>Organization</i>
August 26 (Thursday)	7.30 pm 10 pm	. Youth night and musical festival	Kennedy Park Fall River, MA	. Great Feast
August 27 (Friday)	9 am 1 pm	. Conference on the Teaching of Portuguese and Lusophone Cultures.	BCC – Bristol Community College, Fall River, MA	. U. of the Azores . PWLI/LU . BCC
	1 pm 2 pm	. Lunch featuring the food of the Portuguese-speaking countries.	BCC	. U. of the Azores . PWLI/LU . BCC
	2 pm 4.30 pm	. Conference on the Teaching of Portuguese and the Lusophone Cultures (Cont.)	BCC	. U. of the Azores . PWL/ LU . BCC
	5.30 pm	Grand opening of the Great Feast of the Holy Ghost celebrations . Blessing of the " Pensões" . Introduction of special guests and other participants.	Kennedy P ark	. Great Feast
	6 pm	. Grand Opening of the Portuguese Language and	Kennedy Park	. Great Feast . U. of the



		Culture (s) Exhibit Hall. . Launching of books on the teaching of Portuguese in the USA		Azores . PWLI/ LU . Esp Santo School
	6 pm 10.45 pm	. Welcoming visitors at the Portuguese Language and Culture(s) Exhibit Hall.	Kennedy Park	. Schools and universities
August 28 (Saturday)	9 am	. Participation of schools and universities in the Ethnic Pride Parade	Gathering at Ponta Delgada Boulevard (close to Chaves Market), Fall River, MA	. Great Feast . U. of the Azores . PWLI/ LU . Esp Santo School
	1.30 pm	. Festival featuring Portuguese sweet bread and milk.	Kennedy Park	. Great Feast
	5 pm 10.45 pm	. Philharmonic Band Concerts . Live Auctions / Live Music	Kennedy Park	. Great Feast
	10 am 10.45 pm	. Welcoming visitors at the Portuguese Language Exhibit Hall	Kennedy Park	. Schools and Universities
August 29 (Sunday)	12 pm	. Catholic Mass at Saint Anne's Church	Kennedy Park	. Great Feast
	2 pm	. Holy Ghost Coronation Procession	Kennedy Park	. Great Feast
	10 am 9.45 pm	. Welcoming visitors at the Portuguese Language Exhibit Hall	Kennedy Park	. Schools and universities
August 30 (Monday)	6 pm	. Banquet organized by the Great Feast of the Holy Ghost, honoring outstanding Portuguese language students.	Restaurant Venus de Milo, Swansea, MA	. Great Feast . U. of the Azores . PWLI/ LU
Septem 19 (Sunday)	12 pm	. Catholic Mass in celebration of the Centennial of Espírito Santo School.	Espírito Santo church, Fall River, MA	. Espírito Santo Church/School



Partners



Universidade dos Açores,



Grandes Festas do Divino Espírito Santo da Nova Inglaterra



Portuguese World Language Insitute



Bristol Community College



About Us

NOPA is a national non-profit, non-partisan, tax-exempt organization created to address the many growing needs of the Portuguese-American community living in the United States. Headquartered in the Greater Washington DC Region, NOPA conducts applied research, policy analysis, advocacy, and providing a Portuguese-American perspective in critical policy areas. NOPA provides Portuguese language education and culture promotion as well as capacity-building assistance to its affiliates who work at the state and local level to advance opportunities for individuals and families.

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