'Oh, we have such dreams!

By Robert Lovinger, Standard-Times staff writer

A city starving for something to feel good about has a date to dine next Sunday.

At 6 p.m., the much-anticipated New Bedford Art Museum (NBAM) will open its doors, igniting what many hope will be a new era in the city's cultural history.

While much of the museum's thrust will be future-oriented -- an emphasis on education on contemporary works and on local, living artists -- its inaugural exhibit will glory in the city's rich, painterly past.

"Landscapes From the Familiar to the Sublime," a year-long show occupying most of the ground floor, will offer an unprecedented gathering of works by some of New Bedford's great painters from the 19th and early 20th centuries.
New Bedford Art Museum/Artworks!
Art for kids’ sake

Exhibit celebrates artMobile’s 10th anniversary

By LISA PALMER

In the middle of playing with classmates visiting the New Bedford Art Museum on a recent day, second-grade Scott Goa suddenly noticed a familiar form. “Eight, ten, fifteen, fees! Oh!” the 7-year-old said, pointing to a waving flag in a mobile painted yellow, purple and red. “That’s what they are, big, gumdrops. But we painted them and now they’re hanging here.” Here is NBAM’s Community Gallery, which is displaying artMobile 2004 — A Very Happy Journey and Summer Art Exhibits.

The museum’s familiar purple artMobile minibus has visited 10 community locations last summer, bringing art activities relating to NBAM exhibits to kids at parks, playgrounds, schools, youth centers and city housing sites.

New Bedford Art Museum/Artworks!
Museum presents Douglass story

Local exhibition tells the tale of slave’s life in New Bedford

By Louisa Castelli, Managing
Standard-Times correspondent

NEW BEDFORD — On a similar September day 160 years ago, a fugitive slave arrived in New Bedford to begin a new life. Travelling in disguise with another runaway’s papers and using his birth name of Frederick Augustus Washington Bailey, Frederick Douglass escaped from a life of slavery near Baltimore. (See SLAVE, Page B2)

Near the Frederick Douglass monument at New Bedford City Hall, top, people gather yesterday for the proclamation of Frederick Douglass Day. Students from Corney Academy and the Gomes School listen to speeches, right, and Carl J. Cruz, a New Bedford Art Museum project curator, pauses near the Douglass exhibit, on

City celebrates ‘Douglass Day’

By William Corey
Standard-Times staff writer

NEW BEDFORD — With dozens of school children filling the City Hall steps, Mayor Frederick M. Kalisz Jr. declared yesterday as “Frederick Douglass Day” in honor of the escaped slave who came to New Bedford 160 years ago.

“This city was a major stop on the Underground Railroad, as the arrival of Frederick Douglass attests, along the road to freedom,” the mayor said. “New Bedford’s ties to the abolitionist movement are amazingly rich; ties that ought not to be forgotten as we continue, well over a century and a half later, to fight for equality for all.”
New Bedford Art Museum/Artworks!
New Bedford Art Museum/Artworks!
New Bedford Art Museum/Artworks!
January 1 - May 1, 1997. Audubon Bird Prints. Six of the freshly framed prints belonging to the city were displayed in the Heritage Gallery. The Audubon prints were on display until May 1; that is, through the April 27 150th Year Anniversary Celebration of the City. Louis Doherty was the Curator.
New Bedford Art Museum invites you to attend an Evening of Celebration Saturday, April 25, 1998 in honor of the Audubon Legacy Exhibition.
New Bedford Art Museum/Artworks!
New Bedford Art Museum/Artworks!
New Bedford Art Museum/Artworks!
New Bedford Art Museum/Artworks!
New Bedford Art Museum/Artworks!
New Bedford Art Museum/Artworks!
A JEWEL FOR DOWNTOWN

Museum opens to rave reviews

NEW BEDFORD — The New Bedford Art Museum received its开门 yesterday as a big crowd filled the city sidewalks and city officials proclaimed a giant step in the revitalization of downtown.

Nearly 200 people packed into the renovated Vault Building on Pleasant Street for the opening gala. They heard Mayor Rosemary B. Tennis describe the museum as "the realization of an impossible dream."

"This is the last major part of the creation of City Hall Square," the mayor said. "The revitalization of downtown continues."

Richard Kellaway, president of the museum board of trustees, said the opening closes an odyssey that began more than 30 years ago.

"In 1963, we held the New Bedford cultural festival and we said, 'Wouldn't it be wonderful to make this into an art museum?'" said the Rev. Kellaway, minister at the First Unitarian Church. "That day has finally come."

The effort to open the museum has been in the works since 1972, when Mayor Tennis appointed a citizen group to pursue the idea. As recently as two weeks ago, workers toiled to put the finishing touches on the building. (See MUSEUM Page A2)

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— Rev. Richard Kellaway

New Bedford Art Museum / Artworks!