

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR TANIA FERNANDES ANDERSON



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF NHA BALILA

- WHEREAS,** Born on December 12, 1929, Isidora Semedo Correia, known commonly as Nha Balila, is a figure of great historical and cultural importance to the Cabo Verdean people, who deserves special homage and celebration for her contributions, creativity and cultural knowledge; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Balila plays a critical role in the preservation and development of Cabo Verdean culture and the promotion of Cabo Verdean women’s rights through her work as the former leader of the OMCV (Organização das Mulheres de Cabo Verde) group in Tira Chapeu, City of Praia; *and*
- WHEREAS,** A renowned Batukadera, she is widely known for her contributions as a musician, performer, poet, composer, advisor, leader, public speaker, patriot, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, and strong family provider; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Having been blind since childhood, Nha Balila’s strong mind, spirit, and body helped her to survive decades of personal and historical struggles, using Batuku as an instrument of healing and for the political and cultural education of Cabo Verdean across generations, communicating to them her passion for Batuku, Finason, and her people; *and*
- WHEREAS,** When asked what Cabo Verdean independence means to her, Balila remarked “It means Cape Verde is on its own feet, sakédu. Cape Verde developed greatly after Independence... I hope that we will improve in all aspects”; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***
- RESOLVED,** That the Boston City Council honors, uplifts, celebrates, and commemorates the incredible sacrifices and accomplishments achieved by Nha Balila in the pursuit of an independent and culturally vibrant Cabo Verde.

Filed on July 10, 2024