



PRESS RELEASE

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Note to Editors: Please see the attached photos

East Providence Mayor receives Portugal's prestigious Medal of Merit

EAST PROVIDENCE, RI – City of East Providence Mayor Bob DaSilva has received one of Portugal's most prestigious awards – the Medal of Merit of the Community or Medalha de Mérito das Comunidades de Portugal for his work and continued support of the Portuguese culture and communities in the United States.

"I'd like to thank you for your work here and the work you represent for the Portuguese community," said Portugal Secretary of State to the Communities Dr. Berta Nunes. "We are presenting you the Medal of Merit of the Communities of Portugal because for us you were one of the people who distinguished yourself and stood out here in the community and we'd like to recognize you for all of your work."

"Receiving this prestigious award was a surprise," Mayor DaSilva said. "I am honored and humbled by this recognition. I take great pride in my community and my heritage and culture and I will continue to support the Portuguese community and work hard for all communities represented in our great city."

The award was presented to Mayor Bob DaSilva after the kickoff Day of Portugal Flag Raising Ceremony and celebration of all of the Portuguese explorers in Newport, RI on Sunday afternoon.



Left to right: Secretary of State of the Portuguese Communities Dr. Berta Nunes presents Mayor Bob DaSilva with Portugal's Medal of Merit Award.

Pictured L to R: Ambassador of Portugal to the United States Domingos Fezas Vital, Gov. Dan McKee, Secretary of State of the Portuguese Communities Dr. Berta Nunes, Mayor Bob DaSilva, Lt. Gov. Sabina Matos



Secretary of State of the Portuguese Communities Dr. Berta Nunes presents Mayor Bob DaSilva with the Medal of Merit for Portuguese Communities as Ana Isabel dos Reis-Couto, president of the Rhode Island Day of Portugal Committee and the First Lady of East Providence Karina DaSilva look on.

