

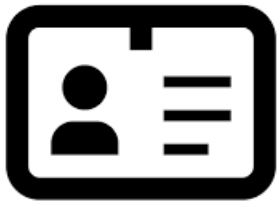
President and CEO Report

August 2021

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APRIL-JUNE 2021 *at a glance*



98

MUNICIPAL IDS CREATED



7,095

REFERENCE
QUESTIONS



29,211

VISITS TO THE DOWNTOWN,
CAMP FIELD AND BARBOUR
LIBRARIES



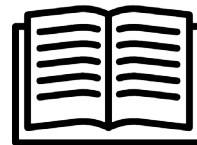
7,403

COMPUTER SESSIONS



94,309

LIBRARY CATALOG VIEWS



6,771

ITEMS ADDED TO THE
PHYSICAL COLLECTIONS



8.5K

FACEBOOK FANS



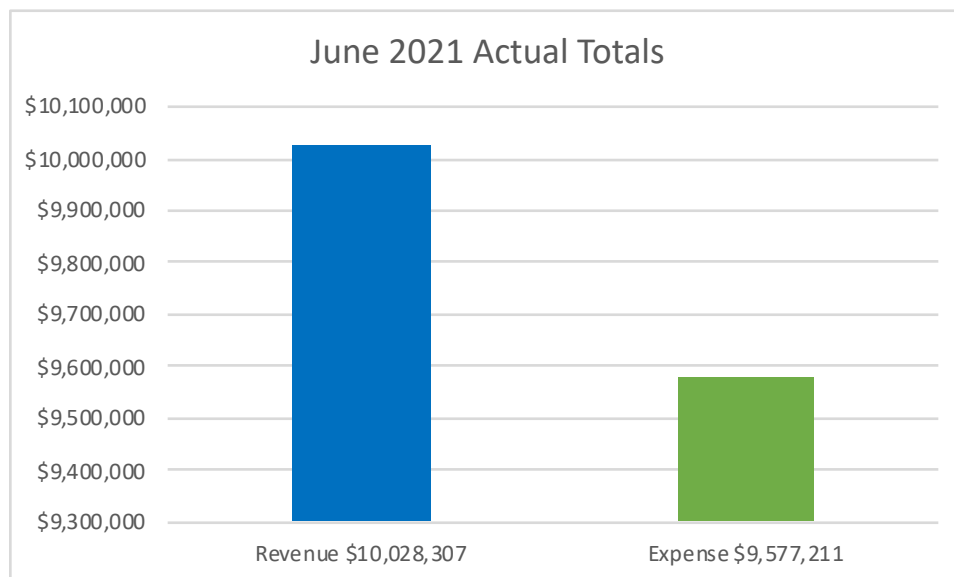
364

TAP CLASSES HELD

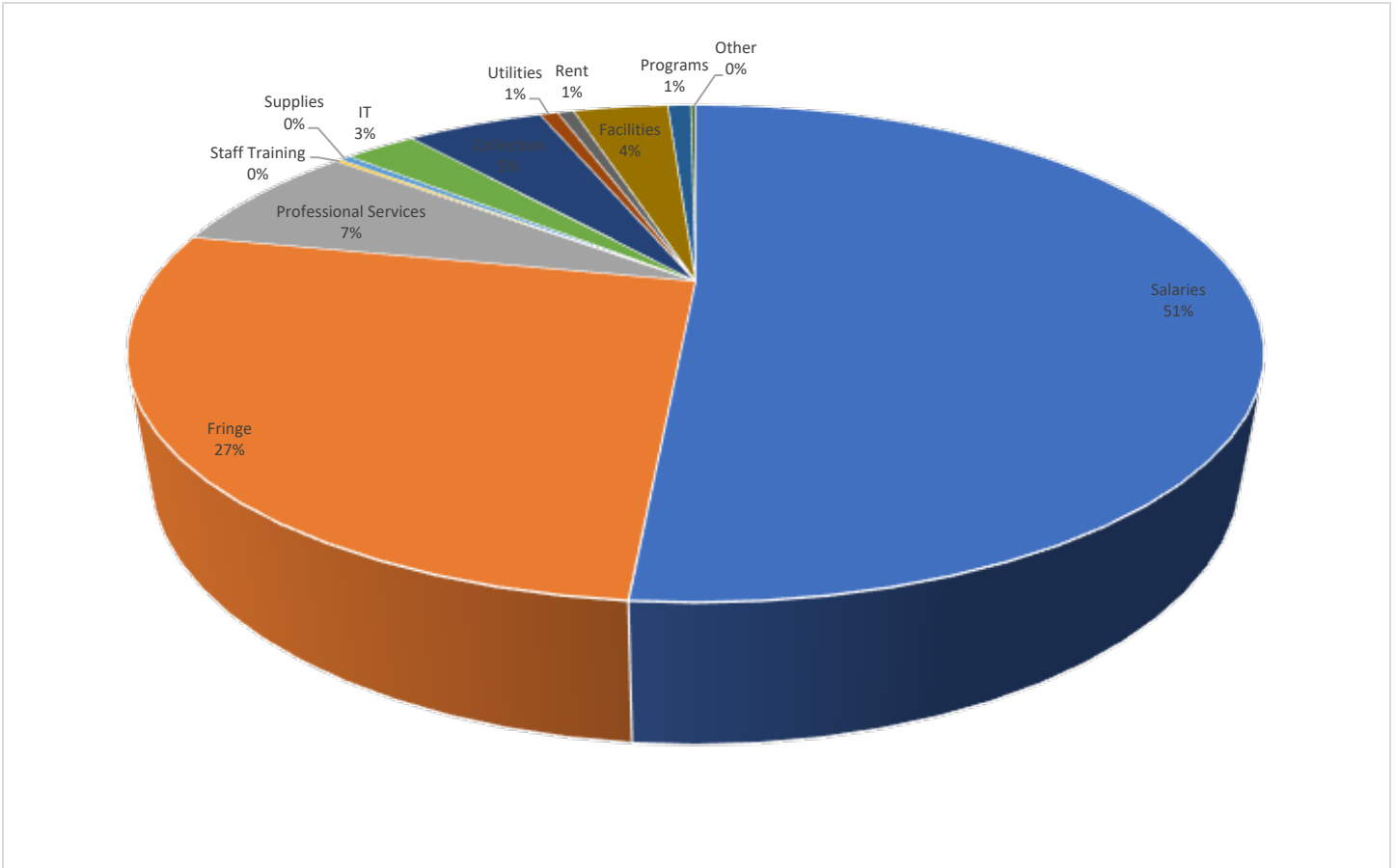
**Fiscal Year 2021 - Operating Budget Summary
As of June 30, 2020 - 100% through Fiscal Year**

For the period ending 6/30/21, the Hartford Public Library has expended an estimated total of \$9,577,211 which represents 92.9% of the revised operating budget of \$10,309,014. HPL has also collected an estimated \$10,028,307 in operating funds, or 97.3% of the Fiscal Year 2021 budget. This report is prior to end of year adjustments and subject to change.

	FY21 Budget	FY21 Actual	Variance	%
Revenue	\$ 10,309,014	\$ 10,028,307	\$ 280,707	97.3%
Expense	\$ 10,309,014	\$ 9,577,211	\$ 731,803	92.9%
Variance		\$ 451,095.27	\$ (451,095.27)	

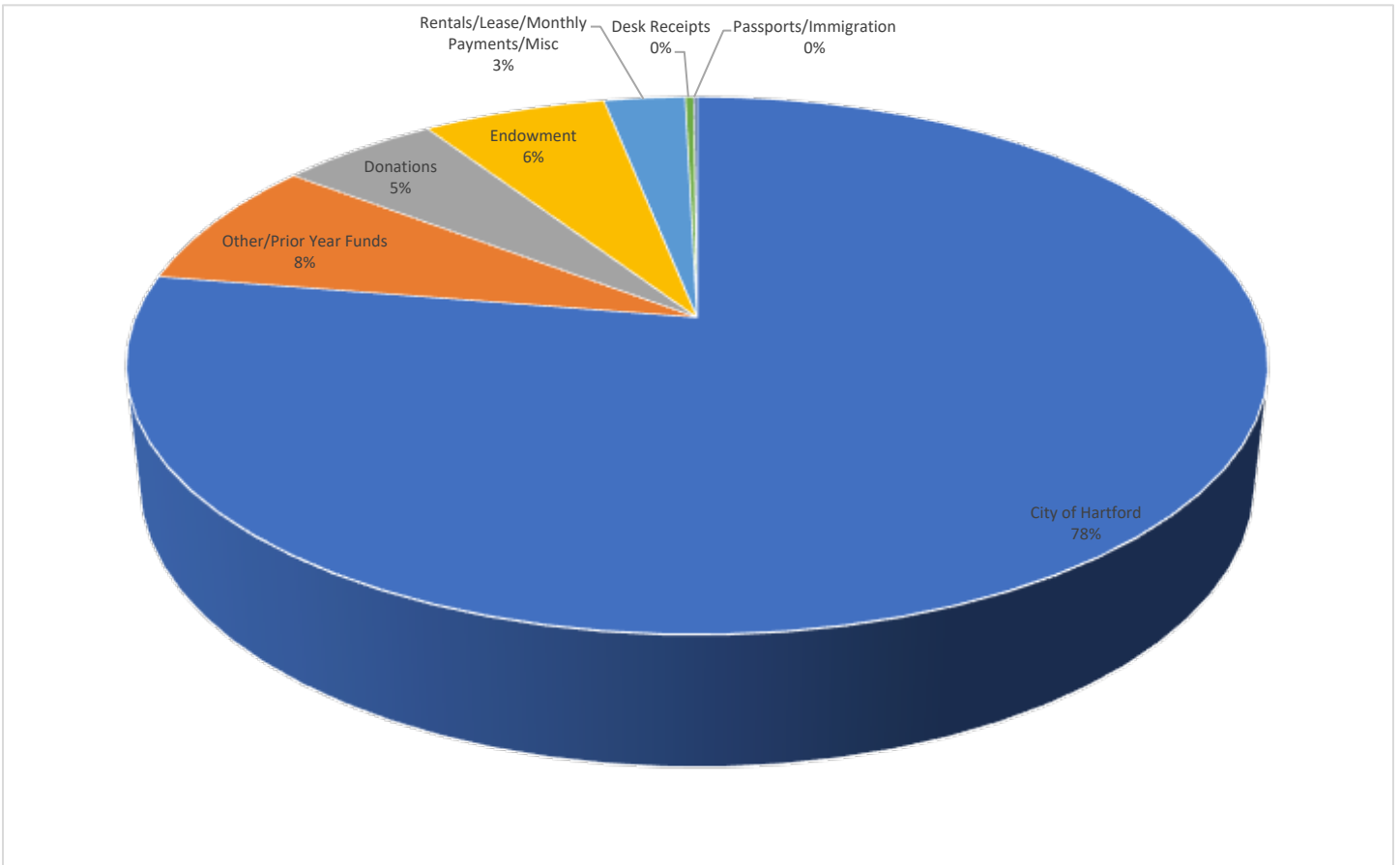


TOTAL EXPENSE



Expense	FY21 Budget	Actual	Variance	%
Salaries	\$5,645,488	\$4,922,334	\$723,154	87.2%
Fringe	\$2,387,681	\$2,573,291	-\$185,610	107.8%
Professional Services	\$666,586	\$714,281	-\$47,695	107.2%
Staff Training	\$83,775	\$17,860	\$65,915	21.3%
Supplies	\$90,500	\$39,473	\$51,027	43.6%
IT	\$205,567	\$253,432	-\$47,865	123.3%
Collection	\$481,825	\$489,150	-\$7,325	101.5%
Utilities	\$81,050	\$64,862	\$16,188	80.0%
Rent	\$80,125	\$58,663	\$21,462	73.2%
Facilities	\$372,250	\$343,180	\$29,070	92.2%
Programs	\$140,700	\$83,644	\$57,056	59.4%
Other	\$61,467	\$17,043	\$44,424	27.7%
Contingency	\$12,000	\$0	\$12,000	0.0%
Total	\$10,309,014	\$9,577,211	\$731,803	92.9%

TOTAL REVENUE



Revenue	FY21 Budget	FY21 Actual	Variance	%
City of Hartford	\$8,335,687	\$7,780,131	\$555,556	93.3%
Other/Prior Year Funds	\$313,000	\$776,803	-\$463,803	248.2%
Donations	\$500,000	\$538,587	-\$38,587	107.7%
Endowment	\$794,432	\$618,828	\$175,604	77.9%
Rentals/Lease/Monthly Payments/Misc	\$328,395	\$273,983	\$54,412	83.4%
Desk Receipts	\$0	\$28,692	-\$28,692	100.0%
Passports/Immigration	\$37,500	\$11,283	\$26,217	30.1%
Total	\$10,309,014	\$10,028,307	\$280,707	97.3%

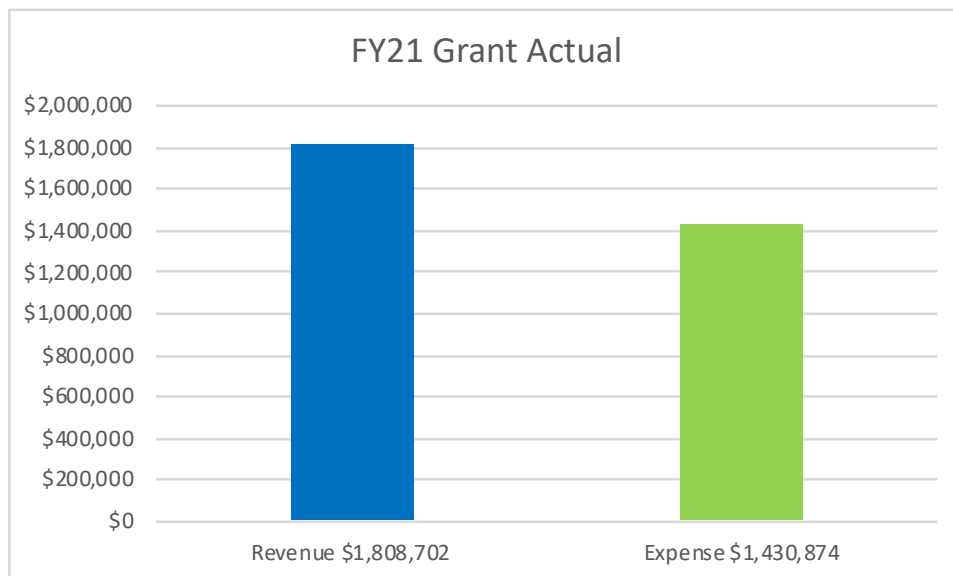
grant management

Grant Activity for 4th QT (April-June 2021)

	AWARDED		PENDING		DECLINED	
	NUMBER	AMOUNT	NUMBER	AMOUNT	NUMBER	AMOUNT
Government	3	\$135,225	2	\$208,546	1	\$120,000
Foundations	7	\$58,676	1	\$112,258		
Corporation	1	\$85,000	2	\$102,500		
TOTAL	11	\$278,901	5	\$423,304	1	\$120,000

Total Grant Activity for FY 2021

	AWARDED		PENDING		DECLINED	
	NUMBER	AMOUNT	NUMBER	AMOUNT	NUMBER	AMOUNT
TOTAL	40	\$1,945,995	8	\$816,281	7	\$1,047,371



Access to Information and Services that Contribute to Well-Being

- » The Downtown Library continued to be open to the public six days a week for computer use and services by appointment. In April, the Library opened the stacks for browsing, materials checkout, and seating. The Camp Field and Barbour libraries are now open two days a week. This quarter HPL saw:
 - 29,211 visits
 - 98 municipal IDs created
 - 25,339 items checked out
 - 7,403 computer sessions
 - 7,095 reference questions answered
- » In collaboration with the city's Health Department and Griffin Health, the Library provided vaccination clinics seven days at Dwight and four days at Albany with over 500 shots delivered in April and May. Lizandra Matias, Dwight Branch Manager, oversaw the clinics at both locations.
- » On April 6th, the Camp Field Library hosted a Spring Resource Fair featuring free blood pressure checks and health information provided by University of Saint Joseph Nursing students. Information and resources were provided by Access Health CT, Literacy Volunteers of Greater Hartford, and The Village. Free books and library information were also provided.
- » Barbour Library continues to offer free bags of groceries from FoodShare twice a month. This quarter a total of 288 bags of groceries were given away. Various social service organizations tabled at each event allowing them to reach residents most in need of their services.



Supportive Community for Child and Adult Learning

- » April was the start of gardening season and branch libraries across the system offered related programming. Park Library participated in the Affleck Street Community Garden Beautify/Clean-up Day. Our Library of Things, garden tool kits were promoted, and a total of 5 were checked out and 42 seed kits were given away. All 32 garden beds at the Affleck Street Community Garden have been reserved and maintained. The fraternity brothers from Latino America Unida, Lambda Alpha Upsilon Fraternity Inc. from the University of Connecticut helped build three raised garden beds that were purchased with the Love Your Block grant the year before.
- » The Dwight Library hosted a virtual gardening program with Hartford resident and HPL retiree Auden diCorcia D'Amato. The Barbour Library presented a Hydroponic gardening program from non-profit Levo International. Seventeen customers are growing leafy greens hydroponically in a bucket after getting a lesson and supplies. Recently, a customer, who participated in the program sent the branch manager a picture of her thriving lettuce. She said, "They look beautiful and make a fresh and delicious salad."
- » Adults continued to attend virtual programs presented by HPL branch managers. Coordinator of Branch Services Bonnie Solberg offered a crochet necklace program to 30 attendees. After the program, one participant remarked "Each time Ms. Bonnie comes up with something new to learn, it's like a therapy. You relax, enjoy and learn something exciting." Camp Field's manager Pat and Library Assistant Julie co-hosted a creative writing /poetry series, "Experience New Beginnings through Poetry," to create poetry through observation, exploration, and inspiration. Each workshop consisted of poetry readings by selected poets, discussion of poet's style, word choice, form, and meaning, followed by a writing activity to practice creative writing skills. The workshops concluded with an invitation to illustrate their poems using watercolors provided and share it at the following week's class.
- » Youth and Family Services Outreach Librarian Katherine Trouern-Trend hosted two Hartford Public Schools Virtual Family Learning Session this quarter. The first presentation, Hartford Public Library: Online and In-Person for Youth and Families, promoting Library services currently available to youth and families. The second presentation, HPL: Summer Fun 2021, introduced the HPS/HPL Summer Reading list and the HPL/HPS Summer Learning program.
- » On Saturday, June 26th, HPL kicked off its annual Summer Adventures Program: What Colors Your World, on the Library's terrace for children, teens, and adults. Families received information about the program, picked up their Summer Adventures materials, goodie bag, a free book, CT Children's Medical Center Kohl's SCOR nutrition bag, and a free t-shirt



Hartford Public Library: Summer Fun 2021 YOU WILL LEARN:



How to access print books and ebooks on the HPS Summer Reading List

Summer programs at Hartford Public Library around the city

More library re-opening news for the Summer!!

Facilitator:

Katherine Trouern-Trend, Youth and Family Outreach Services
Hartford Public Library, Downtown Library.

JOIN US!

REGISTER TODAY!

WWW.HARTFORDSCHOOLS.ORG/RSVP-2

Spanish interpretation available

UPCOMING FAMILY LEARNING SESSIONS:

Thursday, May 6, 2021 - ActUp Theater Presents a #BlackGirlMagic Workshop



FAMILY & SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

VIRTUAL

FAMILY LEARNING
INSTITUTE



public services (continued)

from The American Place (TAP). The day was filled with fun as families explored the different activity stations while making a stop at the Monster Photo booth to take pictures with the Library's monsters! YOUmedia provided a virtual reality space and anime workshops in the Atrium for teens. Special entertainment included a hip-hop dance performance from Studio 360 and a riveting performance from the Hartford's Proud Drill Drum and Dance Corp. Other special guests in attendance were Chew Chew, Hartford's Yard Goat Mascot, Stilt Walker Hannah Simms, and Lady Carrie, Hartford's Double Dutch champion and her crew from JADHA Foundation. Roughly 200 children and adults were in attendance. Each Library location also held kick off celebrations for their neighborhood community.

- » Having to pivot to find a new way to provide programming this past year – live virtual and prerecorded virtual – the Library noticed the reach it can have. HPL provided live virtual programming for afterschool programs through Boundless to over 500 school age students and through Leap into Learning to 20 preschool programs on a weekly basis. These were children who had never come into the Library or interacted with a library program before. As we plan for the fall and a return to “normal”, the Library can continue to interact in a virtual way with more children who do not have the ability to visit our locations during or after school.



Teen Services

- » The Foodshare Backpack program continued this quarter and served between 10 and 21 teens and their families each week. This program was a valuable benefit to our participating student families during the pandemic. These deliveries gave the opportunity to see families in person and learn so much more about them by being completely virtual.
- » The Boundless Enrichment program at Hartford High added a Soccer Club this quarter. Students watched the latest international games, attended local soccer matches, and received academic support. A major recruitment and retention effort in this quarter was the soccer kick-off held at Hartford Public High School. At this event students were able to learn more about other Boundless Enrichment Programs and a catered meal was provided. This program has been a source of additional emotional support for students who needed to talk to someone about life, family, or academics.
- » YOUmedia photography mentor Jose Ortiz Jr. worked with HPHS students learning how to shoot photos in a studio setting and how to edit those images. Jose also extended an offer to HPHS students for the opportunity to sign up to have their graduation photos professionally taken at the Bushnell Park. He then edited and gave them a printed and digital copy.
- » YOUmedia Mentor Eli ran both virtual and in-person audio production workshops. The physical and virtual workshop consisted of recording sessions where students recorded their tracks and learned minor mixing techniques such as equalizing and compressing.
- » YOUmedia mentor Marc had several students learning about virtual reality, brainstorming ideas for a “Virtual YOUmedia”, and creating VR art. Marc streamed to Twitch twice a week in April and had one of the teens start streaming to the Twitch channel in May and June.



Public Programming

» During the 4th quarter, the Library's Public Programming Department offered 7 live virtual programs with an attendance of 238 and 2,877 views, a total of 2 recorded virtual programs with 559 views, and a total of 6 in-person programs with a total attendance of 205.

Baby Grand Jazz

» The Programming Department closed out the first ever fully virtual Baby Grand Jazz.

» By the end of the four-month long series, Hartford Public Library was able to offer limited in-person tickets through a lottery to a selected few. The audience, masked and social distanced in the Center for Contemporary Culture, got to experience live music for the first time in many months. About 45 people attended in person over the course of the three April performances.

» Hartford residents, whether they were homebound or not, were still able to access free quality local music from their own homes. The geographical reach of Baby Grand Jazz also grew considerably by offering a fully virtual series, reaching viewers in 97 countries globally.

» One of the many positive comments in the live chat:

- "So lovin' seeing you all together live!!!" "Sounding' really good up there and I'm dreaming of live-in person!!!"

» Baby Grand Jazz 2021 boasted a total live virtual audience of 1,717 attendees, and the performance videos had over 21,227 views.

Summer Rainbow Party

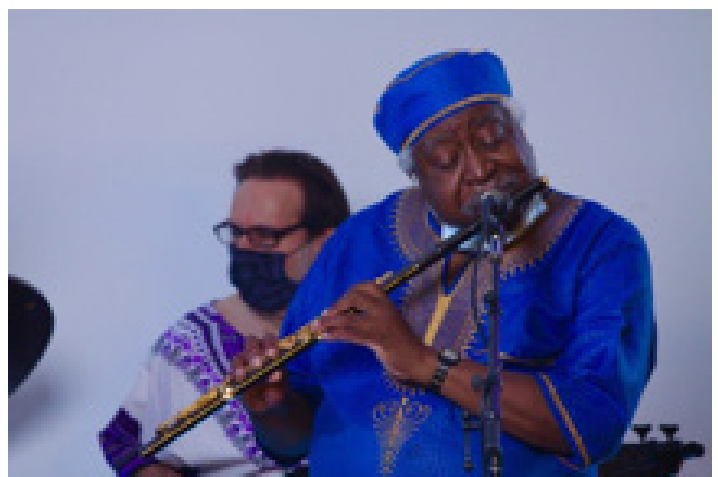
» The Programming Department collaborated with Youth and Family Services to celebrate LGBTQ Pride month by hosting HPL's first large in-person event in over a year. Over 150 attendees visited the Downtown terrace for Drag Queen Storytime, henna, free Italian ice, and crown making.

» Local queer Desi artist, Sneha Jayaraj, hosted a gender and sexuality workshop around the history of Desi (South Asian) culture. Attendees learned the history of mundus (material worn as a skirt) and binds, and how to wear them. Recently, colonialism makes people believe clothes and colors are associated with genders, however a spectrum of clothes and colors have been worn for thousands of years by Desi people and other indigenous cultures.

» Tech Services made a special order of over 100 newly published LGBTQ books, and many attendees were most excited about these free book giveaways.

Summer Adventure

» This year, the Programming Department worked alongside Public Services staff and Youth and Family



programming (continued)



Services to create a Summer Learning program for adults parallel to the Youth Summer Learning program. Hartford Public Library's "Summer Adventure" for 2021 is called "What Colors Your World?" and features many learning opportunities for all ages around art and creativity. Adult summer adventure participants are using a customized Hartford Prints-created adult coloring page featuring many beloved Hartford scenes to track their summer learning progress.

- » The Programming Department once again collaborated with Youth Services and Teen Services to host the Downtown Summer Adventure kickoff event, which over 200 people attended. The Programming Department coordinated the event planning process and organized the performance by Hartford's Proud Drill and Drum Corps, and Stilt walking by a local artist.
- » Adult summer adventure also offers many arts workshops hosted by local artists and musicians. In June, HPL hosted Sticker Painting to live Meditation Music, and Letter Making workshops.

Additional Programs

- » The Library hosted a virtual screening of the documentary CHANGE THE SUBJECT, a film about a group of Dartmouth students who challenged anti-immigrant language in the Library of Congress. There was a post film discussion with local youth organizers and our very own librarian Julie Styles.
- » The book club, "Hartford Reads in Color" led by Hartford's L.I.T. continued to meet monthly, discussing Black Poets of the United States, The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison, and Awkward Black Man by Walter Moseley.



Outreach and Library on Wheels

In collaboration with the Library's Youth Services Outreach Librarian, the LOW continued coordinating book circulation delivery routes to Early Childhood Centers throughout Hartford for a total circulation of 1,335 books during this quarter.



Continued sites:

- Job Corps
- Hyland Early Learning Center
- Trinity College Community Child Care Center
- The Village Early Learning Center
- The Kings Chapel Early Learning Center
- CRT Douglas Street
- Boys and Girls Club Early Learning Center
- Metzner Early Learning Center
- Asylum Hill Early Learning Center
- The Right Place
- YWCA Growing Tree Learning - Daycare
- CRT Laurel Street

Technical Services Highlights

- » HPL has gone fine free. This effort would not have been possible without the library systems expertise of the technical services staff.
- » Removed 10,209 bills from the system, which returned borrowing privileges to over 3,000 customers.
- » Simplified borrowing time periods as part of the new fine free rules in the system
- » Ordered Opening Day Collection with collaboration between the Technical Services Department and Park Branch staff
- » Over 2,000 new items will be added to the collection at the new Park Branch
- » 40% of the titles ordered will be in Spanish, reflecting the community's needs
- » Added new nonfiction titles to the collection to align it with Trauma Informed Practice, including topics such as PTSD counseling, women's rights, & immigration reform.
- » Provided one-on-ones and open trainings for staff on the Libby App (Overdrive) to promote digital literacy among staff
- » Included collections from Kanopy, Creativebug, and Freegal directly in the catalog to improve discovery of electronic resources

Library App Usage

Library App usage remained steady. Technical Services staff added a new feature to promote new monthly lists of recommendations to adults and youth, with themes such as National Poetry Month, Pride, Juneteenth, and Mental Health Awareness.

Month	Devices	App Usage	New Devices
April 2021	158	488	45
May 2021	148	510	38
June 2021	150	579	37
Total	305	1577	120

Catalog Discovery from Google

Google Knowledge panels remain a popular gateway to finding titles in our collection. Discovery of materials through this method has steady increased throughout the quarter.

Month	HPL Titles found through Google Search	Other sites that linked to HPL	Total Catalog views from Web Searches
April 2021	295	14	309
May 2021	372	20	392
June 2021	388	20	408
Total	1055	54	1109

programming (continued)

Library Catalog

Library catalog views have steadily increased throughout the quarter. Other than the main page, the most popular feature is creating reading lists and wish lists, with over 2000 uses this quarter.

Month	Catalog Visits
April 2021	29,625
May 2021	30,312
June 2021	34,372
Total:	94,309

Items Added to Collections:

6,771 items were added to the physical collection this quarter.

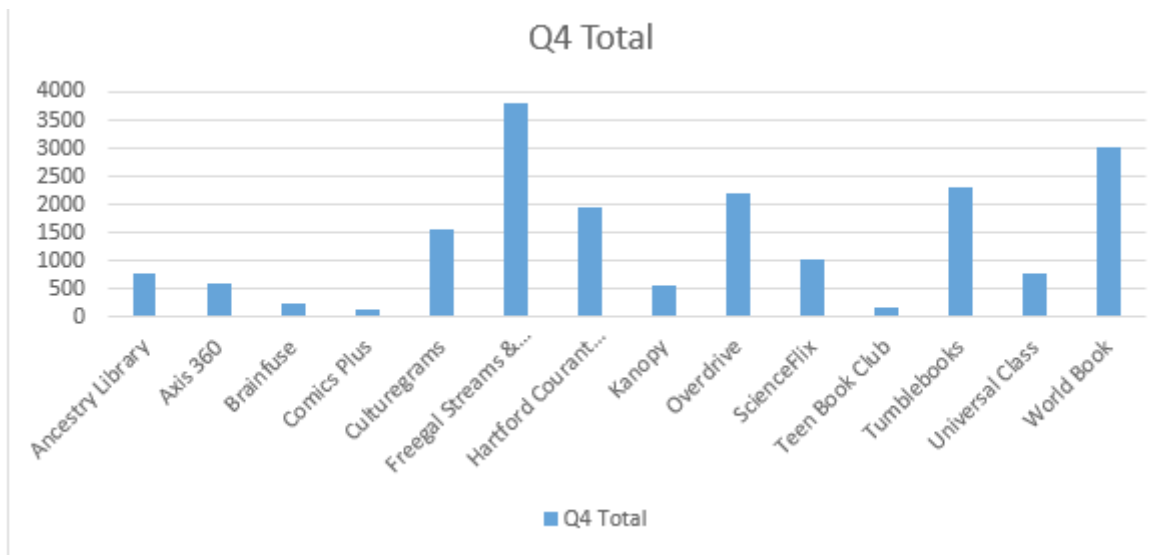
Adult AV	1
Adult Books	2462
Adult CDs	120
Adult DVDs	593
GOChips	16
Graphic Novels - Adult	11
Graphic Novels - Teen	59
Graphic Novels - Youth	118
Hartford History Center	20
Large Print	11
LEAP Tablets	1
Lendable Laptops	21
Library of Things	10
Manga	82
Periodicals	292
Picture Books	640
Playaways	32
STEM Kits	40
Talking Books	177
Teen Books	493
Teen DVDs	17
The American Place Adult Education Materials	77
Youth AV	5
Youth Books	1459
Youth DVDs	52

programming (continued)

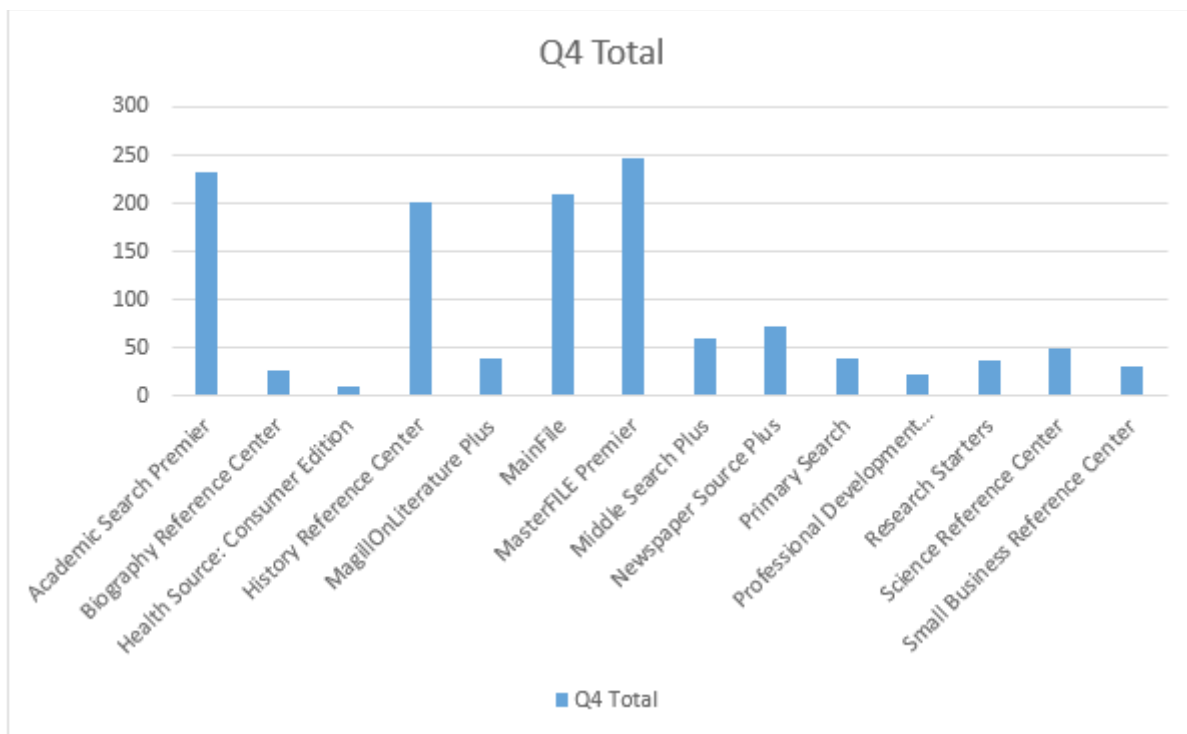
E-Resources

Database and E-Resource usage remains steady. BookFlix remains our most popular e-resource, followed by Freegal, WorldBook, TumbleBooks, & Overdrive. Streaming Video is becoming more popular with resources like Kanopy. As more streaming sources become available, we anticipate that demand will increase.

Here are the most popular resources & usage:



State of Connecticut Resources



PROGRAMS

4th QUARTER

April - June 2021

FY 2019-2020			
Downtown	Programs	Attendance	Views
American Place	129	566	0
Finance	0	0	0
Hartford History Center	1	16	178
Programming	38	0	36,409
YOUmedia	16	158	308
Youth Department	21	0	9,435
Totals	205	740	46,330

FY 2020-2021			
Downtown	Programs	Attendance	Views
American Place	372	2,459	0
Finance	4	116	0
Hartford History Center	9	112	2,798
Programming	16	448	3,436
YOUmedia	92	631	1,298
Youth Department	81	1,541	1,462
Totals	574	5,307	8,994

Branches	Programs	Attendance	Views
Albany Adult	0	0	0
Albany Youth	5	0	1,992
Barbour Adult	1	0	240
Barbour Youth	7	0	2,679
Camp Field Adult	0	0	0
Camp Field Youth	3	13	0
Dwight Adult	0	0	0
Dwight Youth	4	0	2,218
Park Adult	7	38	0
Park Youth	9	0	6,129
Ropkins Adult	0	0	0
Ropkins Youth	3	0	2,288
Library on Wheels	0	0	0
Totals	39	51	15,546

Branches	Programs	Attendance	Views
Albany Adult	2	11	0
Albany Teens	1	5	0
Barbour Adult	14	160	0
Barbour Youth	25	288	318
Camp Field Adult	5	20	0
Camp Field Youth	25	311	105
Dwight Adult	7	45	0
Dwight Youth	66	1,053	918
Park Adult	5	45	0
Park Youth	25	387	562
Ropkins Adult	4	45	23
Ropkins Youth	35	352	1,535
Library on Wheels	0	0	0
Totals	214	2,722	3,461

Pilot & Other Programs	Programs	Attendance	Views
Rawson	5	0	3,483
Boundless @ HPHS*	0	0	0
Totals	5	0	3,483

Pilot & Other Programs	Programs	Attendance	Views
Rawson	0	0	0
Boundless @ HPHS*	132	270	0
Totals	132	270	0

HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

4th Quarter Programming Totals

FY 2019-2020	
Programs	249
Attendance	791
Recorded Program Views	65,359

FY 2020-2021	
Virtual + On-Site Programs	920
Live Virtual + On-Site Attendance	8,299
Recorded Program Views	12,455

*Hartford Public High School

DOWNTOWN VISITS

4th QUARTER

29,211

3rd QT 2020-21 Highlights

Highlights:

MOST SERVICES WERE OFFERED REMOTE

- » 52 citizenship literacy assessments completed
- » 119 citizenship intakes completed
- » 59 citizenship consultations conducted
- » 59 citizenship applications prepared and submitted
- » 26 green card renewals prepared and submitted
- » 38 clients achieved U.S. Citizenship
- » 364 classes held
- » 8 ServSafe Certificates attained, and 34 remote coaching sessions were held
- » 54 volunteers contributed 174 hours
- » 70 digital devices and hot-spots were loaned through Crossroads to Connectivity
- » 51 GED tests were proctored
- » digital literacy support was offered on a one-to-one or small group basis to students enrolled in TAP programs.

FY2020-2021

219 students enrolled throughout the course of FY 2020-2021.

Gender

70% of students were female and 30% were male.

Educational Attainment

The vast majority of students held a high school diploma or equivalent, had taken college courses, or earned a college degree.

Less than a H.S. Diploma	52	24%
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	75	34%
Some College Coursework	31	14%
College Degree	61	28%

Country of Origin

Adult ESL students were born in 43 different countries or territories. The top 5 countries/territories were:

Peru	22.83%
Dominican Republic	13.70%
Colombia	9.59%
Puerto Rico	7.76%

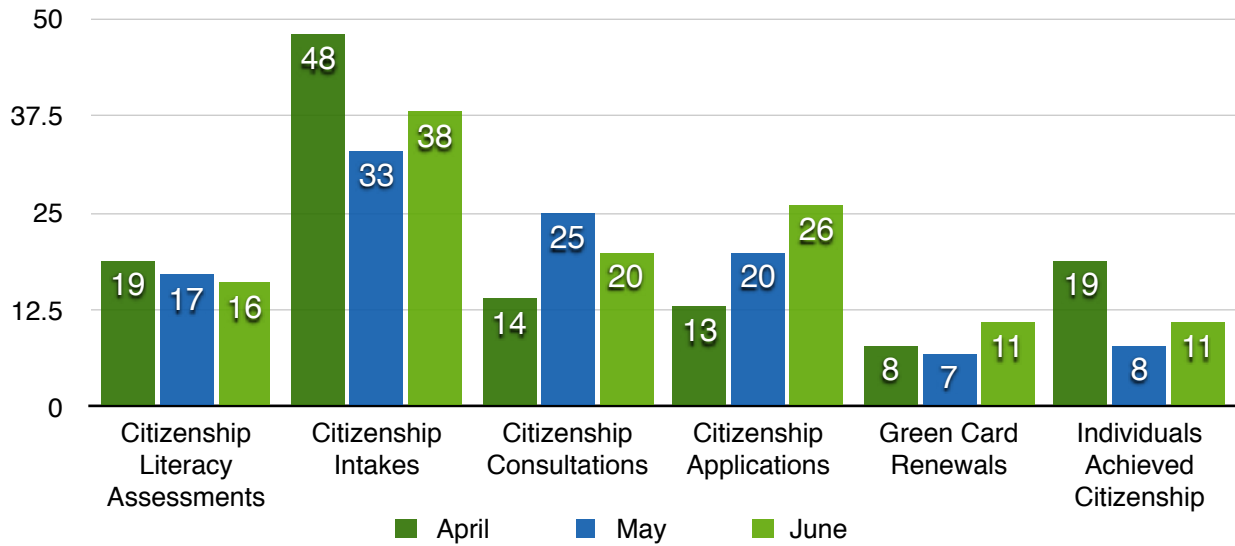
City/Town of Residence

Students reside across 19 different municipalities. The majority of students reside in Hartford, East Hartford, and West Hartford, respectively.

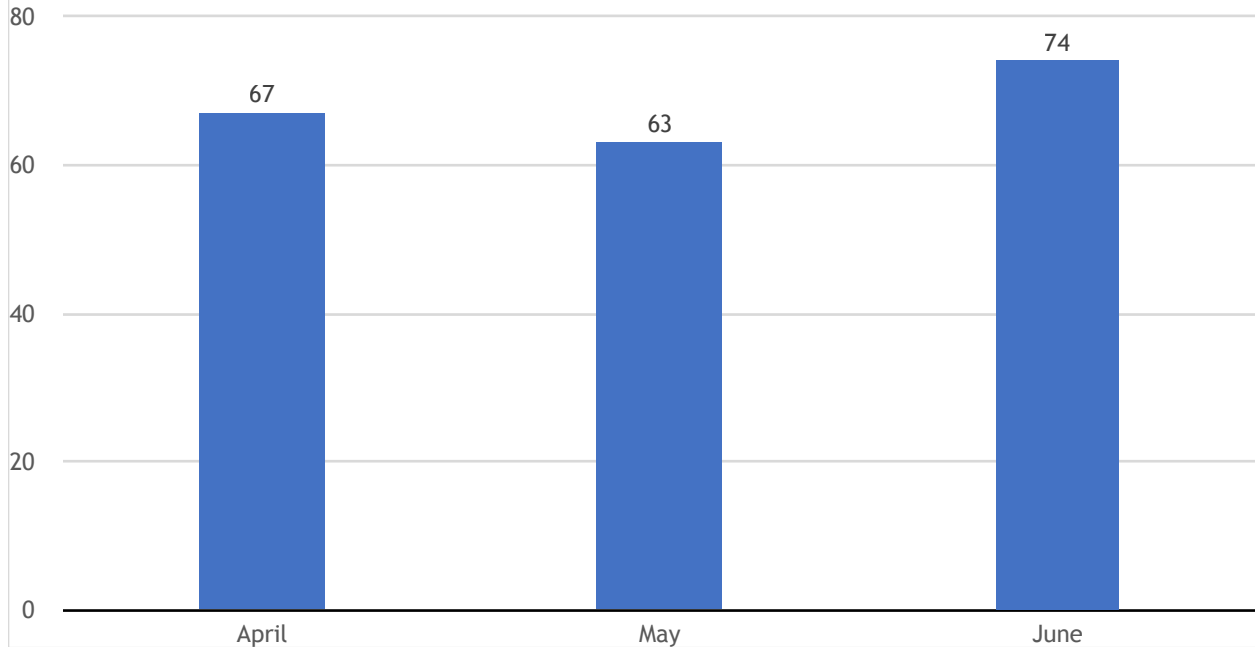
Hartford	64.84%
East Hartford	11.87%
West Hartford	6.39%

The American Place (continued)

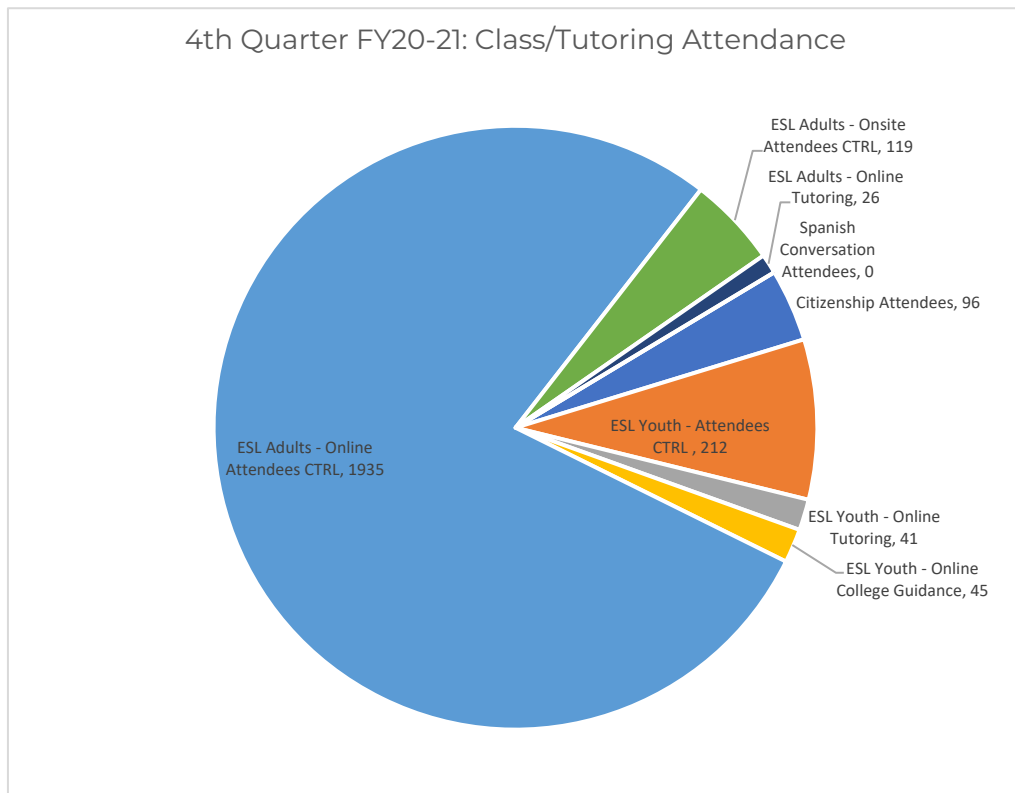
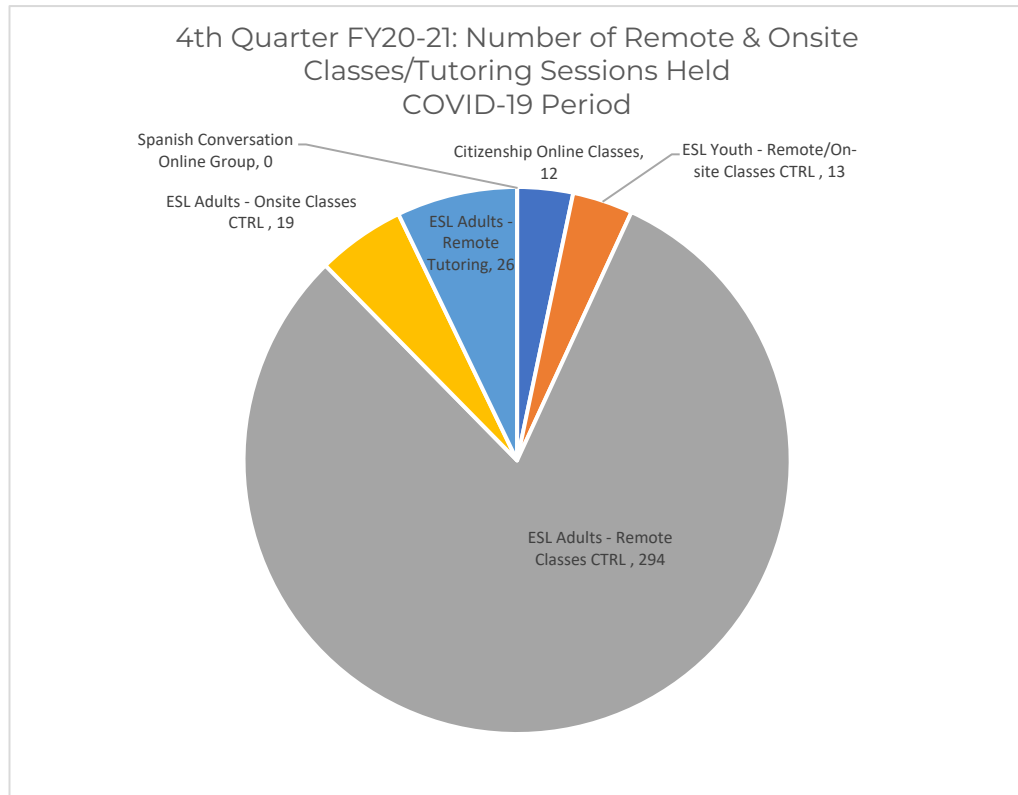
4th Quarter FY20-21 Immigration Services
COVID-19 Period



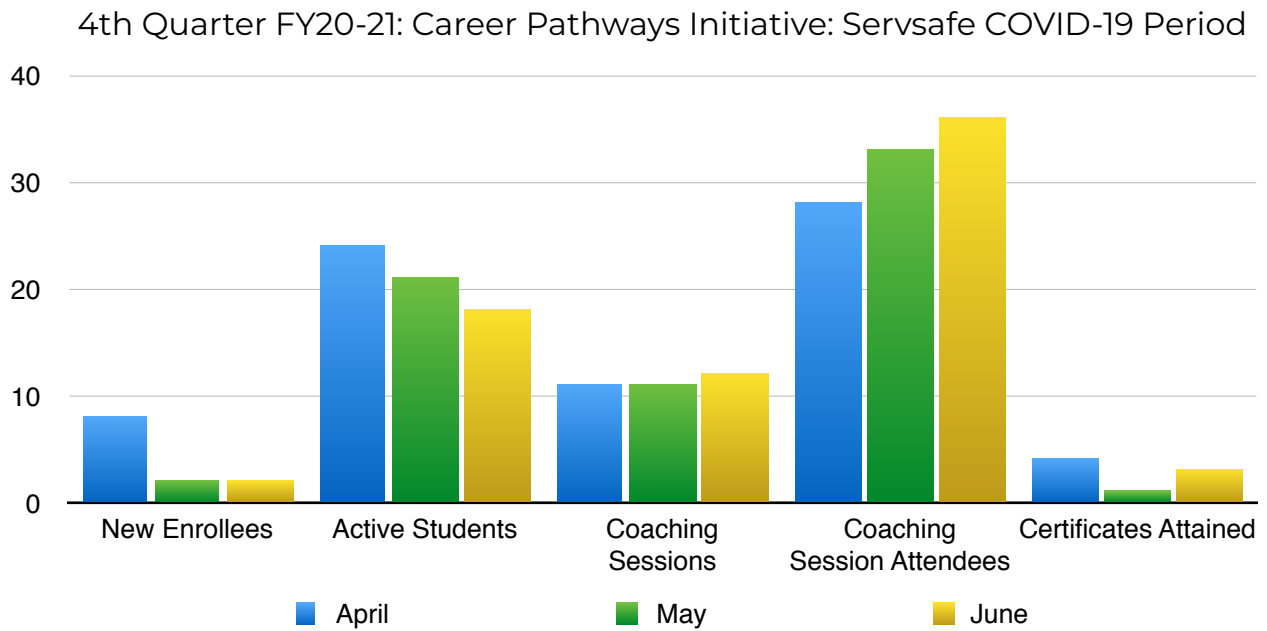
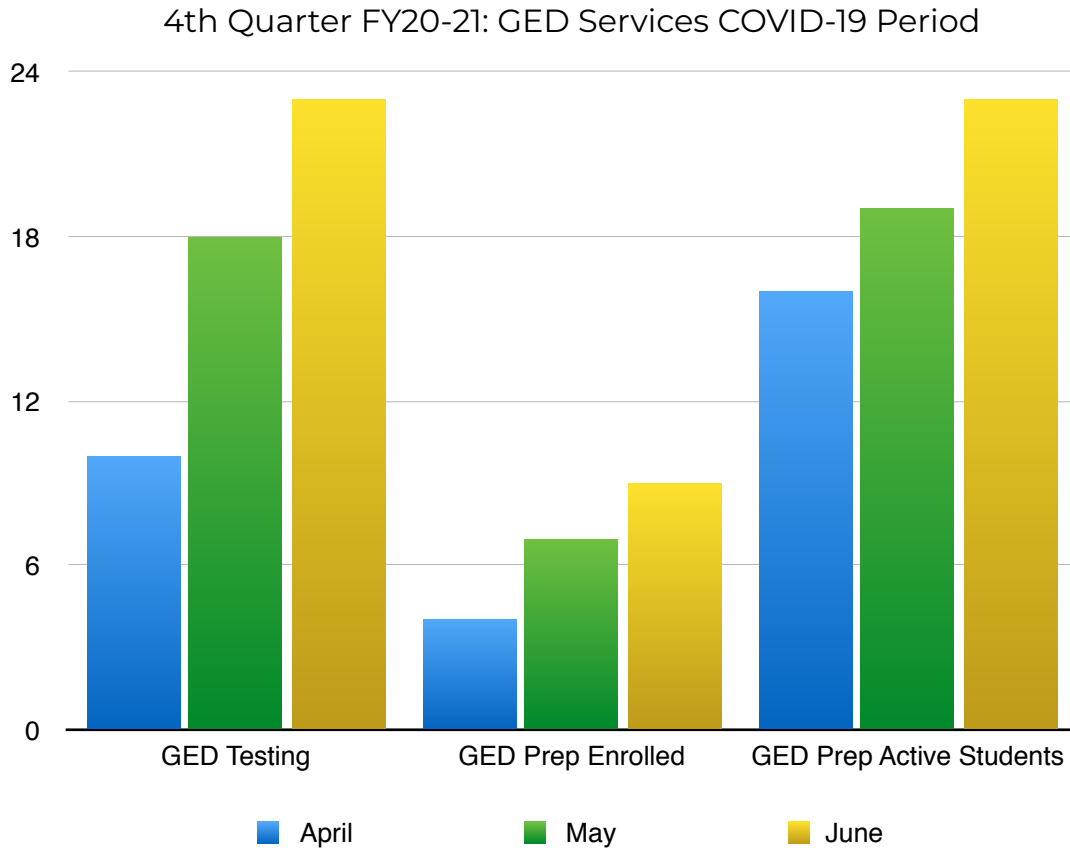
4th Quarter FY20-21 - Immigration Reference Questions
COVID-19 Period



The American Place (continued)

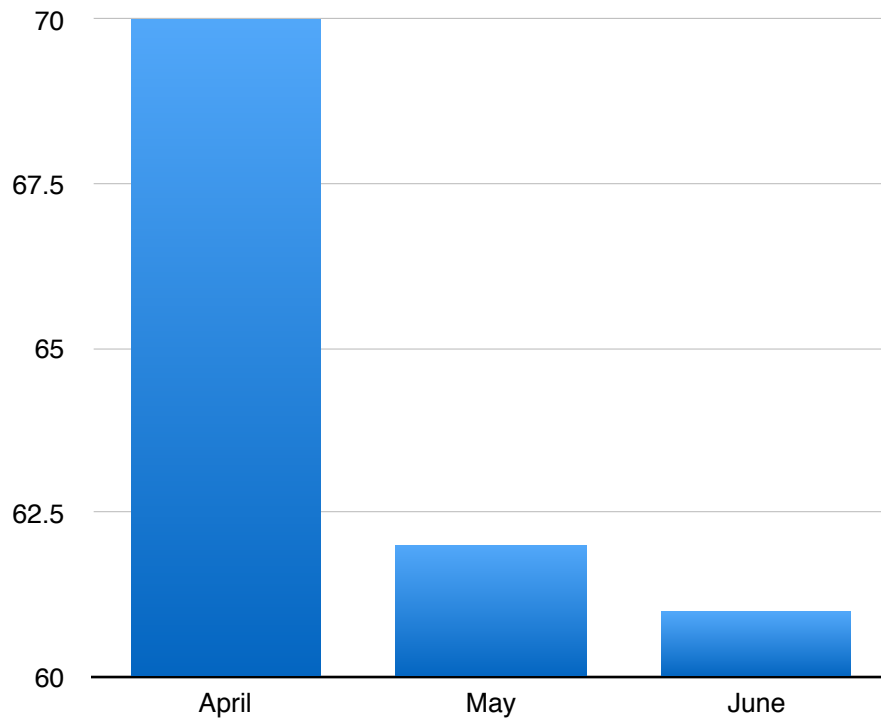


The American Place (continued)

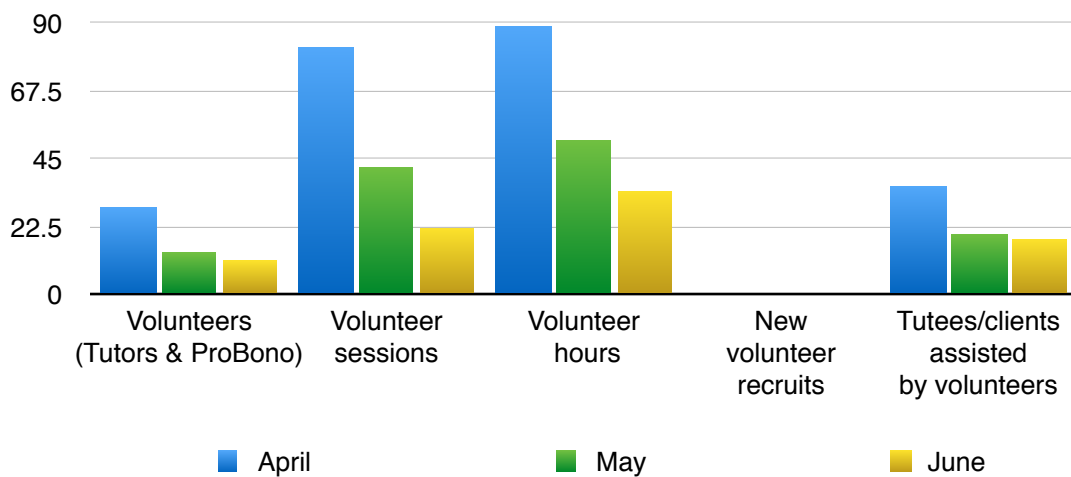


The American Place (continued)

4th Quarter FY20-21: Crossroad to Connectivity
Digital Devices on Loan COVID-19 Period



4th Quarter FY20-21: TAP Volunteers
COVID-19 Period



Highlights

- » Hartford History Center's archival focus over the past quarter has continued to be the Hartford City Parks collection. Maureen Heher and Jennifer Sharp launched an online exhibit, Hartford Springs into Summer (bit.ly/hartfordsprings), highlighting some of the ways the parks have been used over the years. To launch the exhibit, Maureen and Jennifer did a public Zoom presentation which is available to watch on YouTube (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B_btobMiXEo). We were pleased to have an HPL Board member and a former member of the Board of Parks Commissioners in attendance.



Increased engagement with the arts and humanities through access and exposure

- » For National Poetry Month in April, the Hartford History Center hosted a series called Hartford Poets: Past & Present, which highlighted four historic poets by having four contemporary poets read their works in the Hartford History Center collection, recite a selection of their works, and write and perform a new poem inspired by the historic poet. For each Monday in April, videos of these performances played on Facebook Live, YouTube premiere, and Instagram TV. Poetry pairings included: Ann Plato (c.1823-unknown) by Alycia Jenkins, Lucy Cooper Summers (1920-1995) by Sadejah Blake, Juan Fuentes-Vizcarrondo (1932-2019) by Daniel Diaz-Villafane, and James Overton Rogers (1933-unknown) by Cameron Wood.
- » On April 22, the Hartford History Center supported the technical aspect of the Zoom program, "Encounters: Bushnell Park & the Paradoxes of Urban Renewal," which was hosted by Connecticut's Old State House. In addition to technical support, we referred a frequent HHC independent researcher, Daniel Crittenden, to serve as one of the specialists. He has been doing in-depth research on the African American community that lived in the area of what is now Bushnell Park, including reviewing our Geer's City Directories and materials by Horace Bushnell.

Top: Hartford Poets Past and Present featuring Alycia Jenkins. Bottom: Hartford Poets Past and Present featuring Sadejah Blake



Hartford Poets: Past & Present featuring Daniel Diaz-Villafane

Hartford Poets: Past & Present featuring Cam Wood

- » On April 27, Hartford History Center team member Jasmin Agosto served as a resource for a Zoom event hosted by Trinity College's Latinx student group, La Voz Latina, called "Historical Silences of the Puerto Rican Diaspora in Hartford." The event included an exciting live virtual bingo game that covered terms, key figures, and sites of significance in the history of the Puerto Rican community in Hartford.
- » Popular Instagram posts during the past three months include a collection of postcards of the Hartford parks, Zion Hill Cemetery "then and now" photos, and photos from a visit with Edna Acosta-Newsom. Ms. Acosta-Newsom was featured in our 2020 Women's History Month exhibit.

Stronger relationships among community organizations

- » For the months of May and June, the Hartford History Center has been meeting with Public Humanities Collaborative Trinity professor Amanda Guzman and students, whom have reviewed our digital resources on Puerto Rican history in Hartford and explored potential platforms and resources that could be used in a potential community archiving project centered in the Frog Hollow neighborhood at the new Park Branch Library.
- » Hartford History Center, in a longstanding partnership with Capital Community College, will continue its work on the Hartford Heritage Project this fall. Capital Community College received a National Endowment for the Humanities grant this quarter to continue this popular program that shares the history, culture, and artistic life of Connecticut's capital city with students through place-based courses and special programming with partner organizations.

Deeper understanding of self and connection to community by learning Hartford history

The Hartford History Center continued to operate by appointment, Monday – Thursday, during the fourth quarter. Our regular researchers used the reading room most days but as the city and state began to open up, we also saw an uptick in new visitors. These new visitors had some of the most compelling stories we've heard in a while and many of them were city residents. The following are some of the highlights:

- » One young woman was looking for a yearbook photo of her late grandmother of whom the family had no photos. She was hoping to surprise her mother with a photo for Mother's Day. We found several photographs for her in the Hartford Public High School yearbook.
- » A customer was wondering if we could find any information about his grandfather's arrival from Poland. He knew he had arrived as a child and had a rough date but that was it. A search through the microfilm of the Hartford Times found a frontpage article and photograph of the six-year-old boy who arrived unaccompanied to the US in 1926!
- » The HHC also provided photographs of VJ Day Celebrations from the Hartford Times for a woman who was looking for a photo that included her grandfather celebrating the war's end when he was 22 years old. He is 96 now and she wanted to surprise him.
- » A Hartford woman called and asked for some help researching her ancestors. She came in and we found that one of her ancestors fought in the Revolutionary War between 1777 – 1783. He fought to earn his freedom. He was both Native American and African. When we found all of this information, the woman said to me "I didn't know that anyone like me could have an ancestor who fought in the Revolutionary War".



Above: Edna Acosta-Newsom, while serving in the National Guard. (top) and Edna Acosta-Newsom today, in the Hartford History Center (bottom).



Preserving the history of Hartford for future generations

- » Driven by a research request by Harford Community Loan Fund, Isabel Mendes Blake (1929-1992) has been added to Hartford Changemakers Lib Guide, including articles, photographs, and information about her impact in the movement for welfare rights in the City of Hartford and the State of Connecticut.
- » A collection of CT Transit material was recently donated, with much information about former bus routes in the city.
- » HHC Archivist Jennifer Sharp is continuing to work on the Community Webs project. The pages which have been collected so far may be viewed at <https://archive-it.org/home/hplct>.
- » In this last quarter, the HHC developed an oral history collection that documents the Hartford Courant's transition from a print-only medium to its current print/digital format. HPL board member David Barrett served as both a consultant on the project, helping the HHC determine who best to interview, as well as interviewer. With 20 solid oral histories now in hand, all transcribed, the HHC will work to upload these critical perspectives to the CTDA this fall for public access, 24/7. All interviews were done over Zoom, and the CTDA will include access to the videos. Additional support was provided by Lauren Shafer, a participant in UConn's Encore!Connecticut program.
- » Preservation and access work with the Connecticut Digital Archive (CTDA)
 - 1920 Voter Registration Cards Project:
 - ◇ Preparation for upload to CTDA:
 - » Downloaded 300 TIFFs and processed to embed HHC/HPL copyright statement and derive JPEGs for use in metadata creation; conveyed JPEGs to Jen Shakshober
 - » 520 metadata spreadsheet records created reviewed and edited for upload
 - Work on HHC/HPL records in CTDA:
 - ◇ 460 voter registration records (TIFFs and metadata) uploaded to CTDA
 - Hartford History Center Collections Project:
 - ◇ Created Municipal Records umbrella collection in CTDA for 6 HHC collections and migrated collections
 - Digital Library Lab - Hartford History Resources digitized by DLL
 - ◇ *Hartford street maps* – created metadata for 6 TIFFs of Hartford street maps and uploaded to CTDA together with image files
 - ◇ *Hartford 1639 Land Records* - Researched and created workflow for ingest of records as Book object, provided book and page-level metadata for 440 pages comprised in the volume; worked with DLL manager and CTDA repository manager to resolve issues regarding page sequencing and on test of using Manuscripts content model as an alternative item for the land records to enable TEI implementation; created second metadata spreadsheet and uploaded land records as manuscripts content model together with image files.

Hartford History Center	2019-2020	2020-2021	Difference	%
Visits	3,007	292	-2,715	-90%
Online Visits	54,228	55,194	966	2%
Reference Question	1,389	649	-740	-53%
Programs	60	24	-41	-68%
Attendance	2,006	597	-1,409	-70%
Views	178	6,612	3,398	1909%

Quarters	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2020-2021
Visits	55	70	80	87	292
Online Visits	14,543	12,661	13,358	14,632	55,194
Reference Question	133	153	166	197	649
HHC Live Virtual Programs	8	2	4	5	19
HHC Live Virtual Attendance	152	78	255	112	597
HHC Live Virtual Views	853	0	2,693	30	3,576
HHC Recorded Programs	0	1	0	4	5
HHC Recorded Virtual Views	0	268	0	2,768	3,036

The Digital Library Lab



DLL Manager Leah Early gave a virtual tour of the lab at the Connecticut Digital Archive (CTDA) annual meeting to advertise lab services to CTDA members.

The DLL acquired a Fujifilm GFX 100s mirrorless medium format camera and 120mm macro lens. With 102 MP resolution, this camera supports our ability to offer very high-quality imaging to clients.



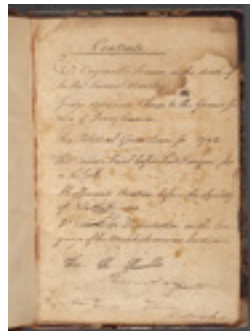
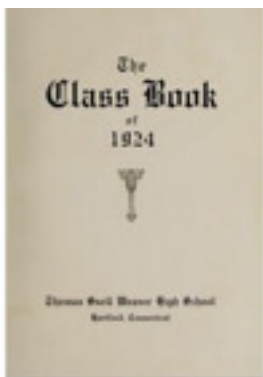
The DLL acquired two Xerox W110 high volume document scanners and established a workflow for digitizing contemporary records. These scanners scan 120 pages per minute and accept a stack of 500 pages at a time. Included software from Visioneer and an included license for ABBYY FineReader OCR will support multiple processes in the lab.

The DLL was contracted to scan the Hartford Public High School yearbooks held by the HPHS museum. Along with the digital donation to the HHC of scanned Weaver and Bulkeley yearbooks, these items will be available on the CTDA in a Hartford School Yearbooks collection.



The DLL is about to start work on a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) grant funded project for the Noah Webster House Museum. The DLL will work with Dr. Tracey Wilson and curator Sheila Daley to select and digitize collections in support of an educational initiative related to the 2026 semiquincentennial of American Independence.

Leah Early is preparing a grant application for the NEH to request funding for a three-year implementation grant to support the digitization of the entire Noah Webster Pamphlet Collection, including OCR processing and free public access to the collection on the CTDA. If funded, this project positions the library to have this valuable collection fully accessible online in time for the 2026 semiquincentennial.



HPL Social Media Report

Mixed Overview

April 01 – June 30, 2021
(April 01 – June 30, 2020)

Social Networks



Mixed Overview

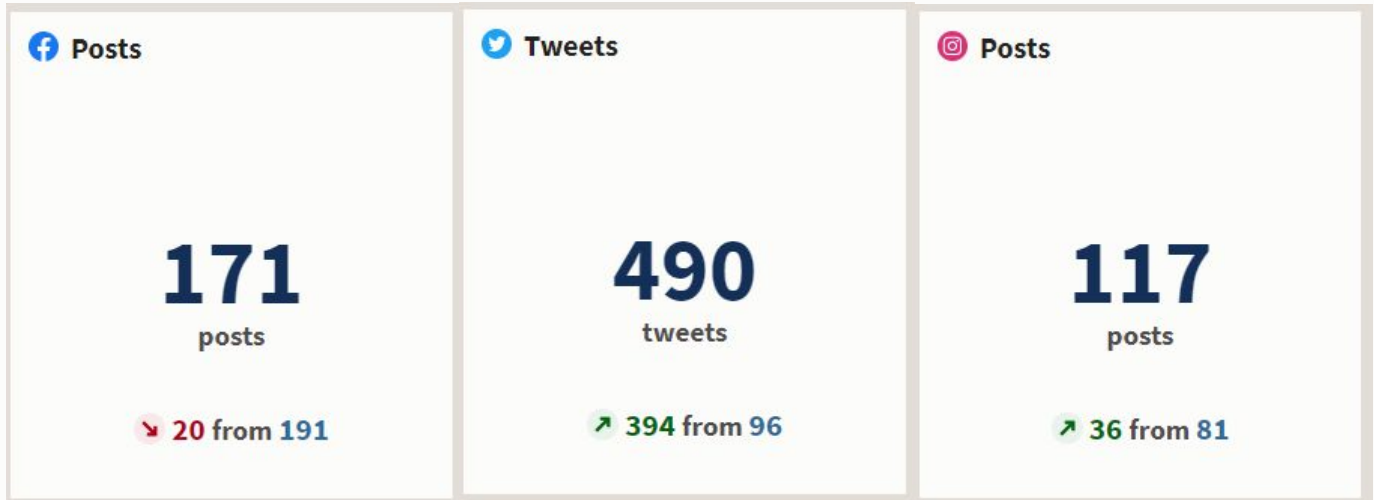
April 01 – June 30, 2021
(April 01 – June 30, 2020)



communications (continued)

Mixed Overview

April 01 – June 30, 2021
(April 01 – June 30, 2020)



Mixed Overview













April 01 – June 30, 2021
(April 01 – June 30, 2020)



communications (continued)

Mixed Overview

April 01 – June 30, 2021
(April 01 – June 30, 2020)

 Engagement > Type	 Engagement > Type	 Engagement > Type
Reactions  4K 5.1K	Likes  211 589	Photo  3.5K 5.3K
Shares  188 1.4K	Replies  356 365	Carousel album  1.6K 1.8K
Comments  402 635	Retweets  85 245	Video  12 240



» Communications needs to note that the drop in numbers/engagements between 2020 and 2021 on Facebook is directly attributed to all of our programming being on-line during the pandemic in 2020. We were posting videos five days a week twice a day for both adult and children's in addition to what we normally post. It was our only form of communication and we had (quite literally) a captive audience. Some of our current numbers on Facebook have also gone down this quarter due to the numbers being so inflated last quarter from Baby Grand Jazz (we saw the same thing happen in 2019). Otherwise, things look really good!

» One additional observation, when looking at the year comparison between 2021 and 2020, it's interesting to see that the engagement data supports a growing migration to Instagram and away from Facebook. When you look at the engagement numbers lost on Facebook, you can see that the engagement levels went up by almost the same number (we actually had a gain) on Instagram.

Communications Update

» The Communications Department continues to support all Library departments in the dissemination of institutional programs, services and events. It is also working closely with Library contractors on producing an info-video on the Barbour Branch move to the Swift Factory location. Work includes talking points, scheduling of interviewees and suggesting edits.

» Steve Scarpa, HPL communications manager from February 2020 to May 2021, has left the Library for an opportunity at Wesleyan University. We are currently in the process of interviewing candidates for this position.

» Communication highlights include Bridget E. Quinn being interviewed for a CNN piece on public libraries and operational strategies during the COVID pandemic. That interview, which was aired June 14, was picked up by a number of smaller news stations.

PRIMERA PLANA - PRIMERA PLANA - PRIMERA PLANA Conversaciones con la comunidad Latina en Torrington

El pasado 4 de junio miembros de la junta directiva del *KidsPlay Children's Museum* de Torrington se reunieron con un grupo de alrededor de veinte miembros de la comunidad latina local. Entre los invitados se hallaban dos miembros de IDENTIDAD LATINA. En su esfuerzo por formar parte integral de la comunidad en la cual funciona, el museo se ha estado reuniendo con una variedad de grupos para obtener información acerca de la mejor manera de servir a todos los miembros de la comunidad. En la foto aparecen la mayor parte de las personas que asistieron a dicha reunión.



¡Feliz Día del Padre!

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- Fundada en 1991 por la familia Lozada
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- Artículos únicos para conservar o regalar
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The Park Street Library @ the Lyric Opening Soon!

Hosted by Graciela Rivera, Park Street Branch Manager

LA BIBLIOTECA DE PARK STREET PRESENTA

VOCES DE FROG HOLLOW

¡TU EXPERIENCIA, TU HISTORIA!

VEN Y COMPARTE TU HISTORIA DE UN PASADO GLORIOSO Y UN FUTURO ESPERANZOSO EN EL VECINDARIO DE FROG HOLLOW

MIERCOLES 10:00A - 12:00P
JULIO 7 - 14 @ THE ARTBOX
JULIO 21 - 28 @ EN EL JARDÍN DE AFFLECK ST

Hartford Public Library

Para más info: (860)200-8492 or www.hpl.org

ENTREVISTA

Graciela Rivera, Gerente de la Biblioteca Pública de Hartford, Sucursal Park Street:

“Todos serán bienvenidos a la nueva Biblioteca”

-El 21 de mayo se cerró la Biblioteca de la Park, ¿Cómo están trabajando ahora?

-Estamos en plena mudanza a nuestro nuevo edificio de la esquina de la Park Street y la Broad Street, en Hartford, las cosas están avanzando rápidamente y esperamos estar ahí al final del verano. Durante este tiempo queremos seguir conectados con la comunidad y hemos preparado algunos eventos especiales.

-¿Nos puede hacer una breve historia de la Biblioteca de la Park y este cambio?

-Inicialmente estaba ubicada en la Broad Street, se mudó a la 744 de la Park Street en 1970. Esto que está pasando ha sido un proyecto que lleva más de 20 años, que gracias al trabajo de diferentes personas y autoridades se ha podido lograr. Muchos hispanos han sido el motor de esta meta. Me siento muy humilde de ser parte de este gran acontecimiento.

-¿Que innovaciones se podrá encontrar en la nueva biblioteca?

-Esta nueva biblioteca va a ser 6 veces más grande que la actual, son 13 mil pies cuadrados, en el 2do piso tendremos un cuarto para la comunidad con capacidad para 100 personas donde tendremos eventos, otro de conferencias donde los negocios del área podrán usarlo, un laboratorio de tecnología, con 15

computadoras, clases de computación, de inglés como segundo idioma, y otros. Siéntanse orgullosos que esto está pasando en su vecindario, en su ciudad y por favor aprovechen al 100 por ciento los recursos que vamos a tener ahí.

-¿Cómo ha impactado la pandemia a la Librería de Hartford?

-Al principio de la pandemia fue difícil, nos preguntábamos cómo vamos a seguir ofreciendo recursos?, entonces empezamos programas por Facebook, Instagram. Nos dio oportunidad de crear una plataforma y una conexión más fuerte por las redes sociales. Todos aquí tomamos la iniciativa de ofrecer cosas en forma virtual, y logramos muchas cosas.

-Es importante saber que no solo yendo a la biblioteca puedes estar conectado con los programas que ofrecen.

-Así es. La biblioteca pública no solo es promover la literatura, también quiere traer diferentes experiencias a nuestras familias, por eso queremos salir y conversar con la gente en los parques, para saber qué necesitan, qué quieren ver, vamos a tener presentaciones musicales, talleres de arte, queremos crear un ambiente bien positivo para la comunidad.

-Las nuevas maneras de leer un libro son mediante una tableta o un celular, ¿Cómo se están adaptando para eso?

-Lo importante es el acceso, hoy todo el



mundo tiene una tableta o un teléfono y la Biblioteca de Hartford tiene una aplicación y con tu tarjeta de la biblioteca tienes acceso a una variedad de libros digitales, tenemos en español, inglés, bilingües y de gran variedad de temas. Si no tenemos el libro físico se puede conseguir digitalmente.

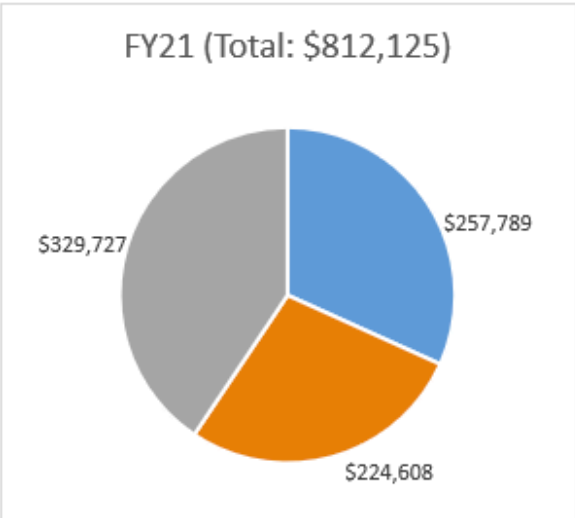
-Julio es el mes de celebración de independencias de varios países hispanos ¿Hay planes sobre eso?

-Ese será el tema de todas las eventos artísticos que vamos a tener en el verano, entre julio y agosto, serán 6 sesiones con 2 artistas locales Mercury y Yesenia que guiarán a los participantes para crear máscaras, y figuras que van ser parte de la Parada en la inauguración de la nueva biblioteca. El enfoque es que los colores diversos que representan a los países de Latinoamérica estén presentes y también la diversidad de población de la ciudad de Hartford, quiero invitarlos a que sean parte de todo eso.

Alonso Velásquez



Revenue Totals



■ Beyond Words* ■ Annual Fund/General Operating ■ Designated Gifts/Special Projects

*Beyond Words Gross Revenue

Note: Starting FY20, some contributions that were previously considered grants were re-categorized as "Designated Gifts/Special Projects." Also, in FY21 the Library received a large legacy gift that is included in "Designated Gifts/Special Projects."

The Park Street Library Legacy Campaign

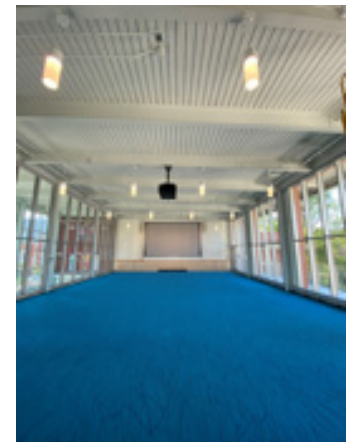
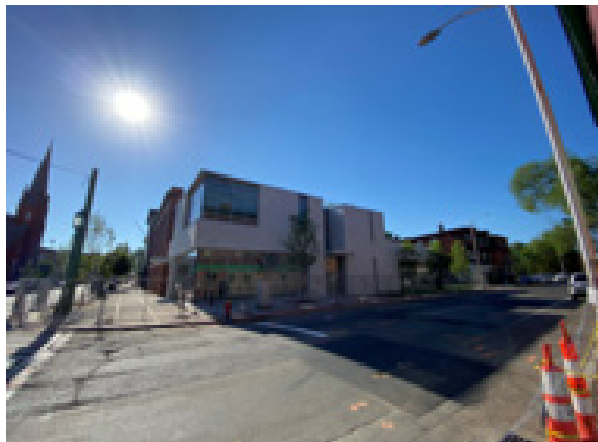
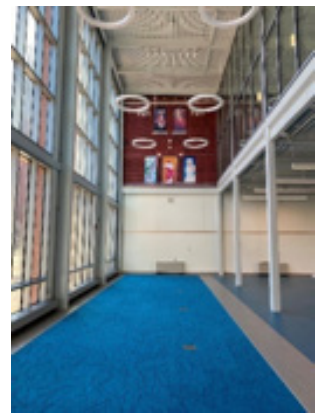
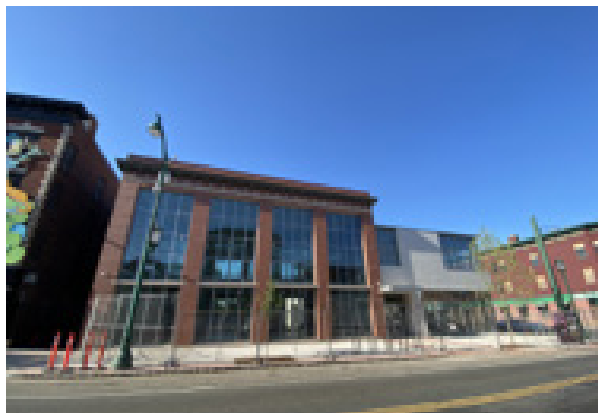
In the final quarter of FY21, the development department continued the legacy campaign for the new Park Street Library @ the Lyric. The goal of this campaign is to raise \$250,000 in support of the completion of the construction project for the benefit of our community for generations to come.

To date, we have raised \$97,000 and will be sending out an appeal mailing in July 2021.



Park Library Project

The 4th quarter has been particularly exciting as we have reached near completion of the new Park Library located at 603 Park Street. The library received its temporary certificate of occupancy and is in the process of finalizing all the equipment installations beginning testing the mechanical systems and documenting last minute punch list items which are used to check the entire building to assure that everything is completed. Once this is complete the installation of technology and furniture will begin in the next quarter preparing permanent occupancy inspections and opening the library to the public.



human resources

BELOW IS A HIGHLIGHT OF HUMAN RESOURCES ACTIVITIES FOR APRIL, MAY, AND JUNE 2021.

Talent Acquisitions

» 3 hires and 7 separations

New Hires

» Matthew McLaughlin, Floating/Substitute Library Assistant

» Adriana Quinonez, Supervising Library Assistant

» Stephen Hatch, Outreach Assistant, Library on Wheels

Separations

» Elizabeth Rivera, Outreach Assistant, Library on Wheels

» Ermina Ramic, Public Programming Assistant

» Samona Lollar, Security Guard, Downtown

» Steven Scarpa, Manager of Marketing and Communications

» Derrick Gaskins, YOUmedia Mentor

» Jose Ortiz, YOUmedia Mentor

» Kwency Crittenden, Security Guard

Human Resource Administration

» Pre-employment screenings - 9

» Payroll Actions - 136

» Medical Leaves - 6

Human Resources Initiative

» Summer Youth Employment Program

»